

Karolina Nugumanova

Political Science & Sociology

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Research Agenda

My research examines how gender, emotions, and political opportunity structures shape political participation and mobilization under authoritarianism and in exile. I combine large-scale survey data, panel studies, experiments, and qualitative interviews to study post-2022 Russian emigration, feminist anti-war activism, and emotional mechanisms of sustained political engagement.

My work contributes to political behavior, migration studies, and gender politics, with a particular focus on authoritarian contexts and transnational activism.

Academic Appointments

Visiting Research Fellow, Institute of Social Science, University of Tokyo 2026

Invited by Masaaki Higashijima.

Exchange Student, Globalisation Program, Venice International University 2021

Education

PhD in Political Science and Sociology, Scuola Normale Superiore Expected 2027

Academic advisors: Martín Portos García; Lorenzo Zamponi.

Dissertation: *Gendered Mobilization in Exile: Understanding the Activism of Post-2022 Russian Emigrants through Emotions, Structure, and Movement Dynamics*.

MA in Sociology, European University at St. Petersburg 2020–2022

BA in Sociology, Novosibirsk State University 2016–2020

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Nugumanova, Karolina. **Micromobilising Emotion: How Feminist Anti-War Resistance Builds Affective Infrastructure in Exile.** *Communist and Post-Communist Studies* (SSCI, Scopus), 2026.

Manuscripts Under Review / In Preparation

- Nugumanova, K., Kamalov, E., & Sergeeva, I. *Reverse Gender Gap in Transnational Activism: War-Driven Political Engagement Among Russian Post-2022 Emigrants*.
- Kamalov, E., Nugumanova, K., & Sergeeva, I. *Exposure to Transnational Repression and Political Engagement: Evidence from a Panel of Russian Exiles*.

Selected Works in Progress

- *Destination Preferences in Secondary Migration Among Politically Induced Migrants from Authoritarian States: Evidence from Conjoint Experiment*, with E. Kamalov and I. Sergeeva.
- *The Gendered Opportunity Structure of Exile: How Host-Country Contexts Shape Migrant Political Participation*.

Academic Positions and Research Projects

Principal Investigator , <i>The Science of Dreams</i>	2022–present
Principal Investigator , <i>Media Literacy and Critical Thinking (WOT-Foundation)</i>	2021–2022
Co-Investigator , <i>OutRush Panel Survey</i>	2022–present
Co-Investigator , <i>Democracy in Exile (DemEx Project)</i>	2024–present
Co-Investigator , <i>Feminist Anti-War Resistance in Exile</i>	2023–2024
Researcher , <i>Building a Commons in the Russian Diaspora</i>	2022–2023
Expert and Foresight Facilitator , <i>EU Public Diplomacy toward Russia (EU Commission)</i>	2024–2025

Awarded Grants and Fellowships

- **PhD Fellowship** — PNR (Italy), fully funded doctoral grant, **€74,000** (2023–2027).
- **Visiting Fellow Grant** — Scuola Normale Superiore, **€3,500** (2026).
- **Mobility Research Grant** — SNS, **€5,000** (2023–2025).
- **MA Scholarship** — European University at St. Petersburg, fully funded (2020–2022).
- **Russian National Sociology Olympiad Grant** — HSE & Yandex, awarded twice, **€2,500** (2021, 2022).

Participation in Funded Research Projects

- **Democracy in Exile (DemEx)** — National Science Foundation (NSF), multi-year collaborative research project, Researcher, with Marlene Laruelle et al. (2024–2026).
- **Mapping Opportunities for Social Infrastructure of Russian Anti-War Migration in Latin America** — U.S. Russia Foundation (USRF), funded research project, Researcher, with Vladimir Rouvinski et al. (2024).

Teaching and Guest Lectures

- Guest lecture (co-led session), *Political Behavior* — Scuola Normale Superiore, Florence (2025). Topic: Gender inequalities in political participation. [\[Syllabus\]](#)
- Guest lecture, Summer School *GENDER-LIKBEZ 4.0* — European University at St. Petersburg (2023). Topic: Gender differences in political and civic activism among Russian migrants.

Research Reports and Analytical Publications

- *On the Move: Mobility, Integration, and Dynamics of Russian Emigration in 2022–2024*, with Emil Kamalov and Ivetta Sergeeva (2025).
- *From Russia to Latin America: Integration, Challenges, and Aspirations of Russian Post-2022 Emigrants*, with Emil Kamalov and Ivetta Sergeeva (2025).
- *Men's Words, Women's Work: Exploring the Reverse Gender Gap in Post-2022 Russian Emigration*. *Russian Analytical Digest* (2024).

- *Mapping and Gathering Russian Artists and Cultural Workers in Exile* (2024).
- *One and a Half Years Later: Progress and Barriers in the Integration of Russian Emigrants* (2024).
- ‘Great, Great Sorrow and Eternal Silence’: *An Experiment in Sociological Dream Interpretation after the 24th of February 2022*. *The February Journal* (2023).
- *How do you sleep during the war?* *Posle Media* (2023).
- *I had a dream about Putin. What war-time dreams tell us about reality*. *Republic* (2023, in Russian).

Selected Academic Conferences and Talks

European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR), Thessaloniki	2025
ASEEES Annual Convention (Boston, Washington DC)	2024–2025
Aleksanteri Conference, University of Helsinki	2023–2024
Gens Conference on Gender Studies (ISA / ESA / AIS), Stintino	2025
“In(Visible) Russian (Anti-)War Migration,” Warsaw	2024
“Problematizing Migration,” Palermo	2023
Gender, Peace and Security Workshop, BIEA Nairobi	2025
ZOiS: Migration and Diversity, Berlin	2025
Russia Expert Seminar, European University Institute	2025
Migration Working Group, European University Institute	2024
LCSR Workshop on Comparative Values (online)	2024
Cross-Border Voices Workshop, Ilia State University, Tbilisi	2024
Cross-Border Repression and Solidarity, Riga	2024
Yerevan State University: New Russian Exodus Seminar	2024

Academic Service

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- Ad hoc reviewer for *Problems of Post-Communism* (SSCI-indexed).
 - Conference discussant: ASEEES (2025); European Graduate Network (2024).

Public Outreach and Media Engagement

Media articles and op-eds on war, migration, and activism, including <i>Posle Media</i> , <i>Republic</i>	2022–present
Invited speaker, Kovcheg Network (NGO for Russian emigrants) — expert talks on migration and integration	2023–2025
Guest, podcasts and radio programs, including <i>Meduza</i> , SBS Russian Radio	2023–2025
Co-host, political video blog <i>Politica Zanovo</i> (<i>Politics Anew</i>)	2022

Skills

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- **Languages:** Russian (native), English (advanced), Italian (intermediate).
 - **Methods:** multilevel modeling; panel data; survey and conjoint experiments; Blinder–Oaxaca decomposition; qualitative interviews.
 - **Software:** R, L^AT_EX, Qualtrics, Git, MaxQDA.

Updated: January 2026