

2022 Juan Linz Prize for Best Dissertation

Winner: Sasha de Vogel, Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia, New York University

Prize committee citation: “Sasha de Vogel's dissertation (*Protest, Mobilization, Concessions, and Policy Change in Autocracies*) makes a significant contribution to literature on authoritarian governance and the protest-repression nexus, by showing how dictatorships use concessions -- and not just force -- to respond to protest. Measuring concessions in response to mobilization is an enormously difficult task, but de Vogel constructs multiple innovative datasets to quantitatively test the relationship between protest, repression, and policy change in the crucially important case of Russia. She first documents that the promise of concessions is a common method of responding to protest, but that these promises often do not lead to actual policy change. Concessions are more common, and repression less severe, when protests and campaigns provide the government with new information about grievances, a strategy that does appear effective at reducing protest. This research provides important new evidence for when governments use violence to respond to mobilization; when protests succeed at achieving their aims; and how policy change happens in autocracies. It is backed up by rich case knowledge and novel data on concessions. We believe it makes a great contribution to the study of authoritarian politics.

Honorable Mention: Killian Clarke, *Overthrowing Revolution: The Emergence and Success of Counterrevolution, 1900-2015*

Killian Clarke, Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University

Prize committee citation: Killian Clarke's dissertation *Overthrowing Revolution: The Emergence and Success of Counterrevolution, 1900-2015* focuses on what happens in the wake of revolutionary regimes -- in particular, when they are subject to counterrevolutionary challenges that seek to restore some form of the old regime. He theorizes that such counterrevolutions will occur when leaders have both high levels of interest in returning to the pre-revolutionary order and enough capacity after the revolution to launch a challenge. In addition to a cross-national analysis focused on understanding patterns of counterrevolution globally, Clarke offers a detailed account of the overthrow of the Morsi government in Egypt that builds on original data on protest activity and rich qualitative evidence collected through extensive fieldwork. Clarke's dissertation provides important new evidence about the stability of revolutionary regimes.

Award committee: Jane Esberg (chair) (International Crisis Group), Irfan Nooruddin (Georgetown), David Art (Tufts)