Silvia Ioana Fierăscu, PhD
Curriculum Vitae

Website: https://bit.ly/silviafierascu

Education

2012 – 2017	**PhD in Comparative Politics with an advanced specialization in Network Science**, *summa cum laude*
	Doctoral School of Political Science, Public Policy and International Relations & Department of Network and Data Science, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary
2016	**Visiting Doctoral Fellow** (Oct – Nov)
	Department of Sociology, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK
2009 – 2011	**MA in Political Science**, *Best MA Thesis Award*
	Department of Political Science, Central European University
2008 – 2009	**Erasmus Study Visit** (Sep – Feb)
	Society, Politics and Policy Programme, School of Media, Culture and Society
	University of the West of Scotland, Paisley, UK
2006 – 2009	**BA in Political Science**, *Certificate of Excellency*
	Department of Political Science, West University of Timişoara, Timişoara, Romania

Appointments

2019 – present	**Lecturer in Research Methods and Data Analysis**
	Department of Communication Sciences, Faculty of Governance and Communication Sciences, West University of Timişoara
2021 – present	**Founder and Curator of ConnecTM**
	Career-Connected Learning Programme, West University of Timişoara
2020 – present	**Researcher at Big Data Science Laboratory**
	West University of Timişoara
2019 – present	**Founder and Director of Social Fabrics Research Lab**
	Research, development and social innovation living lab, West University of Timişoara
2019	**Visiting Scholar**
	NOVA Information Management School, Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal
2019	**Demographic Forecasting Expert in "Quality in Higher Education: Internationalization and Databases for the Development of Romanian Education (POCU HE)"** (SMIS code 126766), Executive Unit for Financing Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation (UEFISCDI)
2019	**Postdoctoral Researcher at Big Data Science Laboratory**
	West University of Timişoara
2017 – present	**Research Fellow at Făgăraş Research Institute**
	Făgăraş, Romania

Certifications and Advanced Courses

2025	**Using Artificial Intelligence in Education and Research**
	West University of Timisoara and NEXTLAB.TECH
2023	**Certified Living Lab Expert**
	Virtual Learning Lab Programme, European Network of Living Labs, Brussels, Belgium
2014	**Inferential Network Analysis** (Skyler Cranmer), advanced course
	ECPR Winter School in Methods and Techniques, Vienna, Austria

2012 – 2017	**Doctoral Advanced Certificate of Specialization in Network Science**
	Department of Network and Data Science, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary
2012	**Dynamic Network Analysis Workshop** (Jürgen Pfeffer)
	INSNA Sunbelt Social Networks Conference XXXII, Redondo Beach, CA, USA
2011	**Analyzing Network Dynamics using RSiena** (Tom Snijders), advanced course
	Oxford Spring School in Quantitative Methods for Social Research, Oxford, UK
2009 – 2011	**Certificate of Specialization in Political Research Methodology and Social Analysis**,
	Department of Political Science, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary

Honours & Grants

2021	<u>**Urban Hero of Timişoara for Impact in Education**</u>
	Ness Digital Engineering and Timisoara Community Foundation, Timisoara, Romania
2020	**Civic Anti-Corruption Tech Initiative Grant**
	Hivos International, Netherlands
2017	**CivicDev Prize**
	Connecting Doers with Opportunity Hackathon, Timisoara, Romania
2016	**Doctoral Research Support Grant**
	Doctoral School of Political Science, Public Policy and International Relations, Central European University
2014	**Teaching Assistant of the Year**
	Department of Political Science, Central European University
2012 – 2015	**Doctoral Fellowship**
	Doctoral School of Political Science, Public Policy and International Relations, Central European University
2011	**Best MA Thesis Award**
	Department of Political Science, Central European University

Teaching & Training Experience

Semester-long Courses at West University of Timişoara

2026	**Department of Political Science**

- **Data Analysis and Visualization** (MA, 1st year, Public Administration and Leadership Programme)

Department of Sociology

- **Network Analysis in Migration Studies** (MA, 2nd year, International Migration and Global Social Change Programme)

2019 – present	**Department of Communication Sciences**

- <u>**Introduction to Network Science**</u> (BA, 1st year, all communication sciences specializations & transversal course across the university)
- **Analysis of Digital Data** (BA, 3rd year, Digital Media Programme)
- **Analysis of Big Data** (MA, 1st year, Advertising Communication in Digital Media, Programme)
- **Research Ethics** (MA, 1st year, Mass-Media and Public Relations & Communication and Mediation in Social Conflicts Programme)
- **Academic Writing** (BA, 3rd year, Digital Media Programme)

2019 – 2023

- **Research Methods in Communication Sciences** (BA, 2nd year, Digital Media Programme)
- **Online Advertising** (BA, 3rd year, Advertising Programme)
- <u>**Digital Platforms**</u> (BA, 2nd year, Digital Media Programme)
- **Social Media** (BA, 3rd year, Communications and Public Relations Programme)

- **Online Storytelling** (MA, 1st year, Mass-Media and Public Relations Programme)

2017 – 2018 **Department of Political Science**
- **Political Behavior** (BA, 3rd year)

Invited Lecturer

2025 Invisible University for Ukraine (IUFU) at the Democracy Institute, Central European University, Vienna, Austria
- **Applied Social Network Analysis for Research and Practice**

2022 – present **Methods Excellence Network (MethodsNet),** Rixensart, Belgium
MethodsNet Summer School
- **Applied Social Network Analysis** (PhD) at **Central European University**, Vienna, Austria (2025-2026)
- **Applied Social Network Analysis** (PhD) at **Radboud University**, Nijmegen, Netherlands, (2022-2023)

2017 – 2024 **European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR)**, Colchester, UK
Summer, Winter and Virtual Schools in Methods and Techniques
- **Social Network Analysis** (PhD) at:
  - **KU Leuven**, Leuven, Belgium (2022-2024)
  - **Bamberg University**, Bamberg, Germany (2019-2021)
  - **Central European University**, Budapest, Hungary (2017-2018)

2023 **BAGGS Internal Methods Institute**, Bamberg, Germany
Bamberg Graduate School of Social Sciences
- **Applied Social Network Analysis**

2022 **Tartu University**, Tartu, Estonia
- **Introduction to Social Network Analysis**

2021 **KU Leuven**, Leuven, Belgium
ERC Project Polycarbon
- **Social Network Analysis Training** (PhD)

2021 **GESIS Leibniz Institute for Social Sciences**, Mannheim, Germany
GESIS Fall Seminar in Computational Social Science
- **Social Network Analysis** (PhD)

2019 – 2022 **Făgăraş Research Institute**, Făgăraş, Romania
Făgăraş Summer School
- **Introduction to Social Network Analysis**
- **Organizational Network Analysis**

2017 – 2018 **Rajk László College for Advanced Studies**, Budapest, Hungary
- **Introduction to Network Science and Applications** (BA & MA)

Teaching Assistants

2020 – 2023 **Dr. Rafiazka Hilman**, MSCA Fellow, ELTE Center for Social Sciences, Budapest, Hungary
2021 – 2022 **Alexandra Florea**, Doctoral Researcher, Transregional Collaborative Research Centre, Technik und Diversity, Paderborn University, Germany
2021 – 2022 **Ianis Ruşitoru**, Fraud Data Analyst, Booking Holdings, Bucharest, Romania
2018 – 2020 **Dr. Orsolya Vásárhelyi**, Assistant Professor, Center for Collective Learning, Institute of Data Analytics and Information Systems, Corvinus University, Budapest, Hungary

Workshops Delivered (selection)

2026 **How Living Labs' Knowledge and Innovation System Inform Complex Open Innovation Governance**, Gov4All, Astros, Greece (May).
2026 **Building Capacity for Integrated Resilience Research on Ukraine and Beyond: Mixed Methods, Network Analysis and Collaborative Research Design**, co-delivered with Dr. Inna Melnykovska, European University Institute, EUI Widening Europe Programme (April).

2026   **Understanding & Developing Thyrea's Living Lab Multi-Scale Governance Network**, Gov4All, Astros, Greece (March).

2026   **Engaging Stakeholders for Inclusive Gender Equality Institutional Change**, The Widening Inclusion and Gender Equality (WIGE CoP) Community of Practice, INSIPE Project (February).

2025   **Network Navigators: Hands-on Social Network Analysis for Regenerative Living Labs**, co-delivered with Juan Pablo Centeno (KU Leuven, Belgium), Open Living Lab Days, Andorra la Vella, Andorra.

2024   **Social Network Analysis for Sustainability**, School of Sustainable Development, Făgăraș Research Institute, Făgăraș, Romania.

2024   **Building a Career-Connected Learning Programme. Student-Centred Pedagogy in Data Analytics Classes**, UNITA International Consortium, Teaching & Learning Training (virtual).

2024   **Social Network Analysis for Change**. MethodsNet Methods Development and Innovation Workshop, UC Louvain, Louvain la Neuve, Belgium.

2024   **Gender Equality Plans: Monitoring and Evaluation Training**, The Widening Inclusion and Gender Equality Community of Practice (WIGE CoP), Krakow, Poland.

2024   **Social Network Analysis for Ecosystem Evaluation**, Association Make Better (MKBT), Bucharest, Romania.

2024   **Social Network Analysis for Urban Planning**, Urboteca Association, Bucharest, Romania.

2024   **Organizational Network Analysis for Sustainable Enterprise Design**, Intersection Conference 2023, Vienna, Austria.

Supervisory Activity

Level	No. of students	Details & Graduation Year
Bachelor's Supervision of Theses and Professional Portfolios	50	• Digital Media BA Programme (47, 2020-2026) • Advertising BA Programme (3, 2020-2022)
Masters Dissertation Supervision	6	• Advertising Communication in Digital Media MA Programme (3, 2025-2026) • Mass Media and Public Relations MA Programme (3, 2023-2026)
PhD (External) Committee Member	10	1. Elien Diels, The Public Governance Institute, **KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium** (2023) 2. Eszter Molnar, Department of Engineering, **University of Lancaster, Lancaster, UK** (2024) 3. Giacomo Zoppi, Modeling and Data Science, **University of Torino, Torino, Italy** (2025) 4. Daniel Alejo, Brussels School of Governance, **Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussels, Belgium** (TBD) 5. Andrei Dodea, Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration, **West University of Timișoara** (TBD) 6. Carmen Apostol, Doctoral School of Philosophy, Sociology and Political Science, **West University of Timișoara** (TBD) 7. Manuela Anghelescu, Doctoral School of Philosophy, Sociology and Political Science, **West University of Timișoara** (TBD) 8. Ciprian Cucu, Doctoral School of Philosophy, Sociology and Political Science, **West University of Timișoara** (TBD) 9. Nicolae Gaiță, Doctoral School of Philosophy, Sociology and Political Science, **West University of Timișoara** (TBD)

Level	No. of students	Details & Graduation Year
		10. Rober Năstasie, Doctoral School of Philosophy, Sociology and Political Science, **West University of Timişoara** (TBD)
MSCA Fellow Co-Supervisor	1	Georgiana Turculet, Marie Curie Individual Fellow, **Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain** (2024)

Publications and Relevant Contributions

Journal Articles

Centeno, Juan Pablo & **Fierăscu, Silvia I.** (*under review*). The effect of knowledge-circulation practices on the structure of Living Lab collaborations: a longitudinal network study of European R&I consortia.

Fierăscu, Silvia I. & Schuurman, Dimitri. (*under development*). A systematic bibliometric and network analysis of the body of knowledge on Living Labs.

Prylipko, Alina & **Fierăscu, Silvia I.** (*under development*). Maritime Social Sustainability Ecosystems: Legitimacy, Saliency, and Power in Relational Stakeholder Landscapes.

Fierăscu, Silvia I., Barbu-Kleitsch, Oana, Hayos, Andreea & Guzun, Alexia. *(under development)*. Frames of Femicide Media Coverage and the Link to Femicide Policy in Romania.

Fierăscu, Silvia I., Michelson, Curtis & Szilveszter, Eric. (*under development*). Models of Bottom-Up Innovation: The Case of the GroundUP Music Label.

Diels, Elien, **Fierăscu, Silvia I.**, Oosterlynck, Stijn, & Hondeghem, Annie. (2024). The role of resource allocation for regime performance in networks for local integration policies. *Public Management Review*, 1-22.

Proteasa, Viorel & **Fierăscu, Silvia I.** (2018). The institutionalisation of social sciences: bringing graduates' employment into the explanation. *Romanian Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 18(1), 2018, https://doi.org/10.1017/CBO9781107415324.004.

Fierăscu, Silvia I., Pârvu, Mihai, Topîrceanu, Alexandru & Udrescu, Mihai (2018). Exploring Party Switching in the Post-1989 Romanian Politicians Network from a Complex Network Perspective. *Romanian Journal of Political Science*, Vol. 18(1).

Nordlund, Carl & **Fierăscu, Silvia I.** (2018). Introduction to the special issue on social and political networks. *Romanian Journal of Political Science*, Vol 18(1).

Books

Fierăscu, Silvia I. & Hilman, Rafiazka (*under development*). *Handbook of Applied Social Network Analysis for Scholars, Practitioners and Policy Makers*.

Fierăscu, Silvia I. (2019). *Redefining State Capture: The Institutionalization of Corruption Networks in Hungarian Public Procurement*. Bucharest: Eikon Publishing.

Book Chapters

Fierăscu, Silvia I. (*2026*). Building a Career-Connected Learning Programme in Data Analytics Courses. In Andone, D., Van Petegem, W., Mihaescu, V. (Eds.) *Emerging Technologies, Challenges and Opportunities in Education and Research*, A Springer Nature Computer Science book series (CCIS).

Fierăscu, Silvia I. (*2026*). From Impact Assessment to Public Policy. The Case of Timişoara, European Capital of Culture in 2023. In Valeri, M. (Ed.) *Impact & Legacy of the European Capitals of Culture Programme*, Springer, 978-3-032-12204-9.

Diels, Elien, Oosterlynck, Stijn, Hondeghem, Annie & **Fierăscu, Silvia I.** (2022). Netwerken als hefboom in de strijd tegen armoede: een kwantitatieve analyse van stedelijke netwerken voor de integratie van migranten. In Coene, Jill et al., *Armoede en sociale uitsluiting Jaarboek 2022*. Leuven: Academische Coöperatieve Vennootschap.

Fierăscu, Silvia I., Fejes, Levente Z. & Cibian, Ştefan. (2022). Mapping the mobilization of the Industry of Good in limiting the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in the metropolitan area of Cluj-Napoca (RO). In

Croitoru, Alin and Iorga, Alexandru (Eds.). *Community development in Romania: concept, processes, analysis models* (RO). Bucharest: Tritonic.

Santa, Robert & **Fierăscu, Silvia I.** (2021). Access patterns in Romanian Higher Education. A story of asymmetry and polarization. In Curaj, Adrian, Salmi, Jamil, and Haj, Cezar M. (Eds.). *Higher Education in Romania: Overcoming Challenges and Embracing Opportunities*, Springer.

Book Reviews

Fierăscu, Silvia I. (2016). Book Review: Corporate Political Behavior: Why Corporations Do What They Do in Politics. *Political Studies Review*, Vol. 14(1): 103-104, https://doi.org/10.1177/1478929915609470e.

Other Academic and Professional Publications

Cibian, Ștefan, **Fierăscu, Silvia I.**, Rușitoru, Ianis & Fejes, Levente Z. (2024). *The potential of the Bosch Alumni Network from a social network analysis perspective: sustaining collective impact among peace and science and research clusters members*. Făgăraș: Făgăraș Research Institute Publishing House. ISBN PDF: 978-606-95063-8-7.

Cibian, Ștefan, Lup, Oana, Beserman, Edi, Rușitoru, Ianis, **Fierăscu, Silvia I.**, Șerbănuță, Claudia, Vișan, Laura, Mocanu, Ruxandra, Langusi, Daniela & Onea, Ioana (2024). *The impact of the Ambulance for Monuments Programme on activating local communities in Romania* (RO). Făgăraș: Făgăraș Research Institute Publishing House. ISBN PDF: 978-606-95803-5-6.

Cibian, Ștefan, Beserman, Edi, Georgiev, Georgi, Fejes, Levente Z., **Fierăscu, Silvia I.**, Rușitoru, Ianis, Drieling, Lutz & Drăghiciu, Andra O. (2023). *European Community Foundations and the Sustainable Development Goals: An Emerging Global Infrastructure for Sustainable Communities*. Făgăraș: Făgăraș Research Institute Publishing House. ISBN: 978-606-95063-9-4.

Cibian, Ștefan, Drăgan, Magdalena, **Fierăscu, Silvia I.**, Beserman, Edi, Fejes, Levente, Rușitoru, Ianis, Cârnu, Adriana. (2023). *Study on civil society development in Țara Făgărașului* (RO). Făgăraș: Făgăraș Research Institute Publishing House. ISBN PDF: 978-606-95803-0-1.

Fierăscu, Silvia I., Iuga, Roxana, Borhină, Bianca, Giuroiu, Mihai. (2023). *Analysis of the Causes of Low Labor Market Integration of Graduates in the Dual Vocational System*. Report for the "Regele Ferdinand I" Technological High School Timișoara, within the Erasmus+ project "In step with technology" (R001-K210-VET-000084107).

Cibian, Ștefan, Drăgan, Magdalena, **Fierăscu, Silvia I.**, Rușitoru, Ianis, Beserman, Edi (2022). *A National Study on Digital Inclusion and Exclusion in Romania*. Făgăraș: Făgăraș Research Institute Publishing House.

Santa, Robert & **Fierăscu, Silvia I.** (2020). Anticipating the main demographic trends and their impact on the student population in Romania. Forecasting study. In Haj, Cezar M., *Series Substantiation of Decision Making in Higher Education* Nr.1/2020, Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding.

Rânca, Laura, Cibian, Ștefan, **Fierăscu, Silvia I.**, & Molnoș, Anca. (2019). *Romania Country Brief 2018-2019. Freedom of expression, its challenges and limitations*. Făgăraș: Făgăraș Research Institute Publishing House.

Fierăscu, Silvia I. (2019). *A More Effective Way of Tackling Institutionalized Corruption*, invited contribution in *Eastern Focus - 30 Years Later: The Unfinished Revolution*, 1(3), Bucharest, Romania.

Cibian, Ștefan, **Fierăscu, Silvia I.**, Knezevic, Svjetlana, Liebhart, Karin, Meissner, Hannes, Molnoș, Anca, Rânca, Laura, Yurukova, Marija & Weidel, Christiana. (2019). *Counter-strategies towards hate and disinformation*, FreeEx – Responsibility. Freedom of Expression, co-funded by the Europe for Citizens Programme of the European Union, democratic engagement and civic participation.

Cibian, Ștefan, **Fierăscu, SilviaI.**, Moreh, Christian, Elian, Ana Maria, Șaptefrați, Nadia-Suzana, Vișan, Laura & Florian, Anca. (2019). *Report on Țara Făgărașului Diaspora Engagement in Civic and Philanthropic Activities*. Făgăraș: Făgăraș Research Institute Publishing House.

Morehouse, Christal, Garcia, Alla & **Fierăscu, Silvia I.** (2018). *An End to Manels II: Closing the Gender Gap at Europe's Top Policy Events*, Policy Brief, Open Society Foundations.

Morehouse, Christal, Garcia, Alla & **Fierăscu, Silvia I.** (2018). *An End to Manels: Closing the Gender Gap at Europe's Top Policy Events*, Policy Brief, Open Society Foundations.

Conference Papers (selection)

Fierăscu, Silvia I. & Schuurman, Dimitri (2025, October). The Backbone and the Bridges: Central Influence and Collaborative Integration in Living Labs Scholarship. *Open Living Lap Days*, Andorra la Vella, Andorra.

Fierăscu, Silvia I. & Schuurman, Dimitri (2025, March). A systematic bibliometric and network analysis of the body of knowledge of Living Labs. *International Society for Professional Innovation Management Conference (ISPIM Connects)*, Cape Town, South Africa.

Fierăscu, Silvia I. (2024, November). From Impact Assessment to Public Policy. The Case of Timişoara, European Capital of Culture in 2023. *MethodsNet Annual Conference*, UC Louvain, Belgium.

Fierăscu, Silvia I. (2024, November). ConnecTM - Career-Connected Learning at UVT, *EDEN 2024 Research Workshop & PhD Masterclass - Emerging Technologies, Challenges and Opportunities in Education and Research*, Polytechnic University of Timişoara, Romania.

Fierăscu, Silvia I. (2022, July). Network Science and Career-Connected Learning, *Network Science and Education Symposium (NetSciEd)*, NetSci Conference Satellite.

Fierăscu, Silvia I., Florea, Alexandra & Ruşitoru, Ianis. (2021, July). Formal and informal social networks in learning and education. A case study of experiential learning for social change, *Networks2021* (virtual).

Fierăscu, Silvia I. (2019, August). State Capture: Comparative Analysis of Corruption Networks, *115th American Political Science Association Annual Meeting and Exhibition (APSA)*, Washington, D.C., USA.

Anghel, Veronica & Fierăscu, Silvia I. (2019, August). A Granulated Universe: The Effect of Informal Networks on Democratization, *115th American Political Science Association Annual Meeting and Exhibition (APSA)*, Washington, D.C., USA.

Fierăscu, Silvia I. (2017, May). Corruption Networks in Post-Communist Countries: The Case of State Capture in Hungary, *SCOPE 2017 - 4th International Interdisciplinary Conference of Political Research*, Bucharest, Romania.

Fierăscu, Silvia I. (2016, November). Micro-Structures of Corruption Risks in Hungarian Public Procurement, 2009-2012, poster presentation, *Workshop on Statistical Network Analysis - Challenges in Industry and Society*, Turing Gateway to Mathematics, Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK.

Fierăscu, Silvia I. (2015 ,April). State Capture and Party Colonization in Post-Communist Hungary: A Network Analysis of Business-Political Logics of Action, *Mid-West Political Science Association Annual Conference*, Chicago, IL, USA.

Fierăscu, Silvia I. (2015, April). Politicizing the Economy. Patterns of Political Control Over Market Resources in Post-Communist Hungary, *Annual Doctoral Conference*, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary.

Fierăscu, Silvia I. (2014, April). The Networked Phenomenon of State Capture: A Theoretical Framework of Political- Business Elite Networks in Hungary, 1986-2006, *Annual Doctoral Conference*, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary.

Chiru, Mihail & **Fierăscu, Silvia I.** (2012, April). Parliamentary Representation under Changing Electoral Rules: Policy networks vs. Pork-Barrel Networks in the Romanian Parliament, *ECPR Joint Sessions of Workshops*, Antwerp, Belgium.

Chiru, Mihail & **Fierăscu, Silvia I.** (2012, June). Policy Networks or Pork Barrel Networks? A Case of Changing Electoral Rules, *The Inaugural General Conference of the ECPR Standing Group on Parliaments*, Dublin, Ireland.

Fierăscu, Silvia I. (2012, March). Strategic Collaborations in Legislative Networks, *XXXII INSNA Sunbelt Social Networks Conference*, Redondo Beach, CA, USA.

Fierăscu, Silvia I. (2011, June). Legislative Behavior in Romania. A Network Analysis, *NetSci - International School and Conference on Network Science*, Budapest, Hungary.

Fierăscu, Silvia I. (2011, May). Patterns of Legislative Behavior. A Network Analysis on Electoral System Change, *American Sociological Association Spring Methodology Conference (ASA)*, Tilburg University, Tilburg, Netherlands.

Relevant Research and Science Valorization Experience

Research Projects

2025 – present   **Emergency Situations Collaboration Management Ecosystem Platform**. Partner: Romanian Department of Emergency Situations.

2025	**Economic & Social Impact Analysis of Large Scale Cultural Events - Timişoara City Celebration 2025**. Partner: <u>Center for Projects</u>, Municipality of Timişoara.
2025	**Economic & Social Impact Analysis of Large Scale Cultural Events - JAZZx 2025**. Partner: <u>Centrul Cultural PLAI</u>, Municipality of Timişoara.
2024	**INTACT Living Lab: INtegrity and TrAnsparency Civic Tech Living Lab Concept**. Lead: West University of Timişoara. Partners: <u>Regional Government of Flanders</u> (Vlaamse Gewest) Belgium, <u>Municipality of Timişoara</u>, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa - <u>NOVA Information Management School</u> Portugal, <u>Association Smart City Timişoara</u>, <u>Central Alentejo Intermunicipality Community Portugal</u>.
2024	<u>**Safety Perceptions in Urban Environments for Vulnerable Communities**</u>. Partners: <u>Identity.Education</u> Romania, <u>BETA Timişoara Architecture Biennial</u>.
2023 – 2025	**Timişoara European Capital of Culture Ecosystem Evolution, 2017-2024, and Legacy Plan**. Partners: <u>Center for Projects Timişoara</u>, Municipality of Timişoara.
2023	**SDG Community Meetings & Projects**, Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV) project proposal. Lead: West University of Timişoara. Partners: Civil Society Union Cirkuliranje Serbia, Cultural Centre PLAI Romania, Resource Centre for Ethical and Solidar Initiatives Romania.
2022 – 2023	<u>**Bosch Alumni Network**</u> **Analysis**. Partners: <u>Făgăraş Research Institute</u>, <u>International Alumni Center</u>, Berlin, Germany.
2022 – present	**Barometer of Quality of Life in Timişoara**. Lead: West University of Timişoara, Partner: Municipality of Timişoara.
2022 – 2023	**Pilot project to analyze collaboration and cohesion networks among employees in the administrative structures of West University of Timişoara**. Partner: West University of Timişoara.
2021 – present	<u>**Re-UNITA - Research on Gender Equality**</u>. Partners: <u>UNITA Universitas Montium University Alliance</u>.
2020 – present	**OrgMapper Research Data Analysis**. Partner: Maven Seven Solutions Ltd., Budapest, Hungary.
2017-2021	**(Innovatively) Outsmarting Toxic Pseudoscience Outspread via Social Tools/Machines (I-OutPOST),** H2020-MSCA-ITN-2020 project proposal. Lead: West University of Timişoara. Partners: <u>University of Amsterdam</u> Netherlands, <u>University of Helsinki</u> Finland, <u>Vilnius University</u> Lithuania, <u>Western Norway University of Applied Sciences</u> Norway, <u>Ripe NCC</u> Netherlands, Avans AS Norway, <u>Hostinger</u> Lithuania, <u>Institute E-Austria</u> Romania, Genisoft Romania.
2020	**Development of a standardized quantitative analysis methodology of social networks with applicability in the field of competition**, in "Optimizing the interaction with the business environment and implementing advanced data analysis and exchange mechanisms by implementing an e-government information system and Big Data analysis within the Competition Council" - SMIS code 109641. Partners: <u>Government Transparency Institute</u> Hungary, <u>Romanian Competition Council</u>.
2017 – 2019	**Employability of student graduates, in "Integrated Programme for Correlation Measures of the educational offer of West University of Timişoara with the demands of the labor market"** (CNFIS-FDI-2017-0241), <u>Center for Public Policy</u>, West University of Timişoara, Timişoara, Romania.
2017	**Researcher¸ <u>COHESIFY</u> - Understanding the Impact of EU Cohesion Policy on European Identification**, Horizon 2020 project, 2016-2020, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary.
2017 – 2018	**Mapping High-Level Public Policy Conferences in Europe** (for Open Society Initiative for Europe, <u>Open Society Foundations</u>, Budapest, Hungary).

Contributions to Platform and Software Development

2026 – present   **ONA Synthetic Data Benchmark Protocol** *(under development)* – benchmark datasets, protocols and interactive digital platform for insight generation from Organizational Network Analysis, to help leadership decision-making, as part of the Network First Manifesto professional network.

2025 – present   **Emergency Situations Collaboration Management Ecosystem Platform** *(under development)* – digital platform for data visualization and coordination of the Romanian collaborative ecosystem in crisis management, in partnership with the Romanian Department of Emergency Situations.

2026   **Project Motherhood – The Anatomy of Care** – an auto-ethnographic data essay, documenting the first months of my role as a working mother, problematizing the invisible labor of childcare.

2025   **DataSenses** *(under development)* – a series of data literacy serious games for children (6-7 year olds) and youth (high school) + workshops for adult learning: DataSenses_Living Labs, _Culture, _Leadership, _Gender Equality, _e-Government, _Libraries.

2024   **(Un)Safe** – data analysis for the digital platform to explore urban safety perceptions of vulnerable groups in the city of Timişoara, in partnership with Identity. Education Timişoara.

2021 – present   **ConnecTM** – digital platform to present student projects in ConnecTM – Career-Connected Learning Programme at West University of Timişoara.

2017   **captured.silviafierascu.com** – award-winning prototype digital platform analyzing and visualizing insights into state capture from public procurement data.

Volunteering Activities

2025 – present   Co-organizer **Open Data Day Timişoara**

2024   Public Speaking Trainer at **TEDxAristide Demetriade** Timişoara

2020 – present   Ambassador **Women in Data Science Romania**

2018 – 2020   Political Catalogue Project, **Code for Romania**

Volunteer Mentoring Activities

2025 – present   Expert DIANA Mentor, **NATO DIANA Accelerator Programme**

2023   Mentor, **Women in Network Science (WiNS) Mentorship Programme**

2022   Coordinator, **Re-UNITA Gender Mentoring Programme**

2021 – 2022   Mentor, **APSA Mentoring Program**me

2021 – 2024   Remedial Expert, **ROSE 374 – Student Counselling**, Faculty of Governance and Communication Sciences, West University of Timişoara

2020 – 2021   Coordinator, **Peer-to-Peer Tutoring Programme**, Faculty of Governance and Communication Sciences, West University of Timişoara

Keynotes and Invited Talks (selection)

2025   Healthy Ecosystems of Change, **TEDxUSVT**, Timişoara, Romania

2025   Healthy Organizational Cultures, **Morning Shift**, Timişoara, Romania

2025   Open Data Analysis and Visualization for Transparency and Change, **E³UDRES² – Ent-r-e-novators PhD Summer School 2025**, Open Practices in Higher Education, Timişoara, Romania

2025   The Researcher View on Innovation Ecosystem Development, **Timişoara Innovation City Conference**, Timişoara, Romania

2025   Ecosystemic Thinking. See the Big Picture, Start with Trust, **SPOR Leadership Camp**, Breb, Romania

2025   Applied Social Network Analysis. Co-creating the Future, **MethodsNet**

2025   Strategic Leadership Insights: Leveraging Networks of Trust for Competitive Advantage, **Transylvania Executives' Hub**, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

2024   Roundtable Regulating Digital Content - from the European Union to the Practical Test in Romania, **West University of Timisoara**, Romania

2024   Building Resilient Communities through Transfer of Trust: Epistemic Networks in Culture, Trust in Epistemic Networks, **Institute of Philosophy, Technische Universitat Dresden**, Germany

2024   Network Science in Culture. Mapping Relationships, Building Resilient Ecosystems, **Why Culture Matters International Symposium**, Timisoara, Romania

2024   Building Resilient Ecosystems. Timisoara's Culture Story, <u>**University Network of European Capitals of Culture (UNeECC) Annual Conference, Impact & Legacy of the European Capitals of Culture Programme**</u>, Polytechnic University of Timisoara, Timişoara, Romania

2024   Roundtable Digitalization of Timişoara and Romania, **Municipality of Timişoara**, Romania

2024   Trust Networks as Data. The Journey Ahead, <u>**Social Network Analysis in Scotland (SNAS), University of Edinburgh**</u>, Edinburgh, UK

2024   How to Map Relationships to Make an Impact in the Classroom, with Parents and Colleagues, **AtelieR de Cuvinte National Secondary Education Seminar**, Timisoara, Romania

2023   Trust - The Hidden Power of Communities, **TEDxAristide Demetriade**, Timisoara, Romania

2023   Organizational Networks and Informal Power, <u>**SPOR Leadership Camp,**</u> **Scoala SPOR**, Breb, Romania

2023   Roundtable How to Research Climate Change: A Debate on Methods and Perspectives from Political Science, **House Series Debate, European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR), KU Leuven**, Belgium

2021   The Power of Network Science in Social Sciences, Organizations, and Innovation, <u>**Domino Lecture Series, Istanbul Bilgi University**</u>, Istanbul, Turkey

2021   Thriving in Research and Education, in a Context of Failure. A Tale of Youth Empowerment, **Resilience in Education and Research Panel, <u>Romanian International Conference for Research and Education</u>**, Bucharest, Romania

2020   Data Visualization for Social Impact, <u>**Data Visualization Lisboa Meetup**</u>, Lisbon, Portugal

2020   Networks as Anti-Corruption Policy Tools, <u>**Satellite on Corruption Networks**</u> **- Corruption Networks. From Data Analysis to Public Policy, <u>NetSci 2020 - International School and Conference on Network Science</u>** (virtual event)

2020   Network Science for Social Good, **Rajk Laszlo College for Advanced Studies**, Budapest, Hungary

2020   Corruption Networks in Public Procurement across European Countries, <u>**Women in Data Science Conference**</u>, Budapest, Hungary

2019   Pathways to Capturing the State: Comparative Analysis of Corruption Networks in Public Procuremen, <u>**General Conference of the European Cooperation for Network Data Science (COSTNET)**</u>, Bilbao, Spain

2019   Interlinking Data Science with Social Impact, **Wednesday Summits, <u>NOVA Information Management School, Universidade Nova de Lisboa</u>**, Lisbon, Portugal

2019   State Capture: Comparative Analysis of Corruption Networks, <u>**Open Contracting Partnership**</u>, Washington D.C., USA

2019   From data to sustainable social impact. What we need is what you have, <u>**Data Stories 2019,**</u> **Central European University**, Budapest, Hungary

2018   Roundtable Reaching Back. Continuities and Discontinuities of Democratic State Building in Central and Eastern Europe, <u>**Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen (IWM)**</u>, Vienna, Austria

2016   Applying network science to political problems. A conceptual and analytical framework for understanding and predicting corruption risks in business-political networks
       Network Science and its Applications Workshop, <u>Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences</u>, Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK

Academic Service

2026   Cultural Project Evaluator, **Center for Projects Timişoara**.

2025 – present Paper and Innovation Evaluator, Open Living Lab Days, **European Network of Living Labs**

2025   Expert Evaluator, **Momentum MSCA Premium Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme**, cofunded by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the European Commission under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions grant

2019 – present Member of **accreditation, admissions, hiring, HR Excellence, PhD committees** at the Faculty of Governance and Communication Sciences, West University of Timisoara

2020 – 2021   Editor of **Romanian Journal of Political Science**

2020 – 2021   Associate Editor of **Frontiers in Political Science - Methods and Measurement**

2019 – present	Reviewer for **EPJ Data Science, Journal of European Public Policy, Applied Network Science, Government and Opposition, Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery: Computation Communication Research**

Administrative Experience

2024 – present	**Advisory Board Member**, Erasmus+ KA2 cooperation partnership in adult education **Digital Libraries (DigLib)**
2024 – present	**Board Member**, Banat IT Association
2023	**Timișoara Ambassador**, InnovationLabs
2022 – present	**Organizer and Host**, Women in Data Science Timișoara
2021	**Co-organizer**, Women in Data Science Central & Eastern Europe
2020 – present	**Organizer and Host**, ONA Summit
2019 – 2022	**Project Manager**, Digital Society Podcast
2019 – 2022	**Organizer**, FabLab Seminar Series
2019 – 2020	**Co-founder**, Civic Anti-Corruption Tech Initiative
2017 – 2020	**Co-organizer**, Timișoara Workshops on Research Methods
2016	**Organizer and co-chair**, Exploring Massive Network Data, European Cooperation for Statistics of Network Data Science (COST) Action CA15109, 2016-2020
2016 – 2020	**Country Manager**, European Cooperation for Statistics of Network Data Science (COST) Action CA15109, 2016-2020
2016 – present	**External Expert**, COST Association
2013 – 2017	**Founder and organizer**, Data Stories - Research Visualization Exhibition and Meetup, Central Eureopean University, Budapest, Hungary

Membership in Professional Organizations

2026 – present	European Capitals of Culture (ECoC) Monitoring and Evaluation Network
2025 – present	Industry 5.0 Community of Practice (CoP 5.0)
2025 – present	Network-First Manifesto Community of Practice (NFM)
2025 – present	European Digital Education Hub Community of Practice (EDEH)
2025 – present	European Communication Research and Education Association (ECREA)
2024 – present	The Widening Inclusion and Gender Equality Community of Practice (WIGE CoP)
2023 – present	European Network of Living Labs (ENoLL)
2021 – present	Methods Excellence Network (MethodsNet)
2019 – present	American Political Science Association (APSA)
2012 – present	European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR)
2012 – present	International Network for Social Network Analysis (INSNA)

Data Analysis and Visualization Software

R, Gephi, ORA (CASOS), Tableau, Flourish, NodeXL, UCInet, CFinder

Languages

Romanian (native); English (bilingual, C2); German (independent user, B1/B2); Spanish (basic, A2)