



DANIEL FEDOROWYCZ

CCSF SCHOLAR

What makes one locality more susceptible to violence than another?

Daniel entered the University of Toronto in Science but an exchange to Ukraine at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy was the catalyst for a change in direction, leaving U of T with his Masters in European Studies.

Daniel points out the importance of the people you meet in your academic journey and the influence they have on you - that a key conversation can change your entire path.

Originally focusing on Slavic language literature he was drawn to political analysis and arranged for an exchange with UCL's School of Public Policy in London, the first ever graduate level exchange student. Having so much enjoyed his experience in the U.K., Daniel then successfully gained admittance to Oxford as a doctoral candidate in Politics.

Daniel is researching questions relating to the causes of violent ethnic conflict, with a particular emphasis on Ukraine and Eastern Europe. He examines the spatial variation of violence within ethnic conflicts by analyzing majority-minority ethnic group relations in the Polish-Ukrainian borderlands during World War II. He is seeking answers to what gives rise to violence in ethnic conflict and which political, social or cultural factors play important roles in managing and preventing such conflicts.

Daniel has been a visiting scholar to Jagiellonian University in Krakow as well as working on projects at the NATO Information and Documentation Centre and the National Democratic Institute in Kyiv, Ukraine and the Canadian Embassy in The Hague, Netherlands. Always seeking out a new challenge Daniel is currently a pre-doctoral fellow at the Program on Order, Conflict, and Violence at Yale University.

After returning to Oxford for the completion of his PhD in 2015 Daniel hopes to parlay what he has learned in as relevant a way as possible. Obviously, he is keenly focused on what is happening in Ukraine, currently, but hopes his research will provide a more general theory of variation of violence within ethnic conflicts. It is not hard to deduce that Daniel enjoys travelling and ensuring that he experiences as many new environments as possible. Physical activity is very important in maintaining his stamina, required for his ever changing responsibilities and rowing for his Oxford College helps with this. He was particularly pleased to be back in Eastern North America to enjoy all that autumn brings.

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