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**PUBLIC SERVICE MOTIVATION, RELIGIOSITY AND PUBLIC
SECTOR CAREER PREFERENCE AMONG RUSSIAN
STUDENTS^{2 3}**

This study attempts to assess the link between religiosity and the government career preference in Russia and role of public service motivation as a mediator of this relationship. We use primary data from a student survey conducted at a Moscow-based university (N=804) to show that religiosity is positively linked with declared government career preference among students. The link between religiosity and government career preference is partially mediated by public service motivation (PSM), but only by one sub-index of PSM: the Attraction to Public Service. These findings indicate that religion is an important factor in choosing a career in government. The underlying mechanism of this link requires further investigation.

JEL Classification: D73, H83.

Keywords: religiosity, Russia, motivation, civil service, public service motivation, career choice.

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