

Laboratory for Comparative Social Research, Higher School of Economics
4th International Annual Research Conference
November 10 – 15, 2014
St. Petersburg, Russia

**Dynamics of Women's Political Inequality of Voice
in Eastern Europe, 1945 – 2015**

Joshua Kjerulf Dubrow

Polish Academy of Sciences and Cross-national Studies: Interdisciplinary
Research and Training program (CONSIRT)

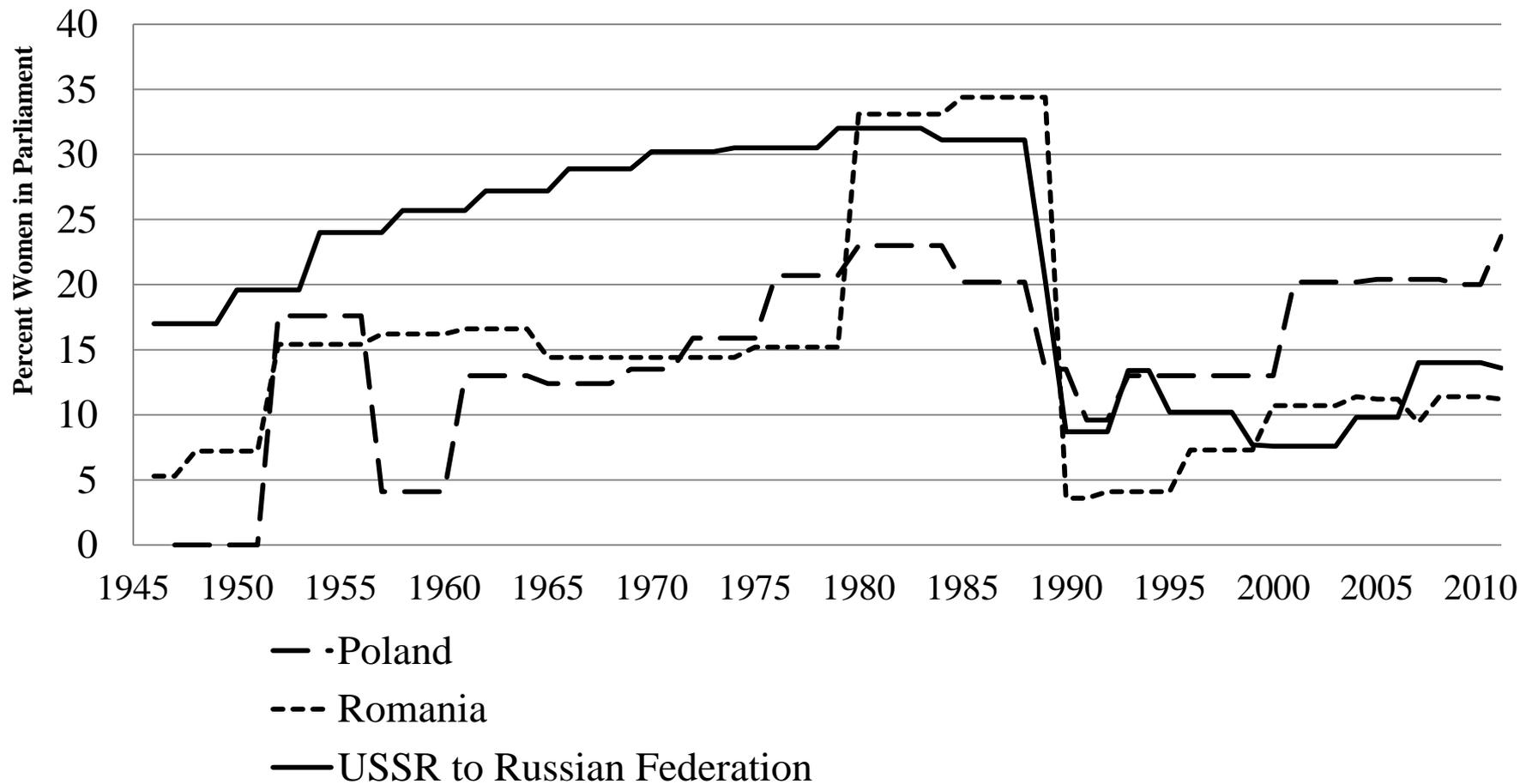
Irina Tomescu-Dubrow

Polish Academy of Sciences and Cross-national Studies: Interdisciplinary
Research and Training program (CONSIRT)

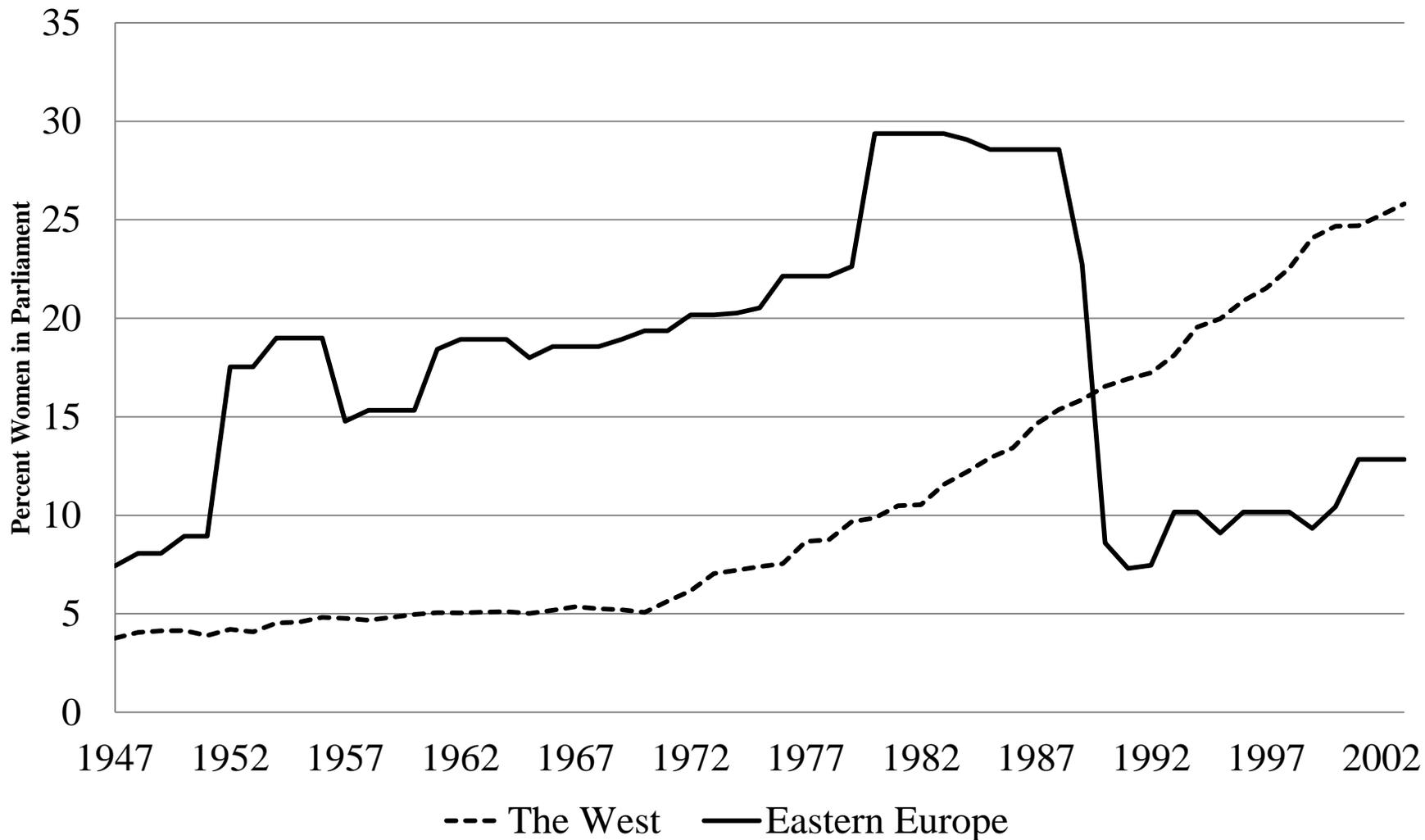
Sheri Kunovich

Southern Methodist University

Percent Women in Parliament (Lower or Single House) in Poland, Romania and USSR/Russian Federation, 1947 - 2010



Percent Women in Parliament (Lower or Single House) in the West and in Eastern Europe, 1947 - 2003



What factors influence the dynamics of women's national parliamentary representation in Eastern Europe during the Communist era, and how do these factors influence the trajectory of representation afterward?

We plan to examine variation between and within countries across time (1945 to present)

Cross-national quantitative studies of women's parliamentary representation are few (Paxton and Kunovich 2003; Ruedin 2010) , and even fewer examine dynamics (Paxton et al 2006; Hughes and Paxton 2008; Paxton et al 2010).

Why Eastern Europe?

Difference between descriptive representation and substantive representation, and the relevance of women's political representation in Eastern Europe vs. the West.

Why Eastern Europe?

Theoretically interesting because it is very different from other world regions, especially the West

Factor	The West	Eastern Europe (1945 – 1989)
Political	Electoral system (PR), level of democracy	Communism
Economic	Women's labor force participation, level of industrialization	Forced employment, rapid industrialization
Ideological	Gender egalitarianism	Legal equality, practical inequality
Other	Region, religion	Region(?), religious expression discouraged

Concerns of the project

Historical legacies: to what extent, and for how long, does the Communist era and the transition era influence women's contemporary political inequality of voice?

Varieties of Communism: Countries within Eastern Europe differed in their "path to Communism"

Six Characteristics of a Communist System (Archie Brown 2009: Chapter 6)

A. Political	B. Economic	C. Ideology
1. Monopoly of power of the Communist Party	3. Non-capitalist ownership of the means of production	5. Declared aim of building communism
2. Democratic Centralism	4. Command economy, as distinct from a market economy	6. Existence of, and sense of belonging to, an international Communist movement

Concerns of the project

Quotas: What were women's political quotas during the Communist era?
Informal, voluntary, electoral and constitutional quotas.

Comparisons: Compare Eastern Europe with Western Europe

Data:

Paxton Paxton, Melanie Hughes, and Jennifer Green. 2009. *Women in Parliament Dataset, 1893-2003*. ICPSR data repository.

Inter-parliamentary Union (IPU)

IDEA Women in Parliaments Quota database

Need data on "varieties of Communism"