



Alexander Cooley, Ph.D., Professor, Political Science, Barnard College. Columbia University

Professor Cooley is Professor and Chair of the Department of Political Science at Barnard College and Deputy Director for Social Sciences Programming at Columbia University's Harriman Institute. Professor Cooley's research examines how external actors— including international organizations, multinational companies, NGOs, and foreign military bases – have influenced the development and sovereignty of the former Soviet states, with a focus on Central Asia and the Caucasus.

Cooley's latest book, *Great Games, Local Rules: The New Great Power Contest for Central Asia* (Oxford 2012), examines the multipolar politics of US-Russia-China competition for influence in Central Asia. It received an Honorable mention from the Central Eurasian Studies Society 2014 Book Prize committee. Cooley is the author of three other academic books: *Logics of Hierarchy: The Organization of Empires, States and Military Occupations* (Cornell 2005; co-winner of the 2006 Marshall Shulman Prize); *Base Politics: Democratic Change and the US Military Overseas* (Cornell 2008); and *Contracting States: Sovereign Transfers in International Relations* (Princeton 2009), co-authored with Hendrik Spruyt of Northwestern University.

He is currently working on two new projects: an edited volume about the politics surrounding International Rankings and Ratings, co-edited with Jack Snyder, *Ranking the World: Grading States as a Tool of Global Governance* (Cambridge 2015); and a new monograph on Central Asia's ties with offshore international financial and legal networks (Yale University Press, 2016).

In addition to his academic research, Professor Cooley serves on several international advisory and policy committees; he also has testified for the United States Congress and briefed US and international officials on Eurasian politics. An international commentator on Eurasian topics, Cooley's opinion pieces have appeared in *The New York Times* and *Foreign Affairs* and regularly provides commentary to international media outlets on Eurasia-related topics. His research has been supported by fellowships and grants from the Open Society Foundations, Carnegie Corporation, Smith Richardson Foundation and the German Marshall Fund of the United States, among others.

Cooley earned both his MA and Ph.D. from Columbia University. Cooley is a Faculty Representative to Barnard College's Board of Trustees.