

Vlad Tarko

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Education

Economics, Ph.D., 2015, George Mason University, Fairfax VA, United States

Economics, M.A., 2013, George Mason University, Fairfax VA, United States

Physics, M.S., 2005, University of Bucharest, Bucharest, Romania

Physics, B.S., 2003, Hyperion University, Bucharest, Romania

Positions

Assistant Professor of Economics at Dickinson College, July 2015 – present.

Graduate Research Assistant at *Mercatus Center* at George Mason University, August 2013 – May 2014, and August 2014 – May 2015.

Program coordinator and researcher at the *Center for Institutional Analysis and Development (CADI)*, January 2007 – August 2011.

Associate researcher to the “Normev: The Emergence and Evolution of Social Norms” project by the *Research Center for Applied Ethics* at the Department of Philosophy, University of Bucharest, November 2010 – 2012).

Science and technology editor at *Softpedia.com*, Dec. 2005 – Dec. 2006.

Books

Elinor Ostrom: An Intellectual Biography, Rowman & Littlefield International, 2017.

Capitalist Alternatives: Models, Taxonomies, Scenarios, Routledge, 2015, “Advances in International Political Economy” series (co-authored with Paul Dragos Aligica).

The Economic Analysis of Institutions, under review.

Elinor Ostrom and the Bloomington School: Building a New Approach to Policy and the Social Sciences, under contract with Agenda Publishing (UK) / Columbia University Press (US) (co-editor with Jayme Lemke).

Public Administration in the Classical Liberal Tradition: Modern Political Economy Foundations, under contract with Oxford University Press (co-authored with Paul Dragos Aligica and Peter Boettke).

Papers

Peer-reviewed journal articles

“James M. Buchanan’s 1981 visit to Chile: Knightian Democrat or Defender of the ‘Devil’s Fix’?” (forthcoming) *Review of Austrian Economics* (with Andrew Farrant).

“Economic Development in a Rent-Seeking Society: Socialism, State Capitalism, and Crony Capitalism in Vietnam” (forthcoming), *Canadian Journal of Development Studies* (with Christine Ngo).

“Polycentric Banking and Macroeconomic Stability” (2017), *Business and Politics* 19(2): 365-395 (with Alex Salter).

“Why Hayek Matters? The Epistemic Dimension of Comparative Institutional Analysis” (2016), *Advances in Austrian Economics* 21: 163-185 (with Peter Boettke and Paul Dragos Aligica).

“Polycentric Stakeholder Analysis: Corporate Governance and Corporate Social Responsibility under Value Heterogeneity” (2015), *Academy of Management Proceedings* 2015 (1), 17539 (with Paul Dragos Aligica); winner of the Academy of Management, Social Issues in Management Division’s Halloran Best Paper on History of CSR Award; also included in *Public Administration in the Classical Liberal Tradition*.

“The challenge of empirically assessing the effects of constitutions” (2015), *Journal of Economic Methodology* 22(1): 46-76.

“Polycentric Structure and Informal Norms: Competition and Coordination within the Scientific Community” (2015), *Innovation: The European Journal of Social Science Research* 28(1): 63-80.

“The Role of Ideas in Political Economy” (2015), *Review of Austrian Economics* 28(1): 17-39.

“Crony Capitalism: Rent-Seeking, Institutions, and Ideology” (2014), *Kyklos* 67(2): 156-176 (with Paul Dragos Aligica); also included in *Capitalist Alternatives*.

“Institutional Resilience and Economic Systems: Lessons from Elinor Ostrom’s work” (2014), *Comparative Economic Studies* 56: 52–76 (with Paul Dragos Aligica).

“Co-Production, Polycentricity and Value Heterogeneity: The Ostroms’ Public Choice Institutionalism Revisited” (2013), *American Political Science Review* 107(4): 726-741 (with Paul Dragos Aligica); also included in *Public Administration in the Classical Liberal Tradition*.

“Can Probability Theory Deal with Entrepreneurship?” (2013), *Review of Austrian Economics* 26(3): 329-345.

“State Capitalism and the Rent-Seeking Conjecture” (2012), *Constitutional Political Economy* 23(4): 357-379 (with Paul Dragos Aligica); also included in *State Capitalism* edited by Barbara Krug (Edward Elgar 2015), and in *Capitalist Alternatives*.

“Polycentricity: From Polanyi to Ostrom, and Beyond” (2012), *Governance* 25(2): 237–262 (with Paul Dragos Aligica).

“Challenges to technological and economic foresight in the information society” (2011), *International Journal of Foresight and Innovation Policy* 7(4): 232–250 (with Paul Dragos Aligica).

“From ‘Broad Studies’ to Internet-based ‘Expert Knowledge Aggregation’: Notes on the methodology and technology of knowledge integration” (2011), *Futures* 43: 986-995 (with Paul Dragos Aligica).

Peer-reviewed reports

“Neoliberalism and Regulatory Capitalism: Understanding the ‘Freer Markets More Rules’ Puzzle” (2018), Mercatus Center, under review.

“Polycentric Financial Governance: A Theory of Financial Resilience” (2017), Mercatus Center, Financial Markets Working Group (with Alex Salter). Available at: <https://www.mercatus.org/publications/governing-financial-system-fiscal-resilience>.

“Crony capitalism” (2015), Ifo Institute, Center for Economic Studies (CES), *CESifo DICE Report: Journal for Institutional Comparisons* 13(3): 27-32 (with Paul Dragos Aligica). Available at: https://www.cesifo-group.de/ifoHome/publications/docbase/DocBase_Content/ZS/ZS-CESifo_DICE_Report/zs-dice-2015/zs-dice-2015-3/11112015003005.html.

Journal articles under review

“Freedom of Association and Its Discontents: The *Calculus of Consent* and the Civil Rights Movement”, *Research in the History of Economic Thought and*

Methodology (with Santiago Gangotena), R & R

“The efficiency of regulatory arbitrage”, *Public Choice* (with Andrew Farrant), R & R

“Escape from Europe: A Calculus of Consent Model of the Origins of Liberal Institutions in North American Colonies”, *Constitutional Political Economy* (with Kyle O’Donnell), R & R

“Decentralization from the Top-Down: Special Economic Zones and Liberalization Avalanches”, *Development Policy Review* (with Lotta Moberg)

“Polycentric Financial Governance: An Institutional Theory of Financial Resilience”, *Journal of Institutional Economics* (with Alex Salter)

Book chapters

“Faustian bargains: Power-sharing, constitutions, and the practice of polycentricity” in *Governing Complexity: Analyzing and Applying Polycentricity*, eds. William A. Blomquist, Dustin Garrick and Andreas Thiel (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming). (with Edella Schlager and Mark Lutter)

“The Evolution of Governance Structures in a Polycentric System”, in *Handbook of Behavioral Economics and Smart Decision-Making: Rational Decision-Making within the Bounds of Reason*, ed. Morris Altman (Edward Elgar Publishing, 2017) (with Edward McPhail)

“Firm Internationalization in Transition Economic Systems: A Public Choice Approach. Insights from a Romanian Case Study”, in *Internationalization of Firms from Economies in Transition: The Effects of a Politico-Economic Paradigm Shift* edited by Mai Thi Thanh Thai and Ekaterina Turkina (Edward Elgar Publishing, 2014) (with Paul Dragos Aligica).

“Romania: Impressive short-term improvisation, continuing structural problems”, in *From Reform to Growth: Managing the Economic Crisis in Europe* edited by Vít Novotný (Brussels, Belgium: The Center for European Studies, 2013) (with Paul Dragos Aligica).

“Elinor Ostrom’s life and work”, in Elinor Ostrom’s *Future of the Commons: Beyond Market Failure and Government Regulation* (London, UK: Institute of Economic Affairs, 2012).

“Evolutionary Psychology and Political Philosophy” in *Theories and Schools of Thought of Contemporary Western Center-Right* edited by Ionut Sterpan and Paul Dragos Aligica (Bucharest, Romania: Humanitas, 2011).

“The Critique of Psychiatry” in *Theories and Schools of Thought of Contemporary Western Center-Right* edited by Ionut Sterpan and Paul Dragos Aligica (Bucharest, Romania: Humanitas, 2011).

Book reviews

“Aviezer Tucker and Gian Piero de Bellis (eds), *Panarchy: Political Theories of Non-Territorial States*” (2017), *The Independent Review* 22(2).

“Randall G. Holcombe’s *Advanced Introduction to the Austrian School of Economics*” (2016), *The Independent Review* 20(4).

“Lawrence H. White’s *The Clash of Economic Ideas: The Great Policy Debates and Experiments of the Past Hundred Years*” (2013), *Economic Affairs*, Autumn.

“Mark Pennington’s *Robust Political Economy: Classical Liberalism and the Future of Public Policy*” (2013), *The Review of Austrian Economics* 26(2): 243-245.

Working papers

“Entrepreneurship, Minority Games, and the Discovery of Economic Equilibrium” (with Mengting Chao)

“Left Behind: Towards an Explanation of Communist Nostalgia” (with Olga Nicoara)

“Polycentricity and Development: An empirical analysis using the fuzzy-set comparative method”

“Philosophical Underpinnings of Political Identity: An Empirical Test of Berlin’s Conjecture”

“Resilience and Market Failure: The Problem of Highly Optimized Tolerance in Institutional Design”

“Path Dependence in Simple Games: A Bayesian Theory of Generosity and Trust Expectations”

Teaching

Dickinson College

- Spring 2019
 - ECON-278, Intermediate Microeconomic Theory
 - ECON-496, Applied Statistical Methods and Comparative Institutions
- Fall 2018
 - ECON-111, Introduction to Microeconomics (2 sections)
 - ECON-214, Entrepreneurship and Economic Disruption
- Spring 2018
 - ECON-278, Intermediate Microeconomic Theory (2 sections)

- ECON-496, Institutions and Sustainable Development
- Fall 2017
 - ECON-111, Introduction to Microeconomics (2 sections)
 - ECON-500, Computational Models in Microeconomics [independent study]
- Summer 2017
 - ECON-560, Entrepreneurship and Economic Disequilibrium [independent study]
- Spring 2017
 - ECON-278, Intermediate Microeconomic Theory (2 sections)
 - ECON-496, Applied Statistical Methods and Comparative Institutions
- Fall 2016
 - ECON-314, Introduction to Public Choice
 - FYSM-100, The Economic History of the World
- Spring 2016
 - ECON-314, Introduction to Public Choice (2 sections)
 - ECON-496, Austrian Political Economy
- Fall 2015
 - ECON-214, Introduction to Austrian Economics
 - ECON-278, Intermediate Microeconomic Theory

George Mason University

- Spring 2014, ECON-403, Austrian Economics (2 sections)

Awards and fellowships

Winner of the Academy of Management, Social Issues in Management Division's *Halloran Best Paper on History of CSR Award* for "Polycentric Stakeholder Analysis: Corporate Governance and Corporate Social Responsibility under Value Heterogeneity" (with Paul Dragos Aligica), 2015

Israel M. Kirzner Award for Outstanding Dissertation in Austrian Economics, Economics Department at George Mason University, 2015.

Finalist for the *Vincent and Elinor Ostrom Prize* of the *Public Choice Society* for the paper "Escape from Europe: A Calculus of Consent Model of the Origins of Liberal Institutions in British American Colonies" (with Kyle O'Donnell), 2015

Student Fellow of the *Public Choice Society*, 2015.

PhD Fellow at *Mercatus Center* at George Mason University, August 2011 – May 2013.

Graduate Student Summer Research Fellowship from *Mercatus Center*, 2012, 2013, 2014.

Hayek Fund for Scholars Fellowship from the *Institute for Humane Studies*, September 2012.

Young Scholars Program from the *Association for Private Enterprise Education*, 2012, 2015.

Refereeing for

Public Administration Review, *Economic Inquiry*, *Journal of Institutional Economics*, *Public Choice*, *International Journal of the Commons*, *Review of Austrian Economics*, *The Independent Review*, *Futures: The journal of policy, planning and futures studies*

Affiliations

American Economic Association, Academy of Management, Southern Economic Association, Public Choice Society, International Association for the Study of the Commons, Association of Private Enterprise and Education, Society for the Development of Austrian Economics

Presentations at conferences

Mercatus Center book panel on *Elinor Ostrom: An Intellectual Biography* (January 25, 2018, Fairfax, Virginia)

“Neoliberalism and Regulatory Capitalism: Understanding the ‘Freer Markets More Rules’ Puzzle” at the *Comparative Capitalism* Conference at the University of Utah (Sept 28-29, 2017, Salt Lake City, Utah).

“Entrepreneurship, Minority Games, and the Impossibility of Economic Equilibrium” (with Mengting Chao) at the *Southern Economic Association*, 87th Annual Meeting (November 17-19, 2016, Tampa, Florida).

“The Devil’s Fix: James M. Buchanan and the Pinochet Junta” (with Andrew Farrant) at the 54th Annual Meetings of the *Public Choice Society* (March 2-4, New Orleans, Louisiana).

“Contestation, Shared Community, and Development” at the 54th Annual Meetings of the *Public Choice Society* (March 2-4, New Orleans, Louisiana).

“Left Behind: Towards an Explanation of Communist Nostalgia” (with Olga Nicoara), *Southern Economic Association*, 86th Annual Meeting (November 19-21, 2016, Washington, DC).

“Renegotiating Faustian Bargains: How Political Power Operates in a Rule of Law System”, *Southern Economic Association*, 86th Annual Meeting (November 19-21, 2016, Washington, DC).

“Polycentricity: What it is and why it matters?” (with Ion Sterpan) at the 53rd Annual Meetings of the *Public Choice Society* (March 10-12, 2016, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida).

“The Evolution of Governance Structures in a Polycentric System” (with Edward McPhail) at the 53rd Annual Meetings of the *Public Choice Society* in the “Governance and public choice: Ostromian themes and interpretations” panel organized by Paul Dragos Aligica (March 10-12, 2016, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida).

“Polycentricity: The potential and limits of the analogy between competitive governance and market competition” (with Paul Aligica) at the *Polycentricity Workshop* at Indiana University (December 14-17, 2015, Bloomington, Indiana).

“Economic Development in a Rent-seeking Society: The Vietnam Development Model” (with Christine Ngo) at the *Southern Economic Association* annual meeting (November 21-23, 2015, New Orleans, Louisiana)

“Polycentric Structure and Informal Norms: Competition and Coordination within the Scientific Community” at the *Southern Economic Association* annual meeting (November 21-23, 2015, New Orleans, Louisiana)

“Polycentric Stakeholder Analysis: Corporate Governance and Corporate Social Responsibility under Value Heterogeneity” (with Paul Dragos Aligica) at the *Academy of Management* 75th annual meeting (August 7-11, 2015, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada)

“Escape from Europe: A Calculus of Consent Model of the Origins of Democracy in North America” (with Kyle O’Donnell) at the *Association of Private Enterprise Education* International Conference in the “Contributions to Virginia Political Economy” panel organized by Peter Boettke (April 12-14, 2015, Cancún, Mexico).

“The Economic Theory of a Compound Republic: A Calculus of Consent Model of Self-Governance, Institutional Diversity, and Optimal Federalism” at the 52nd Annual Meetings of the *Public Choice Society* in “Public Choice and the Fiscal Constitution” panel organized by Georg Vanberg (March 12-15, 2015, San Antonio, Texas).

“Escape from Europe: A Calculus of Consent Model of the Origins of Democracy in North America” (with Kyle O’Donnell) at the at the 52nd Annual Meetings of the *Public Choice Society* (March 12-15, 2015, San Antonio, Texas), finalist at the Ostrom Prize.

“Entrepreneurial Capitalism: The Microeconomics, Institutions, and Ideology of Sustainable Disequilibrium” (with Paul Dragos Aligica) at *Southern Economic Association* annual meeting, on the “The Political Economy of Entrepreneurial Capitalism” panel organized by the *Society for the Development of Austrian Economics* (November 22-24, 2014, Atlanta, Georgia).

“Polycentricity and the Meaning of Self-Governance: The Role of the Calculus of Consent in Elinor Ostrom’s ‘Design Principles’” at the *Workshop on the Ostrom Workshop* (WOW5) (June 18–21, 2014, Indiana University Bloomington).

“Out-of-Control Capitalism? The Political Consequences of Creative Destruction” at the *Association of Private Enterprise Education* Annual Conference (April 13-15, 2014, Las Vegas, Nevada).

“A Structural Analysis of Regulatory Capitalism” (with Julia Norgaard and Ryan Safner) at the *Association of Private Enterprise Education* Annual Conference (April 13-15, 2014, Las Vegas, Nevada).

“Polycentricity and the Meaning of Self-Governance: The Role of the Calculus of Consent in Elinor Ostrom’s ‘Design Principles’” at the *The 51st Annual Public Choice Society Conference* (March 6-9, 2014, Charleston, South Carolina).

“Co-Production, Polycentricity and Value Heterogeneity: The Ostroms’ Public Choice Institutionalism Revisited” (with Paul Dragos Aligica), *Southern Economic Association* annual meeting (November 23-25, 2013, Tampa, Florida)

“Resilience and Market Failure”, *Society for the Development of Austrian Economics* at the *Southern Economic Association* annual meeting (November 23-25, 2013, Tampa, Florida)

“The Emergence of Action Arenas: Searle and Ostrom on the Interplay between Political Power and Institutional Evolution”, *Institute for Humane Studies* Fall Research Colloquium (November 15-17, 2013, Fairfax, Virginia).

“Firm Internationalization in Transition Economies: A Romanian Case Study through Public Choice Theoretical Lenses” (with Paul Dragos Aligica), *Academy of Management* 73rd annual meeting, conference theme “Capitalism in Question”, on the panel “Firm Internationalization in Transition Economies” (August 9-13, 2013, Orlando, Florida)

“The Varieties of Liberty Ideals: Do Conservatives, Progressives and Libertarians Understand Freedom Differently?” at the Symposium on Scholarship & a Free Society organized by the *Institute for Humane Studies* (May 24 – 27, 2013, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA).

“Crony Capitalism: Rent-Seeking, Institutions, and Ideology” (with Paul Dragos Aligica) at the *Association of Private Enterprise Education* Annual Conference on the panel “Regulatory force: its nature and impact” (April 14 - 16, 2013, Maui, Hawaii).

“Alternative Economic Systems and Institutional Resilience: Lessons from Elinor Ostrom’s Work” (with Paul Dragos Aligica) at the *Association of Private Enterprise Education* Annual Conference on the panel “Lin Lives” (April 14 - 16, 2013, Maui, Hawaii).

“Economic Systems, Stages Theory and the Political Economy of Regulatory Capitalism” (with Paul Dragos Aligica) at the 82nd annual conference of the

Southern Economic Association (November 16-18, 2012, New Orleans, LA).

“Co-Production, Polycentricity and Public Value: Ostrom’s Institutionalism and Beyond” (with Paul Dragos Aligica), *Creating Public Value in a Multi-Sector, Shared-Power World* conference at the University of Minnesota, September 20-22, 2012.

“Romania: Impressive improvisation on the short run, dark structural clouds on the long run horizon”, *The Uses of Austerity: Spending Cuts, Stimulus and Reform in the Economic Crisis* authors meeting conference organized by the *Centre for European Studies* (June 21-22, 2012, Brussels, Belgium).

“Regulatory Capitalism: Overview of the concept, implications of the phenomenon” (with Paul Dragos Aligica), at the *Association of Private Enterprise Education* Annual Conference (April 1-3, 2012, Las Vegas, Nevada). Conference theme: “Wither Leviathan? Changing Roles for the State”. For the panel organized by Richard Williams, “From Regulatory Capitalism to Regulatory Global Regimes”.

“Exploring State Capitalism: Theories and Models of Mercantilism, Socialism, and Rent Seeking” (with Paul Dragos Aligica), at the *Association of Private Enterprise Education* Annual Conference (April 1-3, 2012, Las Vegas, Nevada). Conference theme: “Wither Leviathan? Changing Roles for the State”.

“Economic Performance, Social Safety, and Individual Happiness: A Comparative Approach to Communist and Post-Communist Romania” (with Paul Dragos Aligica) at the International Symposium “The First Years of Post-Communism: Transitions and Legacies” organized by the *Institute for the Investigation of Communist Crimes and the Memory of the Romanian Exile* (IICCMER) (November 26, 2010, Bucharest, Romania).

“The Costs of Drug Prohibition” at the conference *A War without Winners: 50 Years of Drug Prohibition* organized by the *Romanian Harm Reduction Network* (June 24, 2011, Bucharest, Romania).

Status

I have received a Green Card category E-17 (“outstanding professor or researcher”).

Languages

English (fluent)

Romanian (fluent)

French (functional)

References

Andrew Farrant, Dickinson College
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3301 N. Fairfax Dr., Ste. 450, Arlington, VA 22201, USA
E-mail: pdragos@mercatus.gmu.edu

Peter J. Boettke, George Mason University, Economics Department
4400 University Drive, 3G4, Fairfax, VA 22030, USA
E-mail: pboettke@gmu.edu

Horia Terpe, Center for Institutional Analysis and Development
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