

Allison Koh

koh@hertie-school.org • <https://allisonkoh.github.io/>

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Digital repression, disinformation, social media and politics, text as data, computational social science

EDUCATION

Hertie School, Berlin, Germany

- PhD in International Security Sep 2020 – Present
 - Dissertation: *Trolling Under the Influence: Implications of Online Harassment for State Coercion*
 - Advisor: Anita Gohdes
- MPP in Policy Analysis Sep 2018 – Jun 2020
 - Dissertation: *Predicting Geographic Variation in Political Attitudes with Sparse Survey Data*
 - Advisor: Slava Jankin

Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

- BSc in Economics and Asian Studies Aug 2012 – May 2016

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Hertie School, Berlin, Germany

- Doctoral Researcher, Centre for International Security Sep 2020 – Present
 - Research focus: state-sponsored online harassment, contentious politics in the digital age
 - Technical focus: text as data methods, computational social science
- Research Associate, Data Science Lab Dec 2019 – Jul 2021
 - Developed training materials for data science workshops
 - Consulted on statistical computing for graduate students and researchers
- Research Assistant, Centre for Digital Governance Mar 2019 – Feb 2020
 - Project: Authoritarianism 2.0: The Internet, Political Discussion, and Authoritarian Rule in China
 - Supervisor: Daniela Stockmann
 - Focus: social media and politics, political attitudes and behavior, China

WZB Berlin Social Science Center, Berlin, Germany

- Research Assistant, Institutions and Political Inequality Mar 2019 – Feb 2020
 - Project: Anatomy of a Riot: Participation in Ethnic Violence in Nigeria
 - Supervisor: Alex Scacco
 - Focus: quantitative analysis of survey data, qualitative case study research

Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana

- Research Assistant, Center for Public Service Nov 2015 – May 2016
 - Project: Public Policy and Inequality
 - Supervisor: Daniel Teles
 - Focus: data wrangling, applied microeconomic policy analysis

PUBLICATIONS

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- [1] Koh, Allison, Daniel Boey, and Hannah Béchara. 2021. “Predicting Policy Domains from Party Manifestos with BERT and Convolutional Neural Networks.” In Proceedings of the 1st Workshop on Computational Linguistics for Political Text Analysis, Düsseldorf, Germany.

PRESENTATIONS

- Workshop on Computational Linguistics for Political Text Analysis (CPSS) 2021
- Monash-Warwick-Zurich Text-as-Data Conference 2021
- Workshop on Digital Governance in China at the Hertie School, Berlin 2019
- GPPN Annual Conference at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, Singapore 2019

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, & AWARDS

- PhD Research Stipend, Centre for International Security, Hertie School 2020 – 2023
- Doctoral Fellow, Berlin Graduate School for Global and Transregional Studies 2020 – 2023
- Best Poster Award, GPPN Annual Conference 2019
- English Teaching Assistantship, The Fulbright Program 2017
 - Teaching and English-intensive program development at a rural secondary school in Sabah, Malaysia.
- Judith and Morris Henkin Memorial Travel Scholarship, Tulane University 2015

- Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship, U.S. Department of State 2014
Stipend to support a semester abroad and internship in Shanghai, China.

TEACHING

Hertie School, Berlin, Germany

- Instructor, A Gentle Introduction to \LaTeX (with Alexander Haarmann) 2021
- Research Consulting on statistical computing in R and Python for MSc students 2020 – 2021
- TA, Data Science Workshop Series (Therese Anders and Will Lowe) 2020

AFFILIATIONS & SERVICE

- Board, SCRIPTS Cluster of Excellence, Freie Universität Berlin 2021– 2022
- Board, Berlin Graduate School for Global and Transregional Studies 2020– 2023
- Mentor, Women to Women Mentoring Program, Newcomb Institute, Tulane University 2018

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Open Society Foundations, New York, NY

- Assistant to the Director, Asia-Pacific Regional Office Mar 2018 – Jul 2018
 - Coordinated with Regional Director and subregional units on administrative and programmatic tasks.
 - Drafted briefings on country-specific issues for scoping visits to the region.

The Fulbright Program, Sabah, Malaysia

- English Teaching Assistant Jan 2017 – Nov 2017
 - Managed English-intensive co-curricular activities and workshops at a rural secondary school of 1000 students.
 - Organized community outreach events with the US Embassy Kuala Lumpur, US Navy and local nonprofits.

SKILLS

SOFTWARE

- R: Statistical analysis, machine learning, natural language processing, data management (tidyverse), data visualization (ggplot2), spatial analysis (sf), Shiny
- Python: Natural language processing with deep learning (PyTorch), data management (pandas)
- Other: Stata, \LaTeX , Github, Tableau, HTML5/CSS

LANGUAGES

English (native), Mandarin Chinese (conversational)

REFERENCES

- **Anita Gohdes**
Professor of International and Cyber Security • Hertie School
gohdes@hertie-school.org
- **Slava Jankin**
Professor of Data Science and Public Policy • Hertie School
jankin@hertie-school.org
- **Alexandra Scacco**
Research Scientist • WZB Berlin Social Science Center
scacco@wzb.eu
- **Daniela Stockmann**
Professor of Digital Governance • Hertie School
stockmann@hertie-school.org

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