

DARIA KRAVETS-MEINKE

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political Communication
Algorithmic bias
Artificial intelligence
Computational Social Sciences

EDUCATION

Dec 2019 – current

PhD Candidate in Political Communication
University of Passau, Germany

Running title: *Search Engines as Mediators of Foreign Influence: A Case-Study of Russia's News Flows Abroad through the Search Engines Google and Yandex*

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Florian Toepfl

2016 – 2019

MA Media and Political Communication, Grade: 1,3
Freie Universität Berlin, Germany

2017 – 2018

MA Global Media Communication (Exchange semester)
University of Melbourne, Australia

2013 – 2016

BA Media and Communication Studies, Grade: 1,5
Minor in Computer Science
Freie Universität Berlin, Germany

2012 – 2013

Studienkolleg, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany
German university entrance qualification

2010 – 2012

BA Social Work (4 semesters)
Minor in Public Relations
National University of "Kyiv-Mohyla Academy", Ukraine

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Dec 2019 – current

Researcher
University of Passau, Germany
ERC Consolidator Grant Research Group
"The Consequences of the Internet for Russia's Informational Influence Abroad" (RUSINFORM)

Jan 2023 – Feb 2023

Visiting Fellow, Queensland University of Technology (QUT),
Australia. Chair of Prof. Dr. Alex Bruns

Oct 2020 – Sep 2023

Teaching Assistant
University of Passau, Germany

Chair of Science Communication

Jun 2019 – Nov 2019

Researcher

Freie Universität Berlin, Germany

Institute for Media and Communication Studies
Emmy-Noether Research Group “Mediating (Semi-)
Authoritarianism: The Power of the Internet in the post-Soviet
Space” (Project Completion)

Jan 2015 – May 2019

Student Research Assistant

Freie Universität Berlin, Germany

Institute for Media and Communication Studies
Emmy-Noether Research Group “Mediating (Semi-)
Authoritarianism: The Power of the Internet in the post-Soviet
Space”

Sep 2016 – Mar 2018

Student Research Assistant

Goefak Media Research Institute, Berlin, Germany

Television Analysis Project (Content analysis), Prof. Dr. Trebbe

TEACHING

Oct 2020 – current

“Programming in Python for Communication Science” (WS
23/24)

“Programming in R for Communication Science” (WS 21/22;
WS 22/23)

Course Syllabus: <https://github.com/polcomm-passau/computational-methods-kurs>

“Methods 2: Survey Methodology and Experiment” (SoSe
21/SoSe 23)

“Search Engines and Search Engine Bias” (WS 20/21)

Lecturer

University of Passau, Germany

Oct 2019 – Apr 2020

“Web Scraping for Social Sciences”

Advanced Project Leader

Technical University of Berlin, Germany

2016 – 2019

“Introduction to Communication Science”

Tutor, 2 bi-weekly classes per semester for 5 semesters

Freie Universität Berlin, Germany

FURTHER EDUCATION & ACHIEVEMENTS

Mai 2023 – current

Mentee of MentUP+ Program at Uni Passau, Mentor: Prof. Dr.
Mario Haim, LMU

Sep 2023	GESIS Fall Seminar in Computational Social Science “From Embeddings to Transformers- Advanced Text Analysis with Python”
2022-2023	DAAD Project-Related Personal Exchange with Queensland University of Technology (QUT), Australia. Supervisors: Florian Toepfl & Axel Bruns (25,000 Euro)
May 2022	ICA 2022 Hackathon, Paris, France
Jul 2021, 2023	Data Science Summer School, Hertie School Data Science Lab
Sep 2020	Workshop “Topic Modeling in R”, GESIS
Oct-Nov 2019	Course “Python Programming for Machine Learning”, Technical University of Berlin (3 ECTS)
Jul 2019	Lehre+ Zertifikat - Grundlagenmodul (60 Stunden)
May 2019	ICA 2019 Pre-Conference / Workshop “Deep learning for automated image analysis”, Washington, D.C., USA
Nov 2018	Workshop “Data analysis and programming with Python”, Freie University of Berlin, Germany
Jul 2018	Digital Methods Summer School 2018, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands, 6 ECTS
Jun 2017	PROMOS Scholarship (DAAD), German Government Programme (3,500 Euro)
Dec 2016	TOEFL IBT Test in English (112 Points out of 120)
2008 - 2009	Scholarship from the US Department of State, exchange year in Iowa, USA, program "FLEX" (Future Leaders Exchange Program)

SKILLS

Computer skills	Python, R, SPSS, CMS, Gephi, Java, C++, PHP & MySQL, HTML, CSS, Django
Language skills	Ukrainian, Russian - native speaker English, German - fluent Spanish, Belarusian - basic knowledge

CONFERENCES

Nov 2023	ZOiS Conference 2023, Paradigms in Times of War: Unpacking Research and Policy Challenges, Berlin (Presenting Participant – <i>Award Best Student Presentation</i>)
Oct 2023	9th Annual Conference of the International Journal of Press/Politics, Edinburgh, UK (Presenting Participant)
May 2022	72 nd Annual Conference of International Communication Association (ICA) 2022, Paris, France (Presenting Participant)
Jan 2021	Seminar Series “Political Communication in Russia, Eastern Europe and Eurasia”, University of Passau (Presenting Participant)
Sep 2020	General Online Research (GOR) Conference 2020, HTW Berlin, Germany (Non-Presenting Participant)
Nov 2019	DigiKomm2019 Conference “Automating Communication in the Networked Society: Contexts, Consequences, Critique”, Berlin, Germany (Presenting Participant)
Jun 2019	Workshop "Theorizing Publics under Authoritarian Rule", FU Berlin, Germany (Organizer & Non-Presenting Participant)
May 2019	69 th Annual Conference of International Communication Association (ICA) 2019, Washington, D.C., USA
Apr 2019	7 th International Conference Comparative Media Studies in Today's World, St. Petersburg, Russia (Presenting Participant)

PUBLICATIONS

Kravets, D. (in review). News *On the Side*: Yandex's Top-5 News As a Tool of Russia's Propaganda Abroad. *International Journal of Press/Politics*.

Kravets, D. (in press). Search engines as 'globalizing machines': International news flow through Google during the 2020 Belarusian presidential election. *International Journal of Communication*.

Kravets, D., Ryzhova, A., Toepfl, F., & Beseler, A. (2023). Different Platforms, Different Plots? The Kremlin-Controlled Search Engine Yandex as a Resource for Russia's Informational Influence in Belarus During the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Journalism*.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/146488492311578>

Toepfl, F., Ryzhova, A., Kravets, D., & Beseler, A. (2023). Googling in Russian Abroad: How Kremlin-Affiliated Websites Contribute to the Visibility of COVID-19 Conspiracy Theories in Search Results. *International Journal of Communication*, 17, 1126–1146.

<https://ijoc.org/index.php/ijoc/article/view/19423/4042>

Toepfl, F., Kravets, D., Ryzhova, A., & Beseler, A. (2022). Who are the plotters behind the pandemic? Comparing Covid-19 conspiracy theories in Google search results across five key target countries of Russia's foreign communication. *Information, Communication & Society*, 1-19. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1369118X.2022.2065213>

Kravets, D., & Toepfl, F. (2022). Gauging Reference and Source Bias Over Time: How Russia's Partially State-Controlled Search Engine Yandex Mediated an Anti-Regime Protest Event. *Information, Communication & Society* 25(15), 2207-2223.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/1369118X.2021.1933563>