

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

Supervisor: Masaaki Higashijima.

Exchange Student, Globalisation Program, Venice International University 2021

Education

PhD in Political Science and Sociology, Scuola Normale Superiore Expected 2027
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 2020–2022
GPA: 4.6 / 5.

BA in Sociology, Novosibirsk State University 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*. Target journal: *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*. Target journals: *APSR* /

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*.
- *Increasing 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.

Academic Positions and Research Projects

Principal Investigator, *The Science of Dreams* 2022–present

National mixed-methods survey ($N \approx 1,500$) on war-related dream narratives. Research cited in Russian and international media, including *Meduza*, *Republic*, *Paper*, *Posle Media*, *The Dial*, and others.

Co-Investigator, *OutRush Panel Survey* 2022–present

Longitudinal panel study of Russian political emigrants ($N \approx 25,000$; 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, *Democracy in Exile (DemEx Project)* 2024–2026

NSF-funded mixed-methods project; George Washington University & Carleton University.

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* 2024–2025

European Commission-funded project on Russian emigration and cultural workers in exile.

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, SNS (2023–2025).
- **MA Scholarship** — fully funded MA, European University at St. Petersburg (2020–2022).
- **Russian National Sociology Olympiad Grant** — HSE & Yandex, awarded twice (2021, 2022).

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

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR), Thessaloniki • ASEEEES Annual Convention, Washington, DC • Gens Conference: International Conference on Gender Studies (ISA / ESA / Italian Sociological Association), Stintino | 2025 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASEEEES Annual Convention, Boston • Aleksanteri Conference “Resisting Authoritarianism in Eurasia,” University of Helsinki • International Conference “(In)Visible Russian (Anti-)War Migration,” Warsaw | 2024 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aleksanteri Conference “Decolonizing Space in the Global East”, Helsinki • International Conference “Problematizing Migration: Mobility and Vulnerabilization in an Age of Inequalities”, Palermo | 2023 |

Selected Workshops and Invited Talks

- Gender, Peace and Security: Resistance and Resilience, BIEA Nairobi
- Mobility and Diversity: War-Induced Russian Migration since February 2022, ZOIS (Berlin)
- Russia's Outlook in the New Geopolitical Reality, Russia Expert Seminar, European University Institute, Italy

2025

- Migration Working Group, EUI, Italy
- LCSR International Workshop "Recent Advances in Comparative Study of Values" (online)
- Cross-Border Voices: Emigration, Gender, and Activism after the Russian Invasion of Ukraine, ZOIS / EDRAM Workshop, Ilia State University, Tbilisi
- Cross-Border Repression and Solidarity among Russian Exiles, Riga

2024

Academic Service

- Ad hoc reviewer for *Problems of Post-Communism* (SSCI-indexed, Scopus).
- Conference Discussant: ASEES (2025); European Graduate Network (2024).

Skills

- **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.
- **Research practice:** reproducible research; open science and research data management (certified by Scuola Normale Superiore); intersectional feminist methodology; ethical research with human subjects (CITI certification)

Updated: January 2026