

Office: Haverford College, 370 Lancaster Avenue, Haverford, PA 19041-1392
e-mail: vkontoro@haverford.edu; web page: <http://www.haverford.edu/faculty/vkontoro>

Home: 48 Pierce Road, East Windsor, NJ 08520, Tel.: 609-235-6329

Education: Ph.D. in Economics, University of Pennsylvania, 1985.
Diploma in Economics, Novosibirsk University, 1973.

Positions held

Professor of Economics, Haverford College, 2002 - present;
Associate Professor, 1994-2002; Assistant Professor, 1987-94.

President, Command Economies Research, Inc., 1984-2002. Contract research for the US Defense Department and the CIA.

Consultant: CENTRA Technology, Inc. (2002); SAIC (1997-2002); PlanEcon, Inc. (1985-92); The Foundation for Soviet Studies (1983-85); Wharton Econometric Forecasting Associates (1982-84).

Visiting Lecturer (Fall 1986), Teaching Fellow (Spring 1982), Economics Department, University of Pennsylvania.

Research Assistant: Economics Research Unit, University of Pennsylvania (1980-1981); Wharton Econometrics (1977-1980).

Economist, Computer Center, Ministry of Light Industry, Kiev, USSR, 1974-1977.

Citations: *Social Science Citation Index* (1985 - 2013) – 147

Books

The Disintegration of the Soviet Economic System. London: Routledge, 1992, 281 pp. (co-editor with Michael Ellman)

The Destruction of the Soviet Economic System: An Insiders' History. Armonk, NY: M. E. Sharpe, 1998, 352 pp. (co-editor with Michael Ellman)

Journal articles and chapters in books

- “Industrial Policy and the Electrical Machinery Industry: The Case of Transformers” in: F. Gerard Adams, ed., *Industrial Policies for Growth and Competitiveness*. Volume II. Lexington, Mass.: Lexington Books, 1985, pp. 133-160.
- “Soviet Transport Trends, 1950-1990” (with Holland Hunter, Peggy Dunn, and Janusz Szyrmer), *Soviet Economy* 1, 3:195-227, 1985.
- “Discipline and Growth in the Soviet Economy”, *Problems of Communism* 34, 6:18-31, Nov.-Dec. 1985.
- “Soviet Growth Slowdown: Econometric vs. Direct Evidence”, *American Economic Review Papers and Proceedings* 76, 2:181-185, May 1986.
- “Organizational Innovation: Hidden Reserve in the Soviet Economy” (with Vladimir Shlapentokh), *The Carl Beck Papers in Russian and East European Studies* no. 507. University of Pittsburgh, 1986, 58 pp.
- “Pressures and Potentials in Transport” (with Holland Hunter) in: US Congress Joint Economic Committee, *Gorbachev's Economic Plans*. vol. II. Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1987, pp. 382-396.
- “Labor Problems and the Prospects for Accelerated Economic Growth” in: Maurice Friedberg and Heyward Isham, eds., *Soviet Society under Gorbachev*. Armonk, NY: M. E. Sharpe, 1987, pp. 30-51.
- “Lessons of the 1965 Soviet Economic Reform”, *Soviet Studies* 40, 2:308-316, April 1988.
- “Prototype Statistics as Indicators of Soviet R&D Priorities in Civilian and Military Machinebuilding”, *Comparative Economic Studies* 30, 3:1-16, Fall 1988.
- “Organizational Innovation in a Command Economy”, *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics* 144, 5:578-584, Dec. 1988.
- “Soviet Investment Process and Capital-Labor Substitution” in: John P. Hardt and Carl H. McMillan, eds., *Planned Economies: Confronting the Challenges of the 1980s*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1988, pp. 13-27.
- “The Current State of the Soviet Economy: Deepening Crisis or Recovery?” in: Alexander Shtromas and Morton A. Kaplan, eds., *The Soviet Union and the Challenge of the Future. Volume II: Economy and Society*. New York: Paragon House, 1989, pp. 8-30.
- “Inflation in the Soviet Investment and Capital Stock Data”, *Soviet Studies* 41, 2:318-329, April 1989.

articles and book chapters continued

“Utilization of Fixed Capital and Soviet Industrial Growth”, *Economics of Planning* 23, 3:37-50, Jan. 1990.

“The Long-Run Decline in Soviet R&D Productivity” in: Henry S. Rowen and Charles Wolf Jr., eds., *The Impoverished Superpower: Perestroika and the Burden of Soviet Military Spending*. San Francisco: Institute for Contemporary Studies Press, 1990, pp. 255-270.

“Sovetskaia ekonomika v blizhaishei perspektive”, *Ekonomika i organizatsiia promyshlennogo proizvodstva (EKO)*, 9:143-148, 1991 (In Russian).

Three chapters in: Michael Ellman and Vladimir Kontorovich, eds., *The Disintegration of the Soviet Economic System*. London: Routledge, 1992:

“Overview” (with Michael Ellman), pp. 1-39. Abridged Russian translation: *Rossiiskii ekonomicheskii zhurnal*, 4:40-47, April 1992.

“Railroads”, pp. 174-192; “Technological Progress and Research and Development”, pp. 217-248.

“The Economic Fallacy”, *The National Interest*, 31:35-45, Spring 1993.

Reprinted in Nicolas K. Gvosdev, ed., *The Strange Death of Soviet Communism: A Postscript*. New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction, 2008, pp. 45-60.

“The Future of the Soviet Science”, *Research Policy* 23, 2:113-121, March 1994.

“Imperial Legacy and the Transformation of the Russian Economy”, *Transition* 2, 17:22-25, 64, Aug. 23, 1996.

“The Collapse of the Soviet System and the Memoir Literature” (with Michael Ellman), *Europe-Asia Studies* 49, 2:259-279, March 1997.

Two chapters (with Michael Ellman) in: Michael Ellman and Vladimir Kontorovich, eds., *The Destruction of the Soviet Economic System: an Insiders' History*. Armonk, NY: M. E. Sharpe, 1998:

“About the Study”, pp. 3-11, and “What We Learn from the Insiders”, pp. 12-29

“Has New Business Creation in Russia Come to a Halt?”, *Journal of Business Venturing* 14, 5-6:451-460, 1999.

“Can Russia Resettle the Far East?”, *Post-Communist Economies and Transformation* 12, 3:365-84, Sept. 2000.

“The Russian Health Crisis and the Economy”, *Communist and Post-Communist Studies* 34, 2001, pp. 221-40.

articles and book chapters continued

“Economists, Soviet Growth Slowdown, and the Collapse”, *Europe-Asia Studies* 53, 5:675-95, July 2001.

“Economic Crisis in the Russian Far East: Overdevelopment or Colonial Exploitation?”, *Post-Soviet Geography and Economy* 42, 6:391-415, 2001.

“Small Business and Putin’s Federal Reform”, in Peter Reddaway and Robert W. Orttung, eds., *The Dynamics of Russian Politics, Volume II: Putin’s Reform of Federal-Regional Relations*. Totowa, NJ: Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 2005, pp. 241-66.

“The Importance of Geography”, in: Michael Ellman, ed., *Russia’s Oil and Natural Gas: Bonanza or Curse?* London: Anthem Press, 2006, pp. 173-185.

“Soviet Economic Reform”, in: Lawrence Blume and Steven Durlauf, eds., *The New Palgrave Dictionary of Economics*, 2nd edition, vol. 7. London: Palgrave Macmillan Ltd., 2008, pp. 713-719.

“What did the Soviet Rulers Maximize?” (with Alexander Wein) *Europe-Asia Studies*, 61, 9:1579-1601, Nov. 2009.

“A Cold War Creature Which Sat Out the War”, *Europe-Asia Studies* 66, 5:811-829, July 2014.

“The Preobrazhenskii Myth and the Soviet Industrialization”, under review.

Book reviews

Technology Transfer and East-West Relations by Mark E. Schaffer, ed., London: Croom Helm, 1985, in: *Millennium: Journal of International Studies* 15, 2:283-285, 1986.

What is to be Done? By Merton J. Peck and Thomas J. Richardson, eds., New Haven: Yale University Press, 1991; in: *Northwestern Journal of International Law and Business* 13, 2:477-483, Fall 1992.

The Coming Russian Boom: A Guide to New Markets and Politics by Richard Layard and John Parker, New York: Free Press, 1996; in: *The Journal of Economic Literature* 35, 2:821-823, June 1997.

The New Russia: Transition Gone Awry by Lawrence R. Klein and Marshall Pomer, eds., Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2001; in: *Journal of Comparative Economics* 29, 4:767-769, Dec. 2001.

The Rise and Fall of the Soviet Economy by Philip Hanson, London: Pearson Education Limited, 2003, on EH.Net, Oct. 2003.

book reviews continued

Russia in the 21st Century by Steve Rosefielde, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005, in: *Comparative Economic Studies* 47, 4:707-709, December 2005.

“A Child, not a Tool of the Cold War”, review of *Know Your Enemy: The Rise and Fall of America's Soviet Experts* by David C. Engerman, New York: Oxford University Press, 2009, in: *Kritika* 12, 3:691-703, Summer 2011.

E. E. Slutsky as Economist and Mathematician: Crossing the Limits of Knowledge by Vincent Barnett. London: Routledge, 2011, in: *Russian Review* 71, 4:724-725, October 2012.

The Oxford Handbook of the Russian Economy by Michael Alexeev and Shlomo Weber, eds. New York: Oxford University Press, 2013, in: *Russian Review* 73, 2:336-337, April 2014.

Bear Traps on Russia's Road to Modernization by Clifford G. Gaddy and Barry W. Ickes, New York: Routledge, 2013, forthcoming in: *Russian Review* 73, 4, Oct. 2014.

Testimony in the US Congress. *United States - Soviet Relations: 1988.* (Volume I). Hearings before the Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives, 100th Congress. Washington, DC: GPO, 1988, pp. 106-117.

Op-ed articles

“Soviet Industry Grows Its Own Potatoes” (with Vladimir Shlapentokh), *The Wall Street Journal*, Jan. 11, 1985.

“Recalculations Put Gorbachev & Co. Deeper in the Hole” (with Boris Rumer), *The Wall Street Journal*, Feb. 27, 1986.

“Reagan is the Father of *Glasnost*’ ”, *Chicago Tribune*, Aug. 29, 1987.

“His Reforms Sound Great, But Don't Expect Results”, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, May 29, 1988.

“Recession: The Painful Product of Soviet Reform”, *The Wall Street Journal*, Aug. 30, 1989.

Selected papers (available at my website)

“Forecasts of the Soviet Economy: Upward Bias in 1976-1980 and the Prospects to 1985”, presented at the Department of Economics Planning Workshop, University of Pennsylvania, October 1981. (manuscript)

papers and reports continued

“What Do Bosses in Command Economies Do”, presented at the II SSRC Summer Workshop on Soviet and East European Economics, Urbana, IL, July 1986.

“Why Soviet Conversion Program Doesn’t Make Sense” (with Boris Rumer), presented at the Allied Social Sciences meeting, New Orleans, LA, January 1992.

“The Importance of Not Being a Superpower”, February 1994.

“Economic System and the Valuation of National Income”, 1998.

“Economists, Soviet Economic Reforms, and the Collapse”, 2001.

“The Russian Far East and the Social Sciences”, presented at the 34th National Convention of the AAASS, Pittsburgh, PA, Nov. 24, 2002.

“Secrecy and Western Study of the Soviet Military Sector”, presented at the 41st National Convention of the AAASS, Boston, MA, Nov. 14, 2009.

Grants, fellowships, etc.

Visiting Scholar, Hoover Institution, Stanford University, Summer 1987.

Research grant “The End of the Soviet Economy”, Smith Richardson Foundation, 1993.

Member, Ed A. Hewett Book Prize Committee, AAASS, 2003 – 2005.

Research grant “National Security and Social Science”, Earhart Foundation, 2008.

Work in progress

Economists and War, a book.

Regress of knowledge in a small scholarly field: Soviet growth in the final decades, an article.

Soft Budget Constraint and Adjusted Factor Cost Standard: an empirical test.