

Allison Koh

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Research Interests

Digital repression, disinformation, social media and politics, text as data, machine learning

Education

Berlin Graduate School for Global and Transregional Studies *expected 2023*

PhD, Political Science

Dissertation: *Transcending into the Physical Realm? State-Sponsored Cyberharassment and Contentious Politics in the Philippines*

Advisor: Anita Gohdes

Hertie School, Berlin, Germany 2020

MPP, Public Policy Analysis

Thesis: *Predicting Geographic Variation in Political Attitudes with Sparse Survey Data*

Advisor: Slava Jankin

Tulane University, New Orleans, LA 2016

BSc, Economics and Asian Studies

Research in Progress

“Predicting Policy Domains and Preferences with BERT and Convolutional Neural Networks,” with Daniel Kai Sheng Boey and Hannah Béchara.

Fellowships, Honors, and Awards

Doctoral Research Stipend, Hertie School Centre for International Security 2020 - 2023

Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship in Sabah, Malaysia 2017

Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship for semester exchange in Shanghai, China 2014

Additional Training

Summer Institute in Computational Social Science, Princeton University 2021

Research Positions

Hertie School, Berlin, Germany

Doctoral Researcher, Centre for International Security 2020 - present

Pursuing independent research on the consequences of state-sponsored cyberharassment campaigns on the repression-dissent nexus, with a focus on the Philippines.

Research Associate, Data Science Lab 2019 - present

Developing training materials, supporting the implementation of data science workshops, and consulting on statistical computing for graduate students and researchers.

Research Assistant, Authoritarianism 2.0 2019 - 2020

Contributed to academic publications, presentations, and statistical analyses on the impact of social media platforms on user behaviour regarding politics in China.

WZB Berlin Social Science Center, Berlin, Germany

Research Assistant, Institutions and Political Inequality 2018 - 2019

Conducted statistical analysis and updated case studies for research on poverty, local security dynamics, and participation in large-scale religious conflict in Nigeria for Alex Scacco, PhD.

Tulane University Center for Public Service, New Orleans, LA

Research Assistant, Public Policy and Inequality 2018 - 2019

Prepared financial and organizational data for fixed-effects regressions and instrumental variables analysis on the AmeriCorps program and contributions to nonprofit organizations.

Teaching

Hertie School and SCRIPTS Cluster of Excellence, Berlin, Germany

Research Consulting on statistical computing in R and Python for MSc students 2020 - 2021
TA, Data Science Workshop Series (Therese Anders and Will Lowe) Spring 2020

Invited Talks and Workshops

Workshop on Digital Governance in China at the Hertie School, Berlin 2019

Conference Presentations

GPPN Annual Conference at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, Singapore 2019

Professional Experience

Open Society Foundations, New York, NY

Assistant to the Director, Asia-Pacific Regional Office 2018

Coordinated with Regional Director, 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

2017

Managed English-intensive co-curricular activities and professional development workshops in a secondary school of 1000 students. Organized community outreach events with the U.S. Embassy in Kuala Lumpur, U.S. Navy Pacific Fleet and local nonprofit organizations.

Affiliations and Service

Board, Berlin Graduate School for Global and Transregional Studies

2020 - 2023

Mentor, Women to Women Mentoring Program, Newcomb Institute, Tulane University

2018

Software Skills

R Statistical analysis, machine learning, data management (tidyverse), data visualization (ggplot2), spatial analysis (sf), natural language processing, Shiny

Python Natural language processing with deep learning (PyTorch), data management (pandas)

Stata Data management, analysis, and visualization

Other Github, \LaTeX , Adobe Illustrator/InDesign, Tableau, HTML5/CSS

References

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Slava Jankin

Professor of Data Science and Public Policy
Hertie School, Berlin
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Alexandra Scacco

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WZB Berlin Social Science Center
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Daniela Stockmann

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