Multi-Level Trust in Political Institutions and Corruption: The Consequences of Financial Crisis in Europe

with

Anastassia V. Obydenkova, Harvard University (regional fellow), Higher School of Economics, Moscow (senior researcher)

Bob Orttung, GWU (moderator)

While it is still too early to assess all consequences of the Great Recession, the political ramifications of the crisis have attracted growing scholarly attention. In this presentation, Dr. Obydenkova argues that the Great Recession decreased trust in both national and European Union institutions by focusing public attention on corruption. She thus identifies corruption as a key variable mediating the influence of the Great Recession on public trust in political institutions. She finds that national corruption is a crucial factor accounting for loss of trust not only in national parliaments, but also in the EU parliament. As such, it would seem that national corruption – and not only economic hardship – is a driving factor in the decline of public trust in European institutions. The talk contributes to the studies on public support for the EU, institutional trust, and emerging literature on the consequences of the Great Recession.

Anastassia V. Obydenkova is a regional fellow at Harvard University and a senior researcher at the Higher School of Economics in Moscow. She holds a Ph.D. in Political and Social Science from the European University Institute (2006, Florence, Italy) and an M.A. from Central European University (Budapest, Hungary). Previously, Dr. Obydenkova was a senior researcher (Ramon-y-Cajal) at the Ministry of Innovation and Science of Spain, a research fellow at the London School of Economics, and a Fox Fellow at Yale University (New Haven, USA). She has published in such journals as World Politics, Democratization, Publius: The Journal of Federalism; European Journal of Political Research; Political Studies; Studies in Comparative International Development; Acta Politica; Regional and Federal Studies; Economic Letters; Contemporary Politics; Territory, Politics, Governance; Comparative Political Science, Review of International Organizations and Post-Soviet Affairs, among others.

Tuesday, February 2, 2016
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Voesar Conference Room
1957 E St. NW, Suite 412
Please RSVP at go.gwu.edu/obydenkova