

## **Curriculum vitae – Derek Averre**

**Name:** Dr Derek Lambton Averre

**Date/place of birth:**

**Nationality:**

**University education:** Dep. of Russian Studies, University of Manchester  
B.A. (Hons.) Russian Studies Class I (awarded 1978)  
Ph.D. (awarded 1983)

### **Career to date**

**Previous employment:** Commercial posts exporting to USSR/Eastern Europe  
Rolls Royce plc, Courtaulds plc, DON International Ltd.  
February 1984 – March 1991

**Present employment:** Centre for Russian, European and Eurasian Studies  
Dep. of Political Science and International Studies  
School of Government  
University of Birmingham (UoB)

Research Fellow April 1991 – September 2004  
Snr Research Fellow October 2004 – September 2009  
Snr Lecturer from 1 October 2009  
Reader from 2017

### **Main administrative roles at UoB:**

2005-2008: Postgraduate research director, European Research Institute

2008-2012: Director of CREES/Head of Department, member of School Management Team

### **Research**

I have been research-active for 30 years and much of my published output, and indeed my extensive involvement in policy-related projects, has been linked with a deep and abiding interest in Russia and the East European countries, inspired initially by language study early in my life (I am fluent in Russian) and by regular visits as a representative of UK industrial companies in the period when the USSR was declining and undergoing rapid change. As my academic career developed I have also become interested in broader security-related aspects of international politics, which has demanded much closer study of International Relations and Political Science literatures.

I have been most fortunate to work for my entire academic career at CREES, and I believe I have over the years contributed to its reputation as a centre of international excellence in research and teaching on Russia, Eastern Europe and Eurasia. I have

gained prominence both in the UK and overseas in the field of Russia's international relations. This has allowed me to capitalise on my knowledge and experience in recent years to obtain funding for a European Commission-funded project on the Caucasus, a Marie Curie Research Exchange network and a NATO Advanced Research Workshop grant, and to be involved in two current Horizon 2020 bids. In addition, my policy-related work generated a long series (1991-2015) of research awards from the UK Ministry of Defence, total value £2,515,000 (see Research Grants and Awards below for more detail), and close links with the Foreign & Commonwealth Office.

My current focus of interest, which represents something of a change from looking at Russia's role in European security governance, is the political, normative and institutional consequences of Russia's policies in the Middle East and North Africa during a period of upheaval and change. There are very few Western scholars working in this area, and so original research (including into Russian-language primary and secondary source material) on the topic will fill a major gap, both in the IR and Russia/Eurasia area studies literatures. A pre-final draft of selected chapters of a monograph was sent to publishers in late 2021.

### **Research grants and awards**

#### **UK Ministry of Defence, 1991-2015**

##### **Principal investigator/co-investigator**

**Total value of awards: £2,515,000**

This series of research contracts began in 1991, when the UK Government perceived a substantial gap in knowledge about certain aspects of Soviet defence capacity. The work demanded extensive travel and knowledge of Russian government, industrial and scientific institutions, and has entailed the generation of a considerable number of reports (103 in total over the lifetime of the project) and regular briefings to UK officials. The sensitive nature of the research has meant that the subject matter of the reports is not in the public domain.

#### **Centre for Research and Evidence on Security Threats (CREST), 2017-2018**

##### **Co-investigator**

Co-investigator; CREST is a national (£4.35 million) hub for understanding and countering security threats; the UoB manages a programme entitled 'Actors and Narratives' (value of award £324,355). I wrote two reports for the project.

#### **European Union FP7 Programme, February 2014 - January 2017**

##### **Co-investigator**

Leader of work package on project *Exploring the Security-Democracy Nexus in the Caucasus* (CASCADE, total value of award to UoB approx. €400,000)

#### **European Union FP7 Programme**

Coordinator of project *EUropean Identity, Cultural Diversity and Political Change*, funded under the *Marie Curie Staff Exchange Scheme, 2014-2017* (value of award €123,500)

## **NATO, 2013**

Grant holder for Advanced Research Workshop 'NATO and Russia: Towards Common Perceptions of Emerging Security Challenges', supported by the NATO-Russia Council Science for Peace and Security Programme (value of award €36,900).

## **Principal academic research publications (since 2005)**

### *Edited volumes and special journal issues:*

Kevork Oskanian (eds) (2018). *Security, Society and the State in the Caucasus*. Routledge

Derek Averre and Kataryna Wolczuk (eds) (2018). *The Ukraine Conflict: Security, Identity and Politics in the Wider Europe*. Routledge (reprint from special issue of *Europe-Asia Studies* 68(4) 2016).

Derek Averre and Andrew Cottey (eds) (2002), *Securing Europe's East: New Security Challenges in Postcommunist Europe*, Manchester University Press

### *Refereed journal articles/book chapters:*

Russia and the Israel-Palestine Conflict, in Asaf Siniver (ed.), *Routledge Companion to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*, Routledge 2022

Russia, the Middle East and the conflict in Syria, in Roger E. Kanet (ed.), *The Routledge Handbook of Russian Security*, Routledge 2019

EU-Russia political and security cooperation: major research trends (with Natalya Zaslavskaya, 2019). *Journal of Contemporary European Studies*, 27(2), 147-158

The Ukraine Conflict (2016). Russia's Challenge to European Security Governance. *Europe-Asia Studies*. 68(4) (2016), 699-725

Russia, humanitarian intervention and the Responsibility to Protect: the case of Syria (with Lance Davies, 2015). *International Affairs*, 91(4), 813-834

Competing Rationalities: Russia, the EU and the "Shared Neighbourhood" (2009). *Europe-Asia Studies*, 61(10), 2009, 1689-1713

From Pristina to Tskhinvali: The legacy of Operation Allied Force in Russia's relations with the West (2009). *International Affairs*, 85 (3), 2009, pp. 575-91

Russian foreign policy and the global political environment (2008). *Problems of Post-Communism*, 55(5), 28-39

"Sovereign democracy" and Russia's relations with the European Union' (2007). *Demokratizatsiya*, 15(2)

Russia and the European Union: convergence or divergence? (2005), *European Security*, 14(2)

## **Doctoral research supervision**

Cai Wilkinson, *Interpreting Security: Grounding the Copenhagen School in Kyrgyzstan*, awarded 2009

Stephen Aris, *Central Asian Regional Security: The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation*, awarded 2009

Sorin Denca, *Europeanisation of Foreign Policy: The Cases of Romania, Hungary and Slovakia*, awarded January 2011

Alexandra Prodromidou, *Energy Security and the Caspian Sea Basin*, awarded 2011

Katharina Hoffmann, *Regional Integration in the Post-Soviet Space: The Impact of Political Regime Characteristics*, awarded 2014

Victoria Hudson, *Russia's 'Soft Power'*, awarded 2014

Lance Davies, *Russian conflict management and European security governance 1991-2012: continuity and change in doctrine, policy and practice*, awarded 2017

John Kennedy, *Minding their own business: an ethnographic study of entrepreneurship in Putin's Russia*, started September 2012, awarded 2017

Merim Baitembetova, *Regional organisations in Eurasia*, started September 2014, anticipated completion 2023 (part-time)

Friane Aurora, *A Comparative Study of State Oil Companies' Relations in Indonesia and UAE*, started 2013, completion 2019

Mark Youngman, *Caucasian schools of Jihad: understanding variance in the framing and ideology of the north Caucasus insurgency*, started 2015, awarded 2019

Hana Josticova, *National identity in Ukraine following the Euromaidan*, started 2016, awarded 2021

Nicolo Fasola, *Russia's Way of War: What Can Strategic Culture Explain?*, started 2018, anticipated completion 2022

Pourya Nabipour, *Iranian foreign policy*, started 2018, anticipated completion 2023

Jaroslava Barbieri, *Russia's coercive diplomacy in the post-Soviet region*, anticipated completion 2025