

# Giuliano Formisano

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## EDUCATION

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- **University of Oxford** Oxford, UK  
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD); Social Data Science *Sept 2021 - Present*  
**Courses:** Data Analytics, Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing, Networks, Statistics  
**Thesis:** A Computational Analysis of the Italian Political discourse (2014-2019). Integrated thesis focusing on Transfer Learning and Network analysis
  - **Sciences Po, Paris** - Centre for European Studies and Comparative Politics Paris, FRA  
Visiting Scholar; Advisors: Dr Joost de Moor & Dr Caterina Froio *March 2023 - April 2023*
- **University of Oxford** Oxford, UK  
Master of Philosophy (MPhil); Political Science *Oct 2019 - June 2021*  
**Courses:** Comparative Government, Political Economy, Machine Learning, Advanced Statistics  
**Thesis:** How does spread polarisation on Twitter? A computational analysis of Matteo Salvini's rhetoric (2013-2019)
- **University of Exeter** Exeter, UK  
Bachelor of Arts (BA); Politics and International Relations *Sept 2016 - June 2019*  
**Courses:** Comparative Politics, Political Psychology, Classical Political Ideas, Research Design  
**Thesis:** The rise of nationalist parties in Italy and France after Maastricht: A comparative analysis of the Lega Nord and Front National communication

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATION(S)

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- Friedrichs, J.\*, Stoebr, N.\*, **Formisano, G.\*** (2022) Fear-Anger Contests: Governmental and Populist Politics of Emotion. *Online Social Networks and Media*, 32, pp. 1-13.

## ONGOING RESEARCH

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- **Giuliano, F.**, Friedrichs, F., Schaffner, F., Stoebr, N. (Working Paper) A Machine Learning Approach to Analysing Populist and Governmental Rhetoric during the Coronavirus Pandemic.
- Clemente, A.\*, **Formisano, G.\*** (Working Paper) Are we all in this together? Using transfer learning to study changes in redistribution attitudes during COVID-19. *Presented at EPSA 2022*.
- Saunders, C., **Formisano, G.**, Lavender, L., Palmer, A. (Working Paper) Affective Polarisation: Imagined or Real? A Discourse Analysis of the Debate About Bovine TB and Badger Culling.
- Valentim, V.\*, **Formisano, G.\*** (Work in Progress) Calling out unacceptable rhetoric on social media.
- Downing, J.\*, Errichiello, E.\*, **Formisano, G.\*** (Work in Progress) Securitizing Muslim migrants in Western Europe: A computational analysis of elite and non-elite actors' communication on Twitter in European terror attacks.
- Theocharis, Y., Kosmidis, S., **Formisano, G.** (Work in Progress) Origins of the subcrowds.
- Froio, C., Castelli-Gattinara, P., **Formisano, G.**, et al. (Work in Progress) Protest Event Analysis: A Supervised NLP Approach.

\*Authors have equally contributed.

## PRESENTATIONS, CONFERENCES, AND TALKS

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2023. European Political Science Association Conference (Presenter) - *forthcoming*  
2023. American Political Science Association Conference (Presenter) - *forthcoming*  
2023. Research in Progress seminar series, Department of Politics, University of Oxford (Discussant)
2022. European Political Science Association Conference (Discussant and Presenter)  
2022. DPhil Work in Progress Workshop, Department of Politics, University of Oxford (Presenter)  
2022. DPhil Seminar, Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford (Presenter)  
2022. PhD Work in Progress Seminar, European University Institute (Presenter)  
2022. 17th Annual Doctoral Conference, Central European University (Presenter)
- 2020-2021. Oxford University Italian Society Talks, Interview Series: Enrico Letta (ex-Italian PM), Marco Cappato (ex-MEP), Beatrice Vio (Paralympic Champion), Giuseppe Civati (ex-MP), Andrew Howe (Athlete), Marco Montemagno (Entrepreneur)

## TEACHING

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- **University of Oxford, Oxford Internet Institute** Oxford, UK  
Graduate Level Courses:
  - Digital Social Research Method: Statistics Core, Teaching Assistant *Oct 2022 - Dec 2022*
  - Digital Era Politics and Government, Teaching Assistant *Jan 2022 - Mar 2022*

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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- **AuthLib Project; CEU Democracy Institute & EU Horizon 2020** Oxford, UK  
Research Assistant; Advisors: Prof(s) Stephen Whitefield & Spyros Kosmidis *Dec 2022 - Present*  
Constructing a research design to collect a large textual dataset of public opinion, train a machine learning classifier for illiberal behaviour, and analyse data.
- **Sciences Po; Centre for European Studies and Comparative Politics** Remote, Paris, FRA  
Research Assistant; Advisor: Dr Caterina Froio *June 2022 - Present*  
Developing a machine learning classifier to classify protest events based on a large dataset of human-coded newspaper articles from European multilingual sources.
- **University of Oxford** Oxford, UK  
Research Assistant; Advisor: Prof Spyros Kosmidis *April 2022 - June 2022*  
Applied transfer learning to conduct a sentiment analysis based on roBERTa, and designed and implemented sequence classification based on a pre-labelled corpus of 2,000 political tweets.  
  
Research Assistant; Advisor: Dr Vicente Valentim *April 2022 - June 2022*  
Built large Twitter posts dataset, applied and validated sentiment analyses for multilingual text.  
  
Research Assistant; Advisor: Prof Joerg Friedrichs *Sept 2020 - Dec 2020*  
Programmed web-scraping tools to build large online electoral datasets. Coded data with pre-trained machine learning classifiers. Analysed data via time-series analyses.
- **University of Exeter** Exeter, UK  
Research Assistant; Advisor: Prof Clare Saunders *May 2018 - Aug 2019*  
Produced literature review on affective polarisation. Coded and analysed interview transcripts about the 2015 UK Badger Culling policy, involving governmental actors, police, stakeholders and citizens.

## HONOURS AND AWARDS

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- ESRC Advanced Quantitative Scholarship (Tuition Fees and Stipend) *Oct 2021 - Oct 2024*
- Nuffield College Research Scholarship (College Fees) *Oct 2021 - Oct 2024*
- Victor Wiseman Prize - Winner for the highest grade overall and for dissertation *June 2019*

## LANGUAGES AND SKILLS

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- **Languages:** Italian (native), English (Bilingual), French and Spanish (Professional Proficiency)
- **Coding:** Python, R, SPSS, php, html, css
- **Key libraries:** Pytorch, Tensorflow, Scikit, Keras, NLTK, NetworkX, Pandas, Numpy
- **Platforms:** Anaconda, VSCode, RStudio, AWS, Git/GitHub, Docker, Google Workspace
- **Publishing:** Git/GitHub, Rmarkdown, Jupyter Notebooks, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, DataVerse

## REFERENCES

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- Prof Spyros Kosmidis, Politics Department, University of Oxford: [spyros.kosmidis@politics.ox.ac.uk](mailto:spyros.kosmidis@politics.ox.ac.uk).
- Prof Ralph Schroeder, Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford: [ralph.schroeder@oii.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ralph.schroeder@oii.ox.ac.uk).
- Prof Joerg Friedrichs, International Development, University of Oxford: [joerg.friedrichs@qeh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:joerg.friedrichs@qeh.ox.ac.uk).