

Karolina Nugumanova

Gender and Feminist Studies — Migration — Comparative Political Studies — Mix Methods

Scuola Normale Superiore

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Research Profile

I am a PhD candidate in political science and sociology specializing in the gendered dimensions of forced political displacement under conditions of war and authoritarianism. My research examines how emotions, political opportunity structures, and transnational repression shape the experiences, vulnerabilities, and civic engagement of politically displaced populations, with a particular focus on women migrants from post-2022 Russia. Methodologically, I combine large-scale panel surveys, experiments, and in-depth qualitative interviews to produce research with both academic and policy relevance for migration governance, protection frameworks, and gender justice initiatives.

Academic Appointments

Fellow , <i>Harvard University</i> , Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies Invited by Prof. Grzegorz Ekiert	Jan–April 2027
Visiting Research Fellow , <i>University of Tokyo</i> , Institute of Social Science Invited by Prof. Masaaki Higashijima	Apr–Aug 2026
Visiting Research Fellow , <i>Waseda University</i> , Faculty of Human Sciences Invited by Prof. Naoto Higuchi	Apr–Aug 2026

Education

PhD in Political Science and Sociology , Scuola Normale Superiore Academic advisors: Martín Portos García; Lorenzo Zamponi. Dissertation: <i>Gendered Mobilization in Exile: Understanding the Activism of Post-2022 Russian Emigrants through Emotions, Structure, and Movement Dynamics</i> .	Expected 2027
MA in Sociology , European University at St. Petersburg — Exchange Student, <i>Venice International University</i> (Feb–May 2021)	2020–2022
BA in Sociology , Novosibirsk State University	2016–2020

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

🔗 Nugumanova, K. Micromobilising Emotion: How Feminist Anti-War Resistance Builds Affective Infrastructure in Exile. <i>Communist and Post-Communist Studies</i> (SSCI, Scopus).	2026
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🌀 Nugumanova, K. “Great, Great Sorrow and Eternal Silence”: An Experiment in Sociological Dream Interpretation after February 24, 2022. *The February Journal*.

2023

Manuscripts Under Review / Advanced Stage

Nugumanova, K., Kamalov, E., & Sergeeva, I. *Moral Responsibility and the Reverse Gender Gap: Political Activism Among Russian Post-2022 Emigrants*.

Selected Works in Progress

Kamalov, E., Nugumanova, K., & Sergeeva, I. *Exposure to Transnational Repression and Political Engagement: Evidence from a Panel of Russian Exiles*. (panel survey, DiD, qualitative interviews)

Kamalov, E., Nugumanova, K., & Sergeeva, I. *Destination Preferences in Secondary Migration among Politically Induced Migrants from Authoritarian States: Evidence from a Conjoint Experiment*. (preregistered conjoint experiment)

Nugumanova, K. *The Gendered Opportunity Structure of Exile: How Host-Country Contexts Shape Migrant Political Participation*. (multilevel models, staggered DiD)

Kamalov, E., Nugumanova, K., & Sergeeva, I. *Methodological Innovations for Retaining Fearful Respondents in Panel Surveys*. (methodological paper; panel methodology)

Academic Positions and Research Projects

Principal Investigator, *The Science of Dreams* (1500+ respondents). 2022–present

Principal Investigator, *Media Literacy and Critical Thinking* (WOT-Foundation). 2021–2022

Investigator, *OutRush*, Panel Survey on Russian emigrants 2022–present

Co-Investigator, *Democracy in Exile* (DemEx Project, NSF-funded). 2024–present

Co-Investigator, *Feminist Anti-War Resistance in Exile* (55 interviews). 2023–2024

Researcher, *Building a Commons in the Russian Diaspora* (580 interviews). 2022–2023

Expert and Foresight Facilitator, *European Commission*. 2024–2025

Competitive Grants and Fellowships

Fellow, Harvard University, Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies 2027

Selected Participant, fully funded, ISA Laboratory for PhD Students in Sociology (7% acceptance rate), International Sociological Association, Doha, Qatar 2026

€74,000 — PhD Fellowship, PNRR (Italy), fully funded doctoral grant 2023–2027

€8,570 — MA Scholarship, European University at St. Petersburg 2020–2022

€5,895 — Mobility Research Grant, Scuola Normale Superiore 2023–2026

€4,458 — Visiting Fellow Grant, Scuola Normale Superiore 2026

€400 — SPS Summer Academy Travel Grant, European University Institute 2022

Awards and Prizes

National Sociology Olympiad (Russia) – Higher School of Economics	2020–2022
Silver Award (2022) – €1,500	
Bronze Award (2021) – €1,000	
Winner (2020) – honorary award	

Teaching and Guest Lectures

Invited Guest Lecture , <i>Waseda University, Tokyo</i> . “Emotions, War, and Political Action in Exile: Gendered Patterns of Mobilization among Migrants from Authoritarian Regimes.” [Event]	2026
Invited Guest Lecture , <i>University of Tokyo</i> . “Moral Responsibility and the Reverse Gender Gap: Political Activism among Russian Post-2022 Emigrants.”	2026
Guest Lecture , <i>Scuola Normale Superiore</i> , Political Behavior (MA and PhD Course). Session on gender inequalities in political participation. [Syllabus]	2025
Invited Guest Lecture , <i>European University at St. Petersburg</i> , GENDER-LIKBEZ 4.0 Summer School. “Gender Differences in Political and Civic Activism among Russian Migrants.”	2023

Research Reports and Analytical Publications

🔗 <i>On the Move: Mobility, Integration, and Dynamics of Russian Emigration in 2022–2024</i> , with Kamalov and Sergeeva.	2025
🔗 <i>From Russia to Latin America: Integration, Challenges, and Aspirations of Russian Post-2022 Emigrants</i> , with Kamalov and Sergeeva.	2025
🔗 <i>Men’s Words, Women’s Work: Exploring the Reverse Gender Gap in Post-2022 Russian Emigration. Russian Analytical Digest.</i>	2024
🔗 <i>Mapping and Gathering Russian Artists and Cultural Workers in Exile.</i>	2024
🔗 <i>One and a Half Years Later: Progress and Barriers in the Integration of Russian Emigrants.</i>	2024
🔗 <i>How do you sleep during the war? Posle Media.</i>	2023
🔗 <i>I had a dream about Putin. What war-time dreams tell us about reality. Republic (in Russian).</i>	2023

Selected Academic Conferences and Talks

APSA (American Political Science Association) , co-presenter & chair & discussant	2026
ECPR (European Consortium for Political Research) , presenter	2025, 2026
ASEEES Annual Convention , presenter & discussant & invited roundtable speaker	2024, 2025
ISA / ESA / AIS Gens Conference (Gender Studies) , presenter	2025
Aleksanteri Conference , University of Helsinki, presenter	2023, 2024
Russia Expert Seminar , European University Institute, invited speaker	2025
Migration and Diversity Workshop , ZoiS, Berlin, invited speaker	2025
Migration Working Group , European University Institute, presenter	2024
Gender, Peace and Security Workshop (acceptance rate 3%), British Institute of East Africa & University of Oslo & ERC, presenter	2025
LCSR Workshop on Comparative Values , Higher School of Economics, presenter	2024
Cross-Border Voices Workshop , ZoiS, Ilia State University, invited speaker	2024
Russian Journalists in Exile , University of Helsinki, Riga, invited speaker	2024
New Russian Exodus Seminar , Yerevan State University, invited speaker	2024

Professional Training and Methods Training

JSPS e-Learning Course on Research Ethics. Japan Society for the Promotion of Science	2026
Spring School on Democratic Backsliding and Political Conflicts , EUI & SNS	2026
GESIS Spring Seminar , Experimental Designs in Social and Behavioral Studies	2025
88-Hour Professional Career Track: Data Scientist with R , DataCamp	2022
CITI Program , Ethics in Human Research (Indiana University requirement)	2022
EUI SPS Summer Academy , “(In)equality, Democracy and Solidarity in Europe”	2022

Academic Service

Reviewer: *Politics & Gender*; *European Journal of Politics and Gender*; *Problems of Post-Communism*.

Professional Memberships: APSA (Comparative Politics; Democracy and Autocracy; Women, Gender, and Politics; Women’s Caucus for Political Science); ECPR; ASEEES.

Research Groups: MigraMove (Migrations, Movements and Borders) and Gender and Politics, Scuola Normale Superiore (2023–present).

Conference Service: APSA Chair (2026); APSA Panel Discussant (2026); ASEEES Panel Discussant (2025, 2026); European Graduate Network Discussant (2024).

Public Outreach and Engagement

Media Articles and Op-Eds	2022–present
Articles on war, migration, and political activism published in outlets including <i>Russian Analytical Digest</i> , <i>Republic</i> , <i>Posle Media</i> , and others	
Invited Speaker, Kovcheg Network (NGO for Russian Emigrants)	2023–present
Regular expert talks on migration, political displacement, and integration	
Guest, Podcasts and Radio Programs	2023–present
Regular guest appearances on platforms including <i>Meduza</i> and <i>SBS Radio</i>	

Co-host, Political Video Blog *Politica Zanovo* (Politics Anew)

2022

Co-host of a political analysis video blog focusing on contemporary Russian politics

Skills

Languages: Russian (native), English (advanced), Italian (intermediate).

Methods: multilevel modeling; panel surveys and conjoint experiments; qualitative interviews.

Software: R; $\text{\LaTeX}$; Qualtrics; Git; MaxQDA; AI-assisted research tools.

Research practice: ethical and trauma-informed interviewing and research with human subjects (CITI certification); participatory and feminist research methods; research with vulnerable and displaced populations; reproducible research; open science and research data management (certified by Scuola Normale Superiore).

Updated: June 2026