

CALL FOR PAPERS

COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND CENTRAL ASIA

The COVID-19 pandemic is exposing major flaws in state and economic systems around the world, and Central Asia is no exception. Central Asian countries have been hit by the plunge in oil prices and in lowered demand for their export commodities; local labor markets and migrants' opportunities abroad have been disrupted, and prospects for investment and tourism have been reduced. Given that public health and educational networks lack the resources to extend into rural areas, authorities are using digital tools to increase control over the population. At the same time, increasing tensions between US and China may jeopardize the hopes of Central Asians for the region to serve as a transit hub amidst a prosperous Eurasia.

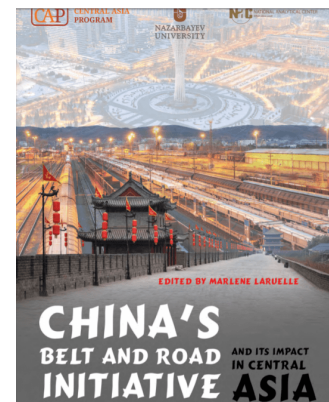
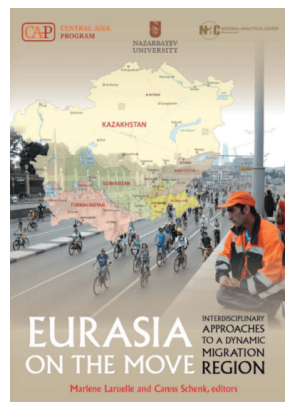
GW's Central Asia Program invites the submission of articles analyzing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in Central Asia from several angles.

TOPICS INCLUDE (BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO):

- *Social impact:* challenges and perspectives on public health, education, job market, inequality
- *Political impact:* domestic crisis management, civil society initiatives, surveillance mechanisms and attacks on privacy, spread of conspiracy theories
- *Economic impact:* economic and social measures taken by the state to face the pandemic, macroeconomic and fiscal stability, labor migration, remittances and foreign trade
- *Geopolitical impact:* impact of rising tensions between US and China on Central Asia, impact of the pandemic on China's Belt and Road Initiatives in the region, prospects for Central Asia's regional cooperation

SUBMISSION

- Articles should be between 2,000 and 5,000 words, Chicago style footnotes, in English.
- Papers in Russian will also be considered. CAP Editorial Board may decide to translate them into English.
- Papers will be reviewed by CAP Editorial Board, which will decide for the publication. If accepted, papers will be fully edited and formatted.
- Papers will be published individually online as soon as they are ready and will later be republished in a ebook such as:



Submissions will be accepted on a rolling basis until August 31. Please send your paper in word document to infocap@gwu.edu.