

Karolina Nugumanova

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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*, The University of Tokyo (upcoming 2026)
Supervisor: Masaaki Higashijima
- **Exchange Student**, *Globalisation Program*, Venice International University (2021)

Education

- **PhD in Political Science and Sociology** (expected defense 2027), *Scuola Normale Superiore*, Italy
Supervisors: 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*, Russia (2020–2022)
GPA: 4.6 / 5
- **BA in Sociology**, *Novosibirsk State University*, Russia (2016–2020)
GPA: 4.3 / 5

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.* (in preparation; target journals: *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*)
- Kamalov, E., Nugumanova, K., & Sergeeva, I. *Exposure to Transnational Repression and Political Engagement: Evidence from a Panel of Russian Exiles.* (in preparation; target journals: *APSR/AJPS*)

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*
- *Two Percent of Trust: Methodological Innovations for Retaining Fearful Respondents in Panel Surveys*, with E. Kamalov and I. Sergeeva
- *New Russian Migration to Latin America: Mobile Middle Classes, Flight from Illiberalism, and the Formation of New Urban Communities*, with S. Ruseishvili, E. Kamalov, and I. Sergeeva

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Academic Positions and Research Projects (selected)

- **Principal Investigator**, *The Science of Dreams* (2022–present) — National mixed-methods survey (N = 1,500) examining war-related dream narratives among Russians during the full-scale invasion of Ukraine. Research cited in Russian and international media, including *Meduza*, *Republic*, *Paper*, *Posle Media*, *The Dial* and others.
- **Co-Investigator**, *OutRush Panel Survey* (2022–present) — Large-scale longitudinal panel study of Russian political emigrants (N = 25,000; 100+ countries), combining survey data, conjoint experiments, and qualitative modules. Funded by the European University Institute and the U.S. Russia Foundation. Research cited in 100+ Russian and international media including *The New York Times*, *Financial Times*, *Bloomberg*, *Al Jazeera*, *BBC*, and *Meduza*, among others.
- **Co-Investigator**, *A Comparative Study of Russian Migrant Communities following the Full-Scale Invasion of Ukraine (DemEx Project)* — NSF-funded (2024–2026) multi-country mixed-methods project combining large-scale surveys, focus groups, and in-depth interviews with post-2022 Russian emigrants. Collaborative project between George Washington University and Carleton University, led by Marlene Laruelle et al.
- **Co-Investigator**, *A Study on Feminist Anti-War Resistance in Exile* (2023–2024) — Qualitative interview-based study (60 in-depth interviews) with activists of the Feminist Anti-War Resistance movement abroad. Funded by the University of Oslo.
- **Research Assistant**, *Building a Commons in the Russian Diaspora* (2022–2023) — Large-scale qualitative project based on 580 in-depth interviews with post-2022 Russian migrants in Serbia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Armenia, Georgia, and Turkey.
- **Expert Consultant / Foresight Group Facilitator**, *EU Public Diplomacy toward Russia* — European Commission-funded project (2024–2025). Provided expert analysis on Russian emigration and exile communities and facilitated foresight group discussions with Russian cultural workers in exile.

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*. In *Russian Analytical Digest (RAD)*, 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*. In *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)

Awarded Grants and Fellowships

- **Democracy in Exile (DemEx)** — National Science Foundation (NSF), multi-year collaborative research grant, 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), competitive research grant, with Vladimir Rouvinski, Emil Kamalov, and Ivetta Sergeeva (2024).
- **PhD Fellowship** — PNRR (Italy), fully funded doctoral grant (2023–2027).
- **Visiting Fellow Grant** — Scuola Normale Superiore (2026).
- **Mobility Research Grant** — International mobility funding (2023–2025)
- **MA Scholarship** — European University at St. Petersburg (2020–2022).
- **Russian National Sociology Olympiad Grant** — HSE & Yandex, awarded twice (2021, 2022).

Selected Academic Conferences

(peer-reviewed international conferences)

2025

- *European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR)* — Thessaloniki — Presenter
- *ASEEES Annual Convention* — Washington, DC — Roundtable Speaker
- *Gens Conference: International Conference on Gender Studies* (ISA / ESA / Italian Sociological Association) — Stintino — Presenter

2024

- *ASEEES Annual Convention* — Boston — Presenter
- *Aleksanteri Conference “Resisting Authoritarianism in Eurasia”* — University of Helsinki — Presenter
- *International Conference “(In)Visible Russian (Anti-)War Migration”* — Warsaw — Presenter

2023

- *Aleksanteri Conference “Decolonizing Space in the Global East”* — University of Helsinki — Presenter
- *International Conference “Problematizing Migration: Mobility and Vulnerabilization in an Age of Inequalities”* — University of Palermo — Presenter

Workshops and Invited Talks

2025

- *Gender, Peace and Security: Resistance and Resilience* — BIEA Nairobi — Paper Presenter

- *Mobility and Diversity: War-Induced Russian Migration since February 2022* — ZOiS, Berlin — Invited Paper Presenter
- *Russia's Outlook in the New Geopolitical Reality* — Russia Expert Seminar, European University Institute — Invited Presenter

2024

- *Migration Working Group* — European University Institute — Paper Presenter
- *LCSR International Workshop "Recent Advances in Comparative Study of Values"* — Moscow (online) — Paper Presenter
- *Cross-Border Voices: Emigration, Gender, and Activism after the Russian Invasion of Ukraine* — ZoiS, EDRAM Workshop, Ilia State University (Tbilisi) — Invited Presenter
- *Cross-Border Repression and Solidarity among Russian Exiles* — Riga — Invited Presenter

Academic Service

- Ad hoc reviewer for *Problems of Post-Communism* (SSCI-indexed journal).
- Conference Discussant:
 - ASEES Annual Convention — Washington, DC, 2025.
 - European Graduate Network (EGN) Conference — Zurich, 2024.

Skills

- **Languages:** Russian (native), English (advanced), Italian (intermediate)
- **Methods:** multilevel modeling; panel data analysis; survey and conjoint experiments; difference-in-differences; Blinder–Oaxaca decomposition; qualitative interviews
- **Software:** R, LaTeX, Qualtrics, Git, MaxQDA
- **Research Practice:** reproducible research; open science; research data management (certified by Scuola Normale Superiore); survey design and panel studies; intersectional feminist methodology; ethical research with human subjects (CITI certification)

Updated: January 2026