

Dr Elisabeth Schimpfössl

Senior Lecturer at Aston University

Birmingham, , GB

Dr Schimpfössl's research interests are the sociology of elites as well as power and social inequality.

Biography

In recent years Dr Elisabeth Schimpfössl has focused on two research topics. First is research into the sociology of elites, power and social inequality, and, second, comparative research into media and journalism in post-communist Europe. Elisabeth's book *Rich Russians: From Oligarchs to Bourgeoisie* (Oxford University Press 2018) looks at the top 0.1 percent in Putin's Russia. It is built around stories, picked from a sample of 80 interviews which Elisabeth conducted with multimillionaires and billionaires, their spouses and their children. The chapters discuss their family histories, biographies, lifestyles, how they see their role and position on top of Russian society ? as entrepreneurs, philanthropists, wives, heirs, etc. ? and how they relate to the West. Reviews appeared, for example, in the *Financial Times* and in *The Guardian*. In a follow-up project, a Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship, Elisabeth compared the practices of British and Russian philanthropists. Findings from this research have been published in a special journal issue on the super-rich (2019) and a book chapter of a volume which Elisabeth co-edited (2019). Elisabeth discussed gender-related question in more detail in a 2018 book she co-edited. The second strand of Elisabeth's research deals with post-communist journalism, which she carries out together with Ilya Yablokov from the University of Leeds. This research started in Russia and then expanded to Eastern Europe. They have just completed a special issue for the *European Journal of Communication* on self-censorship and professional ethics in the former Eastern Bloc. It includes their article on self-censorship in Hungary and Latvia, the research for which was funded through a small research grant from the British Academy. An updated version of their first co-authored article was republished in a volume on *Mass Media in the Post-Soviet World* (2018).

Areas of Expertise

Philanthropy, Social Inequality, Sociology, Elites, Russia

Education

University of Vienna

MA Russian and History

University of Manchester

PhD Russian studies and politics

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