

David Morar
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EDUCATION

George Mason University, Schar School of Policy and Government, Fairfax, VA, USA
Ph.D. in Public Policy, August 2018
Areas: Internet and Emerging Tech Governance, Private and Global Governance, Privacy

The Pennsylvania State University, College of Communications, University Park, PA, USA
Doctoral classes in Mass Communications, August 2011 - May 2012

The Pennsylvania State University, School of International Affairs, University Park, PA, USA
Master of International Affairs (M.I.A.), May 2010

University of Bucharest, College of Political Science, Bucharest, RO
B.A., Political Science (taught in English; thesis received highest grade: 10), June 2008
Thesis: "*Romanian Political Parties and the European Union: Words vs. Actions*"

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Hans Bredow Institute January 2021 - present
Fellow
Collaborated with Prof. Dr. Matthias Kettemann on private ordering and speech regulations research
Lead the launch of the Private Ordering Observatory (PrObs) as Project Manager
Created global scholarly event series (deplatforming, disinformation, governance)

NYU Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development December 2020 - present
Postdoctoral Data Policy Fellow
Part of a prestigious National Science Foundation 5-year CAREER grant Dr. Anne Washington - PI
Research data policy, focus on governance and ethics related to speech and Artificial Intelligence
Serve as Managing Fellow for the research collective *Digital Interest Lab*

Humboldt Institute for Internet and Society August 2020 – November 2020
Fellow
Inaugural *Ai and Content Moderation* Research Sprint Fellow for *Ethics of Digitalization* project
Co-authored white paper on auditing Artificial Intelligence systems in content moderation

Digital Trade and Data Governance Hub June 2019 – December 2020
Visiting Scholar
Tasked with research guidance and promoting the Hub through op-eds, panels and conferences
Created a functional strategy for Hub outputs (trainings, events, papers)
Consulted on issues related to content, direction and future plans

- Data for Democracy** October 2018 – June 2019
Policy Manager
 Provided research, policy guidance to Policy Director, Renee DiResta
 Drafted op-eds and white papers
 Maintained a D4D presence in Washington DC, through events, workshops, panel participation etc.
 Main focus: disinformation, data science ethics, algorithmic accountability, among others.
- Diplo Digital Watch Observatory** January 2018 – January 2020
Curator
 Wrote short updates on digital policy events and news
 Provided just-in-time reporting from Internet policy events (such as WSIS Forum, IGF)
 Performed various other research and writing assignments.
- Global Network Initiative** June 2017 – March 2018
Google Policy Fellow
 Tasked primarily with writing memos/briefs for the GNI Policy Committee and membership.
 Planned and executed GNI events (Board Meeting, Public Learning Forum, etc.)
- Internet Education Foundation** June 2016 – March 2017
Google Policy Fellow
 Planned/executed congressional briefings, including moderating briefing on government hacking
 Served as Project Manager for *State of The Net* 2017, primary responsibility for two panels
 Co-created cross-IEF *Snowden Effect* Series
 As needed, provided research, and editing support
- Future of Privacy Forum** June – November 2015
Research Fellow
 Wrote a white paper, performed primary/secondary research on biometric technologies and their privacy implications, both broadly and narrowly defined within the educational space.
 Provided further research and editing support
 As needed, assisted FPF events, particularly planning and organizing National Science Foundation workshop on Privacy Review Boards.
- George Mason University** August 2012 – August 2018
Research Assistant to Dr. Anne L. Washington
 Primary assistant for PoliInformatics, National Science Foundation Grant [#1243917](#) dealing with open government data: provided research and administrative assistance, as webmaster, setting up a Wordpress website, maintaining the social media presence; organized two workshops, conference calls, and a Steering Committee face-to-face meeting.
 Secondary author on successful grant application for National Science Foundation Grant [#1635449](#), Open Data Suppliers, and worked as primary assistant in a research capacity.
 Assisted Dr. Washington's research in various stages of work such as journal runs, literature reviews, data collection, qualitative interpretation of data, data visualization and conclusions.
 Led an institutional technology transition from Sharepoint 2007 to Sharepoint 2010, in all stages, such as planning and preserving copies of various sites and subsites in the general architecture of the servers.
 Assisted Dr. Washington's teaching through BlackBoard CMS for *Culture Organizations and Technology*, *Collaborative Technologies for Knowledge Sharing* and other classes.
- Teaching Assistant to Dr. Janine Davidson August 2012 – December 2013
 Performed various administrative and teaching duties for “US National Security” and “US Foreign Policy” classes
 Assisted with guest lecturers (Assistant Secretary of Defense Paul Stockton; Gen. David Petraeus).

Fawnders Co.

August 2008 – August 2014

Co-founder/Entrepreneur

Responsible for product innovation and editorial content for Romanian startup focused on online discussion and social networks, piloting several products in beta testing, temporarily closed for lack of funding

OnwardState.com

August 2011 – August 2012

Social Media Manager

Editorial Board member

Responsible for long-term social media strategy and daily management of accounts of the most read student news media outlets in the country (60k+ likes on Facebook, 70k+ followers on Twitter)

Grew website and social media accounts organically from a local media challenger to a nationally known and trusted brand delivering Penn State-centric news.

Delegated responsibilities to a larger team, while co-managing accounts

Occasionally wrote articles about comedy or related topics

The Pennsylvania State University

Teaching Assistant to Dr. Michael Elavsky, College of Communications August 2011 – May 2012

Assisted lecture, discussion grading for *Media and Democracy* and *Comparative Media Systems*.

Researched, created, and delivered lecture on *Social Media and Democracy*

Held weekly office hours for one-on-one conversations with students

Research Assistant to Dr. John Kelmelis, School of International Affairs Jan. 2009 – May 2010

Responsible for *Science Policy and International Affairs* class resources

Various research tasks on science and technology topics

The United Nations

March 2009 – May 2010

Assistant to Dr. Iulia Motoc, Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and Bioethics - Human Genome and member of The United Nations Human Rights Committee

Supported Dr. Motoc on research topics related to bioethics and human rights

Academia Catavencu

Jan. 2004 – August 2010

Foreign News Collaborator/Freelance Journalist

Wrote quirky news feature, “Foreigner’s Week”

Co-wrote recurring short international world stage articles; American elections coverage piece

The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

June – August 2009

Intern for Project on Emerging Nanotechnology (Foresight and Governance Project)

Attended numerous congressional meetings including on National Nanotechnology Initiative

Conducted research at various stages of key projects related to nanotech and synthetic biology

Successfully created preliminary working focus group script ensuring all research points covered

Reviewed and updated nanotech consumer products inventory database and website

Cotidianul

Jan. 2005 – August 2009

Foreign Media Collaborator/Freelance Journalist

Created and wrote international television news column for the second half of 2005

Composed full-length articles on major networks, general social trends in American television

Inpolitics.ro

Jan. 2007 – June 2008

Editor

Managed portal-wide news content and screened blog content ensuring accuracy and timeliness

Served as advisor on brand image consolidation and general future content in pre-launch phase

Office of the President of Romania

March – May 2008

Communications Department Intern

Responsible for preparing daily press briefings

Streamlined mass media monitoring and analyzed presidential press coverage

Romanian Cultural Institute

January – April 2008

Administrative Assistant and Adjunct Instructor for “Romanian Classes for Foreigners”

Assisted with admin, operational duties, and substitute for regular instructors on occasion

Ritz Carlton Key Biscayne (Miami, FL)

June – Sept. 2007

Front Office Agent

Operated the call center, assisted department managers with their duties

Took first action, made first-hand decisions with guests’ requests and issues

Served as front line contact ensuring guests’ satisfaction and return business

PUBLICATIONSRiley, C. Morar, D. (2021). *Legislative efforts and policy frameworks within the Section 230 debate*.Brookings Institution TechStream. <https://www.brookings.edu/techstream/legislative-efforts-and-policy-frameworks-within-the-section-230-debate/>Riley, C., Morar, D. (2021). *Applying Multi-Stakeholder Internet Governance to Online Content**Management*. R Street Institute. <https://www.rstreet.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Multi-stakeholder-Internet-Gov-Report-RSI-Sept.-2021.pdf>Morar, D., Riley, C. (2021). *A guide for conceptualizing the debate over Section 230*. BrookingsInstitution TechStream. <https://www.brookings.edu/techstream/a-guide-for-conceptualizing-the-debate-over-section-230/>

Bloch-Wehba, H., Fernandez, A., Morar, D. (2020). Making Audits Meaningful [Policy Brief].

Research Sprint on AI and Content Moderation. Retrieved from <https://graphite.page/policy-brief-audits>Morar, D., Washington, A.L. (2020). *How a compliance mindset undermines antitrust reform proposals*.Brookings Institution TechStream. <https://www.brookings.edu/techstream/how-a-compliance-mindset-undermines-antitrust-reform-proposals/>Giandana, F., Morar, D. (2019). Latin America. *Global Information Society Watch 2019 - Artificial**Intelligence: Human Rights, Social Justice And Development*. Berlin, Germany.https://giswatch.org/sites/default/files/gisw2019_web_latnam.pdf

Corcoran, C., DiResta R., Morar, D., Dhamani, N., Honke, G., Sullivan, D., Gleason, J., Azunre, P.,

Kramer, S., & Ruppel, R. (2019). Disinformation: Detect to Disrupt. *Proceedings of the Conference of Truth and Trust Online 2019*. (In Publication) London, United Kingdom.

Washington, A. L., & Morar, D. (2017). Open Government Data and File Formats: Constraints on

Collaboration. *Proceedings of the 18th Annual International Conference on Digital Government Research*, 155–159. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3085228.3085232>Morar, D. (2017). The Internet Association. In A. L. Schintler, & C.L. McNeely (Eds.) *Encyclopedia of Big Data*. New York: Springer.

Washington, A. L., Morar D. (2016). *Open for Whom? An Overview of Data.Gov File Formats*. Working Paper. Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=2770925> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.2770925>

Morar, I.T., Morar D. (2012). The Second Hat: Romanian Mass Media from Party Loudspeaker to the Voice of the Oligarchs. In V. Tismaneanu. & B. Iacob (Eds.), *The End and The Beginning: The Revolutions of 1989 and the Resurgence of History* (pp. 419-436). New York: CEU Press.

POPULAR PRESS

Lucena, C., Morar, D. (2021). *O dilema das pesquisas das redes*. Estadão. Brazil
<https://politica.estadao.com.br/blogs/fausto-macedo/o-dilema-das-pesquisas-das-redes/>

Morar, D. (2021). *Trump deplatforming decision highlights the impotence of Facebook's Oversight Board*. Brookings Institution TechTank Blog.
<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/techtank/2021/05/07/trump-deplatforming-decision-highlights-the-impotence-of-facebooks-oversight-board/>

Morar, D. (2021). *Facebook's Oversight Board makes an imperfect case for private governance*. Brookings Institution TechTank Blog.
<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/techtank/2021/02/23/facebook-oversight-board-makes-an-imperfect-case-for-private-governance/>

Morar, D. (2021). *The Ethical Considerations of Public Interest Technology*
<https://www.newamerica.org/pit-un/blog/ethical-considerations-public-interest-technology/>

Santos, B., Morar, D. (2021). *Four lessons for U.S. legislators from the EU Digital Services Act*. Brookings Institution TechTank Blog.
<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/techtank/2021/01/06/four-lessons-for-u-s-legislators-from-the-eu-digital-services-act/>

Morar, D., Santos, B. (2020). *The push for content moderation legislation around the world*. Brookings Institution TechTank Blog. <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/techtank/2020/09/21/the-push-for-content-moderation-legislation-around-the-world/>

Morar, D. (2020). *Don't break up Facebook, make it more transparent*. *Humboldt Institute Digital Society Blog*. <https://www.hiig.de/en/dont-break-up-facebook-make-it-more-transparent/>

Morar, D. (2020). *Content Moderation and Human Nature*. *TechDirt*.
<https://www.techdirt.com/articles/20200818/15424345138/content-moderation-human-nature.shtml>

Morar, D., Santos, B. (2020). *Online content moderation lessons from outside the US*. Brookings Institution TechTank Blog. <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/techtank/2020/06/17/online-content-moderation-lessons-from-outside-the-u-s/>

Morar, D. (2020). *Facebook's Oversight Board Can't Intervene, So Stop Asking*. *TechDirt*.
<https://www.techdirt.com/articles/20200602/00290044624/facebook-oversight-board-cant-intervene-so-stop-asking.shtml>

Morar, D. (2019). *Facebook's Empty Action on Content Moderation*. *San Francisco Chronicle*.
<https://www.sfchronicle.com/opinion/openforum/article/Open-Forum-Facebook-s-empty-action-on-content-14471550.php>

Aaronson, S. Morar, D. (2019). A leader in profiting from data, America lags in protecting our information. *San Francisco Chronicle*. <https://www.sfchronicle.com/opinion/openforum/article/Open-Forum-A-leader-in-profiting-from-data-14086845.php?psid=c2le4>

Tomson, D., Morar, D. (2018). A Better Way to Regulate Social Media. *Wall Street Journal*, <https://www.wsj.com/articles/a-better-way-to-regulate-social-media-1534707906>

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Data as Commons: An evaluation of data trust models for governing the Smart City. Lauren McCarthy, David Morar. 2020 North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International. November 2020. San Diego, CA.

Disinformation: Detect to Disrupt. Craig Corcoran, Renee DiResta, David Morar, Numa Dhamani, Garrett Honke, David Sullivan, Jeffrey Gleason, Paul Azunre, Steven Kramer, & Rebecca Ruppel. Comparative Approaches to Disinformation Workshop 2019 at the Berkman Klein Center, Harvard University. October 2019, Cambridge, MA.

Multi-stakeholder Governance for Platform Tech and Content Moderation? A Discussion of Principles, Opportunities and Learnings David Morar, Danielle Tomson. Creator Governance: Platforms, Policies, Rights, And Regulation; International Communication Association 2019 Post-Conference. May 2019, Washington, DC.

Open Data: Audit Audiences or Engaged Publics? Anne L. Washington, David Morar. Data for Policy 2017. September 2017, London, United Kingdom.

Open Government Data & File Formats: Constraints on Collaboration. Anne L. Washington, David Morar. dg.o 2017: 18th Annual International Conference on Digital Government Research. June 2017, City University of New York, College of Staten Island Staten Island, New York.

Open Data Repositories: Intimating Data Publics Through File Formats. Anne L. Washington, David Morar. Data Publics Conference. April 2017, Lancaster University, Lancaster, UK.

NGOs in Global Multi-Stakeholder CSR: An Empirical Analysis of UN Global Compact. Poster. Kyung-Min Lee, Lokesh Dani, David Morar and Kyoung Cheon Cha. Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall 2016 Conference. November 2016, Washington DC.

Safeguarding Privacy While Sharing: The Prospects of an Autonomous Fleet. Poster. Lauren N. McCarthy, David Morar. Automated Vehicles Symposium 2016. July 2016. San Francisco, CA.

Enhancing Governance Risk Profiles Through Leveraging National Political Institutions for Transnational Nanotechnology Governance. (Accepted as Part of a Panel) David Morar, Alexander Smith. Jonah Bea-Taylor. Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall 2015 Conference. Science and Technology Policy Area. November 2015, Miami, FL.

Stakeholder- Vs Evidence-Based Modes of Internet Governance. Roxana Radu, David Morar. (Accepted as a Poster) Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall 2015 Conference. November 2015. Miami, FL.

Global Governance for Nanotech? An Analysis of Institutional Risk Factors David Morar, Alexander Smith. Jonah Bea-Taylor. American Political Science Association Annual Meeting 2015. Technology and Environmental Policy Division. August 2015, San Francisco, CA.

Different Channel, Same Strategy? Filling Empirical Gaps in Congress Literature Andreu Casas, David Morar. American Political Science Association Annual Meeting 2015. Information Technology and Politics Division. August 2015, San Francisco, CA.

Using Institutional Risk Factors to Focus Transnational Efforts on Improving Nanotechnology Governance. David Morar, Alexander Smith. Jonah Bea-Taylor. Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall 2014 Conference. Science and Technology Policy Area. November 2014, Albuquerque, NM. ([nominated for Best Comparative Paper Award](#))

Analyzing 2012 Presidential Election: What is the correlation between Twitter, Polls and Popular Vote? Anne L. Washington, Jason B. Thatcher, David Morar, Kyle LePrevost. American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. Presidents and Executive Politics Division. August 2013, Chicago Il. https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2566441

Issues with US Nanotechnology Policy. David Morar. Transatlantic Policy Consortium's Transatlantic Perspectives in Public Affairs: Technology, Safety, Security Conference. May 2013, The Hague, NL.

LEADERSHIP/SCHOLARLY SERVICE

Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group
Executive Committee member November 2020 – present

Journal of Communication Technologies
Associate Editor September 2020 – present

Digital Interests Lab
Managing Fellow July 2020 – present

Georgetown University Center for Security and Emerging Technologies
Foretell Ambassador Board Member June 2020 – February 2021

Third AAAI/ACM Conference on Artificial Intelligence, Ethics, and Society
Program Committee Member February 2020

Harvard Kennedy School Misinformation Review
Peer Reviewer October 2019 – present

Big Data Science Lab; West University of Timisoara
Associate Researcher June 2019 – present

Center for Advanced Studies in Public Policy, Governance; Paraiba State University
Associate Researcher July 2019 – present

Cyber South School on Internet Governance (CYBERSSIG)*Fellow* - inaugural edition of the CYBERSSIG in Washington, DC

May 2018

At-Large North American Graduate Students (NAGS)*President*

March 2018- March 2020

Co-founder of an At-Large Structure within ICANN, representing North American students.

North American School of Internet Governance (NASIG)*Fellow* - inaugural edition of NASIG, in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

March 2018

Community-driven Principles for Ethical Data Science*Moderator Data Ownership and Provenance Working Group*

November 2017 – March 2018

Set agenda, facilitate conversation and help prod the conversation along with guiding questions.

Drafted principles related to Data Ownership and Provenance.

Moderated groups at the 2018 Data 4 Good Exchange.

American Political Science Association (APSA)*Executive Committee, Information Technology and Politics*

August 2017 – August 2019

Elected for a two-year term at the 2017 Annual Meeting, Section Business meeting.

International Association of Privacy Professionals*Global Privacy Summit 2016 Scholarship*

March 2016

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM)

February 2013 – 2019

International Conference Program Committee Co-Chair

2019

Co-Chaired National Security and Emerging Technologies Area

Led the review of paper and poster submissions.

Fall 2019 Conference Program Member

2019

Peer-reviewed papers and poster submissions for Emerging Technologies Area

Policy Council Member

January 2016- January 2018

Appointed for a two-year term APPAM's highest level.

Member of the Membership Committee.

Chair of Student Advisory Committee

January 2015 – January 2016

Lead a group of 6 students in helping APPAM determine how best to serve the needs of its student members through activities and programs.

Student Advisor to the Strategic Planning Committee

January 2015 – January 2016

Acted as an advisor to the process of crafting a 2016-2019 strategic plan, voicing the opinion of students, to ensure the needs of students are represented in the final strategic plan for APPAM.

PhD Student Professional Development Workshop Organizing Committee

November 2013

Organized the first ever PhD workshop for APPAM, alongside other DC-area graduate students, securing topics and speakers for the daylong event as part of a yearlong team effort.

STGlobal Conference

October 2012 – May 2015

Vice Chair for Communications (May 2014 – May 2015)*Vice Chair for Social Media* (May 2013 – May 2014)*Organizing Committee Member* (October 2012 – May 2013)

Helped run, a record three years in a row, a graduate student conference on Science & Technology topics, rising from a committee member, to being Vice Chair.

GMU Center for Science and Technology Policy

Affiliated Scholar

August 2012 – August 2018

Romanian Youth Parliament

Parliament-wide Culture Committee

Parliament Media Director (March 2008 – July 2008)

Feb. 2007 – July 2008

Add Litteram Student Organization

Co-Founder/Co-President

Founded, ran alternative student organization at the University of Bucharest: events, workshops, social gatherings, enriching student body experience; Created conference series “Politics&”

Oct. 2005 – Feb. 2007

FELLOWSHIPS

Internet Law and Policy Foundry

Fellow

March 2022 - present

ICANN58; ICANN61; ICANN64 Fellow

Highly-regarded, competitive Fellowship program supporting the next generation of involved Internet community members – a "fast track" experience of engagement, contribution and networking opportunities. Intensive program extending beyond the meeting: focused cooperation between fellows, and with Staff & Community of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names & Numbers. Rep of the Academic Community, as both an Eastern European native and a graduate student in the US.

March 2017, March 2018, March 2019

The Pennsylvania State University

Robert W. Graham Endowed Fellowship 2011- awarded to highly sought-after students

August 2011

George Mason University

Presidential Scholarship- prestigious, competitive university-wide scholarship, 3 years in a row

2012-2014

SPECIALIZED EXPERTISE

Governance Structures - Multistakeholderism

Data Governance - Privacy, Security, and Transparency; Content Moderation; Social Impact of Information Communication Technologies, Open Government Data; Misinformation and Disinformation; Big Data Policy, Social and Ethical Implications; Social Media Policy and Politics; Social, Ethical and Governance Implications of Emerging Technologies; Global Governance; Qualitative + Mixed-Methods Research.

SPECIAL SKILLS

Language:

Romanian Native Proficiency

English Fluent (writing, speaking, reading and listening)

French Proficient (speaking, reading and listening)

Spanish and **Italian** Working Knowledge

- Technical: HTML, Final Cut, Photoshop, video and photo production, Microsoft Office suite, Wordpress, social media strategy (Twitter and Facebook for business/professional use), working knowledge of *STATA*, *BlackBoard* and *Angel* Educational CMS; & Sharepoint
- Editorial: Write and amend articles and reports, qualitative and mixed methods research, creative writing abilities, copyediting,
- Hobbies: Comedy (stand-up and improv), Photography.

MEMBERSHIP

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication	September 2020 – present
International Association of Privacy Professionals	April 2016 – present
Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management	Sept. 2013 – present
American Political Science Association	July 2013 – present
Penn State Blue & White Society	Aug. 2008 – May 2010