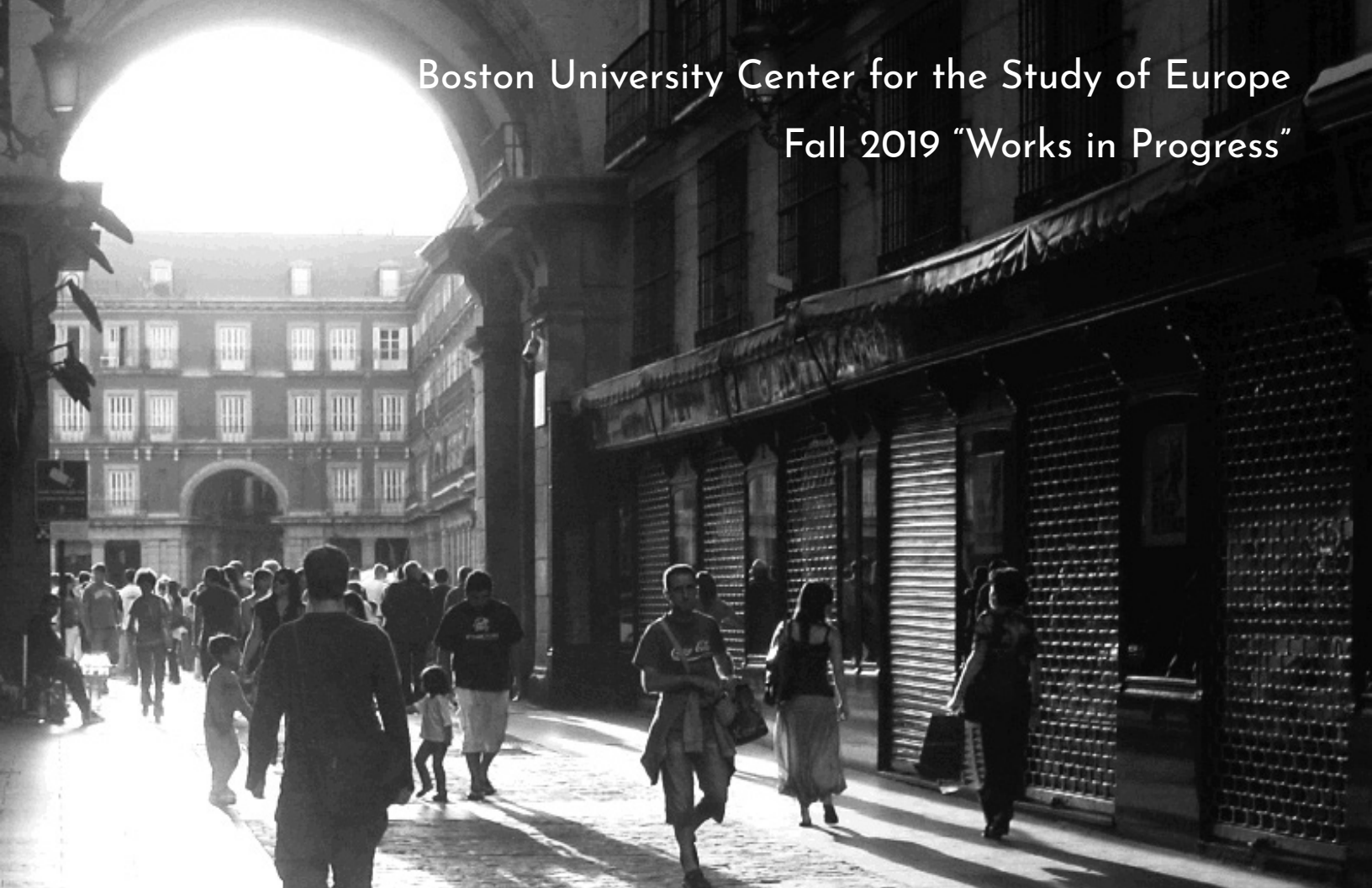


Boston University Center for the Study of Europe  
Fall 2019 "Works in Progress"



Thursday, November 7, 2019

4 to 5:30 PM - Reception to follow

Boston University Pardee School of Global Studies | 121 Bay State Road

## Reforming to Survive: The Bolshevik Origins of Social Policies

Magnus B. Rasmussen / Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Oslo

The worker-led Bolshevik Revolution became a threat and symbol of revolution to ruling elites around the world. In his presentation, Rasmussen explores how elites provide policy concessions when they face credible threats of revolution. He highlights how the motivation and capacity of opposition groups influence threats, but also how elites' absorption and interpretation of information signals matters. The Bolshevik Revolution and the formation of Comintern effectively enhanced elites' perceptions of a credible revolutionary threat, affecting the capacity and motivation of labor movements, but also the nature and interpretation of information signals, incentivizing policy concessions from elites, including reduced working hours and expanded social transfer programs.

Open to faculty, graduate students, and visiting researchers. RSVP to [edamrien@bu.edu](mailto:edamrien@bu.edu).



Boston University Pardee School of Global Studies  
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