

Karolina Nugumanova

Political Science & Sociology

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Research Agenda

My research examines how gender, emotions, and political opportunity structures shape political participation and mobilization under authoritarianism and in exile. I combine large-scale survey data, panel studies, experiments, and qualitative interviews to study post-2022 Russian emigration, feminist anti-war activism, and emotional mechanisms of sustained political engagement.

My work contributes to political behavior, migration studies, and gender politics, with a particular focus on authoritarian contexts and transnational activism.

Academic Appointments

Visiting Research Fellow, Institute of Social Science, University of Tokyo 2026

Invited by Masaaki Higashijima.

Exchange Student, Globalisation Program, Venice International University 2021

Education

PhD in Political Science and Sociology, Scuola Normale Superiore Expected 2027

Academic advisors: Martín Portos García; Lorenzo Zamponi.

Dissertation: *Gendered Mobilization in Exile: Understanding the Activism of Post-2022 Russian Emigrants through Emotions, Structure, and Movement Dynamics*.

MA in Sociology, European University at St. Petersburg 2020–2022

BA in Sociology, Novosibirsk State University 2016–2020

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Nugumanova, Karolina. **Micromobilising Emotion: How Feminist Anti-War Resistance Builds Affective Infrastructure in Exile.** *Communist and Post-Communist Studies* (SSCI, Scopus), 2026.

Manuscripts Under Review / In Preparation

- Nugumanova, K., Kamalov, E., & Sergeeva, I. *Reverse Gender Gap in Transnational Activism: War-Driven Political Engagement Among Russian Post-2022 Emigrants*.
- Kamalov, E., Nugumanova, K., & Sergeeva, I. *Exposure to Transnational Repression and Political Engagement: Evidence from a Panel of Russian Exiles*.

Selected Works in Progress

- *Destination Preferences in Secondary Migration Among Politically Induced Migrants from Authoritarian States: Evidence from Conjoint Experiment*, with E. Kamalov and I. Sergeeva.
- *The Gendered Opportunity Structure of Exile: How Host-Country Contexts Shape Migrant Political Participation*.
- *Increasing Trust: Methodological Innovations for Retaining Fearful Respondents in Panel Surveys*, with E. Kamalov and I. Sergeeva.

Academic Positions and Research Projects

Principal Investigator, *The Science of Dreams* 2022–present

National mixed-methods survey ($N \approx 1,500$) on war-related dream narratives. Research cited in Russian and international media, including *Meduza*, *Republic*, *Paper*, *Posle Media*, *The Dial*, and others.

Principal Investigator, *WOT-Foundation* 2021–2022

Research and policy-oriented project *Media literacy and critical thinking among Russians*

Co-Investigator, *OutRush Panel Survey* 2022–present

Longitudinal panel study of Russian political emigrants ($N \approx 25,000$; 100+ countries), combining survey data, conjoint experiments, and qualitative modules. Funded by the European University Institute and the U.S. Russia Foundation. Research cited in 100+ Russian and international media including *The New York Times*, *Financial Times*, *Bloomberg*, *Al Jazeera*, *BBC*, and *Meduza*, among others.

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

NSF-funded mixed-methods project; George Washington University & Carleton University.

Co-Investigator, *A Study on Feminist Anti-War Resistance in Exile* 2023–2024

Qualitative interview-based study (60 in-depth interviews) with activists of the Feminist Anti-War Resistance movement abroad. Funded by the University of Oslo.

Research Assistant, *Building a Commons in the Russian Diaspora* 2022–2023

Large-scale qualitative project based on 580 in-depth interviews with post-2022 Russian migrants in Serbia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Armenia, Georgia, and Turkey.

Expert Consultant / Foresight Group Facilitator, *EU Public Diplomacy toward Russia* 2024–2025

European Commission-funded project on Russian emigration and cultural workers in exile.

Awarded Grants and Fellowships

- **PhD Fellowship** — PNRR (Italy), fully funded doctoral grant, **€74,000** (2023–2027).
- **Visiting Fellow Grant** — Scuola Normale Superiore, **€3,500** (2026).
- **Mobility Research Grant** — SNS, **€5,000** (2023–2025).
- **MA Scholarship** — European University at St. Petersburg, fully funded (2020–2022).
- **Russian National Sociology Olympiad Grant** — HSE & Yandex, awarded twice, **€2,500** (2021, 2022).

Participation in Funded Research Projects

- **Democracy in Exile (DemEx)** — National Science Foundation (NSF), multi-year collaborative research project, Researcher, with Marlene Laruelle et al. (2024–2026).

- **Mapping Opportunities for Social Infrastructure of Russian Anti-War Migration in Latin America** — U.S. Russia Foundation (USRF), funded research project, Researcher, with Vladimir Rouvinski et al. (2024).

Teaching and Guest Lectures

- Guest lecture (co-led session), *Political Behavior* — Scuola Normale Superiore, Florence (2025). Topic: Gender inequalities in political participation. [\[Syllabus\]](#)
- Guest lecture, Summer School *GENDER-LIKBEZ 4.0* — European University at St. Petersburg (2023). Topic: Gender differences in political and civic activism among Russian migrants.

Research Reports and Analytical Publications

- *On the Move: Mobility, Integration, and Dynamics of Russian Emigration in 2022–2024*, with Emil Kamalov and Ivetta Sergeeva (2025).
- *From Russia to Latin America: Integration, Challenges, and Aspirations of Russian Post-2022 Emigrants*, with Emil Kamalov and Ivetta Sergeeva (2025).
- *Men’s Words, Women’s Work: Exploring the Reverse Gender Gap in Post-2022 Russian Emigration*. *Russian Analytical Digest* (2024).
- *Mapping and Gathering Russian Artists and Cultural Workers in Exile* (2024).
- *One and a Half Years Later: Progress and Barriers in the Integration of Russian Emigrants* (2024).
- *‘Great, Great Sorrow and Eternal Silence’: An Experiment in Sociological Dream Interpretation after the 24th of February 2022*. *The February Journal* (2023).
- *How do you sleep during the war?* *Posle Media* (2023).
- *I had a dream about Putin. What war-time dreams tell us about reality*. *Republic* (2023, in Russian).

Selected Academic Conferences

- European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR), Thessaloniki (2025)
- ASEES Annual Convention (Boston 2024, Washington, DC 2025)
- Aleksanteri Conference, University of Helsinki (2023, 2024)
- Gens Conference: International Conference on Gender Studies (ISA / ESA / Italian SA), Stintino (2025)
- International Conference “(In)Visible Russian (Anti-)War Migration,” Warsaw (2024)
- International Conference “Problematizing Migration: Mobility and Vulnerabilization in an Age of Inequalities,” Palermo (2023)

Selected Workshops and Invited Talks

- Gender, Peace and Security: Resistance and Resilience, BIEA Nairobi (2025)
- Mobility and Diversity: War-Induced Russian Migration since February 2022, ZOiS, Berlin (2025)
- Russia’s Outlook in the New Geopolitical Reality, Russia Expert Seminar, European University Institute (2025)

- Spring School Democratic Backsliding and Political Conflict, European University Institute and Scuola Normale Superiore (2026, upcoming)
- Migration Working Group, European University Institute (2024)
- LCSR International Workshop “Recent Advances in Comparative Study of Values” (online, 2024)
- Cross-Border Voices: Emigration, Gender, and Activism after the Russian Invasion of Ukraine, ZOIS / EDRAM, Ilia State University, Tbilisi (2024)
- Cross-Border Repression and Solidarity among Russian Exiles, Riga (2024)
- Armenia in Focus: A Safer Haven for Russians — New Russian Exodus and Host Societies: Impacts and Responses, Yerevan State University, Yerevan (2024)

Academic Service

- Reviewer (invited), *European Journal of Politics and Gender* (Q1)
- Reviewer, *Problems of Post-Communism* (SSCI-indexed). 2025 - present.
- Conference discussant: ASEEEES (2025); European Graduate Network (2024).

Public Outreach and Engagement

Media articles and op-eds on war, migration, and activism, including <i>Posle Me-</i> <i>dia, Republic</i>	2022–present
Invited speaker, Kovcheg Network (NGO for Russian emigrants) — expert talks on migration and integration	2023–2025
Guest, podcasts and radio programs, including <i>Meduza</i> , SBS Russian Radio	2023–2025
Co-host, political video blog <i>Politica Zanovo (Politics Anew)</i>	2022

Skills

- **Languages:** Russian (native), English (advanced), Italian (intermediate).
- **Methods:** multilevel modeling; panel data; survey and conjoint experiments; Blinder–Oaxaca decomposition; qualitative interviews.
- **Software:** R, L^AT_EX, Qualtrics, Git, MaxQDA.
- **Research practice:** reproducible research; open science and research data management (certified by Scuola Normale Superiore); intersectional feminist methodology; ethical research with human subjects (CITI certification)

Updated: January 2026