Zarine Kharazian

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EDUCATION

Ph.D.   Human Centered Design & Engineering, University of Washington, 2021–

B.A.   Government and French & Francophone Studies, *summa cum laude and highest honors*, College of William & Mary, 2017

PUBLICATIONS

Journals and Conference Proceedings

2024   Miyashita, Naomi, **Zarine Kharazian**, and Laura De Backer. "Through the Looking Glass: How Disinformation Undermines UN Peacekeeping in the Central African Republic." *Under Review at International Peacekeeping*.

2024   **Kharazian, Zarine**, Kate Starbird, and Benjamin Mako Hill. "Governance Capture in a Self-Governing Community: A Qualitative Comparison of the Croatian, Serbian, Bosnian, and Serbo-Croatian Wikipedias." *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction* 8, CSCW1, Article 61 (April 2024), 36 pages. https://doi.org/10.1145/3637338

2023   Prochaska, Stephen, Kayla Duskin, **Zarine Kharazian**, Carly Minow, Stephanie Blucker, Sylvie Venuto, Jevin West, and Kate Starbird. "Mobilizing Manufactured Reality: How Participatory Disinformation Shaped Deep Stories to Catalyze Action during the 2020 U.S. Presidential Election."*Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction* 7, CSCW1, Article 140 (April 2023), 39 pages. https://doi.org/10.1145/3579616

2017   **Kharazian, Zarine**. "Yet Another French Exception: The Political Dimensions of France's Support for the Right to be Forgotten." *European Data Protection Law Review* 3.4. doi:10.21552/edpl/2017/4/7

Selected Reports and Other Publications

2024   **Kharazian, Zarine**, Madeline Jalbert, and Saloni Dash. "Our field was built on decades-old bodies of research across a range of disciplines. It wasn't invented by a 'class of misinformation experts' in 2016." Center For an Informed Public. https://www.cip.uw.edu/2024/01/24/misinformation-field-research/

2022   Prochaska, Stephen, Kayla Duskin, Sarah Nguyen, **Zarine Kharazian**, Joey Schafer, Kate Starbird, and Mike Caulfield. "Voting Rights Legislation Framed to Support Election Conspiracy Theories About Non-citizens Voting." Election Integrity Partnership. https://www.eipartnership.net/blog/non-citizen-voting-conspiracy-theory

2020   **Kharazian, Zarine**, and Tessa Knight. "Facebook removes inauthentic assets linked to the Philippine military." DFRLab. Sep. 22. https://dfrlab.org/2020/09/22/facebook-removes-inauthentic-assets-linked-to-the-philippine-military/

2020   **Kharazian, Zarine** "Patriotic astroturfing in the Azerbaijan-Armenia Twitter war." DFRLab. Jul. 21.
https://dfrlab.org/2020/07/21/patriotic-astroturfing-in-the-azerbaijan-armenia-twitter-war/

2020   **Kharazian, Zarine** "Walkthrough: Tracking the spread of the debunked Plandemic video." DFRLab Data Memo. https://dfrlab.github.io/Plandemic/

2020   Brooking, Emerson, Alyssa Kann, and **Zarine Kharazian**. "Disinformation about 'antifa' provides fodder for foreign propagandists." DFRLab. Jun. 10.
https://dfrlab.org/2020/07/17/disinformation-about-antifa-provides-fodder-for-foreign-propagandists/

2020   **Kharazian, Zarine**, and Tessa Knight. "Why the debunked COVID-19 conspiracy video 'Plandemic' won't go away." DFRLab Medium Post. May 14.
https://medium.com/dfrlab/why-the-debunked-covid-19-conspiracy-video-plandemic-wont-go-away-c9dd36c2037c

2019   **Kharazian, Zarine**. "The Cloud Act: Arguments For and Against." *International Enforcement Law Reporter* 34.4.

2017   **Kharazian, Zarine** "Justice Department and Microsoft Set to Square Off in Supreme Court Before Landmark Data Privacy Case." *International Enforcement Law Reporter* 34.4.

PRESENTATIONS

2023   "Chasing shadows: Responding to Mis-/Disinformation in Peace Operations." Center for International Peace Operations. Berlin, Germany. November 16. Panelist.

2023   "Fête de la Recherche." William & Mary Department of French & Francophone Studies. Williamsburg, Virgina. October 27. Alumni Guest Speaker.

2023   "Explaining Country-Level Variation in Governments' Takedown Requests to Google, 2011-2022." Stanford Trust & Safety Research Conference 2023. Stanford, CA. September 28. Lightning Talk.

2023   "What makes some wiki communities more subject to governance capture?" Wikimania 2023. Online. Aug 15. Lightning Talk.

2023   "Governance Capture in a Self-Governing Community: A Qualitative Analysis of Serbo-Croatian Wikipedias." Wiki Workshop 2023. Online. May 11.

2021   "Vaccines as an Instrument of Influence." Panelist. Digital Communication Network. Online. Apr 22.

2021   "Anti-Western, Anti-Liberal Moods in the Caucasus in 2020." Panelist. Media Initiatives Center. Online. Feb 5.

2020   "The domestic disinformation campaign on 'antifa' and its interactions with foreign influence operations." Understanding Information Operations with Twitter Data Workshop Series, Carnegie Partnership for Countering Influence Operations. Online. Nov 17.

2020   "Debunked! How Investigators at BuzzFeed and DFRLab Use CrowdTangle to Hunt Misinfo." Panelist. Annual Investigative Reporters and Editors Conference. Online. Sep 21-25.

2018   "The Political Dimensions of France's Support for the Online Right to be Forgotten." Computers, Data Protection, and Privacy Conference. Brussels, Belgium. Jan 24-26.

TEACHING

Directed Research Groups

I have led or co-led the following "Directed Research Groups" (DRGs) within the Department of Human-Centered Design & Engineering. DRGs are organized as small, project-based classes students enroll in for 2-3 credits.

2023   Directed Research Group on political communication and mobilization on Telegram during the 2022 U.S. midterm elections. 2 students; organized with Kate Starbird; HCDE 496/596. Fall Quarter

2022   Directed Research Group on disinformation risks on Wikipedia language editions. 4 students; organized with Benjamin Mako Hill; HCDE 496/596. Spring Quarter

Facilitated Workshops and Public Trainings

I have developed and conducted the following interactive workshops on online open-source investigation and analysis for journalists, members of civil society, and researchers.

2021   "Tracking Disinformation in an Armenian Context." Bellingcat Digital Showcases. Online. Apr. 20.

2020-21 DFRLab Digital Sherlocks 360/OS Sessions. Online.

Information Operations 101
Social Network Visualization in Gephi
Intro to R and RStudio
Investigating Information Operations on Facebook
Investigating Information Operations on Twitter

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Awards and Honors

2018   Young Scholar's Award Finalist, European Data Protection Law Review (sole undergraduate)

2017   Phi Beta Kappa

Dean's List, every eligible semester

Grants and Fellowships

2024   Center for an Informed Public Innovation Fund. ($19,487). Co-applicant for "Identifying and Modeling Information Integrity Threats to Online Knowledge Commons" with PI Benjamin Mako Hill

2016–17 McCormack Reboussin Scholarship. ($12,000). William & Mary French Department. Awarded to an outstanding French major to fund senior honors thesis research

2014   Charles Center Research Scholarship ($3,000). William & Mary. Funded summer research in political psychology

SERVICE

2023-24   Reviewer, ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI), Computer-Supported Cooperative Work & Social Computing (CSCW)

2023   Senior Research Scientist Hiring Committee, Center for an Informed Public

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Fall 2021-   **Center for an Informed Public**, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
Graduate Research Assistant

2021   **Community Data Science Collective**, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
Graduate Research Assistant (Winter Quarter)

2019–21   **Digital Forensic Research Lab, Atlantic Council**, Washington, D.C.
Associate Editor, 2021
Assistant Editor, 2019-20

2017–19   **Berliner Corcoran & Rowe LLP**, Washington, D.C.
Legal Assistant/Editor

2014–17   **Social Networks and Political Psychology Lab**, Williamsburg, VA
Research Assistant

2016   **Center of International Studies, Sciences-Po**, Paris, France
Spring Research Intern

2014   **Mark Warner for Senate**, Alexandria, VA
Summer Research Fellow

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

2022   BIGSSS Summer School in Computational Social Science: Social Cohesion. Department of Sociology, University of Groningen. Groningen, Netherlands. Jul 4-15.

SELECTED MEDIA COVERAGE

2020   *CNBC*. "How the 2020 election war on bots and trolls differs from 2016." Oct 27.

2020   *Washington Post*. "Facebook deletes several fake Chinese accounts targeting Trump and Biden, in first takedown of its kind." Sep 22.

2020   *New York Times*. "A playbook for combating QAnon." Aug 20.

2020   *European Science Media Hub*. "Infodemic Exclusive Interviews: Zarine Kharazian from Digital Forensic Research Lab about research on Covid-19 disinformation." Jul 23.

2020   *CBC*. "How a debunked COVID-19 video kept spreading after Facebook and YouTube took it down." May 21.

Updated May 2024