

Kavyanjali Kaushik (Kav)

Political and digital sociologist

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EDUCATION

PhD, Social Sciences, University Carlos III of Madrid, Spain (Sep 2020 - Jun 2025)

Honours: Cum laude

Thesis: “Nationalist mobilisation in the digital age: The role of social media in driving support for radical right parties”

MA, Social Sciences, University Carlos III of Madrid, Spain (Sep 2018 - Jul 2020)

Thesis: “Impact of globalisation and liberalisation on right-wing populism in India” (*Grade*: 9.2/10)

BA, Journalism, University of Westminster, London, United Kingdom (Sep 2007 - Jun 2020)

Honours: First Class

Scholarship: Part-International Scholarship

Thesis: “Representation of war in photojournalism—pictorial truth of Iraq and Afghanistan wars”

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Doctoral Researcher, Value Conflicts in a Differentiated Europe - [ValCon](#) (Sep 2020 - Jun 2024)

Research project funded by the Volkswagen Foundation (Grant amount: 980.000 Euro)

- Led big data collection across 3 social media platforms (Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram) via API-based methods to build public opinion database (1 million+ posts) on democratic values of gender equality, freedom of expression and independence of judiciary
- Developed computational and comparative approaches to analyse digital data spanning 3 years (2019-2021) and 6 countries (France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Poland, and Spain)
- Collaborated on survey design to collect social media engagement, political behaviour and socioeconomic background of 12,000 individuals. Published open source on [GESIS](#).
- Collaborated with 6 team members on publishing 3 peer-reviewed articles
- Collaborated on data collection from 2 newspapers (left and right leaning) in each country and co-authored 2 qualitative codebooks to compare traditional and social media data
- Organised and conducted 3 computational methodology workshops for project members

Visiting Researcher, Public Opinion and Media Lab, University of Milan, Italy (Jan-Feb 2022)

- Assisted lab members with development of social media data collection and analysis design

Teaching Assistant, Historical Sociology, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (Sep 2021 - Jan 2022)

- Assisted Dr. Kerice Doten-Snitker in developing course materials
- Delivered discussion lectures

PUBLICATIONS

- Sojka, A., **Kaushik, K.**, Trenz, H. J., & Eigmüller, M. (2025). Beyond the Transnational Cleavage: Differentiation of Democratic Values in Europe. *European Politics and Society*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23745118.2025.2451203>
- Díez-Medrano, J., Sojka, A., **Kaushik, K.**, Trenz, H. J., Eigmüller, M., Verbalyte, M., & Wallaschek, S. (2024). Value Conflicts in a Differentiated Europe: The Impact of Digital Media on Value Polarisation in Europe (ValCon). *GESIS, Cologne*. ZA7747 Data file Version 1.0.0, <https://doi.org/10.4232/1.14286> (Open-source survey data)
- Wallaschek, S., **Kaushik, K.**, & Eigmüller, M. (2023). One conflict, two public spheres, three national debates: comparing the value conflict over judicial independence in Europe across print and social media. *Journal of Information Technology & Politics*, 21(3), 288–302. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19331681.2023.2278539> (Appendix) (Also published in [book](#))
- Wallaschek, S., **Kaushik, K.**, Verbalyte, M., Sojka, A., Sorci, G., Trenz, H., & Eigmüller, M. (2022). Same, Same but Different? Gender Politics and (Trans)National Value Contestation in Europe on Twitter. *Politics and Governance*, 10,(1),146-160. <https://doi.org/10.17645/pag.v10i1.4751> (Appendix at end of page)
- **Kaushik, K.** (Under Review). Exposure or Expression? Mobilising National Identity and Support for Radical-Right Parties on Social Media. *Acta Politica*.

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

- Annual Conference of the European Political Science Association (June 2025)
Panel Discussant: Narratives, Media Influence and Political Discourse
Paper Presentation: UNMASK: An Agent-based Model for Understanding Nationalist Mobilisation on a Social Media Network in Politics, Media and Radicalisation panel
- Nationalism and Identity conference, convened by Dr. Covadonga Meseguer (June 2024)
Discussant of paper: Nationalist education in the country of origin and immigrant assimilation at the destination by Dr. Harris Mylonas (George Washington University)
- Thesis Talk finalist (June 2024)
PhD presented: [From Screen to Ballot Box: The Impact of Digital Expression on National Identity and Voting Behaviour](#)
- Annual Conference of ValCon Project (October 2023)
Methods presentation: Analysing Mainstreaming of Anti-Gender Nationalism in European Public Spheres Through NLP
- Council for European Studies 29th International Conference of Europeanists (June 2023)
Organiser of panel: European identity and citizenship in times of political polarisation
Papers presented: UNMASK: An agent-based model for Understanding Nationalist Mobilisation on a Social Media Network; Decoding digital discontent: How interplay of identity and emotions fuel online political hostility
- International Conference on Transnational Political Contention & European Integration (Sept 2022)
Paper presented: Digital networks of nationalism: Radical-right party and movement mobilisation on social media
- European Consortium for Political Research General Conference (August 2022)
Paper presented: One conflict, two public spheres, three national debates? Comparing patterns of value conflict over judicial independence in Europe across print media and social media

- Council for European Studies 28th International Conference of Europeanists (June 2022)
Paper presented: Digital nationalism: Role of social media in driving support for radical-right parties
Paper presented: Beyond the cultural cleavage: Polarisation or differentiation of values in Europe?
- Seminar on International and Comparative Politics, University of Valencia and Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (April 2022)
Paper presented: Digital Nationalism 2.0: Mobilising National Identity and Support for Radical-Right Parties on Social Media
- European Consortium for Political Research General Conference (August 2021)
Paper presented: Value conflicts through social media? Analysing co-authorship patterns and the framing of value research in social sciences (1943-2020)
- Council for European Studies 27th International Conference of Europeanists (June 2021)
Paper presented: Impact of globalisation and liberalisation on right-wing populism in India

TECHNICAL SKILLS AND METHODS

Programming languages: R, Python

Computational: Social network analyses, natural language processing, multi-modal LLMs, social simulation using agent-based modelling, structural equation modelling, topic modelling

Quantitative: Causal inference, survey analysis, regression analysis, conjoint analysis

Qualitative: Interviews, media analysis, coding, discourse analysis

Data collection: APIs, web scraping, LexisNexis, Factiva

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH TRAINING

Spring School Visual Analysis of Social Media Data (ValCon Project, March 2022)

Interviews for Interdisciplinary Inquiry (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, January 2022)

Conjoint Analysis (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, November 2021)

DigClass: Social Classes in the Digital Age (Centre for Advanced Studies of the Joint Research Centre at the European Commission, September 2021)

Social Network Analysis (Hertie School Data Science Lab, July 2021)

PSA-South Asia Annual Workshop (Political Studies Association, June 2021)

Research Design with Idea Puzzle (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, May 2021)

Images-as-Data Dublin Workshop (Trinity College Dublin, December 2020)

Behavioural and Experimental Social Sciences (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, October 2020)

JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

Special Correspondent, India Today (New Delhi, India, 2013-16)

India's most widely circulated English news magazine

- Writer and production editor for Simply, a nine-city monthly on cultural and social trends
- Editor of the annual collector's edition of the magazine on exclusive, long-form articles, essays, stories and illustrations by authors and experts of India
- Recruited and trained two interns

Senior Copy Editor, CNN-News18 website (New Delhi, India, 2012-13)

Leading English television news channel and website in India

- Wrote and edited political and current affairs stories including rise of current prime minister, Narendra Modi (2012-13), Delhi gangrape case (2012), AgustaWestland bribery scandal (2013), Uttarakhand flash floods (2013), Uttar Pradesh riots (2013) and Union budget (2013)
- Collaborated with senior editors on launch of new website and writing style for online media
- Trained and managed three junior copy editors

Correspondent, Reuters (Bangalore, India, 2011-12)

International news agency

- Financial reporter covering news on mid-size US-based pharmaceutical companies
- Researcher and reporter of data-based analytical articles on global pharmaceutical industry

Intern, trainee, freelance writer, various Indian media organisations (New Delhi, India, 2007-10)

The Hindu, NDTV 24X7, Hindustan Times, LANS, India Outbound magazine, Travel Secrets magazine

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Languages: English (fluent), Spanish (upper-intermediate B2), Hindi (native)

Professional Networks: [UC3M EUresearch Group](#): Multilevel and comparative research about the impact of globalisation on European society and politics; [Right-Against-Rights Research Group](#)

Volunteer: Media research lead at [Law Makers, Law Breakers](#) (2020), a citizen led project tracking democratic protests against the [Citizenship \(Amendment\) act](#) (CAA)

REFERENCES

Professor Dr. Juan Díez Medrano

(PhD Supervisor)

Professor of Sociology

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Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain

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Professor Dr. Hans-Jörg Trenz

(Principal Investigator, ValCon Project)

Professor of Sociology of Culture and

Communication

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(PhD Committee Secretary, MA Director)

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Professor Dr. Monika Eigmüller

(Principal Investigator, ValCon Project)

Professor of Sociology and Director of

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