

Victor P. Petrov

Department of History; University of Tennessee, Knoxville; 915 Volunteer Blvd; 2612-A Dunford Hall;
Knoxville, TN 37996; USA
E-mail: vpetrov@utk.edu

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Aug 2018- **University of Tennessee, Knoxville; USA**
Assistant Professor
Sep 2017-Aug 2018 **European University Institute; Florence, Italy**
Max Weber Fellow

EDUCATION

2011 – 2017 **Columbia University in the City of New York**
Ph.D. History, Dissertation: “*A Cyber-Socialism at Home and Abroad: Bulgarian Modernisation, Computers, and the World 1967-1989*” (with Distinction)
2009 – 2011 **Merton College, University of Oxford**
M.Phil. Modern British & European History
2006 – 2009 **Merton College, University of Oxford**
B.A. (Hons), Modern History

PUBLICATIONS (ACADEMIC)

“The Rose and the Lotus: Bulgarian Electronic Entanglements in India 1967-1989” in *Journal of Contemporary History*, 2018

“We Want Information: Bulgarian Technical Intelligentsia and Cyber-Socialism 1967-1989” in the edited volume *The Intellectuals of Politics and Politics of Intellectuals* (CNCS: Bucharest, 2017)

(with Riley Quinn) *Sheila Fitzpatrick’s “Everyday Stalinism: Ordinary Life in Extraordinary Times: Soviet Russia in the 1930s”* (London: Macat Library, 2017) (academic guide for undergraduates)

PUBLICATIONS (POPULAR)

“Sotsialisticheskiyat Kiborg i Novite Zakoni na Robotikata” in *Literaturen Vestnik*, issue 26, 4-10.07.2018 (in Bulgarian)

“Communist Robot Dreams” at Aeon.co (online magazine)

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS & AWARDS

2017 History in Action Project Award, Columbia University
2016 – 2017 Study Abroad Studentship, Leverhulme Trust
2015 – 2016 International Dissertation Research Fellowship, Social Science Research Council
2015 Visiting Researcher, Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia
2015 Brebner Travel Award, Columbia University
2014 – 2015 Pre-Doctoral Fellow, American Research Centre in Sofia
2013 – 2014 Research Exchange, Department of International History, London School of Economics & Political Science
2011 – 2017 Richard Hofstadter Faculty Fellowship, Department of History, Columbia University

2009 – 2010	Rajiv Kapur Research Award, Merton College, University of Oxford
2008	Collin Matthew Fund Fellowship, University of Oxford
2007	Exhibitioner Promotion (college scholarship), Merton College, University of Oxford

INVITED TALKS

June 2017	“Kiber-Sotsializum: Bulgarskata Kompyuturizatsiya, Avtomatizatsiya, I Obshestvoto, 1963-1989” at Seminar of Section ‘Ethnology of Socialism and Post-Socialism’, Institute of Ethnology and Folklore with Ethnographic Museum, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria (in Bulgarian)
May 2017	“Kiber-Sotsializum: Bulgarskite Kompyutri I Modernizatsiyata 1963-1989” at Seminar for Regional and National History, Sofia University, Bulgaria (in Bulgarian)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & LECTURES

June 2018	“The Other Information Society: Socialism, The Scientific-Technical Revolution, and the Future” at 12 th Max Weber Fellows June Conference, Florence, Italy
May 2018	“We Are The Robots: Bulgarian Computerisation, Utopias, and the New Laws of Robotics” at Science Fiction & Communism Conference, Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria
November 2017	“The Porous Curtain: Bulgarian Scientific-Technical Intelligence, Electronics, and Technology Transfer Between East and West 1964-1990” at First Public Workshop of the ERC PanEur1970s Project, Florence, Italy
November 2017	“The Rose Meets the Lotus: Bulgarian Computers in India and the Global South as a Space of Exchange” at 49 th Annual Convention of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES), Chicago, USA
October 2017	“The Rose and the Lotus: Bulgarian Electronic Entanglements in India 1967-1990” at ‘Spaces of Interaction Between the Socialist Camp and the Global South’ workshop, University of Leipzig, Germany
September 2017	“Cybernetic Wars: The Bulgarian Computer Industry, Technocracy, and Reform” at Fifth European Congress on World and Global History, Budapest, Hungary
July 2016	“Welcome to Cyberia: The Bulgarian Information Age and the Creation of a Socialist Business Class 1970-1990” at ‘A Change of Plans: New Perspectives on Bulgaria’s Command Economy’ workshop, Centre for Advanced Study, Sofia, Bulgaria

Victor P. Petrov

- May 2016 “A Socialist Information Age: Bulgarian Computers, Technocrats, and the End of Communism” at Seminar on European History & Politics, Columbia University, USA
- April 2016 “Entangled Electronics: Bulgarian Computers and the Developing World as a Space of Exchange 1967-1989” at the ‘Global Circuits of Exchange and the Making of the Post-1945 World’ workshop, Weatherhead Institute, Columbia University
- November 2015 “Access Denied: Bulgarian Scientific Technical Intelligence and the Making of the Socialist Silicon Valley 1964-1989” at 47th Annual Convention of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES), Philadelphia, USA
- September 2015 “The Missed Chance: The Bulgarian Computer and the Creation of a Transnational Technocratic Class 1967-1989” at Technosciences of Post/Socialism conference, Budapest, Hungary (accepted but not presented due to illness)
- April 2015 “A Cyber-Socialism at Home and Abroad: Bulgarian Modernisation, Computers, and the World 1967-1989” at the American Research Centre in Sofia, Bulgaria
- December 2014 “A Cyber-Socialism at Home and Abroad: The Bulgarian Computer as a Prism for the Cold War 1967-1989” at 3rd Annual Interdisciplinary Conference on Totalitarianism, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
- November 2014 “A Cyber-Socialism at Home and Abroad: Bulgarian Modernisation, Computers, and the World 1967-1989” at the American Research Centre in Sofia, Bulgaria
- October 2014 “A Cyber-Socialism At Home and Abroad: Preliminary Thoughts on Bulgarian Modernisation and Its Indian Dimension” at the ‘Imagining Alternative Modernities: Interventions from the Balkans and South Asia’ conference at the Sawyer Seminar, Ohio State University, USA
- April 2013 “Narrowing the Nation: Discourse, Celebrations and Politics in Socialist Bulgaria” at the ASN (Association for the Study of Nationalities) 18th Annual Convention, Columbia University, USA
- November 2012 “Twice There Was a Country: The Break-Up of Yugoslavia”, Lecture as part of “Europe since 1945” class, Columbia University, USA
- March 2010 “Three Nations Into One: The Uses of Nationalism in Socialist Bulgaria 1963-1989” at CEELBAS (Centre for Eastern-European Language Based Area Studies) Postgraduate Student Conference ‘Russia and Eastern Europe in the 21st Century: Looking Back, Looking Forward’, University of Oxford, UK

CONFERENCES & PANELS ORGANISED

- July 2016 'A Change of Plans: New Perspectives on Bulgaria's Command Economy' workshop (co-organiser), Centre for Advanced Study, Sofia, Bulgaria
- Nov 2015 'The Not-So-Iron Curtain: Illicit Exchanges and Clandestine Transfers Between East and West' panel (co-organiser), at 47th Annual Convention of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES), Philadelphia, USA

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- April 2017-Present Member of Board of Trustees, American Institute for South-East European Studies
- May 2015-Present Historical Consultant for a project to create a "Museum of the Socialist Past" in Varna, Bulgaria
- Dec 2010 Interviewer for undergraduate admission to Merton College, University of Oxford; completion of course on admissions from Oxford Learning Institute

TEACHING

- History of Western Civilization since 1715
Contemporary Europe
Readings in East European History
Russian & Soviet History
Europe Since 1945

GRADUATE SUPERVISION

- Dafina Nedelcheva, "Crossing Imagined Borders: History and Memory of Aegean Refugees in Post-World War II Bulgaria" (Master's Thesis, Columbia University; Second Reader)

HISTORICAL OUTREACH & NON-ACADEMIC SERVICE

- Aug 2013-Present Mouseoin Ltd, London, UK; author of academic guides for undergraduates (Sheila Fitzpatrick's "Everyday Stalinism: Ordinary Life in Extraordinary Times: Soviet Russia in the 1930s")
- 2009-2011 Understood Backwards, contributor and administrator, website aimed at putting current events in historical context, aimed at the general public
- 2008 The Times, London, UK; work at the International News desk; fact-checking; translation from Russian & Ukrainian

AFFILIATIONS

- American Historical Association
- Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies
- Bulgarian Studies Association

LANGUAGES

Bulgarian (mother tongue), English (native), Russian (fluent), Macedonian (fluent), Serbian (advanced), Greek (reading comprehension), German (reading comprehension)