

**Peter Eltsov, Ph.D**  
**Senior Fellow**  
**Department of Regional and Analytical Studies**



### **Education**

- Ph.D. in Anthropology/Archaeology from Harvard University
- MA in South Asian Studies from the University of California Berkley
- MA/BA in History – St Petersburg Herzen University, Russia

### **Research Interests**

- International affairs and security in South and Central Asia, the Caucasus, Russia and Ukraine
- The use and abuse of the past in modern politics
- History, archaeology, and war
- Statehood and national identity

Peter Eltsov is an anthropologist, historian, and political scientist. He has conducted field-work in South and Central Asia (including the conflict-ridden areas of the North West Frontier Province and Baluchistan in western Pakistan), the Middle East, the Northern Caucasus, and Crimea. He has held positions as an Alexander von Humboldt Fellow at the Institute for the Cultures and Languages of South Asia at Free University in Berlin, Germany; a John W. Kluge Fellow at the Library of Congress; a Research Associate at the Department of Anthropology at Harvard University; and a Lecturer at Wellesley College.

Eltsov's book "From Harappa to Hastinapura" (Boston/Leiden: Brill, 2008) deals with the ideas of the city and civilization in ancient South Asia. Eltsov has participated in numerous conferences in Europe and the United States and has given lectures internationally, including the University of Pennsylvania, Harvard University, the Library of Congress, the University of Bologna, Italy, the University of Bonn, Germany, the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, India, and the Australian Institute of International Affairs in Sydney.

Eltsov's research articles and chapters have been published in internationally recognized journals, books, and conference proceedings. He has contributed opinion pieces, commentary, and policy analyses to the Atlantic Magazine, Foreign Policy, Politico, the National Interest, the New Republic, the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, the Voice of America, and Al-Jazeera English. In his current research, he is particularly interested in how competing narratives and interpretations of the past affect contemporary politics, causing military conflict and the formation of new realities and identities.