

# Irene Rodríguez

PRE-DOCCTORAL RESEARCHER

Department of Political and Social Sciences, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona

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## Personal statement

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I am a PhD candidate in Political Science at Universitat Pompeu Fabra specializing in political behavior, public opinion, and political parties. My research combines quantitative methods and experimental designs to explore how political contexts shape citizen attitudes and electoral strategies.

My research is driven by curiosity about how society and societal changes can influence all aspects of political life, and viceversa. I enjoy designing and conducting data-driven research that can be interesting not only to the academic world but also to policy makers and the general public.

## Current position

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### PhD Student in Political Science

Barcelona, Spain

UNIVERSITAT POMPEU FABRA

2022 - 2025

- Titled: Crises, Competition, and Campaigning: Citizens and Parties in 21st Century Politics
- Supervisor: Dr. Toni Rodon.

## Research stays

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### Humboldt Universität zu Berlin

Berlin, Germany

RESEARCH STAY

October-December 2025

- HU Berlin DYNAMICS Group. Host: Dr. Heike Klüver

## Education

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### Postgraduate Degree in Data Analysis

Barcelona, Spain

UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA

2021 - 2022

- Expert in Data Analysis for Political Analysis and Public Administration

### MSc in Political Analysis and Institutional Assessment

Barcelona, Spain

UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA

2020 - 2021

- Thesis Title: The entry of Vox in the Spanish political institutions and its effect on citizens' attitudes towards immigration
- Supervisor: Dr. Albert Falcó-Gimeno

### BA in Political Science and Administration

Girona, Spain

UNIVERSITAT DE GIRONA

2016 - 2020

- Bachelor's Thesis: Analysis of a deliberative mini-public in Madrid

## Research interests

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POLITICAL BEHAVIOR, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, POLITICAL PARTIES AND RADICAL RIGHT PARTIES, QUANTITATIVE METHODS, CAUSAL INFERENCE, QUASI-EXPERIMENTAL METHODS, FIELD EXPERIMENTS, TEXT-AS-DATA, LARGE LANGUAGE MODELS

## Participation in projects

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### COVIDEU Project

VolkswagenStiftung

UNIVERSITAT POMPEU FABRA

2022 - Present

- PI: Dr. Heike Klüver (Humboldt University of Berlin)
- Website: [www.covideu.info](http://www.covideu.info)

- PI: Dr. Jordi Mas (Universitat Oberta de Catalunya)

## Research

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### Published

Rodríguez, I., Rodon, T., Unan, A., Herbig, L., Klüver, H., & Kuhn, T. (2025). Benchmarking pandemic response: How the UK's vaccine roll-out impacted popular support for the EU, *British Journal of Political Science*, 55(e35), 1-16. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0007123424000802>

Herbig, L., Unan, A., Kuhn, T., Rodríguez, I., Rodon, T., & Klüver, H. (2025) . Closed borders, closed minds? COVID-related border closures, EU support and hostility towards immigrants, *European Journal of Political Research*, 64(4), 1923-1944. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1475-6765.70025>

Rodon, T., & Rodríguez, I. (2024). A bitter victory and a sweet defeat: the July 2023 Spanish general election, *South European Society and Politics*, 28(3), 335-357. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13608746.2024.2326300>

### Under Review

Rodríguez, I. *Legitimising prejudice? The impact of radical right party presence on anti-immigration attitude expression.*

### Working on

Rodríguez, I., Rodon, T., & Dickson, Z. *A coordinated solution for a coordinated problem? A Civic Education experiment on climate change and attitudes towards the European Union.*

Rodríguez, I. *Digital battlegrounds: How political parties tailor advertising to electoral contexts.*

Rodríguez, I. *One seat ahead: The impact of narrow electoral wins on political parties' digital ad strategy*

## Awards and Honors

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### Beca Santander | Ayuda Económica Para Personal Investigador Predoctoral 2025 (Santander Grant | Financial Aid for Pre-Doctoral Researchers 2025)

Barcelona, Spain

BANC SANTANDER

2025

- €2,000
- Awarded to support PhD research activities

### Best Poster Award - 2nd place

Barcelona, Spain

UNIVERSITAT POMPEU FABRA

2022

- PhD Programme in Political and Social Sciences Doctoral Workshop

## Teaching

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### Universitat Pompeu Fabra

#### Quantitative Methodology IV

Barcelona, Spain

BA IN POLITICAL SCIENCE AND ADMINISTRATION

2023-2025

- Teaching Assistant

#### Political Behavior and Public Opinion

Barcelona, Spain

BA IN POLITICAL SCIENCE AND ADMINISTRATION

2023-2025

- Teaching Assistant

#### Actors and Political Institutions

Barcelona, Spain

BA IN POLITICAL SCIENCE AND ADMINISTRATION

2023-2024

- Teaching Assistant

## **Qualitative Methodology II**

BA IN POLITICAL SCIENCE AND ADMINISTRATION

- Teaching Assistant

Barcelona, Spain

2022-2023

## **Society and Politics in Contemporary Spain**

BARCELONA PROGRAM FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

- 2025-2026: instructor
- 2025: invited lecture on party digital targeting strategies

Barcelona, Spain

2025-2026

## **Statistics and R course**

BA IN JOURNALISM

- Crash course on R and Basic Statistics
- Instructor

Barcelona, Spain

2022

## **Universitat de Barcelona**

### **Seminar on radical right parties**

Barcelona, Spain

UNIVERSITAT DE L'EXPERIÈNCIA

- Title of the seminar: Vox in the institutions. Parliamentary behavior and effects on public opinion
- Instructor

2021

## **Universitat Oberta de Catalunya**

### **Bachelor's Thesis Supervision**

Online

BA IN SOCIAL SCIENCES

2025-2026

- Supervisor

### **Politics and Society**

Online

BA IN POLITICAL SCIENCE AND ADMINISTRATION

2025-2026

- Adjunct Lecturer (\*Professor collaborador\*)

### **Data visualisation and analysis**

Online

BA IN POLITICAL SCIENCE AND ADMINISTRATION

2025-2026

- Adjunct Lecturer (\*Professor collaborador\*)

### **Electoral analysis and public opinion**

Online

BA IN POLITICAL SCIENCE AND ADMINISTRATION

2025-2026

- Adjunct Lecturer (\*Professor collaborador\*)

## **Workshops, conferences and courses**

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### **INVITED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS**

#### **Dynamics RTG PhD Seminar**

Berlin, Germany

HUMBOLDT UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN

November 2025

- Presenting: 'One seat ahead: The impact of narrow electoral wins on political parties' digital ad strategy'

### **WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES**

#### **European Political Science Association**

Glasgow, UK; Köln, DE; Madrid, ES

2023, 2024, 2025

EPSA

- Presenting: Rodríguez, I. Legitimising prejudice? The impact of radical right party presence on anti-immigration attitude expression
- Presenting: Rodríguez, I., Unan, A., Rodon, T., Klüver, H., & Kuhn, T. Benchmarking pandemic response: How the UK's Vaccine Rollout Impacted EU Attitudes in EU Countries
- Presenting: Rodríguez, I., Rodon, T., & Dickson, Z. A coordinated solution for a coordinated problem? A Civic Education experiment on climate change and attitudes towards the European Union.
- Presenting: Digital battlegrounds: How political parties tailor advertising to electoral contexts

#### **VII Jornada de Comportament Polític i Opinió Pública de Catalunya**

Barcelona, Spain

November 2024

UNIVERSITAT AUTÒNOMA DE BARCELONA

- Presenting: A coordinated solution for a coordinated problem? A Civic Education experiment on climate change and attitudes towards the European Union

## PhD Workshop on Empirical Research

UPF, UB

Barcelona, Spain

2022, 2024

- Presenting: Rodríguez, I., Rodon, T., Dickson, Z. A coordinated solution for a coordinated problem? A Civic Education experiment on climate change and attitudes towards the European Union

## COVIDEU Project Workshops

UvA, UPF, LSE, HU BERLIN

Amsterdam, NL; London, UK;  
Barcelona, ES; Berlin, DE

2022, 2023, 2024, 2025

- Annual workshops of the COVIDEU Project

## Midwest Political Science Association

MPSA

Chicago, US

April 2023

- Presenting: Rodríguez, I., Rodon, T., Unan, A., Herbig, L., Klüver, H., Kuhn, T. Benchmarking pandemic response: How the UK's Vaccine Rollout Impacted EU Attitudes in EU Countries

## UPF Doctoral Workshop

UNIVERSITAT POMPEU FABRA

Barcelona, Spain

March 2022, 2023 and 2024, 2025

- PhD Programme in Political and Social Sciences

## COURSES

### Using AI for Text Analysis

INSTATS

Online

February 2025

- Instructor: Seraphine Maerz

### RECSM Summer Methods School

UNIVERSITAT POMPEU FABRA

Barcelona, Spain

July 2022

- Big Data: Computational Analysis of Text. Instructor: Carlos Arcila (Universidad de Salamanca)

- Multilevel I: Introduction to Multilevel Models. Instructors: Carla Rampichini and Leonardo Grilli (Università di Firenze)

### Working with Concepts in the Social Sciences

UNIVERSITAT POMPEU FABRA

Barcelona, Spain

February 2022

- PhD Programme in Political and Social Sciences

- Instructor: Frederic Schaffer (University of Massachussets)

## Skills

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### PROGRAMMING AND LANGUAGE SKILLS

**Programming** R (Expert in Data Science), RStudio

**Markup** Markdown/RMarkdown, LaTeX, Quarto

**Natural** Spanish (native), Catalan (native), English (proficient), German (basic)

### RESEARCH SKILLS

**Quantitative** Regressions, quasi-experiments, field experiments, DiD, RDD, LLMs

**Reproducible** GitHub, GitHub Desktop, GitHub Copilot, GPTStudio