

IGOR TKALEC, M.A.

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PERSONAL STATEMENT

A doctoral researcher in the field of international political economy and governance with strong interest in data management and analysis. Strong skills in statistical modelling and machine learning techniques with application to social science phenomena. Team player, fast learner, adaptable, dedicated to sharing and spreading ideas and knowledge.

WORK EXPERIENCE

- Research Scholar – The Europaeum**
- January 2018 – September 2019, Oxford, UK
- Project: *Fuel Poverty in the EU - macro and micro level analysis*
 - Institutions: University of Oxford, Geneva Graduate Institute, Leiden University, Charles University Prague
 - Research tracks: growth, sustainability, inclusion, identity
- Doctoral Researcher – University of Luxembourg**
- January 2017 - present
Belval, Luxembourg
- Conducting joint and independent research
 - Collecting, organizing, and analysing data
 - Presenting results and other research at conferences/academic journals
- Guest Editor – Journal of Contemporary Political Research (JCER)**
- April 2018- June 2019
- Editing of a special issue titled *New Conceptual and Methodological Developments in the Study of EU Economic Governance*
- Analyst (European Social Policy) – European Policy Network (POLITHEOR)**
- June - December 2017
- Conducting independent research in EU social policy realm
 - Writing and publishing op-ed texts (policy advocacy writing)
- Writer for ADV (A Different View) blog - IAPSS (International Association for Political Science Students)**
- 2015
Zagreb, Croatia
- Writing individual blog pieces, using relevant literature in political science
 - Editing, revising, and reviewing work based on the peer-provided feedback
- Undergraduate Research assistant – University of Zagreb**
- April-July 2015
Zagreb, Croatia
- Project: *EU Prime Ministers' Post-Power Pathways*
 - Plan and undertake the research project data collection
 - Collect, input and analyse collected data
 - Collaboration with fellow research assistants and the supervisor

EDUCATION

- 2017-present
Belval,
Luxembourg
- Doctoral Candidate (Ph.D.) in Political Science, University of Luxembourg**
- Research Unit: Institute of Political Science (IPSE)
 - Doctoral training unit: Enforcement in Multi-Level Regulatory Systems (DTU REMS)
 - Field: Political economy/ Governance of the European Union
 - Thesis: *Supranational policy coordination and social outcomes: the case of pension adequacy in the Euro area*
 - Supervisor: Professor David Howarth
- June-July 2019
Ann Arbor,
MI, USA
- ICPSR Summer Programme in Quantitative Methods**
- Host institution: University of Michigan
 - Courses: Regression II; Machine Learning
 - Instructors: Professor Tim McDaniel; Professor Christophe Hare
- August 2018
St. Petersburg,
Russia
- IPSA Summer Programme in Research Methods**
- Host institution: National Research University, Higher School of Economics
 - Courses: Case study analysis I (2 ECTS); Case study analysis II (2 ECTS)
 - Instructor: Professor Cameron Thies
- July-August
2017
Budapest,
Hungary
- ECPR Summer Programme in Research Methods and Techniques**
- Host institution: Central European University
 - Course: Qualitative Comparative Analysis and Fuzzy Sets (6 ECTS)
 - Host institutions: University of Bamberg
 - Course: Advanced Topic in Set-Theoretic Methods (3 ECTS)
 - Instructors: Professor Patrick Mello; Professor Carsten Schneider
- March 2018,
Bamberg,
Germany
- 2015/2016
Budapest,
Hungary
- With Merit Master of Arts (Political Science), Central European University**
- Study emphases: comparative politics, research methodology, EU politics
 - Master's thesis: *Comparing political parties through varieties of capitalisms*
 - Overall GPA: 3.46 on 4.00 scale
- 2011/2015
Zagreb,
Croatia
- Summa Cum Laude Bachelor of Arts (Political Science), University of Zagreb**
- Study emphases: comparative and international political economy, public policy
 - GPA: 4.83 on 5.00 scale
- 2014
Vilnius,
Lithuania
- Erasmus+ Student Mobility Bachelor of Arts (Political Science), Vilnius University**
- Study emphases: comparative politics, post-Soviet area, Russian studies
 - GPA: 9.8 on 10.00 scale

TEACHING

MA Program in European Governance,
University of Luxembourg

Research Techniques in Political Science (winter semester)
International Political Economy (winter semester)
Political Economy of European Integration (summer semester)

Doctoral workshop/seminar, Doctoral
School in Social Sciences and Humanities,
University of Luxembourg

Introduction to Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) (May
and December 2018)

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Europaeum Association	Europaeum Scholars Program scholarship
University of Luxembourg	Luxembourg National Research Fund (FNR) grant
Central European University	Partial CEU Fellowship for the academic year 2015/2016 Certificate of specialization in comparative politics
University of Zagreb	Scholarship for academic excellence 2014/2015 Erasmus+ Student Mobility Program Scholarship 2014 Dean's Award for the best student at the Faculty of Political Science 2013/2014 City Council Scholarship for academic excellence 2011-2015

DATA ANALYSIS SKILLS

Method	Level	Software
Linear regression	Advanced/Intermediate	R, SPSS, JMP
Time series	Advanced/Intermediate	R
Machine learning – classification and regression decision trees; artificial neural networks (ANN); cluster analysis (hierarchical and K-means)	Advanced/Intermediate	R, JMP
Social Network Analysis (SNA)	Advanced/Intermediate	Gephi, UCINET
Text mining	Intermediate	R
Qualitative and quantitative content analysis	Advanced	MAXQDA
Configurational methods - Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA)	Advanced	R, fsQCA, Tosmana
Comparative case study	Advanced	/

Selection of Professional certificates (e-learning)

- Data Science and Machine Learning R Bootcamp (UC-BUKPSN2N)
- Applied Statistical Modelling in R (UC-W0XWORVL)
- Time series and forecasting in R (UC-6JBUXTS)
- Regression, Data Mining, Text Mining, Forecasting using R (UC-U1WG45OB)
- Regression Analysis (UC-KB0B76UH)
- Introduction to Probability and Data (RALGPHGFERVS)

Language skills

Croatian – native; *English* – full professional proficiency; *Slovak* – limited professional proficiency; *Russian* – limited professional proficiency; *French* – elementary

PUBLICATIONS

Academic (peer reviewed):

Chang, Michele, Martin Sacher and Igor Tkalec (2019). “Recent Changes in EU Economic Governance: Methodological and Institutional Dynamics.” *Journal of Contemporary European Research* 15 (2), 134-142.

Tkalec, Igor (2019). “The Council’s amendments to the Country-Specific Recommendations (CSRs): more than just cosmetics?” *Journal of Contemporary European Research* 15 (2), 212-227.

Tkalec, Igor (2017). “The Interplay between Active Ageing and Silver Economy – a QCA Analysis.” *Cahiers RESuME*. DOI: 10.25517/RESuME-7a5wfzd-2018.

Tkalec, Igor (2017). “Prikaz knjige: Dermot Hodson: Governing the Euro Area in Good Times and Bad.” *Mali Levijatan*, 4 (1), 135-138.

Op-eds for general public:

Pension Reform in Croatia: better be safe and sorry. *POLITHEOR* ([link](#))

Beware: Nobody Wants to be lonely. *POLITHEOR* ([link](#))

Closing the pension gap – pan-European Personal Pension. *POLITHEOR* ([link](#))

European Unemployment Insurance Scheme – a good initiative missing proper foundation. *POLITHEOR* ([link](#))

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS (active participation)

Presenter: QCA Paper Development Workshop; May 2019; Antwerp School of Management; paper title: Macroeconomic paths to pension adequacy: limits and potentials of European Semester

Organiser and lecturer: Introduction to Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA); May and December 2018; Doctoral School in Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Luxembourg

Discussant: The European Court of Auditor's audit of the Macroeconomic Imbalance Procedure (MIP) 2018; November 2018, University of Luxembourg

Presenter: PhD conference in social sciences; November 2018; University of Luxembourg; paper title: Council's amendments of Country Specific Recommendations (CSR): more than just cosmetics?

Presenter: Annual Conference of Italian Political Science Association (Sisp); September 2018; University of Turin; paper title: Council's amendments of Country Specific Recommendations (CSR): more than just cosmetics?

Co-organiser and discussant: New conceptual and methodological developments in studying EU economic governance; June 2018; Robert Schuman Institute and University of Luxembourg

Presenter: International Conference of European Processes – The future of European Union: political, economic and social challenges; April 2018; Kaunas University of Technology; paper title: Pension adequacy in the EU – enabling capacity of the European Semester

Participant: Write for Impact: Training in Op-Ed writing for policy advocacy; November 2017; CEPOW - Centre for Policy Writing, Brussels

Presenter: Competitiveness and Welfare Transformation in Europe; November 2017; Robert Schuman Institute and University of Luxembourg; paper title: The interplay between active ageing and silver economy – a QCA analysis

Co-organiser and administrative support: Banking Union Workshop; June 2017; Robert Schuman Institute and University of Luxembourg

REFERENCE

Professor David Howarth (BA, MPhil, DPhil (Oxon))
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Universite du Luxembourg
E-mail: david.howarth@uni.lu