

Javier Ruiz-Soler

PhD in Social and Political Sciences



RESEARCH INTERESTS

- European Public Sphere, especially online.
- Political Communication, especially at the European level.
- Social Media and Politics.
- Digital Diplomacy and Digital Democracy.
- Mis- and dis- information.
- Computational methods: network analysis, content & sentiment analysis, big data.
- Digital methods: issue mapping, data analytics.

EDUCATION

PhD in Political and Social Sciences Florence | Italy 2015 – 2019

European University Institute

'Is Twitter the new coffee house? The contribution of the European Political Twittersphere to a transnational European Public Sphere and European demos'. Supervised by Professor Alexander Trechsel.

Visiting Scholar U. Penn (Annenberg)

Philadelphia | USA

Visiting Scholar Milan U. (Pomlab)

Milan | Italy

M.S. in Research

Florence | Italy 2014 - 2015

European University Institute

M.A. in European Studies

Lund | Sweden 2010 – 2012

Lund University

B.A. Contemporary History

Valencia | Spain 2004 – 2009

University of Valencia

RELEVANT EXPERIENCES

Researcher

Digital Democracies Lab
Vancouver, Canada
September 2019 – on going

- Mis- and Dis- information research focus.
- Data collection of social media data.
- Data analysis and visualization showing trends and metrics.
- Presentation of outcomes in conferences and publications.

Collaborator

OpenEUdebate.eu
Madrid
January 2019 – on going

- European Elections Research focus.
- Jean Monett network.
- Data collection of social media data.
- Data analysis and visualization showing trends and metrics.

Researcher

European University Institute
Florence, Italy
September 2014 – June 2019

- Research on online communications and European Politics.
- Data Analytics of social media data in R and Python.
- Data visualizations with Tableau.
- Report with recommendations for EU institutions.
- Publication of the outcomes of the research in scientific journals.

Head of Communications

TEDx Stockholm
Stockholm, Sweden
September 2012 – September 2013

- Organized and managed big events of 300-500 attendees.
- Coordinated press and media attending the events: interviews, schedules, appointments.
- Designed, coordinated with the team & implemented the online communication's strategy of the festival.

VISITING PERIODS

- **September 2017 – January 2018.** Visiting Scholar at Public Opinion & Media Lab (POMLAB) and Voices from the BLOGS in the Department of Social and Political Sciences. University of Milan. Supervisors: Mauro Barisione and Luigi Curini.

- **January 2017 – June 2017.** Visiting Scholar at the Digital Media, Networks, & Political Communication (DIMENET) research group at the Annenberg School for Communication. University of Pennsylvania. Supervisor: Sandra González-Bailón.

TEACHING

- 2018 Undergraduate level. Social Media and Politics. Luzern University (Switzerland).
- 2018 Undergraduate level. Communications Research Methods Course. Lorenzo di Medici Institute. Florence (Italy).
- 2016 Teaching Certificate. European University Institute. Florence (Italy).

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

COMPUTATIONAL

- R (3 years)
- Python (2 year)
- Google Maps API
- Twitter Capture Analysis Toolkit (TCAT)
- Twitter API(s)
- Bash/shell
- GitHub
- Web management (typo3, wordpress, jekyll, octopress)
- Amazon EC2 (3 years)

DATA VISUALIZATION

- Tableau
- ggplot2
- Shiny
- Plotly
- Infogram

RESEARCH

- Social Network Analysis (Gephi and iGraph)
- Content and Sentiment analysis with quanteda and iSA

COMMUNICATION

- Interpersonal skills: used to multicultural team work.
- Public speaking experience in academic and professional events.
- Professional experience in communication strategies.

LANGUAGES

- Spanish and Catalan (bilingual mother tongue)
- English (Proficient C1)
- Italian (Good Knowledge B1)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- [6] Ruiz-Soler, Javier (2019), 'Commenting Politics through Twitter. Is European politics European?' **[forthcoming]**
- [5] Ruiz-Soler, Javier (2019), 'The mapping of the European Political Twittersphere and its significance for the European Public Sphere: a transnational EPS' **[forthcoming]**
- [4] Ruiz-Soler, Javier (2018), 'The last will be the first. A study of European Issue Publics on Twitter', in E. Pavan and A. Mattoni (eds.), *Partecipazione e conflitto*, special issue The Big Data Challenge. From Big Data in Politics to the Politics of Big Data, 11(2): 423-447
- [3] Ruiz-Soler, Javier (2017), 'The European Public Sphere: exist, can exist, will exist', *APUZ-Bdp Bundestag Magazine*, 37/2017: 35-40, ISSN: 0479-611 (In German).
- [2] Ruiz-Soler, Javier (2017), 'Twitter research for social scientists: a brief introduction to the benefits, limitations and tools for analysing Twitter data', *Revista Dígitos*, University of Valencia, 3/2017: 17-32, ISSN: 2444-0132.
- [1] Ruiz-Soler, Javier (2014), 'The role of the Euroblogosphere in a context of a European Public Sphere', in A. Stepinska (ed.) *Media and Communication in Europe*, Logos Verlag, pp. 61-73, ISBN 978-3-8325-3680-0

BOOK REVIEWS

- Ruiz-Soler, Javier (2018), [Review of the Book "Integration, Diversity and the Making of a European Public Sphere", by Hakan Sicakkan (Ed.)] *Mass Communication and Society* 21 (2): 269-271.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/15205436.2017.1407586>
- Ruiz-Soler, Javier (2018), [Review of the Book "Decoding the Social World: Data Science and the unintended consequences of Communication", by Sandra González-Bailón] *International Journal of Media & Cultural Politics* 14(2): 270-272. https://doi.org/10.1386/macp.14.2.265_5

PRESS

- Ruiz-Soler, Javier (2019). 'Are social media platforms good for democracy?', *Magazine Association of Political Communication (ACOP)*, 34: 32-33, ISSN: 2340-9576. (In Spanish)
- Ruiz-Soler, Javier and Seóne Pérez, F. (2018). 'Are bots dreaming in winning elections?' *Magazine Association of Political Communication (ACOP)*, 23: 11-15, ISSN: 2445- 3951. (In Spanish)
- Ruiz-Soler, Javier (2016) 'Reactions to Juncker's State of the Union speech show the difficulties in creating a European public sphere online', *LSE European Politics and Policy (EUROPP) Blog*, 22 Sep 2016.
- Ruiz Soler, Javier (2012) 'The Euroblogosphere has great potential to contribute to the European public sphere', *LSE European Politics and Policy (EUROPP) Blog*, 27 Oct 2012.
- Ruiz-Soler, Javier (2012), 'How can internet contribute to civil participation? The case of Eurobloggers', *Heinrich Böll Foundation*, 24 Sep 2012.

CONFERENCES

Transformations in the Digital Age: The Public Sphere - Paper: Transnational public spheres online.	Hildesheim	April 2019
OpenEUdebate.eu opening Conference - EU elections on Social Media	Madrid	January 2019
ECREA 7th European Communications Conference - Paper: A transnational European Public Sphere on Twitter	Lugano	November 2018
ECPR European Consortium Political Research General Conference - Paper: Political topics on Twitter: Are European politics European?	Hamburg	August 2018
ECREA Symposium "Digital Democracy in the age of Big Data" - Paper: Networked Publics on Twitter. The case for the TTIP	Stockholm	November 2017
AOIR Association Internet Researchers Conference: Networked Publics - PhD Colloquium: A European Networked Public Sphere empirical method	Tartu	October 2017
ECPR European Consortium Political Research General Conference - Paper: A transnational European Public Sphere	Oslo	September 2017
EUSN 3rd European Conference on Social Networks - Paper: Network analysis of European Twitter networks	Mainz	September 2017
NordMedia 2017 bi-annual Conference - Paper: European transnational interactions on Twitter	Tampere	August 2017
IC2S2 3rd Computational Social Science Conference - Poster: Geolocation of Tweets for measuring transnational interactions	Cologne	July 2017
EPSA 7th Conference European Political Sciences - Paper: European Networked Public Sphere on Twitter: #schengen and #TTIP	Milan	June 2017
Mediaflows Congress of online political communication - Paper: An introduction to Social Network Analysis of Twitter data	Valencia	November 2016
PhD Symposium Media and Communications London School of Economics - Paper: European Twitter Networks: #brexit	London	June 2016
Conference European Dialogue on Internet Governance EuroDIG. - Contribution of youth work to the development of Internet Governance	Lisbon Berlin Stockholm Vilnius	June 2014 June 2013 June 2012 December 2013
Closing Conference of the Lithuanian Presidency of the Council of the EU. - Blogger expert and representative of www.bloggingportal.eu		
Conference 14th Annual UACES Forum Conference. - Paper: The Euroblogosphere and European Online Communications.	Loughborough	July 2013
Conference The EU and the Politicization of Europe, by Euroacademia - Selected paper for the Panel <i>The Europeanization of Digital Powers.</i>	Budapest	December 2012
Conference Europe's common future organized by Böll Foundation. - Blogger expert and representative of www.bloggingportal.eu	Berlin	September 2012
Conference United We Stand organized by Copenhagen Business School. - Paper: Fostering EU Engagement.	Copenhagen	June 2012

SEMINARS & WORKSHOPS

European Commission (DG COMM) - Presentation: "Interacting online outside the bubble"	Brussels	March 2019
Seminar Mid Sweden University - Guest lecturer: "The European Twittersphere"	Östersund	April 2018
Seminar in course of Political Communication of Scuola Normale Superiore - Guest lecturer: "The European Public Sphere on Twitter"	Florence	February 2018
Workshop POMLAB University of Milan - Mapping the European Political Twittersphere with TCAT and Gephi	Milan	November 2016
International Seminar "Building European Citizenship", by JEF Europe. - Guest Speaker: "Social Media, European New Media and the EU Public Sph	Stockholm	October 2013
International Seminar "Our Europe 2021" organized by Europaforum - Panellist about different EU topics (immigration, eurocrisis, identity).	Malmö	April 2012

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

6th ICA International Summer School - Political Communication and Electoral Behaviour	Milan	July 2018
Voices of Blogs (University of Milan) - Content & Sentiment analysis with iSA. Professors: Curini and Ceron.	Milan	September – December 2017
UPF Social Media and Big Data Research (Online) - Big data management, network analysis & text data. Professor: P. Barberá	Spain	September 2017
Datacamp - Data Analyst with R (collection, process and visualization of data).	Spain	August 2017
Annenberg School for Communication (University of Pennsylvania) - Network Analysis with iGraph. Professor: S. González-Bailón.	Philadelphia	January – June 2017
Internet Institute Summer School Programme (Oxford University) - Research on the Internet related issues.	Oxford	July 2016
Quantitative Methods (European University Institute) - Statistics.	Florence	September 2014 – June 2015

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- YECREA Travel Grant for ECREA Lugano Conference 2018.
- Swedish Research Council Grant for PhD studies (2014-2018).
- Erasmus Internship Grant for graduate studies 2010.
- Bancaja Grant for undergraduate studies 2008.
- Erasmus Grant for undergraduate studies 08/09.

SERVICE

Reviewer The International Journal of Press/Politics - Papers in Political Communication	Vancouver	August 2019
Wahlbeobachtung Election-Watch EU - Consultant on mis/dis- information on social media in the EU elections 2019		May 2019
Organizer Workshop “Social Media and Politics” at the EUI. - Guest Professor: Anamaria Dutceac and Michael Bossetta (Lund and CHP U.)	Florence	May 2018
Reviewer International Journal of Communication USC Annenberg - Papers in Digital Media and Politics	Philadelphia	January 2018
Reviewer International Communications Association (ICA) - Papers for section Political Communication	Milan	December 2017
Data for Democracy - Data analyst for different projects.	Online	From Sept. 2017
ECPR European Consortium Political Research General Conference - Co-chair and Discussant Political Networks Panel.	Oslo	September 2017
Organizer Workshop “Python for the Social Sciences” at the EUI. - Guest Professor: Jonathan Bright, Oxford University.	Florence	May 2016
Organizer Workshop “Social Scientific Network Analysis” at the EUI. - Guest Professor: Carl Nordlund, Central European University.	Florence	May 2015