

Henrique Sposito

COMPUTATIONAL SOCIAL SCIENTIST

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Profile

My research leverages advanced text analysis techniques, such as supervised machine learning, to investigate how authenticity, problem construction, and urgency appear and change over time in political discourses. I also develop, contribute, and maintain several R packages that assist researchers conducting social network analysis and connecting global governance data across domains. I am broadly interested in issues related to political discourse and environmental politics in Latin America.

Interests: Environmental Sociology, Statistical Methods, Text Analysis, Comparative Politics, Social Networks

Education

PhD in International Relations and Political Science

THE GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

- Doctoral Project: 'Authenticity, problem construction, and urgency in political discourses'
- Supervised by Dr. James Hollway and Dr. Yanina Welp

Geneva, Switzerland

Sep 2019 - Sep 2024 (expected)

Masters in International Relations and Political Science

THE GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

- Masters' Thesis: 'The Construction of a Migrant Crisis - The Venezuelan Migration to Brazil'
- Supervised by Dr. Melanie Kolbe and Dr. Graziella Moraes Silva

Geneva, Switzerland

Sep 2017 - Aug 2019

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Sociology (Double Degree)

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM

- Recipient of 4 years of scholarship as a Student-Athlete for Soccer in a NCAA Division 1 University

Birmingham, United States

Jan 2013 - Jun 2017

Publications and Working Papers

Radiating Truthiness: Authenticity performances in politics in Brazil and the United States

DOI: 10.1177/00323217241261229

Political Studies

July 2024

Which Amazon Problem? Problem-constructions and Transnationalism in Brazilian Presidential Discourse since 1985 (with Livio Silva-Muller)

DOI: 10.1080/09644016.2023.2220639

Environmental Politics

June 2023

Promises Promises: An introduction to urgency analysis (with Jael Tan and James Hollway)

WORKING PAPER

Managing imprecise dates in R with messydates (with James Hollway)

WORKING PAPER

Employment History (selected)

Centre for International Environmental Studies

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Geneva, Switzerland

Sep 2020 - Present

- Assist with the theoretical, methodological, and empirical developments for comparing data across various issue-domains of global governance in the PANARCHIC project, funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation
- Develop the data infrastructure and statistical methods in R for gathering, consolidating, and analyzing global governance data
- Train and manage research assistants collecting data, working with GitHub, designing websites, and contributing to diverse R packages

Intersoccer

Geneva, Switzerland

FOOTBALL HEAD COACH

May 2018 - Aug 2020

- Ensured a safe and constructive environment for participants, coaches, and parents while promoting the benefits of sports
- Supervised coaches and participants throughout activities to assure their safety
- Coordinated and solved logistical issues related to transportation, venue organization, delivery of supplies, and medical emergencies

Teaching

Fundamentals of R (co-lecturer)

Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023

THE GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

- Provides a hands-on introduction to data science using the R programming language and software
- Teaches students how to import, transform, analyze, and visualize various types of data in R
- Demonstrates practical applications of R for the analysis of environment, finance, and conflict data

Intermediate R for Social Science Research

Fall 2023

THE GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

- Provides an applied introduction to various research methods using R
- Teaches students how to select and carry-on different types of statistical modeling; how to work with unsupervised approaches for text analysis; and how to analyze and visualize survey data

Invited Talks

How has the Brazilian Amazon been Constructed as a Problem? Presidential Speeches and Transnational Politics since 1985

Geneva, Switzerland

THE GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

October 2022

- Invited talk at the Centre for International Environmental Studies Seminar

Anti-Political Correctness and Authenticity: Authenticity performances in politics in Brazil and the United States

Lausanne, Switzerland

UNIVERSITÉ DE LAUSANNE

March 2022

- Invited talk for the Research Group on Elections and Political Citizenship

Conference Presentations (selected)

American Sociological Association

Los Angeles, United States

ANTI-PC AND AUTHENTICITY: AUTHENTICITY PERFORMANCES IN POLITICS IN BRAZIL AND THE UNITED STATES

August 2022

- Regular session on the 'Party and its base: Understanding the relationship between political professionals and their audiences'

Latin American Studies Association

Online

AMAZONIAN REPERTOIRES IN BRAZILIAN PRESIDENTIAL DISCOURSE SINCE 1985

May 2022

- Panel on the 'Forest Managements Conservation and Agricultural Production'

Swiss Political Science Association

Online

PERFORMING AUTHENTICITY: ANTI-POLITICALLY CORRECT DISCOURSES IN BRAZIL AND THE UNITED STATES

February 2022

- Workshop session on 'Liberal Ideology and Cultural Backlash'

Latin American Studies Association

Online

THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MIGRATORY CRISIS: THE VENEZUELAN MIGRATION TO BRAZIL

May 2020

- Panel on 'Las distintas violencias de las migraciones'

RPackages

poldis

Author

TOOLS FOR ANALYZING POLITICAL DISCOURSES OVER TIME

manydata PORTAL FOR GLOBAL GOVERNANCE DATA	Contributor
messydates EXTENDED DATE/TIME FORMAT	Contributor
manynet MAKE, MANIPULATE, AND MAP MYRIAD NETWORKS	Contributor
migraph TOOLS FOR MULTIMODAL AND MULTILEVEL NETWORK ANALYSIS	Contributor
manypkgs SUPPORT THE CREATION OF NEW MANY PACKAGES	Contributor
manyenviron DATA ON ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS	Contributor
manystates DATA ON SOVEREIGN STATES	Contributor

Awards and Honors

- Best Paper in Amazonian Studies at the Latin American Studies Association for “Which Amazon Problem? Problem-constructions and Transnationalism in Brazilian Presidential Discourse since 1985”
- UAB Presidential Honors List 2013, 2015, 2016 and 2017
- Conference USA Commissioner’s Honor Roll 2013 – 2016
- National Soccer Coaches Association of America NCAA Scholar All-South Region Team 2016
- Conference USA All-Academic Team 2016
- College Sports Information Directors of America Academic All-District Team 2016
- Conference USA Academic Honor Medal 2015

Skills

- **Languages:** Portuguese (native); English (fluent); French (proficient); Italian (intermediate); Spanish (intermediate)
- **Programming languages:** R (proficient); Python (intermediate); Java (intermediate), C (basic)
- **Markup languages:** Markdown (proficient); LaTeX (advanced); HTML (advanced); CSS (advanced)

References

James Hollway

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE
CO-DIRECTOR OF THE GLOBAL GOVERNANCE CENTRE

THE GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

- Email: james.hollway@graduateinstitute.ch

Graziella Moraes Dias da Silva

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY
CO-DIRECTOR OF THE ALBERT HIRSCHMAN CENTRE ON DEMOCRACY

THE GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

- Email: graziella.moraes@graduateinstitute.ch

Yanina Welp

RESEARCH FELLOW

ALBERT HIRSCHMAN CENTRE ON DEMOCRACY

- Email: yanina.welp@graduateinstitute.ch