Despite the global recognition of social and economic costs of corruption, scholarly understanding of its political causes remains very limited. Focusing on post-Soviet Ukraine, this talk explains the variation in the ordinary citizens' participation in petty bureaucratic corruption in light of the country's political trajectory in the post-transitional era. On the micro-level, I argue that Ukrainians' decisions to carry out informal economic exchanges are influenced by organizational cultures of local bureaucracies. On the meso-level, I suggest that Ukrainian bureaucracies are fragmented into corruption-favorable and corruption-unfavorable sectors, which operate according to distinct institutional logics and cater to different clients. On the macro-level, I show that this bureaucratic fragmentation is a product of the country's recent oscillation between the pro-Western and pro-Russian courses of political and economic development. The talk is based on several years of fieldwork, analysis of online discussion forums, local media, and a survey of Ukrainian university students.