

# DIANA RAFAILOVA

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## Research Interests

Political regimes, political socialization and education, support for democracy, quantitative methods, mixed methods

## Education

- 2024      **PhD in Political and Social Sciences**  
*European University Institute, Florence*  
[The 2024 Linz Rokkan Prize for the best EUI doctoral thesis in Political Sociology](#)  
Thesis: “The effects of political regimes on school quality and learning outcomes”  
Examining Board: Prof. Juho Härkönen (European University Institute, supervisor), Prof. Filip Kostelka (European University Institute, co-supervisor), Prof. Sirianne Dahlum (University of Oslo), Prof. Katerina Tertychnaya (University of Oxford)
- 2020      **MRes in Political and Social Sciences**  
*European University Institute, Florence*
- 2019      **MSc in Russian Politics and Society**  
*King’s College London*
- 2016-2017      **MSc in Political Science**  
*European University at Saint Petersburg, Russia*
- 2012-2016      **BA in International Relations, Political Science, and Human Rights**  
*Bard College, USA, and Saint Petersburg State University, Russia. Dual degree.*

## Academic Positions

- 09/2023 – **Postdoctoral Researcher**  
currently      *Center for East European and International Studies*  
ERC-funded project “Moving Russia(ns): Intergenerational Transmission of Memories Abroad and at Home (MoveMeRU)”. PI: Dr. Félix Krawatzek
- 06/2024 – **Visiting Senior Fellow**  
currently      *Free University Berlin*  
Cluster of Excellence „Contestations of the Liberal Script” (SCRIPTS)

## Other Research and Administrative Experience

- 09/2022 – **Research Assistant**  
07/2023 *European University Institute, Department of Political and Social Sciences*  
Research and administrative assistance to the head of SPS department, Prof. Elias Dinas
- 11/2020 – **Academic Service Assistant**  
01/2022 *European University Institute, Department of Political and Social Sciences*
- 09/2017 – **Junior Researcher**  
08/2019 *European University at Saint Petersburg, Russia*

## Publications and Working Papers

### Political regimes and education:

- Rafailova, D. 2024. *The effects of political regimes on school quality and learning outcomes* (Doctoral dissertation, European University Institute). DOI: 10.2870/758185.
- Rafailova D. [Title redacted for peer review]. Under evaluation at *Political Studies*.
- Rafailova D. 'Democracy, Educational Attainment, and Adult Skills'. *Draft available upon request*.

### Public support and political attitudes:

- Kostelka F., Alberdi M., Bradley M., Fiselier T., Jabbour A., Mansour N., Minaeva E., Porciuleanu S., Rafailova D. [Title redacted for peer review]. Under R&R at the *European Journal of Political Research*.
- Krawatzek F., Matevosyan H., Rafailova D. Socialisation and History: Understanding attitudes towards the war in Ukraine. *Draft available upon request*.
- Rafailova D. Preferences for Democracy among Russian Immigrants: Intergenerational Focus Group Evidence in Canada. *Draft available upon request*.
- Nalla, M.K., Gurinskaya, A., and Rafailova D. 2017. 'Youth Perceptions of Private Security Guard Industry in Russia', *Journal of Applied Security Research*, 12:4, pp. 543-556.

## Invited Talks

- Dec 2025 [Politics of Russia and Eurasia Seminar Series \(PRESS\)](#), online workshop  
Dec 2025 Guest Contribution, methods course by Prof. Gwendolyn Sasse, *Humboldt University, Berlin*  
Dec 2024 [Seminar Series in Social and Political Science](#), *Collegio Carlo Alberto, Torino, Italy*

## Conferences

- European Political Science Society (EPSS) Inaugural Meeting	June 2026
- American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting	2025
- The Future of Democracy? 1st Annual Interdisciplinary WZB Conference, Berlin	2025
- Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) Annual Convention, USA	2024, 2025
- Aleksanteri Conference "Resisting Authoritarianism in Eurasia", Helsinki, Finland	2024
- European Political Science Association (EPSA) Annual Conference	2022, 2024
- Population Association of America (PAA) Annual Meeting	2022

## Grants and Awards

**The 2024 Linz Rokkan Prize** for the best EUI doctoral thesis in Political Sociology, EUI  
**EUI Wider European Doctorate grant**, four-year stipend for conducting a PhD at the European University Institute (2019-2023), European University at Saint Petersburg

## Tools and Software

Stata (advanced), R (basic), MAXQDA (basic), LaTeX (advanced)

## Languages

English (fluent), Russian (native), Italian (basic), German (beginner)