

SONJA SAVOLAINEN

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

University of Toronto

Visiting Graduate Student, Policy, Elections & Representation Lab (PEARL) 4/2024 - 12/2024

University of Helsinki

Research Assistant, Comparing Climate Change Policy Networks (COMPON) 8/2020 - 1/2021

Research Assistant, Protest for a Future II 1/2020 - 2/2020

Teaching Assistant, Bachelor's program in Politics, Media and Communication 8/2019 - 5/2020

Global Media Monitoring Project (GMMP) 6/2020 - 1/2021

Research Assistant

EDUCATION

PhD, Political Science, University of Helsinki 1/2021 - Present

Studies and research fully funded by Kone Foundation, grant no. 202011093 (135,000€)

MSS, Political Science, University of Helsinki 11/2018 - 9/2020

BSS, Political Science, University of Helsinki 8/2016 - 11/2018

International Baccalaureate (IB), UWC Atlantic College 8/2014 - 5/2016

SUMMER SCHOOLS

ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods 2023

Summer Institutes in Computational Social Science (SICSS) 2021

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed journal articles

Sonja Savolainen and Tuomas Ylä-Anttila. 2021. "[The climate change movement and political parties: Mechanisms of social media and interaction during the 2019 electoral period in Finland.](#)"

Nordic Journal of Media Studies, vol.3, no.1, 2021, pp.40-60.

Other publications

Sonja Savolainen, Tuomas Ylä-Anttila, Eeva Luhtakallio and Maija Jokela. 2020. "[Country report: Finland. Protest for a future II: Composition, mobilization and motives of the participants in Fridays For Future climate protests on 20-27 September, 2019, in 19 cities around the world.](#)" Open Society Foundations (OSF).

PAPERS IN PROGRESS

Sonja Savolainen, Ville Saarinen and Ted Hsuan Yun Chen. "Social Media Affordances Sustain Social Movements Facing Repression: Evidence from Climate Activism."

Sonja Savolainen. "Fluctuations in security and privacy related Google searches during Black Lives Matter protests."

Sonja Savolainen. "Encountering animosity: a machine learning approach to exploring how counter-hate speech against climate activists varies across digital platforms."

Ted Hsuan Yun Chen, Sonja Savolainen. "The Effects of Locally Targeted Celebrity Climate Activism: Evidence from Greta Thunberg's Visit to Canada."

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION, LECTURES AND OTHER TALKS

"Fluctuations in security and privacy related Google searches during Black Lives Matter protests." ISA 2024 Annual Convention. Apr 2024.

"Social movements and networks" lecture in Special Issues in Governance and Organisations: Political Networks course. Feb 2023 and Jan 2024.

"How technology shapes the political context of social movements" Science corner, The Night of Science (public science and research event). Jan 2023.

"How Police Repression Moves Social Movements Online: Climate Protests in Finland." American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Sep 2022.

"Do Social Movements Adapt to Offline Repression by using Social Media? Evidence from Police Repression of Climate Protesters in Finland." ISA 2022 Annual Convention. Apr 2022.

"Do Social Movements Adapt to Offline Repression by using Social Media? Evidence from Police Repression of Climate Protesters in Finland." The 14th Annual Political Networks Conference hosted by The Pennsylvania State University. Jul 2021.

SKILLS AND LANGUAGES

Programming

Python, R, LaTeX, Git

Languages

Finnish, English, Swedish