

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 and across settings in political discourses. I also develop, contribute, and help maintain several R packages that assist researchers dealing with multiple, overlapping, and uncertain datasets across various domains of global governance.

Interests: Political Sociology, Environmental Studies, Statistical Methods, Text Analysis, Comparative Politics

Education

PhD in International Relations and Political Science

THE GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Geneva, Switzerland

Sep 2019 - 2024 (expected)

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

Masters in International Relations and Political Science

THE GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Geneva, Switzerland

Sep 2017 - Aug 2019

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

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

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM

Birmingham, United States

Jan 2013 - Jun 2017

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

Selected Employment History

Centre for International Environmental Studies

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Geneva, Switzerland

Sep 2020 - Present

- Assist with the theoretical, methodological, and empirical developments in data and analysis for across various domains of global governance in the 'PANARCHIC: Power and Networks and the Rate of Change in Institutional Complexes' project funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation
- Help with the development data infrastructure and statistical methods in R, offered as an ensemble of R packages, for the gathering, consolidating, and analyzing global governance data
- Train and manage research assistants to work with data collection, R package development, GitHub branching, website design, and among other programmatic issues related to the project

Intersoccer

FOOTBALL HEAD COACH

Geneva, Switzerland

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 ensure their safety
- Communicated with coaches, children, and parents to coordinate and solve logistical issues related to transportation, venue organization, and delivery of supplies, as well as any medical emergencies and other unexpected events that arose

Publications and Working Papers

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

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

CONDITIONALLY ACCEPTED IN POLITICAL STUDIES

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

Teaching

Fundamentals of R (co-lecturer with Livio Silva-Muller)

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

Conference Presentations

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

Los Angeles, United States

AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

August 2022

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

Amazonian Repertoires in Brazilian Presidential Discourse since 1985

Online

LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION

May 2022

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

Performing Authenticity: Anti-Politically Correct Discourses in Brazil and the United States

Online

SWISS POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

February 2022

- Workshop session on 'Liberal Ideology and Cultural Backlash'

The Construction of a Migratory Crisis: The Venezuelan Migration to Brazil

Online

LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION

May 2020

- Panel on 'Las distintas violencias de las migraciones'

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

R Packages

manydata

Contributor

AN R PORTAL FOR GLOBAL GOVERNANCE DATA

messydates

AN R PACKAGE FOR EXTENDED DATE/TIME FORMAT

Contributor

manynet

AN R PACKAGE TO MAKE, MANIPULATE, AND MAP MYRIAD NETWORKS

Contributor

migraph

AN R PACKAGE WITH TOOLS FOR MULTIMODAL AND MULTILEVEL NETWORK ANALYSIS

Contributor

poldis

AN R PACKAGE WITH TOOLS FOR ANALYZING POLITICAL DISCOURSES OVER TIME

Author

manypkgs

AN R PACKAGE TO SUPPORT THE CREATION OF NEW MANY PACKAGES

Contributor

manyenviron

AN R DATA PACKAGE ON ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS

Contributor

manystates

AN R DATA PACKAGE 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” published in Environmental Politics
- UAB Presidential Honors List 2013, 2015, 2016 and 2017
- Conference USA Commissioner’s Honor Roll 2013 – 2016
- Conference USA Academic Honor Medal 2015
- 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

Skills

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

References

James Hollway

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

THE GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

- Email: james.hollway@graduateinstitute.ch

Yanina Welp

RESEARCH FELLOW

ALBERT HIRSCHMAN CENTRE ON DEMOCRACY

- Email: yanina.welp@graduateinstitute.ch

Additional references available upon request.