

ALINA VRÂNCEANU

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Jan 2025 -	Ramón y Cajal Fellow Autonomous University of Barcelona, Department of Political Science
Jun 2022 - May 2024	María Zambrano Postdoctoral Fellow Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Department of Political and Social Sciences
Apr 2020 - May 2022	Research Fellow European University Institute, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies
Sep 2018 - Mar 2020	Max Weber Postdoctoral Fellow European University Institute, Department of Political and Social Sciences and Max Weber Programme for Postdoctoral Studies

EDUCATION

Oct 2014 - Nov 2018	PhD in Political and Social Sciences (<i>Excellent Cum Laude</i>) Universitat Pompeu Fabra <i>Dissertation committee:</i> Sara Hobolt (LSE), Lawrence Ezrow (University of Essex) and Aina Gallego (IBEI) <i>Supervisors:</i> Romain Lachat (Sciences Po Paris) and Mariano Torcal (UPF)
Apr 2017 - Jun 2017	Visiting PhD researcher, University of Essex, Department of Government
2013 - 2014	MA in Immigration Management, Universitat Pompeu Fabra
2007 - 2008	Advanced Diploma in European Studies, European College of Parma
2003 - 2007	BA in Political Science, University of Bucharest

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political behaviour, comparative politics, political representation, political parties, public opinion, attitudes to outgroups, immigration politics, quantitative research methods, causal inference.

PUBLICATIONS

JOURNAL ARTICLES (PEER-REVIEWED)

- [1] **Vrânceanu, Alina**, and Bilyana Petrova (2025). Welfare policy and immigration attitudes in Western Europe. *European Journal of Political Research* 64(4), 1783-1804. [\[Link\]](#)
- [2] **Vrânceanu, Alina** (2024). Do voters polarise in response to elite dissensus on immigration? *West European Politics*, 1-30. Online First Nov 2024. [\[Link\]](#)
- [3] Kriesi, Hanspeter, and **Alina Vrânceanu** (2024). Voter preferences for EU asylum policies: The role of government cues. *Government and Opposition* 59(3), 888-910. [\[Link\]](#)

- [4] **Vrânceanu, Alina**, Elias Dinas, Tobias Heidland, and Martin Ruhs (2023). The European refugee crisis and public support for the externalisation of migration management. *European Journal of Political Research* 62(4), 1146–1467. [\[Link\]](#)
- [5] **Vrânceanu, Alina** (2022). How do cross-pressures affect immigration attitudes? Party and educational influences. *West European Politics* 45(7), 1433-1461. [\[Link\]](#)
- [6] **Vrânceanu, Alina**, and Romain Lachat (2021). Do parties influence public opinion on immigration? Evidence from Europe. *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties* 31(1), 1-21. [\[Link\]](#)
- [7] **Vrânceanu, Alina** (2019). The impact of contextual factors on party responsiveness regarding immigration issues. *Party Politics* 25(4), 583-593. [\[Link\]](#)

BOOK CHAPTERS

- [8] Dennison, James, and **Alina Vrânceanu** (2024). Public opinion on immigration: Is it converging globally or regionally? In Ettore Recchi and Mirna Safi (Eds) *Handbook of Human Mobility and Migration*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, 182-201.
- [9] Dennison, James, and **Alina Vrânceanu** (2022). Public opinion and the politics of immigration, in Peter Scholten (Ed) *Introduction to migration studies. An interactive guide to the literatures on migration and diversity*. Springer, 375–388. [\[Link\]](#).

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- [10] Jeannet, Anne-Marie, Lenka Dražanová, and **Alina Vrânceanu** (2024). Editorial: Agents of political socialization in the 21st century. *Front. Polit. Sci.* 6:1428896. Doi: 10.3389/fpos.2024.1428896 [\[Link\]](#).

WORKING PAPERS

- [1] Immigration attitudes, democratic beliefs and perceptions about government responsiveness
- [2] Far-right parties and affective polarization: the role of voters' immigration attitudes and democratic beliefs
- [3] The consequences of immigration and nativist resentment for national identity
- [4] Communist legacies and citizens' attitudes to socio-cultural issues
- [3] Ethnic inequality, selective solidarity, and support for the far-right
- [5] The electoral consequences of political parties' responsiveness to public opinion (with Andra Roescu)
- [6] The refugee crisis and its impact on political parties in European countries
- [7] Multiple social identities and affective polarization in multiparty systems: Evidence from a conjoint experiment in five countries (with Mariano Torcal and Josep Comellas)
- [8] Party responsiveness on immigration: the role of party characteristics and of issue salience

OTHER WORK IN PROGRESS

Public preferences for international cooperation between Europe and Africa on irregular migration - conjoint experiments in European and African countries (with Lena Detlefsen (IfW Kiel) and Martin Ruhs (EUI))

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES (WITH PAPER PRESENTATIONS)

Annual Conference of the European Political Science Association (EPSA) : 2025, 2024, 2023, 2022, 2019, 2017, 2016

Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA) : 2024, 2023

General Conference of the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) : 2025, 2019, 2018, 2017

World Congress of the International Political Science Association (IPSA) : 2025

Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) : 2022, 2021, 2016

Annual Meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP): 2022

International Conference of Europeanists (CES): 2021

Elections, Public Opinion and Parties (EPOP UK) Conference: 2015

Graduate Network Conference: 2018, 2017

INVITED TALKS

Jun 2024	Communist legacies and citizens' attitudes to socio-cultural issues, <i>EUI Workshop on Political Behaviour in Central and Eastern Europe</i> , European University Institute
Feb 2024	Communist legacies and citizens' attitudes to socio-cultural issues, <i>DEC Seminar Series</i> , Autonomous University of Barcelona
Nov 2023	Welfare policy and immigration attitudes in Western Europe (with B Petrova), <i>VI Jornada de Comportament Polític i Opinió Pública</i> , Barcelona
May 2023	The refugee crisis and its impact on political parties in European countries, <i>EGPP Annual Conference</i> , European University Institute
Mar 2023	How do citizens respond to elite polarization on immigration? Evidence from European countries, <i>RECSM Research Seminars</i> , Universitat Pompeu Fabra
May 2022	How do citizens respond to elite polarization on immigration? Evidence from European countries, <i>Political Behaviour Colloquium</i> , European University Institute
Mar 2022	How do voters respond to elite polarization? Mass and party polarization on immigration in Europe, <i>Electoral Chairs' Seminars</i> , University of Montreal
Nov 2021	How do voters respond to elite polarization? Mass and party polarization on immigration in Europe, <i>Politics Lecture Series</i> , Humboldt University Berlin
Sep 2021	International cooperation on migration: what do domestic publics want (with T Heidland, M Ruhs, and E Dinas), <i>The Third Annual Conference of the Romanian Network for Migration Studies (RoMig)</i>
Apr 2021	Policy design and public preferences for international cooperation in the area of migration management: evidence from cross-national conjoint experiments (with E Dinas, T Heidland and M Ruhs), <i>Interdisciplinary Experimental Working Group (ECO/SPS)</i> , European University Institute
Jun 2019	Party responsiveness on immigration: the role of party characteristics and of issue salience, <i>Political Behaviour Colloquium</i> , European University Institute
May 2019	How do cross-pressured citizens form attitudes toward immigration? Party and educational influences, <i>SPS Departmental Series</i> , European University Institute

TEACHING

EXPERIENCE

Spring 2025	<i>Socio-political marketing</i> - MA level Course co-instructor. Autonomous University of Barcelona
Fall 2023	<i>Fundamentals of Political and Social Research</i> - MA level Course instructor. Universitat Pompeu Fabra
Fall 2022	<i>Fundamentals of Political and Social Research</i> - MA level Course instructor. Universitat Pompeu Fabra
2 Nov 2021	Guest lecturer in MA course on Global Migration Politics School of Transnational Governance, European University Institute
1 Jul 2021	Co-instructor: Session on Migration data, including attitudes to migration 17th Migration Summer School, European University Institute (MPC)
Fall 2017	<i>Introduction to Political Science</i> - Undergraduate level Seminar instructor. Universitat Pompeu Fabra
Fall 2016	<i>Introduction to Political Science</i> - Undergraduate level Seminar instructor. Universitat Pompeu Fabra
Fall 2015	<i>Introduction to Political Science</i> - Undergraduate level Seminar instructor. Universitat Pompeu Fabra

TRAINING

2018-2019	Teaching module (<i>1 year-long</i>) European University Institute, Max Weber Programme
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ACCREDITATION

2020	AQU Catalonia Accreditation for the category of Lecturer
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RESEARCH PROJECT PARTICIPATION

2020 - 2022	Research Fellow in the international project ‘Mercator Dialogue on Asylum and Migration (MEDAM)’. PI: Martin Ruhs (European University Institute, Migration Policy Centre). Project funded by Stiftung Mercator. Project partners: Institute for the World Economy (Kiel) and the European Policy Centre (Brussels).
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GRANTS

2025 - 2029	Ramón y Cajal grant. Funded by the Spanish State Research Agency and FSE+.
2022 - 2024	María Zambrano grant (postdoctoral). Funded by European Union-Next Generation EU, Ministry of Universities and Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan, through an UPF call.
2018 - 2020	Max Weber Fellowship grant (postdoctoral) awarded for two years by the European University Institute.
2015 - 2018	FI-DGR doctoral grant (Universitat Pompeu Fabra). Funded by AGAUR Catalonia.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE

PANEL CHAIR / WORKSHOP ORGANISER

2025	Immigration and electoral behavior, EPSA Conference (panel)
2024	Electoral Systems, EUI Workshop on Political Behaviour in Central and Eastern Europe (workshop)
2022	Citizen's responses to threats, ISPP Meeting (panel)
2021	Public opinion on (im)migration, MPSA Conference (panel)
2021	Imagining and politicizing migrants, identities and borders, CES Conference (panel)
2020	Migration in contemporary and historical perspectives, EUI (workshop)
2019	Public opinion, policies and responsiveness, ECPR conference (panel)

PANEL DISCUSSANT

2025	DEC Workshop on Political Behavior and Public Opinion, (UAB)
2024	Pathways to Power, EUI Workshop on Political Behaviour in Central and Eastern Europe
2023	Party positions and voter alignment, EPSA Conference
2022	Identity and race, MPSA Conference
2022	Nationalism, MPSA Conference
2021	Public opinion on (im)migration, MPSA Conference
2021	Imagining and politicizing migrants, identities and borders, CES Conference
2019	New directions in research on populism, EPSA Conference
2019	Public opinion, policies and responsiveness, ECPR Conference

ACADEMIC JOURNAL REVIEWER

European Journal of Political Research; British Journal of Political Science; Journal of European Public Policy; Political Behaviour; International Political Science Review; Government and Opposition; Party Politics; Comparative European Politics; Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties; Representation; Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies; Comparative Migration Studies; International Migration Review

BOOK MANUSCRIPTS REVIEWER

Cambridge University Press

REVIEWER FOR FUNDING BODIES

External reviewer for the Swiss National Science Foundation.

SERVICE

Senior representative of Universitat Pompeu Fabra at the 2024 conference and members' meeting of the European Graduate Network (hosted by the University of Zurich, 3-5 Apr).

METHODS SKILLS AND TRAINING (SELECTION)

2021	Advanced survey data analysis and survey experiments, Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis
2020	Causal inference and experiments in the social sciences, Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis
2018	Causal inference, RECSM Summer School in Survey Methodology
2017	Panel data analysis, RECSM Summer School in Survey Methodology
2017	Text analysis; Simulations in R; Writing functions in R, Zurich Summer School for Women in Political Methodology
2016	Multilevel regression modelling, ECPR Winter School in Methods and Techniques

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

2018	Coordinator, RECSM, Universitat Pompeu Fabra (5 months, part-time)
2015 – 2018	Researcher, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Department of Political and Social Sciences
2010 – 2013	Policy Officer, European Commission, Brussels
2009 – 2010	Administrative Assistant, European Commission, Brussels
2008 – 2009	Blue Book Trainee, European Commission, Brussels (5 months)

SOFTWARE SKILLS

Stata (advanced), R (intermediary), L^AT_EX(advanced)

LANGUAGES

Romanian (native)

English, Spanish, Italian, French (fluent)

Catalan (level B2.1)

COMMUNICATION, DISSEMINATION AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

Jan 2022	Speaker at the online roundtable discussion on ‘Refugee and migration policies in Europe: What role for public preferences?’ organised by the Brussels-based think tank European Policy Centre.
Jul 2021	Blogpost: ‘International cooperation: does migration have a centrifugal or centripetal influence?’, EUI MPC Blog [Link] .
Jun 2021	Participant in the roundtable discussion ‘The future of EU-Turkey cooperation on migration: Greek and European perspectives and policy preferences’ organised by the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP).

Last updated on September 2025.