

NEJLA ASIMOVIC

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS AND AFFILIATIONS

Georgetown University, McCourt School of Public Policy
Assistant Professor

Washington, D.C.
August 2024 - Present

Cornell University
Non-Resident Fellow, Center on Global Democracy

January 2026-Present

New York University
Research Affiliate, Center for Social Media and Politics

September 2018 - Present

University of Pennsylvania
Postdoctoral Fellow, Institute for the Study of Citizens and Politics

July 2023 - July 2024

EDUCATION

New York University New York, NY

Ph.D. in Political Science 2023

Committee: Joshua Tucker, Gwyneth McClendon, Shanker Satyanath, and Cyrus Samii

Hamilton College Clinton, NY

Bachelor of Arts (*Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa*) 2016

Major: World Politics; Minors: Mathematics and Hispanic Studies

PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

Asimovic, Nejla. "Unlocking Outgroup Access Online: Evidence from Cyprus." (Forthcoming, Comparative Political Studies, 2025)

Steven Rathje*, **Nejla Asimovic***, Tiago Ventura*, Sarah Mughal, Claire E. Robertson, Christopher Barrie, Joshua Tucker, and Jay J. Van Bavel. "Testing the Causal Impact of Social Media Reduction Around the Globe." (Accepted in Principle, *Nature*, 2025) *[co-first author; pre-registered report]

Macdonald, Maggie, Megan A. Brown, **Nejla Asimovic**, Rajeshwari Majumdar, Lena Song, Laura Huber, Sarah Graham, Joshua A. Tucker, and Jonathan Nagler. "Reaching Across the Political Aisle: Overcoming Challenges in Using Social Media for Recruiting Politically Diverse Respondents." (Forthcoming, *International Journal of Social Research Methodology*, 2025)

Asimovic, Nejla and Ruth Ditlmann. "Cross-Group Friends and Feeling Empowered in Intergroup Contact Programs: Mediating Pathways and Practical Strategies for Divided Societies." (Forthcoming, *Journal of Social and Political Psychology*, 2025)

Asimovic, Nejla, Ruth Ditlmann, and Cyrus Samii. "Estimating the effect of intergroup contact over years: Evidence from a youth program in Israel." *Political Science Research and Methods*, 1–19 (2024).

Asimovic, Nejla*, Jonathan Nagler, and Joshua A. Tucker. "Replicating the effects of Facebook deactivation in an ethnically polarized setting." *Research and Politics*, 10, no. 4 (2023). *[first author]

Asimovic, Nejla*, Jonathan Nagler, Richard Bonneau, and Joshua A. Tucker. "Testing the effects of Facebook usage in an ethnically polarized setting." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 118, no. 25 (2021). *[first author]

- ◇ Best Article Award by the Information Technology & Politics section at APSA 2022; coverage from the [New Yorker](#), [Tech Policy Press](#)

ELEMENT

Asimovic, Nejla. *Experiments on Social Media Usage Effects and Intergroup Relations*, Cambridge University Press, Elements in Experimental Political Science (Under Contract)

UNDER REVIEW

Asimovic, Nejla, Mateo Vásquez-Cortés, and Kevin Munger. “Bridging the digital divide: Data access and integration of Venezuelan migrants in Colombia.” (*Revise & Resubmit, Quarterly Journal of Political Science*)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Asimovic, Nejla and Mateo Vásquez-Cortés. “Elevating Positive Narratives: WhatsApp Campaign Effects on Migrant-Host Relations in Colombia.” (*Completed data collection*)

Asimovic, Nejla, Samantha Moore-Berg, Mikelle Barberi-Weil. “Workplace Readiness in Polarized Settings: Unify America Program Evaluation.” (*Completed data collection*)

Asimovic, Nejla. “Digital Discourse and Polarization: Spotlighting Diversity Within and Across Groups in the United States.” (*Preregistration available*)

Asimovic, Nejla and Diana Mutz. “Do Elections Reduce American Social Trust?” (*Working paper*)

GRANTS

2025: Institute for Humane Studies Research Award (\$5,000) with Samantha Moore-Berg and Mikelle Barberi-Weil

2024: Institute for Humane Studies Research Award (\$10,000)

2024: National Science Foundation: “Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace” with Jay Van Bavel, Joshua Tucker, Steven Rathje, and Claire Robertson (\$1,199,751)

2024: Tech & Public Policy Grant, McCourt School of Public Policy & Project Liberty (\$199,026)

2023: Wellspring Philanthropic Fund (\$72,000) with Mateo Vásquez-Cortés and Kevin Munger

2023: London School of Economics Research Award (\$7,400) with Florian Foos, Marnie Howlett, and Carl Muller-Crepon

2023: Templeton World Charity Foundation (\$250,000) and NYU Alliance Seed Grant (\$25,000) with Jay Van Bavel, Joshua Tucker, Steven Rathje, and Claire Robertson

2022: Peace & Recovery Program Grant from the Innovations for Poverty Action (\$40,000) with Mateo Vásquez-Cortés and Kevin Munger

2021: Downs Prize Award (\$4,000), New York University

2021: Peace Scholar Fellowship (\$16,200), Minerva Research Initiative-United States Institute of Peace

2020: Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (\$13,800), National Science Foundation & American Political Science Association

NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Asimovic, Nejla and Jane Esberg. “Social media data in conflict research.” *Institute for Research on the Information Environment* (2022).

Asimovic, Nejla and Amie Scheerder. “Navigating the media landscape in the 21st century: The role of critical media literacy in Bosnia and Herzegovina.” *The Centre for Sustainable Peace and Democratic Development* (2022).

SELECTED AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

- 2023: Outstanding Teaching Award, New York University College of Arts and Science
2023: Internet Observatory Fellowship, Stanford University (declined)
2023: Center for the Study of Democratic Politics Fellowship, Princeton University (declined)
2022: PhD Research Fellowship, Human-Computer Interaction at Meta
2022: Information Technology & Politics Best Article Prize, American Political Science Association
2022: Dean's Dissertation Fellowship, New York University
2021: Global Research Initiatives Fellowship, New York University
2017-2023: Henry M. MacCracken Fellowship, New York University
2016: Pi Sigma Alpha (National Political Science Honor Society), Hamilton College
2016: Phi Sigma Iota (International Foreign Language Honor Society), Hamilton College
2016: Constantine Karamanlis Prize in World Politics, Hamilton College

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- 2025:** Technical University of Munich-Georgetown University Workshop on Social Media (Munich, Germany); European Political Science Association Annual Meeting (paper accepted); Intergroup Interventions Workshop (Berlin, Germany; by invite); American Political Science Association Annual Meeting
- 2024:** American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, CIND (Center for Information Networks and Democracy) Political and Information Networks Conference (by invite); Political Psychology Meeting (by invite); Media Effects Empirical Workshop (by invite); Midwest Political Science Association Conference; Visions in Methodology Conference; NYU Center for Social Media and Politics Conference (by invite)
- 2023:** University of Pennsylvania Comparative Politics Workshop; American Political Science Association Annual Meeting; Meta Computational Social Science Seminar; London School of Economics Behavioural Political Economy Workshop; Center for Social Media and Politics Annual Conference; Midwest Political Science Association; WZB Berlin Social Science Center Brown Bag Series
- 2022:** Northeast Regional Workshop on European Politics; Minority Politics Online Seminar Series; American Political Science Association Annual Meeting; Northeast Workshop in Empirical Political Science; Midwest Political Science Association Conference; Carlos III University of Madrid (UC3M) Work in Progress Seminar; NYU Comparative Politics Workshop
- 2021:** American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting; Annual Scientific Meeting of Political Psychology; CSMaP Annual Conference; Midwest Political Science Association Conference (Forthcoming); NYU-CESS Experimental Political Science Conference; Comparative Working Group at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; NYU Graduate Student Political Economy Seminar
- 2020:** CSMaP Panel on Social Media, Polarization, and the 2020 Election; Annual Scientific Meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology; Midwest Political Science Association Conference; NYU-CESS Experimental Political Science Conference; Intergroup Relations Working Group

TEACHING

- Text as Data: Computational Linguistics** Spring 2025
Instructor *McCourt School of Public Policy*
- Social Media and Political Behavior** Spring 2025
Instructor *McCourt School of Public Policy*
- International Relations Thesis Seminar** 2019–2023
Teaching Assistant; two semesters *New York University*

Introduction to Comparative Politics

2019–2023

*Teaching Assistant; three semesters**New York University***OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Research Consultant

2021-2024

*PeacePlayers International***Reviewer**

2019-Present

*Political Science Research and Methods, Journal of Politics, Nature Communications, Political Behavior, World Development, Journal of Quantitative Description***WORK EXPERIENCE**

Leaders' Quest

2016-2017

*Leadership Program Development**New York, NY***The Enough Project**

2015

*Development and Operations**Washington, D.C.***Doctors of the World**

2014

*Administration and Data Entry**Madrid, Spain***RELEVANT SKILLS**

Languages: Bosnian (native), Serbo-Croatian; English (fluent); Spanish (intermediate)