

Dr Costanza Curro

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Research interests

Post-socialist space; Masculinity; Neoliberalism; Personhood; Urban Studies; Mobility; Informal practices; Prison.

Education

September 2011 - January 2017: PhD in Social Anthropology. Thesis title: *From Tradition to Civility: Georgian Hospitality after the Rose Revolution (2003-2012)*, School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University College London (SSEES-UCL).

September 2010 - September 2011: MA in Politics, Security and Integration, SSEES-UCL, London.

October 2006 - June 2009: Postgraduate degree in European, American and Post-colonial Languages and Literatures - Russian Language and Culture. Ca' Foscari University, Venice, Italy.

October 2001 - September 2006: Undergraduate degree in Russian and French Language and Literature. Università degli Studi di Genova, Genoa, Italy.

Work Experience:

September 2019-now: Postdoctoral researcher, GulagEchoes Project, Aleksanteri Institute, University of Helsinki, Finland.

August 2017-July 2019: Researcher, The Legal 500, Legalease, London.

February 2018-October 2018: Maternity leave

February 2015-July 2017: Project coordinator and Research assistant, Global Encyclopaedia of Informality – Global Informality Project, edited by Professor A. Ledeneva and International Board, School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University College London (SSEES-UCL), London, <http://in-formality.com>

October 2013-March 2017: Postgraduate Teaching Assistant, SSEES-UCL.

Higher Education Experience:

May 2014-October 2016: Initiator and co-organiser of the UCL-based multidisciplinary project Platform Ukraine.

February 2011 – February 2013: Copy-editor and Research assistant in the publication of: Ledeneva, A. (2013). *Can Russia Modernise? Sistema, Power Networks, and Informal Governance*; Ledeneva, A. (2011), 'Telephone Justice in Russia: An Update'.

October 2008 - October 2009: Research at the Historical Records Office in Tbilisi, Georgia. Central'nyj Gosudarstvennyj Istoričeskij Archiv Gruzii (CGIAG), 0108 Tbilisi, Georgia.

March 2008 - June 2008: Student exchange between Ca' Foscari University, Venice, and Ivane Javakhishvili State University (TSU), Tbilisi, Georgia.

Scholarly Publications:

2019 (accepted, under review). 'Excessive hospitality: personhood, moral boundaries and domination around the Georgian table', *Journal of Consumer Culture*.

2019 (accepted, under review). 'Changing everything fast? Young men's im-mobility in the streets of Tbilisi', in Duijzings, G. and Tuvikene, T. (eds) *Post-Socialist Streets: Vehicles, Movements and Frictions*. Oxford, New York: Berghahn.

2019 (accepted, in press). 'Between the public and the private: Socialism, capitalism and street socialisation in Georgia', in Duncan, P. and Schimpfoessl, E. (eds) *Socialism, Capitalism and Alternatives: Critical Area Studies and Global Theories*. London: UCL Press.

- 2019 (accepted, under review). “‘Supra is not for women’: Gender and social change through patterns of hospitality”, in Ziemer, U. (ed.) *Through War and Peace: Women’s Everyday Life and Politics in the South Caucasus*. London: I. B. Tauris.
2018. ‘Birzha’, in Ledeneva, A. (ed.), *Global Encyclopaedia of Informality*. London: UCL Press.
2018. ‘Telephone Justice’ (with A. Ledeneva and R. Simic-Banovic), in Ledeneva, A. (ed.), *Global Encyclopaedia of Informality*. London: UCL Press.
2017. ‘From goods to emotions: The transformation of informal practices in the Republic of Georgia’, in Horodnic, I., Rodgers, P., William, C. and Momtazian, L. (eds) *The informal economy: Exploring drivers and practices*. London: Routledge.
2017. ‘A critical assessment of informal practices as resistance: The case of birzha in Georgia’, *Caucasus Survey*, 5 (1): 65-84.
2015. ‘Davabirzhaot! Conflicting claims on public space in Tbilisi between transparency and opaqueness’, *International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy*, 35(7/8): 497-512.
2014. ‘A “Gift from God”? Georgian hospitality between tradition and pragmatism’, *Hospitality & Society*, 4(3), 293-310.
2012. ‘National gender norms and transnational identities: Migration experiences of Georgian women in London’, *Slovo*, 24(2): 114-131.

Other publications:

2016. "Hospitality Bricolage in Times of Change", in Martínez, F. and Agu, M. (eds.) *Aesthetics of Repair in Contemporary Georgia*. Tartu: Tartu Art Museum.
2015. [Book review] Caldwell, M. L., Klein, J. A. and Jung, Y. (eds.) 2014. *Ethical Eating in the Postsocialist and Socialist World*. Oakland: University of California Press. 232 pp. *AllegraLab*, <http://allegralaboratory.net/special-review-ethical-eating-in-the-postsocialist-and-socialist-world-part-3-of-3/>
2015. [Book review] Black, R. E. 2012. *Porta Palazzo: The Anthropology of an Italian Market*. University of Pennsylvania Press, 232 pp. *AllegraLab*, <http://allegralaboratory.net/special-review-section-rachel-black-porta-palazzo-1/>

Awards, Honours, and Fellowships:

- SSEES Excellence Scholarship:** March 2015
- UCL Graduate School and SSEES Research Project Fund:** November 2012 to March 2017 (fieldwork, conferences, research expenses, external training)
- Funds for Women Graduate:** July 2012:
- Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) Scholarship:** September 2012 to September 2015

Selected Conference Papers and Workshop Presentations:

- 5 June 2019:** *Hegemony and care: narratives and practices of masculinity in Georgia*, PostPatriarchal Masculinities Conference 2019, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London, UK.
- 8-10 November 2018:** *Mobilities and masculinities in the streets of Tbilisi: Negotiating exclusion, risk and personal advancement*, Marshrutka Project’s Final Conference “Spatial dynamics of informal and shared mobilities”, Technical University of Berlin, Berlin, Germany.
- 19 June 2017:** *Georgian masculinities: Between display and intimacy*, Workshop “Beyond Putin: Masculinity in Russia, Eastern Europe and the Caucasus”, University of Bristol, UK.
- 06 March 2017:** *A Gift from God? The ambivalence of Georgian hospitality*, Invited lecturer at Prof. Ledeneva’s seminars on Informal Practices in Communist and Post-Communist Societies, UCL, London, UK.
- 6-8 October 2016:** *Changing Everything Fast? Immobility in the Streets of Tbilisi*, International Workshop “The Postsocialist Street: Raising Car Mobility in Comparative

Perspectives”, Graduate School for East and Southeast European Studies, University of Regensburg, Germany.

2-4 September 2016: *The Georgian birzha as an informal economic practice*, Marie Curie IAPP Summer School for Shadow Economies in Europe and Beyond: Debating the Causes and Impacts of the Informal Economies, Sofia, Bulgaria.

24 June 2016: *‘Supra is not for women’: Gender and Social Change in Georgia through Patterns of Hospitality*, Workshop “Ordinary Times? Everyday Lives and Social Dynamism in the South Caucasus”, University of Winchester, UK.

14-16 December 2015: *Between transparency and opacity: Birzha in post-revolutionary Georgia (2003-2012)*, SSEES Centenary Conference “Socialism, Capitalism, and the Alternatives: Lessons from Russia and Eastern Europe”, UCL, London, UK.

4-5 September 2015: *Conflicts over Public Space in Tbilisi*, 4th ASCN Annual Conference “Protest, Modernisation, Democratisation: Political and Social Dynamics in Post-Soviet Countries”, Ilia State University, Tbilisi, Georgia.

6-7 June 2015: *Russia get out! Georgian voices on Ukraine*, Platform Ukraine International Conference, SSEES-UCL, London, UK.

9-10 October 2014: *Tasty and Healthy: Food Patterns in Tbilisi*, Workshop “Consumption and Economic Crises: Postsocialist Experiences”, National Research University, Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia.

15-18 June 2014: *Everyday Informal Exchange in Georgia*, RSA European Conference “Diverse Regions: Building Resilient Communities and Territories”, Dokuz Eylul University, Izmir, Turkey.

21-23 November 2013: *Formal informality? The ambivalences of Georgian hospitality*, 2nd ASCN Annual Conference “Informal Practices and Structures in Eastern Europe and Central Asia”, University of Fribourg, Fribourg, Switzerland.

Languages:

Italian: Native speaker

English: Fluent

Russian: Excellent speaking and comprehension of written texts

Georgian: Very good speaking; good comprehension of written texts

French: Good speaking; very good comprehension of written texts

Czech: Good speaking; good comprehension of written texts