Zhanna Terechshenko

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Social Data Analytics and Political Science
The Pennsylvania State University, *2019 (expected)*

M.A., Political Science
The Pennsylvania State University, 2017

B.A., Political Science
Nazarbayev University, 2015

SKILLS

Programming: R, Python, SQL, Stan, JAGS
Quantitave methods: Regression, Maximum Likelihood Estimation, Bayesian Statistics, Item Response Theory, Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Text Analysis, Network Analysis
Languages: Russian (native), English (fluent), French (upper-intermediate), Spanish (upper-intermediate)

RESEARCH/PROJECT EXPERIENCE

The Structure of the United Nations Treaties Diffusion
Research Assistant to Professor Bruce Desmarais, The Pennsylvania State University, Summer 2018 - Present

– Used topic modeling to analyze the effect of the content of the treaties on the probabilities that they will be ratified by certain countries
– Created an R package that enables users to implement network inference and temporal exponential network graph models used in the project
– Implemented a sequence clustering model to show that treaties ratification sequence clustering aligns well with the topics of the treaties

Hawkishness of Political Leaders and Conflict Escalation
Dissertation, In progress

– Created a latent measure of interstate hostility using Bayesian approach to Item-Response Theory model and political event data
– Wrote a web-scraper using Selenium to scrape the meeting records of the UN Security Council
– Building a measure of the hawkishness of political leaders' rhetoric using political speech data

Authorship Attribution of Reddit and Online Escort Advertisements using Deep Learning
Final project for Foundations of Deep Learning course

– Compared the performance of the authorship attribution models, including Recurrent Neural Network (RNN) models and the Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN), on Craigslist escort advertisement data in order to find the best model that could help authorities to identify sex trafficking organizations

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Zhanna Terechshenko, Charles Crabtree, Chris Fariss, and Kristine Eck. "Evaluating the Influence of International Norms and Shaming on State Respect for Rights: An Audit Experiment with Foreign Embassies" *International Interactions* (Conditionally Accepted)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2018 "Hot Under the Collar: a Latent Variable Measure of Interstate Hostility". Poster presented at Data Science Summer School (DS[3]), Paris, France, June.

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

2017 Best Political Science Master's Essay Award, The Pennsylvania State University

2016 Steighton (Steve) A. Watts, Jr. Endowed Graduate Scholarship in Political Science, The Pennsylvania State University