

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
The University of Michigan  
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Yuri Zhukov, assistant professor of political science, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of political science, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2014	Harvard University
M.A.	2007	Georgetown University
B.A.	2003	Brown University

Professional Record:

2014 – present	Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Michigan
2014 – present	Faculty Associate, Center for Political Studies, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Zhukov has taught very well-received courses on modern warfare, political economy of Russia and Eurasia, empirical models of conflict, and security studies. He has advised a number of senior thesis students and has served on fifteen dissertation committees. He has also chaired or co-chaired four dissertation committees since he joined the department in 2014.

Research – Professor Zhukov has created the empirical basis for understanding civil conflicts and state repression. This meticulous work has overturned conventional wisdom about the logic of violence in civil war. He has built an empirical portrait of Islamic insurgents, replacing previous speculation. He has also built a new empirical foundation for the study of the legacies of violence.

Recent and Significant Publications:

“Mass repression and political loyalty: Evidence from Stalin’s ‘Terror by Hunger,’” with A. Rozenas, *American Political Science Review*, 113(2), 2019, pp: 569-83.

“Until the bitter end? The diffusion of surrender across battles,” with T. Lehmann, *International Organization*, 73(1), 2019, pp: 133-69.

“Islamists and Nationalists: Rebel motivation and counterinsurgency in Russia’s North Caucasus,” with M. Toft, *American Political Science Review*, 109(2), 2015, pp: 222-38.

“Population resettlement in war: Theory and evidence from Soviet archives,” lead article in the *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 59(7), 2015, pp: 1155-1185.

Service – Professor Zhukov served on a faculty search committee, on the Admissions Committee, and on the Undergraduate Affairs Committee. He co-directs Michigan’s Conflict and Peace, Research and Development (CPRD) workshop. He has served on a number of committees for the Weiser Center and for the Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies (CREES).

### External Reviewers:

#### Reviewer (A)

“At an early stage of his career, Prof. Zhukov had already distinguished himself as one of the world’s foremost authorities on the dynamics of repression in autocratic regimes, subnational data collection on repression and political violence, and battlefield dynamics during civil conflict.”

#### Reviewer (B)

“Yuri [Zhukov]’s brand is one of a creative methodologist working with historical data on the effects of coercive violence and whose findings underscore the negative effects of indiscriminate violence. His use of archival materials is outright impressive and allows him to introduce original empirics in his tests of important theoretical questions.”

#### Reviewer (C)

“...[Professor Zhukov’s] continued work on the mechanisms of long-term legacies is sure to be profound. His work on the micro-level dynamics of war will also continue to push the research frontier. ... Yuri has also been invited to give an amazing number of lectures for someone at this stage of his career. ... He is an excellent presenter, conveying complex ideas effortlessly. Yuri is organized, clear, and engaged – all critical aspects of good teaching.”

#### Reviewer (D)

“Zhukov is clearly working at the cutting edge of the empirical study of political violence, with a focus both on the immediate and short-term aspects of violence and the longer run dynamics and their implications.”

#### Reviewer (E)

“He is a prolific scholar (26 peer reviewed publications), designing innovative datasets making possible valid cross sub-national inferences, collaborating with seven graduate students as a terrific pedagogical device (while serving on 15 dissertation committees), and offering a broad intellectual vision that encompasses his entire corpus, i.e. the causes and consequences of political violence at the micro level.”

#### Reviewer (F)

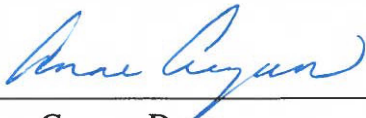
“...his seminal contribution has been to remedy the international relations field’s long-standing failure to study political violence in Eastern Europe and Russia. Zhukov has led the way in applying tools from empirical political economy to that region’s tragic legacy of violence. Every serious effort to understand the short- and long-run political legacies of repression must grapple with his findings.”

#### Reviewer (G)

“...I think Zhukov is a good candidate for tenure. He is going to be very productive. He will be highly original and innovative in the use of advanced empirical methods to test ideas that connect to important topics in the field. He will be a good research collaborator with colleagues at Michigan and around the country. And he will be a contributor to important public goods, such as his dataset project.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Zhukov is a creative and productive scholar, one who has already established field leadership. He is also a dedicated teacher and advisor, as well as an active citizen in the department and in the college. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor Yuri Zhukov be promoted to the rank of associate professor of political science, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



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Anne Curzan, Dean  
Geneva Smitherman Collegiate Professor of  
English, Language and Literature, Linguistics,  
and Education  
Arthur F. Thurnau Professor  
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

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