JAVIER RUIZ-SOLER, PH.D.

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Collaborative and solutions-focused leader with an extensive international career background leading major projects in Technology, Digital Policy, Online Communications, and Politics in Europe and North America. Excellent project management and leadership skills, with broad experience overseeing all stages of planning and delivery for complex research projects. Proven ability to foster and maintain a strong industry network, including building relationships with external partners, organizing engaging events, and delivering informative conference presentations. Passionate about the development of a more democratic, inclusive, and transparent society, with a focus on new communication and civic engagement technologies.

CORE COMPETENCIES:

- Digital Policy & Technology
- Digital Democracy & Government
- Artificial Intelligence
- Platform Governance

- Research Management
- Quantitative & Qualitative Research
- Presentations & Public Speaking
- Networking & Building Relationships

- Project Management
- Leadership & Team Building
- Big Data Analytics
- Data Governance & Privacy

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

INTERNATIONAL DATA CORPORATION (IDC CANADA) ▪ Toronto, ON   10/2021 to Present

Directing multiple consulting projects helping business and clients to upscale their digital transformation.

Consulting Manager

Overseen consulting research projects of market intelligence, advisory services, and events for the information technology, telecommunications and consumer technology markets.

- Scoping and managing projects that satisfy client requirements and address project specifications and timelines.
- Conducting research and analysis on leading-edge information technologies: cloud computing, security, networks.
- Managing quality assurances in every stage of the projects (proposals though delivery), e.g., optimizing the look and feel of the final deliverables, proof-reading for accuracy, ensuring quality of datasets, etc.
- Analyzing quantitative datasets and/or survey data and data interpretation with data-driven story.
- Implementing detailed plans and recommending procedures/policies.
- Presenting results and deliverables to clients with solutions to problems and conflicts, supporting their strategic direction.

DIGITAL DEMOCRACIES INSTITUTE ▪ Vancouver, BC   09/2019 – 09/2021

Directed multiple research projects focused on a wide range of digital policies and Internet-related issues, including misinformation, artificial intelligence, content moderation, data privacy and platform governance.

Senior Researcher & Project Manager

Oversaw up to four complex research projects simultaneously under the umbrella of the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) and the Government of Canada's Joint Initiative for Digital Citizen Research, including leading team members, developing project strategy, and maintaining data integrity and research quality requirements.

- Appointed as Research Manager for the Canadian Working Group of the Global Disinformation Index, an international think tank operating across several countries, in order to lead a team to conduct research, monitoring, and reporting on media quality and disinformation.
- Developed and implement new research methods in cooperation with industry partners including IBM, Google, Goodly Labs.
- Lead teams of researchers to conduct data analysis and visualizations utilizing software including R, Tableau, and Python in order to reveal, monitor, and report on big data trends and patterns.
- Oversaw performance, training, mentoring, and coaching of the team to support ongoing learning and development.
- Identified risks and backlogs in te research projects, and resolved issues in order to deliver on time.

- Produced and published detailed reports and policy recommendations for associated stakeholders and agencies to inform strategy and policy development to manage misinformation, social media platform regulations, and data governance.
- Expanded brand awareness and build a broad professional network for the Institute's expertise in digital democracy through participation in international conferences and collaboration with global stakeholders across industry and government.
- Established the Canadian Disinformation Network with different research partners.
- Visiting Scholar at the Berman Klein Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University.

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE ▪ Florence, Italy   09/2014 – 06/2019

Performed and managed extensive research projects, including overseeing planning, analysis, monitoring, reporting, presentation of findings, and project evaluation.

Researcher

Oversaw research focused on digital policies in relation to European politics, online communications, social media, including analyzing big data sets in order to develop data-informed insights and recommendations.

- Conducted qualitative and quantitative analysis, including collecting big data, and collaborating with stakeholders including government agencies, digital platforms, and think tanks.
- Presented at ~30 major conferences regarding social media and online communication, big data, privacy, platform governance.
- Prepared comprehensive reports with research outcomes and policy recommendations for EU governmental institutions.
- Prepared position papers in response to digital legislative or regulatory initiatives.
- Recommended and drafted strategies to support EU institutions in engaging with citizens on EU topics of political relevance.
- Published in specialized top journals and press topics of digital democracy and digital civic engagement.
- Advised EU Election Watch during the EU elections in 2019, providing recommendations to manage online disinformation.
- Advocated EU institutions regarding innovative policies such as the Digital Service Act and Europe Data Governance, as well as the development of codes of conduct for social media platforms in data privacy and access.
- Visiting Scholar at the Annenberg School for Communications at the University of Pennsylvania.

TEDx STOCKHOLM ▪ Stockholm, Sweden   06/2012 – 09/2013

Directed all areas of communications strategy, including marketing, media relations, event planning & management, social media, and public relations.

Head of Communications

Led a team of twelve communications and marketing professionals, including establishing goals aligned with corporate objectives, monitoring progress, providing constructive feedback, and achieving objectives in line with quality and timeframe requirements.

- Managed media planning and relations, including developing a comprehensive strategy, building positive relationships with the press, and scheduling various interviews and appearances to increase brand awareness and promote upcoming events.
- Established a prominent online presence within 1 year, including creating engaging social media profiles, managing online advertising, and developing a new website, to generate online engagement and positively impact event attendance.
- Oversaw the planning, design, and implementation of major events with up to 500 attendees, including organizing speakers, securing venues, coordinating teams, and evaluating performance.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Political and Social Sciences ▪ European University Institute, Florence, Italy (2019).
- *Award: Best Thesis in Political Communication, Spanish Association of Political Communication (ACOP).*

LANGUAGES

- Fluent in English, Spanish, Catalan, Italian.
- Learning French.

Research & Analysis: Network Analysis: Gephi, iGraph in R, Content & Sentiment Analysis: Quanteda and iSA, Data Analytics: Tableau, R, Python, Excel.

Project Management: Project Management Methodologies, Project Planning, Resource Management, Staff Management, Project Management Tools: Asana, Slack, SharePoint.

Policy: white papers, amendments, briefing materials and info briefs, policy recommendations, policy development, position papers.