



REHAN ALI MIRZA

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3620 Walnut St, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania - 19104, United States

EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania <i>Ph.D. in Communications</i>	<i>Aug 2025 - Present</i> Philadelphia, PA, U.S.
• Advisor: Sandra González-Bailón Affiliation: Center for Information Networks and Democracy (CIND)	
• Research interests: Prosocial platform design, user behavior, network interactions, digital governance	
Harvard Kennedy School <i>Master in Public Policy</i>	<i>May 2023</i> Cambridge, MA, U.S.
Capstone thesis: Tracking digital censorship of prosocial platform use cases in autocratic contexts	
University College London <i>MSc. Global Health and Development</i>	<i>September 2016</i> London, U.K.
Distinction, top 5 in cohort of 90+ students	
University of Cambridge <i>B.A. Economics</i>	<i>June 2014</i> Cambridge, U.K.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Prosocial Design Network <i>Fellow</i>	<i>Apr 2025 - Present</i> Remote
• Product mapping of LLM-enabled tools to improve discourse on social media	
• Facilitating workshops on translating research in practice in trust & safety	
Department of Government, University of Birmingham <i>Research Associate</i>	<i>Oct 2024 - Jul 2025</i> Birmingham, U.K.
• Statistical and geospatial analysis investigating environmental-violence pathways	
• Narrative and dataset review, developing a conceptual framework on climate-health engagement	
Institute of Child Health, University College London <i>Research Assistant</i>	<i>Sep 2015 - Feb 2017</i> London, U.K.
• Multivariate analysis and data collection to evaluate public health interventions	

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Policy Researcher Shorenstein Center, Harvard Kennedy School	<i>Cambridge, MA, U.S. 2023-24</i>
• Analyzed platform governance using Facebook Papers dataset for policy recommendations	
• Research and website development for voter education campaign on responsible social media use	
• Engaged with the FCC, FTC, and Obama Foundation on digital governance initiatives	
Strategy Consultant L.E.K. Consulting	<i>London, U.K. 2017-21</i>
• Quantitative modeling and data analysis across 20+ projects for public sector and commercial clients	
• 60+ semi-structured interviews; survey design and analysis; large dataset modeling	
Research Intern UNICEF Innovation	<i>Copenhagen, Denmark 2015</i>
Market research and data analysis on emerging health technology products	
Intern World Health Organization	<i>Geneva, Switzerland 2014-15</i>
Organized Global mHypertension Workshop engaging 60+ cross-sector experts	

SELECTED PROJECTS

- Integrity Institute:** Operational Lead for Tech Policy Tracker *Aug 2024 - Present*
- Voluntary project - built database for tracking U.S. federal and state technology legislation, including a front-end searchable repository
 - Semi-automated data processing pipeline using ML for bill summarization and vector search functionality
- Digital Policy Alert:** Policy tracking and analysis *Oct 2024 - Jun 2025*
- Comparative analysis of content moderation laws across global jurisdictions
 - Contributed ~30% of new policy tracker entries in the Activity Tracker database during tenure
- Trustible (AI Governance platform):** Consulting project on AI governance readiness *Jul 2023 - Oct 2023*
- Interviewed privacy professionals on AI governance readiness
- Twitter (Now X):** Capstone project on digital repression of prosocial media use *Oct 2022 - Apr 2023*
- Mixed-methods analysis demonstrated prosocial use cases of Twitter in three autocratic country contexts

PUBLICATIONS

Policy Publications:

- Giardini, T., Buza, M., & Mirza, R. (2025). **1. Global Digital Policy Roundup: May 2025.** *Tech Policy Press.*
- Mirza, R., Giardini, T., & Buza, M. (2025). **2. How Can Governments Regulate Default Settings to Unlock User-Friendly Features?** *Tech Policy Press.*
- Mirza, R. (2024). **3. How AI deepfakes threaten the 2024 elections.** *The Journalists Resource.*
- Mirza, R. (2023). **4. Privacy Pioneers: AI as the New Frontier.** *Trustible.*
- Skeadas, T., Mirza, R., & Vishwanath, M. (2023). **5. Digital Disruption: Measuring the Social and Economic Costs of Internet Shutdowns?** *Tech Policy Press.*

Discussion Papers & Case Studies:

- Mirza, R. (2023). **Case Study on Online Youth Harms – Project Daisy.** *Shorenstein Center.*
- Mirza, R. (2023). **Case Study: Integrity or Influence? Facebook's Governance Trade-offs in India.** *Shorenstein Center.*
- Jetty, S., Chen, T., & Mirza, R. (2022). **Meme War: The GameStop Short Squeeze Campaign.** *Media Manipulation Casebook.*

PRESENTATIONS & CONFERENCES

"A Narrative Review of Public and Political Engagement on Health and Climate Change"

Mirza, R., Birmingham Institute for Sustainability and Climate Action, July 16, 2025

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Research Methods:** Statistical analysis, geospatial analysis, survey design, content analysis, literature reviews, semi-structured interviews
- **Programming:** Python, R, Stata, API integration, ML/NLP deployment
- **Tools:** Qualtrics, Tableau, Alteryx, database management, web development

TEACHING & MENTORING

- **Course Assistantships:** Politics of the Press (Prof. Nancy Gibbs, Harvard Kennedy School, Fall 2022); Politics and Ethics in Unstable Times (Prof. Yanilda Gonzalez, Harvard Kennedy School, Spring 2023)
- **Academic Advising:** Dudley Community, Harvard College (2022-2023)

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

- **Writing:** Co-founded Writers Professional Interest Group, Harvard Kennedy School (2022-2023)
- **Performing Arts:** Harvard Noteables Broadway Show Choir - singing, choreography, scriptwriting (2022-2023)
- **International Service:** U.K. International Citizen Service volunteer, Eastern Cape, South Africa (2014)