# Alexandria Wilson-McDonald, Ph.D.

Department of Politics, Governance, and Economics School of International Service American University Washington, D.C.

Email: awilsonm@american.edu www.alexandriawilsonmcdonald.com

### **CURRENT POSITION**

Professorial Lecturer, School of International Service, American University, 2022 -

### PAST POSITIONS

Postdoctoral Researcher, American Studies Center, University of Warsaw, Poland, 2022

Instructor, Department of Political Science, Eastern Illinois University, 2021

#### EDUCATION

## Ph.D. Political Science, University of Florida (UF), Gainesville, 2021

First Field: Comparative Politics

Second Field: Public Policy & Administration

Third Field: Gender and Politics

Graduate Certificate in Women's and Gender Studies Graduate Certificate in Modern European Studies

Dissertation: "The State of/in Women's Bodies: Feminist Framing of Gender-based

Violence in Central Eastern Europe"

Committee: Conor O'Dwyer (chair), Michael Bernhard, Laura Sjoberg, Suzanne

Robbins, K.L. Broad (Sociology/Women's and Gender Studies)

Institute for Qualitative and Multi-method Research (IQMR), Syracuse University, 2017 Letní Škola Slovanských Studií (Summer School of Slavonic Studies) - Charles University, Prague Czech Republic, 2015

M.A. Political Science, University of Florida, Gainesville, 2017 M.A. Political Science, University of Central Florida, Orlando, 2014 B.A. Political Science, University of South Florida, Tampa, 2012

Minor: Women's and Gender Studies

Honor's College, Cum Laude

### PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

"Gendering Violence in the Age of Anti-Genderism: Feminist Framing of Violence Against Women in Slovakia." (2023) *Communist and Post-Communist Studies*, 56 (2): 136–158. doi: https://doi.org/10.1525/cpcs.2023.1828365

"Do Czech Women Need 'Gender'?: A Conceptual History of 'Gender' in Czechia." (2023) Feminist Review, 134(1), 21–37. https://doi.org/10.1177/01417789231166412

"Creating a Hostile State in Slovakia: Anti-Gender Political Strategies and Impacts." (Forthcoming) Book chapter in *The War on Gender and The Gender of War in Central and Eastern Europe*, edited by Katalin Fábián, Lexington Books.

#### **BOOK REVIEWS**

"A Queer History of Communism: Navigating Sexuality and Gender in Czechoslovakia, 1945-1989", an analytic review of *Queer Encounters with Communist Power: Non-heterosexual Lives and the State in Czechoslovakia, 1948-1989* by Věra Sokolová. *Feminist Critique: East European Journal of Feminist and Queer Studies.* (2022)

Book Review of Women Have Better Sex Under Socialism and Other Arguments for Economic Independence by Kristen Ghodsee. Journal of Gender Studies. (2019)

Book Review of Second World, Second Sex: Socialist Women's Activism and Global Solidarity during the Cold War by Kristen Ghodsee. International Feminist Journal of Politics. (2019)

Book Review of *Czech Feminisms: Perspectives on Gender in East Central Europe.* ed. by Iveta Jusová and Jiřina Šiklová. *European Journal of Women's Studies.* (2018)

#### MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

"Framing Feminism: Feminist Activism and the Hostile State in Central Eastern Europe"

- Book manuscript in preparation
- "An Interpretive Policy Analysis of Czechia's National Action Plan for the Prevention of Domestic and Gender-based Violence"
- Article manuscript in preparation

- "Framing Gender-based Violence in Times of Anti-gender Movements: An Analysis of Collective Action Frames in Czechia"
- Article manuscript in preparation
- "The 'Sticky Sign' of 'Gender': anti-gender and far-right actors use of 'gender' in Slovakia & Czechia."
- Article manuscript in preparation

### PUBLISHED ESSAYS & COMMENTARY

"The Vatican, LGBT Rights, and the Anti-Gender Movement." *School of International Service News*. (2024)

"Six Questions After Slovakia's Election." School of International Service News. (2023)

"Four Questions about Poland's Election Results." School of International Service News. (2023)

"Gender is at the Core of Attacks on Democracy in the U.S. and Abroad." Ms. Magazine. (2023)

"Amid The Russian Invasion, Ukraine Stands up for Gender Equality." Ms. Magazine. (2022)

"Eastern Europe's Anti-gender Movement and What it Means for America." *Ms. Magazine*. (2021)

"Combating Violence Against Women in the Czech Republic: Beyond the Coronavirus." *The Brno Daily.* (2020)

"Bridging the Divide Between Eastern and Western Feminisms." In *Welcome to the Light: Writings of Emerging Feminist Thinkers*. Edited by Jennifer Rubino. (2020)

"Want To Be A Modern Sophisticated Girl? Do Not Complain. Is Slovakia In A Post-feminist Era?" *FEMINIST.FYI*. Bratislava, Slovakia (2019)

# **COURSES TAUGHT**

## **American University, School of International Service - Professorial Lecturer**

SIS 676 - Gender-Based Violence: An International Perspective (In person)

SIS 672 - Frameworks of Comparative and Regional Studies (In person)

SIS 676 - Challenges to European Governance and Policy (In person)

SISU 306 - Advanced International Studies Research - Feminist Methods and Gender-based Research in International Studies (In person)

SISU 206 - Introduction to International Studies Research (In person)

SISU 260 - Identity, Race, Gender, and Culture in International Studies (In person)

# **Eastern Illinois University - Instructor**

PLS 3863 - Politics in Developing Nations (In person)

PLS 5200 - Public Administration Ethics (Online)

PLS 5843 - Public Policy Research and Analysis (Online)

## University of Florida - Instructor of record

WST 4935 - Capstone Seminar in Women's Studies (Online)

WST 3015 - Interdisciplinary Perspectives in Women's Studies (Online)

CPO 4034 - Politics in Developing Nations (In person)

### **University of Florida -** Teaching Assistant

WST 3930 - Violence Against Women (In person)

WST 2322 - Introduction to Health Disparities (Online)

WST 3371 - Women in Leadership (Online)

# RESEARCH AWARDS, GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

Faculty Exceptional Research Award, School of International Service, American University, 2023 (awarded to cover open access fees for accepted article)

The Kosciuszko Foundation Postgraduate Research Grant, Summer 2022

O. Ruth McQuown Supplementary Scholarship Award, University of Florida, 2019

Carrie Chapman Catt Prize for Research on Women and Politics, Iowa State University, 2019

Fulbright Research Grant, U.S. Department of State, 2018 - 2019

Dauer Fellowship, Department of Political Science, University of Florida, 2018

Rothman Doctoral Fellowship in the Humanities, University of Florida, 2018

Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship recipient, Czech, Center for European Studies, University of Florida, Academic Years 2015-2018

Travel Award, Thinking Gender at the Center for the Study of Women, UCLA Conference, 2016

Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship recipient, Czech, Center for European Studies, University of Florida, Summer 2015

Department of Political Science Travel Grant, University of Florida, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2019

Graduate Student Council Professional Development Travel Award, University of Florida, 2017

Prestage-Cook Travel Award, Southern Political Science Association, 2014

#### TEACHING AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

Nominated by students for American University's Achievement Award, Outstanding Mentorship of Student Research and/or Creative Work, 2022-2023

Department of Political Science Best Graduate Student Teacher Award, University of Florida, Fall 2020

Madelyn Lockhart Graduate Student Teaching Fellowship, University of Florida, 2020-2021

Vada Yeoman's Fellowship, Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies Research, University of Florida, 2019

### RESEARCH AND CONFERENCE PAPERS

Roundtable member Who Is Colonizing Whom?: Liberations and Oppressions in the Anti-Gender Politics of Central and Eastern Europe

- Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, December 2023
- "Government Strategy as Feminist Activism: A Frame Analysis of Czechia's Anti-Violence Policy Documents"
- Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, October 2023
- "Framing Gender-based Violence in the Period of Anti-genderism: case studies of Czechia, Slovakia, and Poland."
- Gender & Transformation in Central-Eastern Europe and Eurasia Workshop, CUNY Graduate Center - European Studies Center, 2023
- "Mastering The Frame: Feminist Framing and Conservative Co-optation Of Violence Against Women In Poland"
- International Conference of Europeanists, Lisbon, Portugal, 2022
- "A Conceptual History of "Gender" in the Czech Context" (paper accepted)
- International Spring School Decolonizing Gender Studies, Kassel, Germany, 2022
- "Post-communist Feminisms in the Comparative Perspective: A Study of Gender-based Violence Frames in Czechia, Slovakia, and Poland" (paper accepted)
- Association for Women in Slavic Studies, Virtual, 2022

- "Boom to Bust: A Conceptual History of 'Gender' in Czechia"
- American Political Science Association Meeting, Virtual, 2021
- "Feminist Framing of Gender-based Violence in Poland"
- International Conference of Europeanists, Virtual, 2021
- "Regulating Women's Bodies and the Sanctity of Life: framing abortion and in-vitro fertilization in Poland and Germany, a comparative study"
- International Studies Association (ISA) Conference, Virtual, 2021
- "#MeToo? Divisive Feminisms in Eastern Europe"
- National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) Conference, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 2020 (cancelled due to the COVID-19 Pandemic)
- "From Backlash to Radicalism: Anarcha-feminist Framing of Gender-based Violence in the Czech Republic"
- Southern Conference on Slavic Studies (SCSS), Greenville, South Carolina, 2020 (cancelled due to the COVID-19 Pandemic)
- "Framing Violence Against Women in a period of Backlash: Cases of Czechia and Slovakia"
- Feminist Alliances: the discourses, practices and politics of solidarity among inequalities.
  Department of Social and Political Sciences, Scuola Normale Superiore, Palazzo Strozzi Florence, 2019
- "Masculinity and Femininity in International Relations"
- Supervised Research with Dr. Laura Sjoberg at the University of Florida, 2017
- "The Effects of Anti-gender Backlash in Eastern Europe"
- Supervised Research with Dr. Conor O'Dwyer, University of Florida, 2017
- "In what ways has the global feminist movement contributed to the anti-trafficking movement in Eastern Europe?"
- Thinking Gender at the Center for the Study of Women, UCLA Conference, 2016
- "The Anti-Trafficking Movement in Post-Communist Europe: Case Studies of Anti-Trafficking and Feminist Organizing in Poland and Hungary"
- The Southern Political Science Association Conference, 2016
- "The Effects of Divided Government on Women's Organizations' Political Activity in Developed Democracies: Case Studies of the United States and Ireland"
- The Southern Political Science Association Conference, 2015

- "A Comparative Study of Women's Political Participation in Post-Communist Czech Republic and Post-Soviet Russia"
- The Southern Political Science Association Conference, 2014
- "Why Haven't Gender Quota Laws Been Successful in Increasing Female Representation in the National Congress of Brazil"
- The International Women's Issues Conference (IWIC), 2014

Master's Thesis: "The Effects of Divided Government on Women's Organizations' Political Activity in Developed Democracies: Case Studies of the United States and Ireland." University of Central Florida, 2014

#### **INVITED LECTURES**

Guest speaker for the class Schools of Thought in International Relations (SIS-801) (Professor James Goldgeier), American University, fall 2023

Guest Lecture entitled "Writing with an Ethnographic Sensibility" for the class Writing in the Social Sciences (SYA 4506 / ENC3464) (Instructor Taylor R. McDonald), University of Florida - Fall 2020

Guest Lecture entitled "The Istanbul Convention and Violence Against Women" for the class Violence Against Women (WST 3930) (Instructor Dr. Maddie Coy) University of Florida - Spring 2020

Guest Lecture entitled "Feminism from East to West: Reflections from the Field" for the class Gender and International Relations (INR 4085) (Instructor Taylor R. McDonald), University of Florida - Spring 2019

Guest Lecture entitled "Feminism from East to West: Reflections from the Field" for the class Gender and International Relations (INR 4085) (Instructor Taylor R. McDonald), University of Florida - Fall 2019

Guest Lecture entitled "Framing Feminism" for the class Gender and Society (Instructor Dr. Pavla Jonssonova) at Charles University Prague - Spring 2019

Guest Lecture entitled "The Women's Movement in the U.S. Perspective" at Gymnázium Zábřeh, Czech Republic, Spring 2019

Guest Lecture entitled "Women's Rights, Human Rights, and the Body" for the class Gender in International Relations (INR 4085) (Instructor Taylor R. McDonald), University of Florida - Spring 2019

Co-chair of the Gender and Sexuality Faculty Research Cluster, School of International Service, 2023 - present

Affiliated Faculty in the Transatlantic Policy Center at American University, a Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, 2022 - present

Member of American University Cultural Inquiry Core Committee, 2023 - present

Organizer and panelist, Feminist and Queer Approaches to Research Methods panel, School of International Service Gender & Sexuality Faculty Research Cluster, American University, spring 2024

Co-moderator for Ambassadors Up-Close: Spotlight on the Western Balkans, Transatlantic Policy Center, American University, spring 2024

Interviewer for Fulbright applicant to the Czech Republic, American University, 2023

Served on the School of International Service Scholarship Committee - The Davenport Fund and The Undergraduate Fund, American University, 2023

Member of the Community Working Group on Preventing and Responding to Sexual Harassment and Violence at American University, 2022 - 2023

Committee member on Alternative Break Program interview committee for students planning a trip to Latvia to study social justice and LGBTQ+ rights, American University, 2023

Gender Equality and Social Policy expert at UNESCO Inclusive Policy Lab, 2021 - present

Interviewer for Fulbright applicant to Ukraine, Eastern Illinois University, 2021

Participant in the panel "Sex Trafficking and Gender Violence" for UF's Ethics and the Public Sphere, February 2020

Organizer of *Americans and Czechs Against Sexual Violence: A Symposium in Solidarity*, held at the American Center as an outreach program for the American Embassy in Prague, March 2019

Discussant on the panel "Regional Public Policy Convergence and Divergence" at the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) General Conference, 2017

UF Political Science Graduate Student Council (PSGSC) Treasurer, 2015-2016, 2016-2017, 2017-2018

UF Political Science Graduate Student Council (PSGSC) Comparative Field Representative, 2016-2017

# RESEARCH INTERESTS

Democratization & Democratic Backsliding, Feminist Research Methods, Feminist Theory, Politics of Central Eastern Europe, Social Movements