

# Jan Zilinsky

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Appointments	Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Technical University of Munich Research Affiliate, NYU Center for Social Media and Politics	Oct. 2021- May 2022-
Education	Ph.D., Political Science, New York University Committee: Jonathan Nagler, Joshua A. Tucker, Patrick Egan, Hye Young You, Neal Beck M.B.A., University of Chicago B.A., Economics, Harvard University	2022 2014 2009
Publications	<p>[18] Artificial Intelligence, Social Media, and the Politics of Anti-Technology (with T. Zeitzoff). Accepted. <i>American Journal of Political Science</i>. Best Conference Paper Award, APSA's Information Technology and Politics Division, 2025</p> <p>[17] Conspiracism and Government Distrust Predict COVID-19 Vaccine Refusal (with Y. Theocharis). 2025. <i>Humanities and Social Sciences Communications</i>.</p> <p>[16] Can AI-Attributed News Challenge Partisan News Selection? Evidence from a Conjoint Experiment (with A. Zoizner et al.) 2025. <i>The International Journal of Press/Politics</i>.</p> <p>[15] Economic Evaluations and Partisan Faultfinding (with J. Bisbee). 2025. <i>Political Science Research and Methods</i>.</p> <p>[14] Explaining 2020 Trump Support: The Role of Anti-Muslim, Pro-Police, and Anti-BLM Attitudes (with N. Lajevardi). 2025. <i>Electoral Studies</i>.</p> <p>[13] The Trump Advantage in Policy Recall Among Voters (with J.A. Tucker and J. Nagler). 2025. <i>American Politics Research</i>, 53(2), pp. 91-102.</p> <p>[12] Justifying an Invasion: When is Disinformation Successful? (First author, with 23 co-authors.) 2024. <i>Political Communication</i>, 41(6), pp. 965-986.</p> <p>[11] Toxic Speech and Limited Demand for Content Moderation on Social Media (with F. Pradel, Y. Theocharis &amp; S. Kosmidis). 2024. <i>American Political Science Review</i>, 118(4), pp. 1895-1912.</p> <p>[10] Left-Right Political Orientations Are Not Systematically Related to Conspiracism (with A. Enders, C. Kloststad, S. Littrell, J. Miller, Y. Theocharis &amp; J. Uscinski). 2024. <i>Advances in Political Psychology</i>.</p> <p>[9] Donate to help us fight back: Political fundraising and toxic rhetoric online (with S.S. Kim &amp; B. Brew). 2024. <i>Party Politics</i>.</p> <p>[8] Beliefs in Conspiracy Theories and Online News Consumption During the Pandemic (with S. Jin, F. Pradel and Y. Theocharis). 2024. <i>Journal of Quantitative Description: Digital Media</i>, (4)1.</p> <p>[7] Division Does Not Imply Predictability: Demographics Continue to Reveal Little About Voting and Partisanship (with S.S. Kim). 2024. <i>Political Behavior</i>, (46)1, pp. 67-87.</p> <p>[6] Exposure to the Russian Internet Research Agency foreign influence campaign on Twitter in the 2016 US election and its relationship to attitudes and voting behavior (with G. Eady, T. Paskhalis, R. Bonneau, J. Nagler and J.A. Tucker). 2023. <i>Nature Communications</i>. 14(62), pp. 1-11.</p> <p>[5] Geographic Boundaries and Local Economic Conditions Matter for Views of the Economy (with J. Bisbee). 2023. <i>Political Analysis</i>. 31(2), pp. 288-294.</p>	

- [4] Don't Republicans Tweet Too? Using Twitter to Assess the Consequences of Political Endorsements by Celebrities (with C. Vaccari, J. Nagler and J.A. Tucker). 2020. *Perspectives on Politics*, (18)1, pp. 144-160.
- [3] Democratic deconsolidation revisited: Young Europeans are not dissatisfied with democracy. 2019. *Research & Politics*. (6)1.
- [2] How Many People Live in Political Bubbles on Social Media? Evidence From Linked Survey and Twitter Data (with G. Eady, J. Nagler, A. Guess and J.A. Tucker). 2019. *SAGE Open*, (9)1.
- [1] The Happiness Gap in Eastern Europe (with S. Djankov and E. Nikolova). 2016. *Journal of Comparative Economics*, (44)1, pp. 108-124.

#### Working Papers

Three Approaches for Measuring Political Biases of Large Language Models

Algorithmic ad pricing disparities for election campaigns on Facebook (with F. Votta et al.)

Ideology and Free Speech Values Predict Content Moderation Preferences: Cross-national Evidence Across Targets of Hate Speech (with F. Quint, S. Kosmidis and Y. Theocharis). Under review.

#### Grants

Fellowship for Excellent Researchers, EU Recovery and Resilience Plan, 2024-26	<b>€58,705</b>
TUM funding for designing a new course, <i>AI, Society and Governance</i> , 2024	<b>€6,638</b>
HfP Seed Funding Grant for survey research, 2024	<b>€5,000</b>
The Center for Growth and Opportunity Research Grant (with T. Zeitzoff), 2023	<b>\$18,000</b>
Reboot Social Media grant, TUM Think Tank (with 3 co-PIs), 2022-24	<b>€35,500</b>

#### *Other Awards and fellowships*

MacCracken Fellowship, approx. **\$150,000**, Good Authority Fellowship, **\$2,500**, TUM Global Initiative (with Y. Theocharis), **€10,000**, Craig Newmark Fellowship, approx. **\$14,000**, Shelby Davis Scholar **\$40,000**, APSA ITP Best Conference Paper Award, NYU Provost's Global Research Initiatives Fellowship, George Downs Prize, Fama-Miller Center Research Grant, University of Chicago Booth School of Business Graduate Fellowship, Oscar Mayer Fellowship, Marshall Goldman grant

#### Presentations

##### **Invited Talks**

University of Miami, 2026 (scheduled)

Oxford Internet Institute, 2025

University of South Carolina, 2025

University of Innsbruck, 2025

University of Houston, 2025

Royal Holloway Workshop on Free Speech and Platform Governance, 2025

University of Southern Denmark, 2025

Slovak Academy of Sciences, 2025

École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Center for Digital Trust, 2024

Bundeswehr University, 2024

VŠE Prague Research Seminar Series in Economics, 2024

Zurich Disinformation Workshop (invited presentation), 2023

ETH Zurich (virtual presentation), 2022

##### **Selected Conferences and Workshops**

Politics of AI Workshop at MPSA 2026 (scheduled)

APSA Annual Meetings 2019, 2020, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025

MPSA 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2026 (scheduled)

EPSA 2022, 2023

APSA PolComm pre-conference, 2023, 2025  
 Zurich Digital Democracy Workshop, 2025  
 Tilburg Law and Economics Center, 2025  
 TUM-Georgetown workshop, 2025  
 Society for Political Methodology meetings  
 – MENA/Asian PolMeth meeting (NYU Abu Dhabi), 2024  
 – PolMeth Europe, 2021  
 – Poster presentations in 2018 (Provo) and online in 2020 and 2021  
 EUI Workshop on Political Behaviour in Central and Eastern Europe, 2024  
 Annual Meeting of the German Political Psychology Network, 2024  
 TUM Think Tank workshop on disinformation, 2024  
 CSMaP Annual Conference in Florence, 2023  
 University of Miami Conspiracy Theory conference, 2023  
 World Association for Public Opinion Research annual conference (WAPOR), 2023  
 TUM Workshop on Content Moderation, 2023  
 ICA in Washington D.C., 2019  
 Toronto Political Behavior Workshop, 2019  
 Economic Science Association, 2019  
 NYU Abu Dhabi Winter Experimental Social & Sciences Institute, 2019  
 University of Zurich Technocratic Challenge to Democracy workshop, 2017

Teaching  
 (instructor)

**Technical University of Munich**

AI, Society and Governance, Winter 2024, Spring 2025, and Winter 2025

Instructor rating: 5/5

R and Data Visualization, 2022-26

Instructor rating: 4,9/5

Political Information in the Digital Age: Insurgent Politics and Conspiracy Theories, 2021-24

Instructor rating: 4,7/5

Campaigns, Elections, and Social Media, Winter 2022 and Spring 2023

Instructor rating: 4,7/5

Seminar on Applications of Behavioral Economics to Politics, Winter 2021 and Spring 2022

Instructor rating: 4,9/5

**Summer Institute in Computational Social Science, LMU Munich**

Collecting Digital Trace Data, Summer 2023

Other teaching

**Teaching assistantships and fellowships at NYU and Harvard**

Courses included: Inequality, Populism and Voting, Introduction to Political Theory, Politics Senior Honors, Experiments in Economics, Psychology and Economics, and Principles of Economics.

Service

*Peer Reviewer:* American Political Science Review, Journal of Politics, Political Analysis, Political Behavior, Political Communication, Nature Human Behavior, Scientific Reports, Public Opinion Quarterly, Journal of Experimental Political Science, Political Psychology, Electoral Studies, PNAS Nexus, PLOS One, The International Journal of Press/Politics, European Political Science Review, Scientific Data, Journal of Political Marketing, Humanities and Social Sciences Communications, Democratization, JQD:DM, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Applied Economics Letters, Kyklos

*Editorial Board:* Journal of Quantitative Description: Digital Media

Public  
Scholarship

*University:* Graduate admissions committee, TUM-Georgetown Workshop on the evolution of digital platforms (co-organizer, May 2025)

*Other:* APSA Information Technology and Politics award committee, Coordinator of Munich Data Science Lightning Talks

*Selected examples*

Very few Americans support actual political violence. Many more support intimidation. *Good Authority*, 2025.

The Epstein files have managed to unite liberal and conservative media. *Good Authority*, 2025.

Good to Know: Anti-establishment orientation. *Good Authority*, 2025.

Content Warning: Public Attitudes on Content Moderation and Freedom of Expression. With Y. Theocharis, S. Kosmidis, F. Quint, & F. Pradel. *TUM Think Tank Report*, 2025.

Is the FBI impartial? Over half of Republicans say ‘no.’ With S. Kates, J. A. Tucker and J. Ladd. *The Washington Post Monkey Cage*, 2022

Did Trump keep his campaign promises? Here’s what Americans think. With J. Nagler, and J. A. Tucker. *The Washington Post Monkey Cage*, 2020

Why didn’t more congressional Republicans condemn Trump’s racist tweets about the ‘Squad’? This graph explains. *The Washington Post Monkey Cage*, 2019.

References

Jonathan Nagler, Professor of Politics and Data Science: jonathan.nagler@nyu.edu

Joshua A. Tucker, Professor of Politics and Data Science: joshua.tucker@nyu.edu

Yannis Theocharis, Chair of Digital Governance: yannis.theocharis@hfp.tum.de

Patrick J. Egan, Professor of Politics and Public Policy, patrick.egan@nyu.edu