

# Dr. Amalia Álvarez-Benjumea

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## Academic Positions

**Ramon y Cajal Researcher, [The Institute of Public Goods and Policies](#) at the Spanish National Research Council (IPP-CSIC), Madrid, January 2023 - present**

Visiting lecturer, [Carlos III-Juan March Institute of Social Sciences](#), Madrid, February - June 2024

Postdoctoral Fellow, Chair of Sociological Methodology at University of Mannheim (Germany), July -December 2022

Senior Research Fellow, Max Planck Institute for Research on Collective Goods, Bonn (Germany), August 2019-July 2022

Junior Research Fellow, Max Planck Institute for Research on Collective Goods, Bonn (Germany), August 2015- July 2019

## Research Interests

Social norms, mechanisms of normative change, prejudice, online hate, political norms.

## Education

**2019 PhD in Sociology, Cologne Graduate School in Management, Economics and Social Sciences, University of Cologne, Germany**

Dissertation title: *"The spreading of hostility: unraveling of social norms in communication"*

Committee: Prof. Dr. Clemens Kroneberg, Dr. Fabian Winter and Prof. Dr. Fetchenhauer

2018 International Max Planck Research Graduate School Adapting behaviour in a fundamentally uncertain world

2015 M.Sc. Applied Social Research, Stockholm University, Sweden

2011 M.Sc. Social Cognition: research and applications, University College London, UK

2010 B.Sc. Sociology, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain

## Visiting Positions

2022 Visiting researcher, LABBS, National Research Council of Italy.

2018 Visiting researcher, Department of Sociology, New York University.

2018 Visiting researcher, Norms and Networks Cluster (NNC) at University of Groningen (RUG)

## Publications in Peer-Reviewed Journals

1. Breznau, N., Rinke, E. M., Wuttke, A., Adem, M., Adriaans, J., Akdeniz, E., **Álvarez-Benjumea, A.**, ... & Sleepers, W. (2025). [The reliability of replications: A study in computational reproductions](#). *Royal Society Open Science*, 12(3), 241038. DOI: [10.1098/rsos.241038](#)
2. Sendroiu, I., **Álvarez-Benjumea, A.** & Winter, F. (2025) [Time's Up? How Temporal Maps of Climate Change Shape Climate Action](#). *American Sociological Review*, 90(2), 171-194. DOI: [10.1177/00031224251320103](#)
3. **Álvarez-Benjumea, A.** (2024). [Social Norms and the Expression of Prejudice: How the Norm Changes](#). *Current Opinion in Psychology*, 101974. DOI: [10.1016/j.copsyc.2024.101974](#)
4. Meiske, B., **Álvarez-Benjumea, A.**, Andrighetto, G., and Polizzi, E. (2024). [Nudging Punishment Against Sharing of Fake News](#). *European Economic Review*, 104795. DOI: [10.1016/j.eurocorev.2024.104795](#)
5. **Álvarez-Benjumea, A.**, Winter, F., & Zhang, N. (2024). [Norms of prejudice: political identity and polarization](#). *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B*, 379(1897), 20230030. DOI: [10.1098/rstb.2023.0030](#)
6. **Álvarez-Benjumea, A.**, & Valentim, V. (2024). [The Enforcement of Political Norms: Theory and Evidence from Spain](#). *British Journal of Political Science*, 1 - 24. DOI: [10.1017/S0007123423000716](#)
7. **Álvarez-Benjumea, A.** (2023). [Uncovering hidden opinions: social norms and the expression of xenophobic attitudes](#). *European Sociological Review*, 39.3 : 449-463. DOI: [10.1093/esr/jcac056](#)  

*2023 European Academy of Sociology Distinguished Publication Prize*
8. Breznau, N., Rinke, E. M., Wuttke, A., Adem, M., Adriaans, J., **Alvarez-Benjumea, A.**, ... & Balzer, D. (2022). [Observing Many Researchers Using the Same Data and Hypothesis Reveals a Hidden Universe of Uncertainty](#). *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 119(44), e2203150119. DOI: [10.1073/pnas.2203150119](#)
9. **Álvarez-Benjumea, A.** (2020). [Exposition to xenophobic content and support for right-wing populism: The asymmetric role of gender](#). *Social Science Research*, 92, 102480. DOI: [10.1016/j.ssresearch.2020.102480](#)
10. **Álvarez-Benjumea, A.**, & Winter, F. (2020). [The Breakdown of Anti-Racist Norms: A Natural Experiment on Hate Speech after Terrorist Attacks](#). *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 117(37), 22800-22804. DOI: [10.1073/pnas.2007977117](#)
11. **Álvarez-Benjumea, A.**, & Winter, F. (2018). [Normative Change and Culture of Hate: An Experiment in Online Environments](#). *European Sociological Review*, 34(3), 223-237. DOI: [10.1093/esr/jcy005](#)

## Working Papers

1. Drouhot, L. & **Álvarez-Benjumea, A.** (2024), Anti-discrimination norms and cultural membership among minorities in Germany—an experimental study of ‘recognition gaps’
2. **Álvarez-Benjumea, A.** (2022) Sanctioning hate: Three experiments on counterspeech.
3. **Álvarez-Benjumea, A.,** Freund, L., Luckner, k., and Winter, F. (2020) Public Signals as Coordination Devices: the Moderating Effect of Group Identity.

## Invited Talks

- 4/2025 "Enforcing Political Norms: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Madrid". MZES Kolloquium | University of Mannheim, Germany.
- 3/2025 "Social Norms and Online Hate". Leverhulme Social Norms and Applications Seminar | Royal Holloway University, UK.
- 12/2024 "Punishing hate: Three experiments on counterspeech". Seminar Series | Political Science Department, University of Barcelona, Spain.
- 11/2024 "The Enforcement of political norms". InFer Colloquium | Department of Sociology, Goethe University of Frankfurt, Germany.
- 11/2024 "Normas sociales en la política: evidencia empírica en España". Seminar Series | IESA (CSIC), Córdoba, Spain.
- 10/2024 "Uncovering hidden opinions: social norms and the expression of xenophobic attitudes". European Academy of Sociology Annual Meeting | Sciences Po, France.
- 05/2024 "Social Norms and Online Hate Speech". Robert K. Merton Lecture Series | Department of Sociology, University of Leipzig, Germany.
- 11/2023 "Punishing hate: Three experiments on counterspeech". IAS Seminar series | Institute for Analytical Sociology (IAS), Sweden
- 11/2023 "Social Norms and Online Hate Speech". Cognition, Values and Behaviour Lab Meeting | Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich (LMU), Germany
- 3/2023 "Punishing hate: Three experiments on counterspeech". MAD Colloquium | Berlin Social Science Center WZB, Germany
- 9/2022 "Uncovering hidden opinions: social norms and the expression of xenophobic attitudes". Seminars in Politics and Society, Collegio Carlo Alberto, Italy
- 2/2022 Cooperative relations seminar, University of Utrecht, The Netherlands
- 2/2022 Laboratory of Agent Based Social Simulation (LABBS) at National Research Council of Italy
- 9/2021 [Understanding and Automating Counterspeech](#). Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH). Cambridge, UK.
- 6/2021 "Social Norms and Online Hate Speech". CounterBalance Seminar. Santa Fe Institute, New Mexico, USA
- 12/2020 "The Breakdown of Anti-Racist Norms: A Natural Experiment on Normative Uncertainty after Terrorist Attacks". Opening workshop of the *Red de investigación en Ciencias Sociales Experimentales* (RedEx), Online

6/2020 "Social Norms and Online Hate Speech". Summer Institute in Computational Social Science Maastricht (SICSS-Maastricht), Online

6/2019 "The Breakdown of Anti-Racist Norms: A Natural Experiment on Normative Uncertainty after Terrorist Attacks". Centro de Ciencias Humanas y Sociales (CCHS) del CSIC, Madrid, Spain

5/2019 "The Breakdown of Anti-Racist Norms: A Natural Experiment on Normative Uncertainty after Terrorist Attacks". Mittelbaukolloquium, Mannheim Centre for European Social Research (MZES) at the University of Mannheim, Germany

10/2018 "The Breakdown of Anti-Racist Norms: A Natural Experiment on Normative Uncertainty after Terrorist Attacks". Democracy, Elections and Citizenship (DEC) Seminar at the Department of Political Science of the Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain

## Selected Conference & Workshop Presentations

2024

Madrid Empirical Social Sciences (MESS) inaugural workshop, Madrid (Spain)

European Consortium for Sociological Research (ECSR), Barcelona (Spain)

Annual Conference of Experimental Sociology (ACES), Turin (Italy)

16th Conference of the International Network of Analytical Sociologists (INAS), University of Leipzig, Germany.

Workshop on Experimental Research on ethnic diversity, discrimination, and pro-sociality in European societies, MZES (University of Mannheim), Germany.

2023

Annual Conference of Experimental Sociology (ACES), Madrid, Spain

15th Conference of the International Network of Analytical Sociologists (INAS), Princeton University, NJ, USA.

Interdisciplinary conference on social norms, Nuffield College, Oxford, UK.

2022

Annual Conference of Experimental Sociology (ACES), Utrecht, The Netherlands

14th Conference of the International Network of Analytical Sociologists (INAS), EUI, Florence, Italy

2021

II Jornadas Experimentos en Sociología y política, Barcelona, Spain

Political Norms Workshop at EUI. Florence, Italy

Annual Conference of Experimental Sociology (ACES), Ascona, Switzerland

13th Conference of the International Network of Analytical Sociologists (INAS), Tokyo, Japan (Online)

2019

Digital Societies, 2nd Conference of the The Academy of Sociology (AS), Konstanz, Germany

12th Conference of the International Network of Analytical Sociologists (INAS), St. Petersburg, Russia

6th International Meeting on Experimental and Behavioral Social Sciences (IMEBESS) at the Utrecht University, Utrecht, The Netherlands

I Jornadas Experimentos en Sociología y política, Seville, Spain

2018

Workshop on *Rationality and Irrationality in Democracy* at the XIX ISA World Congress of Sociology, Toronto, Canada

2017

10th Conference of the International Network of Analytical Sociologists (INAS), Oslo, Norway

10th JDM Meeting, Max Planck Institute for Research on Collective Goods, Bonn, Germany

PhD workshop at the 13th conference of the European sociological association (ESA), Athens, Greece

Workshop on Common good and self-interest in the digital Society at the congress of the Swiss sociological association (SSA), Zurich, Switzerland

## Teaching Experience

### *Postgraduate Level*

Socio-demography, Spring Semester 2024. Carlos III University - Juan March (IC3JM)

Seminar on Social Norms and Mechanisms of Normative Change Seminar, Fall semester 2022. University of Mannheim, School of Social Sciences.

Workshop on Online Experiments at The Research Training Group “The Dynamics of Demography, Democratic Processes and Public Policy” (DYNAMICS). Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and Hertie School 10th November, 2021. Berlin, Germany.

Summer School in Experimental Methods & Simulations in Social and Cognitive Sciences (EMS-SCS 2021). 13-22 July, 2021. Saint Petersburg, Russia

[Online experiments with examples from sociology and political science](#)

2nd RECSM Winter Methods School 2021 at Pompeu Fabra University. 18, February, 2021. Online

[Online and lab-in-the-field experiments](#)

### *Undergraduate Level*

Laboratory exercises, Multivariate analysis course. Fall semester 2022. BA in Sociology at University of Mannheim.

## Fellowships, Grants and Awards

### *Awards*

2023 European Academy of Sociology Prize for Best Article awarded to the article *Uncovering hidden opinions: social norms and the Expression of xenophobic attitudes*

### *Fellowships & Grants*

IAE-PRE Predoctoral Grant Competitive funding to support the hiring of predoctoral staff), Spanish National Research Council, 2024, PI (32 449 €)

Project NORMPOL (Norms in the political arena), Spanish Ministry of Science, 2022, Co-PI with Luis Miller (112 500 €)

Atracción del Talento, Spanish National Research Council, 2023, PI (49 700 €)

Ramon y Cajal 2021 Fellowship, Government of Spain, PI (305 777 €)

Margarita Salas Fellowship, Government of Spain, 2021 (*Declined*).

London School of Economics Fellowship Prize in Quantitative Methods, 2021 (*Shortlisted*).

European Sociological Association (ESA) PhD Summer School Scholarship, 2017.

### Professional Activities & Service

2025 UN Women (WYDE) Expert Group Meeting on Social Norms for Women's Political Participation

2024 Panel member, Agencia Estatal de Investigación

2023 Panel member, Agencia Estatal de Investigación

2022 Associate Fellow at [LABBS, National Research Council of Italy](#)

2022 Member of the editorial Board of [Papers, Revista de Sociologia](#)

2016-2017 PhD internal representative, Max Planck Society, 2016-2017

### *Organization of Scientific Meetings*

Madrid Empirical Social Sciences (MESS) conference. October 18-19 2024, Madrid, Spain.

Annual Conference of Experimental Sociology (ACES), 30th August - 1st September 2023, Madrid, Spain

Workshop on Mechanisms of normative change at the XIX ISA World Congress of Sociology, 15-21 July, 2018, Toronto, Canada.

### *Reviewer*

*Journal of Economic Psychology, American Sociological Review, American Political Science Review, PLOS One, Nature, Journal of Politics, Campbell Collaboration, European Sociological Review, Rationality and Society, Philosophical Transactions B., Social Science Research, and European Societies*

### Skills & Additional information

#### *Languages*

English (fluent), German (Basic), Swedish (Basic), Spanish (Native).

#### *Programming Languages and Scientific Applications*

Qualtrics, Python, Stata, R, LaTeX, oTree.

Last updated: April 15, 2025