

# RAUSHAN ZHANDAYEVA

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## ACADEMIC POSITION

**George Washington University**, Washington, D.C.

*Postdoctoral Fellow*, Institute for Data, Democracy, and Politics

- PI: Ethan Porter

## EDUCATION

**George Washington University**, Washington, D.C.

*Doctor of Philosophy*, Political Science, May 2026 (expected)

- Fields: Comparative Politics, Quantitative Methods
- Dissertation: “Essays in Political Communication during International Crises: The Case of the War in Ukraine.”
- Committee: Henry Hale (chair), Ethan Porter, Harris Mylonas

*Master of Arts*, Political Science, May 2023

**University of Notre Dame**, Notre Dame, IN

*Master of Arts*, Global Affairs, GPA: 3.92/4.00, May 2020

- Specialization: Public Policy

**Nazarbayev University**, Astana, Kazakhstan

*Bachelor of Arts*, Political Science and International Relations, *cum laude*, June 2018

- Exchange Semester: California State University - Bakersfield, U.S. State Department Scholarship, GPA: 4.00/4.00, Fall 2016

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Zhandayeva, Raushan. “Does Affective Intelligence Theory Generalize? Evidence from the Russia-Ukraine War”. *American Journal of Political Science* (Accepted, minor revisions).

Chapman, Hannah S., and **Raushan Zhandayeva**. “Elite Narratives and State Response to Kazakhstan’s Qandy Qantar Protests”. *Communist and Post-Communist Studies* (2025): 1-15.

Chapman, Hannah S., and **Raushan Zhandayeva**. “Public Opinion toward Russia’s War against Ukraine: Investigating Wartime Attitudes in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan”. *Post-Soviet Affairs* 41, no. 1 (2025): 1-24.

Porter, Ethan, R. Bailey Scott, Thomas J. Wood, and **Raushan Zhandayeva**. “Correcting Misinformation about the Russia-Ukraine War Reduces False Beliefs but Does not Change Views about the War”. *PLoS ONE* 19, no. 9 (2024): e0307090.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

Zhandayeva, Raushan. “Human Mobility in Central Asia: Defining and Redefining Identity”. *Forthcoming in Routledge Volume* (2026).

## BOOK REVIEWS

Zhandayeva, Raushan. 2024. “Slow Anti-Americanism: Social Movements and Symbolic Politics in Central Asia by Edward Schatz.” *Central Asian Survey* 43 (3): 441–43.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

Zhandayeva, Raushan. “Strategic Narratives during War: Topic Modeling Russian and Western Media Coverage of Russia’s War on Ukraine”. *Under Review*.

Chapman, Hannah S. and **Raushan Zhandayeva**. “The Ukraine Effect: Evolving Perceptions of Russia, China, and the West in Central Asia”. *Under Review*.

Lenton, Adam and **Raushan Zhandayeva**. “The Enemy of My Enemy: Populism, Political Communication, and Perceptions of the Russia–Ukraine War in India”.

Porter, Ethan, Meet Daxini, Nina Ebensperger, **Raushan Zhandayeva**, Peng Wei, Xiaoke Zhang. “Do Social Media News Feeds Affect Political Beliefs? Maybe Not”.

Umanets, Valeria, Dima Kortukov, Dmitrii Kofanov, **Raushan Zhandayeva**. “In the Shadow of Communism: Political Responsiveness in Post-Soviet Kazakhstan”.

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

**Zhandayeva, Raushan** and Aliya Askar. “Kazakhstan’s Ambitious Goals Must Include the Eradication of Systemic Violence Against Women”. *Vlast.kz*. May 2024.

Chapman, Hannah and **Raushan Zhandayeva**. “Attitudes towards Russia’s War on Ukraine in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan”. *PONARS Eurasia*. December 2023.

**Zhandayeva, Raushan** and Rachael Rosenberg. “Kazakhstan’s Bloody January: Digital Repression on the New Silk Road”. *Toda Peace Institute*. November 2022.

**Zhandayeva, Raushan** and Alimana Zhanmukanova. “Kazakhstan’s Instability Has Been Building for Years”. *Foreign Policy*. January 2022.

Khashimov, Sher and **Raushan Zhandayeva**. “Kazakhstan’s Vibrant Alternative Media is Thriving - and in Danger”. *Foreign Policy*. July 2021.

Simpson, Natalie, **Raushan Zhandayeva**, Sher Khashimov, Samuel Elzinga. “Revolution and Rising Discontent: An Update on the Central Asia Protest Tracker”. *The Oxus Society for Central Asian Affairs*. January 2021.

Khashimov, Sher, **Raushan Zhandayeva**, Kymbat Nuranova, Zhibek Aisarina. “Introducing the Central Asia Migration Tracker”. *The Oxus Society for Central Asian Affairs*. December 2020.

## INVITED TALKS

“Computational Text Analysis of Russian-Language Media: Text-as-Data, Topic Modeling, and Sentiment Analysis”, Russia Program - Digital Methods School, George Washington University, April 2026

“The Ukraine Effect: How Russia’s War in Ukraine Reshaped Attitudes toward Foreign Powers in Central Asia” with Hannah S. Chapman, Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia, New York University, March 2026

“Living Intersectionality in Academia: Emerging Scholars”, Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies, University of Pittsburgh, January 2022

“What is Happening to Kazakhstan”, Royal Society for Asian Affairs and Oxus Society for Central Asian Affairs, January 2022

“A Week that Changed Kazakhstan Forever. What’s Next?”, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Twitter Spaces, January 2022

“What’s Going on in Kazakhstan?”, The Inquiry, BBC World Service, January 2022

## CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

**2026:** Workshop on Contemporary Ukrainian Politics (Petrarch Program on Ukraine at George Washington University), DC Area Postcommunist Politics Social Science Workshop

**2025:** College of International Studies 2025 Symposium (University of Oklahoma), Russia Program Conference (George Washington University), Association for the Study

of Nationalities World Convention, Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Convention

**2024:** Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Russia Program Conference (George Washington University), LAPOP Lab Summer School (Vanderbilt University), American Political Science Association Annual Meeting

**2023:** DC Area Postcommunist Politics Social Science Workshop, Association for the Study of Nationalities World Convention, Graduate Student Research Conference on Eurasia in the Social Sciences (UNC-Chapel Hill), Graduate Student Conference on Central Asia (Harvard University), Graduate Student Conference for the Study of Europe and Central Asia (University of Pittsburgh)

**2022:** Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Convention, Comparative Politics Research Workshop (George Washington University)

**2019:** Graduate Student Conference for the Study of Europe and Central Asia (University of Pittsburgh)

**2018:** The European and Eurasian Undergraduate Research Symposium (University of Pittsburgh)

**RESEARCH ASSISTANCE**

**George Washington University**

Dr. Ethan Porter, Summer 2023, Spring - Summer 2024

Dr. David Szakoni, Summer 2021

**University of Notre Dame**

Dr. Susanne Wengle, March 2020 - October 2021

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Instructor of Record, George Washington University**

Politics of Information, Fall 2025

**Teaching Assistant, George Washington University**

Nationalism, Instructor: Dr. Harris Mylonas, Spring 2025

Intro to International Affairs, Instructor: Dr. Alex Downes, Fall 2021, Fall 2023

Intro to International Affairs, Instructor: Dr. Michael Brown, Fall 2022, Spring 2023

Intro to Comparative Politics, Instructor: Dr. Bruce Dickson, Spring 2020

Intro to Comparative Politics, Instructor: Dr. Kimberley Morgan, Fall 2020

**GRANTS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS**

Dean's Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, George Washington University (\$14,150), Spring 2026

Dean's Graduate Lectureship, Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, George Washington University (\$14,150), Fall 2025

Summer Fellowship, Institute for Data, Democracy, and Politics, George Washington University (\$2,500), Summer 2024

PhD Student Fellowship, Institute of European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies, George Washington University (\$2,000), Spring - Summer 2024

Visiting Scholar Fellowship, Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia, New York University, September 2023 - August 2025

ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods Grant, George Washington University (\$3,500), July - August 2023

Travel and Accommodation Grant, UNLEASH Global Innovation Lab, November 2019

Professional Development Award, University of Notre Dame (\$500), June 2019

Donald and Marilyn Keough Fellowship, University of Notre Dame (\$73,600/year), August 2018 - May 2020

US Government Alumni Small Grants Program, US Embassy in Kazakhstan (\$7,000), July 2018

Global Undergraduate Exchange Scholarship, US State Department (\$20,000), August 2016 – December 2016

Fully Funded Government Scholarship, Nazarbayev University, August 2014 - June 2018

## **ADDITIONAL TRAINING**

**Bridging the Gap**, University of Denver, Denver, CO  
*New Era Workshop*, October 2024

**LAPOP Lab**, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN  
*Summer School in International Survey Methods*, June 2024

**Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research**, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI  
*Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research*, July - August 2023

## **SKILLS**

**Analytics:** R Studio, Python, Qualtrics, LaTeX, Stata, SQL, ArcGIS, Tableau

**Languages:** English (fluent), Russian (fluent), Kazakh (fluent), Spanish (intermediate)

**Field Research Experience:** Kazakhstan, India, Mexico

**Additional Certification:** IBM Data Science Professional Certificate, Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models

## **REFERENCES**

### **Henry Hale**

Professor of Political Science and International Affairs  
George Washington University  
hhale@gwu.edu

### **Ethan Porter**

Associate Professor of Media and Public Affairs and of Political Science  
George Washington University  
evporter@gwu.edu

### **Harris Mylonas**

Associate Professor of Political Science and International Affairs  
George Washington University  
mylonas@gwu.edu