

Allison Koh

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Digital transnational repression, disinformation, text as data, computational social science

EDUCATION

Hertie School, Berlin, Germany

- PhD in International Security Sep 2020 – Present
 - Dissertation: *Grey Areas of Digital Transnational Repression: Contours of Online Smear Campaigns from Authoritarian Contexts*
 - Advisor: Anita Gohdes
- MPP in Policy Analysis Sep 2018 – Jun 2020
 - Thesis: *Predicting Geographic Variation in Political Attitudes with Sparse Survey Data*
 - Advisor: Slava Jankin

Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana

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

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

New York University

- Visiting Researcher, Center for Social Media and Politics Feb 2022 – May 2022
 - Project: Gender and Online Smear Campaigns from Authoritarian Contexts
 - Principal Investigators: Joshua Tucker, Jonathan Nagler

Hertie School, Berlin, Germany

- Doctoral Researcher, Centre for International Security Sep 2020 – Present
 - Research focus: disinformation, digital repression, authoritarianism, gender
 - Technical focus: natural language processing, digital trace data, 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

WZB Berlin Social Science Center, Berlin, Germany

- Research Assistant, Institutions and Political Inequality Nov 2018 – Nov 2019
 - Project: Anatomy of a Riot: Participation in Ethnic Violence in Nigeria
 - Supervisor: Alex Scacco

Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana

- Research Assistant, Center for Public Service Nov 2015 – May 2016
 - Project: Public Policy and Inequality
 - Supervisor: Daniel Teles

PUBLICATIONS

- [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

- Conflict and Change PhD Workshop, University College London 2022
- CorrelCon - A Weekend of Data4Good 2021
- Workshop on Computational Linguistics for Political Text Analysis (CPSS), Düsseldorf 2021
- Monash-Warwick-Zurich Text-as-Data Workshop 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
- 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

- 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
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- **Slava Jankin**
Professor of Data Science and Public Policy • Hertie School
jankin@hertie-school.org
- **Alexandra Scacco**
Research Scientist • WZB Berlin Social Science Center
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- **Daniela Stockmann**
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