

Nora Kirkizh

—Eleonora Kirkiza—

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Education

2019 - Exp. 2023 PhD in Political Science

- The School of Social Sciences and Technology, Technical University of Munich, Germany
- The Chair of Computational Social Science and Big Data
- Advisor: [Prof. Jürgen Pfeffer](#)

2015 - 2018 M.A. Political Science

- University of Mannheim, Germany
- MA thesis: Effects of Foreign Media Propaganda in Democracies: Evidence from a Natural Experiment
- Advisor: [Prof. Nikolay Marinov](#)

2013 - 2015 M.A. Sociology, Higher School of Economics (HSE), Moscow, Russia

2007 - 2012 Specialist Diploma, Journalism, Saint-Petersburg State University (SPbU)

Experience

- *Graduate Researcher*

Oct. 2018 - Sep. 2021

GESIS Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences — Cologne

Department of Computational Social Science

- Using 19 million URLs, built a machine learning model to predict policy preferences and ideology of users in Germany. [Link to the paper](#).
- Conducted large-scale conjoint experiments with 5,000 users to identify their policy preferences on immigration, law enforcement, and climate change. [Finalist for Facebook Fellowship Program 2020](#).
- Using machine learning methods, managed to conduct a natural experiment with limited and incomplete data to predict biased media effects.
- Data-processing, feature engineering, and model testing for the project on political behavior in the EU and the US: [“Online Populism in Europe and the US”](#) funded by Volkswagen Foundation in collaboration with Oxford University and SciencesPo.
- Managed a team of junior researchers to organize data collection and develop a data collection pipeline.

- *Research Assistant*

Aug. 2016 - June 2018

Mannheim Centre for European Social Research (MZES) — Mannheim

- **Project I:** [European Election Studies](#), electoral participation and voting behavior in European Parliament elections. Data-processing (50 countries and 50,000 observations) and descriptive analysis of panel and social media data.
- **Project II:** U.S. Congress & Presidential Statements and Actions on Sanctions. Conducted analysis of survey and aggregate level data. Labelling of large datasets for text analysis.

- *Junior Research Assistant*

Sep. 2013 - Aug. 2015

Social and Cognitive Informatics Lab (SCILA) — St. Petersburg

- Multivariate modeling of behavioral metrics (feature engineering for OLS, logistic regression, multi-level logistic regression), successfully published study results in peer-reviewed journals, contributing to increased funding for the lab.
- Developed a research design and conducted an analysis of survey data in R (worked with continuous and categorical variables, performed factor analysis for feature engineering). The project led to the first for the lab publication in a prestigious peer-reviewed journal in social media studies.

Publications

Issue Trade-Offs and the Politics of Representation: Experimental Evidence from Four European Democracies., *European Journal of Political Research*, 2022. Jointly with Sebastian Stier (GESIS) and Caterina Froio (SciencesPo). Link to [the paper](#), [code and data](#).

Online News and Protest Participation in a Political Context: Evidence from Self-Reported Cross-Sectional Data, *Social Media + Society*, 7(1), 2021, jointly with Olessia Koltsova (HSE). Link to [the paper](#), [code and data](#).

Populist Attitudes and Selective Exposure to Online News: A Cross-Country Analysis Combining Web Tracking and Surveys, *International Journal of Press/Politics*, 2020, jointly with Sebastian Stier (GESIS), Caterina Froio (SciencesPo), Ralph Schroeder (University of Oxford). Link to [the paper](#).

Research in progress

Can Web Browsing Histories Predict Attitudes Towards Immigrants, Climate Change, and Democracy?, *Submitted*, 2021, jointly with Sebastian Stier (GESIS), Roberto Ulloa (GESIS), and Jürgen Pfeffer (TUM). Link to [to the paper](#).

Biased Media and Foreign Policy Preferences: Evidence From a Natural Experiment *Working paper*, 2021. Link to [the preprint with replication materials](#).

What do “the People” Want? Exploring Policy Preferences and Media Diets of Populist Radical Right Voters in Advanced Democracies with Conjoint Experiments and Web Tracking Data, *In progress*, 2020, jointly with Sebastian Stier (GESIS) and Caterina Froio (SciencesPo). Link to [the pre-analysis plan](#).

Research Visits

University Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Department of Economics
Visiting Graduate Student, Spring Term 2017
Course: Media and Economics. *Instructor:* Maria Petrova.

Stanford University, the Stanford U.S.-Russia Forum (SURF)
- Russian Delegate, August, 2013 – May, 2014.
Project Title: Text Mining and Social Network Analysis: Case Study of the US and Russian Media Coverage of Civil War in Libya (jointly with Stanislav Budnitsky [Carleton University], Reagan Thompson [Stanford University]). [Link to the research summary](#).

Additional Training

The Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science (SICSS), June 13-19, 2021
Organized by: Chris Bail (Duke University) and Matt Salganik (Princeton University)
Instructors: Elizaveta Sivak (HSE), Sofia Dokuka (HSE),
Ivan Smirnov (RWTH Aachen University)

Field Experiments, ICPSR Summer Course, July, 2019
Instructors: Alexander Coppock (Yale), Eline de Rooij (Simon Fraser University),
Florian Foos (London School of Economics)

Methods Summer Program, August, 2014
London School of Economics and Political Science, London
- *Course Title:* Methods for the Online World

Conference and Workshop Presentations

PolMeth Europe 2021 (*virtual*)
Digital Democracy Workshop 2020, University of Zurich, (*virtual*)
European Workshop in Empirical Political Science 2020 (EuroWEPS, Humboldt University Berlin)

ECPR 2019
EPSA 2019
Digital Threats to Democracy Workshop 2019 (SSRC, New York City)
4th Economics of Media Bias Workshop 2019 (WZB Berlin Social Science Center)
Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies Conference 2018 (Stanford University)
ECPR 2015
International Conference Social Media and Social Movements 2014 (HSE)
Stanford US – Russia Forum 2014 (Stanford University).

References

Dr. Sebastian Stier
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Social Science
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