

Maria Milosh

Social Scientist & Civic Technologist

mariyamilosh@gmail.com

I'm a social researcher and civic technologist focused on democratic innovations and participatory governance. Exploring how technology helps communities make better collective decisions, broaden participation, and deliberate thoughtfully and at scale.

EDUCATION

University of Chicago 2020 - 2022
MSc in Computational Analysis & Public Policy

- Selected courses: Advanced Statistics, Causal Inference, Machine Learning, Discrete Math, Algorithms, Databases, Development Economics, Experimental Economics, Microeconomics

Higher School of Economics 2015 - 2019
BA in Political Science

- Teaching assistant for Nonreactive & Big Data for Social Sciences

SKILLS

- Python · R · SQL · AWS · Git
QGIS
- Policy analysis and communication
Public interest technology
Democratic theory
- English, Russian - fluent
French, Ukrainian - upper intermediate
German - learning

SELECTED RESEARCH

Impacts of Citizen Assemblies and Democratic Innovations (Research brief, forthcoming Fall 2025).

Unmasking Partisanship: Polarization Undermines Public Response to Collective Risk with M. Painter, K. Sonin, D. Van

WORK EXPERIENCE

Part-time Faculty

Bard College, NY Winter 2026

- Teaching a course on Civic Technology and Algorithms for Social Good, which introduces students to normative, technical, and evaluative foundations for design and impact assessment of public interest tech.

Research Leader

Oxford Computational Political Science Group Since Nov 2025

- Modeling deliberative decision-making as collective choice mechanisms under incomplete information. Building text-analysis pipelines (LLM-based embedding models) to map idea formation and effects of exposure to others' ideas.

Independent Researcher

MetaGov & Harmonica.AI, People Powered Since April 2025

- Collating existing causal research on democratic innovations and deliberation to understand participatory decision-making effects on development outcomes around the world.
- Designing experimental interventions to study deliberative facilitation techniques.

Data Scientist

NYC Office of Labor Policy & Standards June 2022–Feb 2025

- Bridging technical analysis and policy adoption: led research and built data pipelines for implementation of labor regulations, directly informing city enforcement and policymaking
- Collaborated with legal teams and regulators to translate data analysis into labor policy insights

Data Scientist Intern

World Bank March 2021–Sept 2021

- Developed NLP pipelines and reproducible data-sharing tools to improve transparency and collaboration in international development research

Dijcke, A. Wright. Journal of Public Economics, 2021.

Performance-Based Management & Meritocracy in Russian Public Service (survey experiment on bureaucratic incentives), with A. Kalgin, A. Yakovlev, V. Matveev. 2020.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Fellowships & Scholarships:

- Stanford Ethics, Technology, & Public Policy for Practitioners Cohort (2025)
- Coding it Forward Civic Innovation Corps fellow (2021)
- HSE ICSD Research Grant (2018)
- Oxford Russia Fund (2018)

Research Professional

Becker Friedman Institute for Economics

June 2019–Sept 2020

- Conducted econometric analysis on conflict, governance, and civic engagement using international microdata, social media data
- Co-authored study on polarization and local policy in the Journal of Public Economics
- Managed data collection and analysis for international development projects

Research Assistant

International Center for the Study of Institutions & Development, HSE

May 2018–May 2019

- Co-designed and executed a survey experiment targeting public sector workers to study institutional trust and bureaucratic behavior