

Department of Political Science
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DOMINIK A. STECUŁA

academic positions

2020-present

Assistant Professor of Political Science, Colorado State University

2018-2020

Martin Fishbein Postdoctoral Fellow in the Annenberg Center for Advanced Study in
 Communication, Annenberg Public Policy Center, University of Pennsylvania

SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow (nonresident), Centre For Public Opinion and Political
 Representation, Simon Fraser University

education

Ph.D, Political Science, University of British Columbia, 2018

Major field: *American politics* Minor field: *Comparative politics*

Dissertation: *Mainstream media and political polarization in the US*

Recipient of SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship and the Four Year Fellowship

Committee: Paul Quirk (Chair), Fred Cutler, Richard Johnston, and Stuart Soroka (Michigan)

M.A., Political Science, McGill University, 2012

Major field: *Comparative politics*

Thesis: *Public Opinion and Democracy in Poland*

Supervisor: Stuart Soroka

B.A., Political Science & History, University of Michigan, Dearborn, 2008

Dual major

Summa cum laude

Recipient of the Chancellor's Medallion

books

Levendusky, M. & Stecuła, D.A. 2021. "We Need to Talk: How Cross-Party Dialogue
 Reduces Affective Polarization," Cambridge Elements in Experimental Political
 Science, *Cambridge University Press*. [LINK](#)

refereed publications

Motta, M. & Stecuła, D.A. 2021. "Quantifying the effect of Wakefield et al. (1998) on
 skepticism about MMR vaccine safety in the U.S.," *PLOS One*, August 19, 2021.
[LINK](#)

Stecula, D.A. & Pickup, M. 2021. "Social Media, Cognitive Reflection, and Conspiracy
 Beliefs," *Frontiers in Political Science*, June 8, 2021. [LINK](#)

- Kuru, O., **Stecula**, D.A., Lu, H., Ophir, Y., Chan, M., Winneg, K., Jamieson, K.H. & Albarracin, D. 2021. "The Effects of Scientific Messages and Narratives about Vaccination," *PLOS One*, March 24, 2021. [LINK](#)
- Stecula**, D.A. & Pickup, M. 2021. "How populism and conservative media fuel conspiracy beliefs about COVID-19 and what it means for COVID-19 behaviors," *Research and Politics*, January 2021. [LINK](#)
- Lee, N.R. & **Stecula**, D.A. 2021. "Subnational Bipartisanship on Climate Change: Evidence from Surveys of Local and State Policymakers," *Climatic Change* 164(1), pp. 1-12, January 2021. [LINK](#)
- Stecula**, D.A., Kuru, O., & Jamieson, K.H. 2020. "Policy views and negative beliefs about vaccines in the United States, 2019," *American Journal of Public Health* 110, no. 10 (October 1, 2020): pp. 1561-1563. [LINK](#)
- Merkley, E. & **Stecula**, D.A.. 2020. "Party Cues in the News: Democratic Elites, Republican Backlash, and the Dynamics of Climate Skepticism," *The British Journal of Political Science*, 1-18, doi:10.1017/S0007123420000113. [LINK](#)
- Pickup, M., **Stecula**, D.A., & van der Linden, C. 2020. "Novel Coronavirus, Old Partisanship: COVID-19 Attitudes and Behaviours in the United States and Canada," *Canadian Journal of Political Science*. [LINK](#)
- Motta, M., **Stecula**, D.A., & Farhart, C. 2020. "How Right-Leaning Media Coverage of COVID-19 Facilitated the Spread of Misinformation in the Early Stages of the Pandemic in the U.S.," *Canadian Journal of Political Science*. [LINK](#)
- Stecula**, D.A., Kuru, O., and Jamieson, K.H. 2020. "How Trust in Experts and Media Use Affect Acceptance of Common Anti-Vaccination Claims," *The Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) Misinformation Review* 1:1, 37-47. [LINK](#)
- Motta, M., Chapman, D., **Stecula**, D.A., and Haglin, K. 2019. "An Experimental Examination of Measurement Disparities in Public Climate Change Beliefs," *Climatic Change* 154:1/2, 37-47. [LINK](#)
- Stecula**, D.A. and Merkley, E. 2019. "Framing Climate Change: Economics, Ideology, and Uncertainty in American News Media Content From 1988 to 2014," *Frontiers in Communication* 4:6. [LINK](#)
- Merkley, E. and **Stecula**, D.A. 2018. "Party Elites or Manufactured Doubt? The Informational Context of Climate Change Polarization," *Science Communication* 40(2), 258-274. [LINK](#)
- Wlezien, C., Soroka, S.N., and **Stecula**, D.A. 2017. "A Cross-National Analysis of the Causes and Consequences of Economic News," *Social Science Quarterly* 98(3), 1010-1025. [LINK](#)
- Soroka, S.N., **Stecula**, D.A. and Wlezien, C. 2015. "It's (Change in) the (Future) Economy, Stupid: Economic Indicators, the Media, and Public Opinion," *American Journal of Political Science* 59(2), 457-474. [LINK](#)

**book
chapters
& edited
volumes**

- Thrall, A.T., **Stecula, D.A.** and Sweet, D. 2014. “May We Have Your Attention Please? Human Rights NGOs and the Problem of Global Communication,” *The International Journal of Press/Politics* 19(2), 135-159. [LINK](#)
- Stecula, D.A.** 2019. “Source credibility in the age of fake news,” in Sara Bannerman, Tony Porter and Netina Tan (Eds.), *Digitization and Challenges to Democracy*, Institute on Globalization and the Human Condition, McMaster University, Working Paper 19/1. [LINK](#)
- Thrall, A.T. and **Stecula, D.A.** 2017. “All the World’s a Stage: The Rise of Transnational Celebrity Advocacy for Human Rights,” in Howard Tumber and Silvio Waisbord (Eds.), *The Routledge Companion to Media and Human Rights*, New York: Routledge. [LINK](#)
- Thrall, A.T., **Stecula, D.A.** and Moyer, R. 2013. “Building a Better Boomerang? Human Rights, NGOs and the New Media,” in Franziska Oehmer (Ed.), *Politische Interessenvermittlung und Medien. Funktionen, Formen und Folgen medialer Kommunikation von Parteien, Verbänden und sozialen Bewegungen*, Berlin: Nomos Publisher. [LINK](#)

**research
grants**

2018 - Prolific’s Junior Researcher Grant (\$1,000) - [LINK](#)

**professional
experience**

- Research Fellow at the *Piast Institute* (Detroit, Michigan) - 2006-2018.
Member of the Board of Directors (Elected) at the *Piast Institute* (Detroit, Michigan) - 2018-Present. Since 2021, Chairman of the Board.
Member of the National Advisory Council at the *Polish American Communication Initiative* (Detroit, Michigan) - 2014-present.
Member of the Scholars Council of the *BRAVER ANGELS* (New York, New York) - 2021-present.

**other
publications**

- 2021
“Polish Americans Today. Second Edition”, book published by the *Piast Institute* on December 1, 2021. [LINK](#)
“Unverified reports of vaccine side effects in VAERS aren’t the smoking guns portrayed by right-wing media outlets - they can offer insight into vaccine hesitancy” in *The Conversation*, August 25, 2021, with Matt Motta. [LINK](#)
Reprinted in *Nieman Lab*
“Special Collection: Examining the Intersection of Behavioral Science and Advocacy” in *The Behavioral Scientist*, June 14, 2021. [LINK](#)
“Joe Rogan told his millions of listeners not to take his anti-vaccine advice seriously. Is it too late?” in *The Washington Post (The Monkey Cage Blog)*, May 3, 2021, with Matt Motta. [LINK](#)

- “Unbalanced. How Liberal Elites Have Cued Climate Polarization”, in *The Breakthrough Journal*, No.13 (Winter 2021) on March 1, 2021. [LINK](#)
- “The politicization of COVID” in *Mischiefs of Faction*, January 22, 2021. [LINK](#)
- “Why there’s hope Joe Biden’s quest to unify America will work” in *USA Today*, January 21, 2021, with Matt Levendusky, Top 10 most read opinion piece in USA Today that week. [LINK](#)

2020

- “Who believes in COVID-19 conspiracies and why it matters” in *Policy Options*, July 6, 2020, with Mark Pickup and Cliff van der Linden, [LINK](#)
- “Dlaczego Ameryka sie sypie?” in *Gazeta Wyborcza*, June 14, 2020. [LINK](#)
- “What do we know about misinformation during the coronavirus outbreak?” in *Mischiefs of Faction*, April 6, 2020. [LINK](#)
- “Demokraci wyciągnęli wnioski z błędów republikanów” in *Kultura Liberalna*, March 12, 2020. [LINK](#)

2019

- “Trump is moving to secure the Polish American vote in 2020. Here’s how.” in *The Washington Post (The Monkey Cage Blog)*, October 11, 2019. [LINK](#)
- “Vaccines should not become a partisan issue” in *Philadelphia Inquirer*, July 10, 2019. [LINK](#)
- “Do most Americans believe in climate change? The answer is more complicated than you might think.” in *The Washington Post (The Monkey Cage Blog)*, June 5, 2019, with Matthew Motta, Daniel Chapman, and Kathryn Haglin. [LINK](#)
- “Measles outbreaks point to need for mandatory vaccination” in *Policy Options*, March 13, 2019. [LINK](#)

2018

- “Countering misinformation about flu vaccine is harder than it seems” in *The Conversation*, December 6, 2018, with Matthew Motta and Kathryn Haglin. [LINK](#)
Reprinted in *Nieman Journalism Lab* and *American Council on Science and Health*. The article was also translated into Spanish. [LINK](#)
- “Subtle sexism in political coverage can have a real impact on candidates” in *Columbia Journalism Review*, September 4, 2018, with Rachel Garrett. [LINK](#)
- “Teaching your first political science course” in *SocArxiv*, August 3, 2018. [LINK](#)
- “More Republicans in the news? That’s not media bias” in *The Conversation*, July 31, 2018. [LINK](#)
Reprinted in *Raw Story*, *Salon*, and *PennLive*

2017

“An inconvenient truth about An Inconvenient Truth” in *The Conversation*, August 16, 2017, with Eric Merkley. [LINK](#)

Reprinted in *Newsweek*, *RealClearScience*, *Salon*, and *The National Post*

“The real consequences of fake news” in *The Conversation*, July 26, 2017. [LINK](#)

Reprinted in *The National Post*, *University Affairs*, and *J Source*

“Fake news might be harder to spot than most people believe” in *The Washington Post (The Monkey Cage Blog)*, July 10, 2017. [LINK](#)

2015

“You can blame CNN (and the news media) if childhood vaccinations go down” in *The Washington Post (The Monkey Cage Blog)*, Sept 18, 2015, with Eric Merkley.

[LINK](#)

Covered in *Mother Jones*

“How to win the (women’s) World Cup” in *The Washington Post (The Monkey Cage Blog)*, July 6, 2015, with Daniel Drugge. [LINK](#)

Covered in *New York Daily News*

“The media and public opinion react to changes in economic conditions, not the state of the economy in general” in *USApp – American Politics and Policy Blog of the London School of Economics*, Jan 15, 2015, with Stuart Soroka and Christopher Wlezien. [LINK](#)

2014

“It’s (Change in) the (Future) Economy, Stupid: Economic Indicators, the Media, and Public Opinion” in *AJPS Blog*, December 15, 2014, with Stuart Soroka and Christopher Wlezien. [LINK](#)

“New media, old problems in human rights” in *The Washington Post (The Monkey Cage Blog)*, June 26, 2014, with A. Trevor Thrall. [LINK](#)

Covered in *Slate* and *Harvard’s Journalist’s Resource*

“Macierewicz nie przekonał Polonii do teorii o zamachu w Smolensku. Co sadza o tym Polacy za granica?” in *NaTemat.pl*, June, 2014. [LINK](#)

“Amerykanie polskiego pochodzenia - tozsamosc, wartosci, sympatie polityczne” in *Biuletyn Migracyjny*, Issue 47, April, 2014, published by the University of Warsaw, with Thaddeus C. Radzilowski. [LINK](#)

“Polonia: Today’s Profile, Tomorrow’s Promise,” with Thaddeus C. Radzilowski. Report published by the Piast Institute. [LINK](#)

2011

“Jaka jest Polonia amerykańska?” in *Nowy Dziennik. Polish Daily News (New York City)*, September 16, 2011, online edition. [LINK](#)

2010

“Polish Americans Today. A Survey of Modern Polonia Leadership,” with Thaddeus C. Radzilowski. Book published by the Piast Institute.
Cited in the *New York Times*

2009

“Głos Polonii” in *Polityka*, May 8, 2009, online edition. [LINK](#)

“Polonia and Elections. Why We Matter” in John Kromkowski (Ed.), *Race and Ethnic Relations*, Unit 9, Chapter 45, New York: McGraw-Hill, 2009. [LINK](#)

conference presentations

American Political Science Association (APSA): 2021, 2020 (online due to COVID), 2019, 2016, 2015.

Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA): 2021, 2020 (Cancelled due to COVID-19), 2019, 2018.

International Communication Association (ICA): 2019.

Midwestern Political Science Association (MPSA): 2022, 2019, 2013, 2010.

Western Political Science Association (WPSA): 2017.

Pacific Northwest Political Science Association (PNWPSA): 2016, 2013.

International Studies Association (ISA): 2013, 2012, 2011.

Polish American Historical Association (PAHA): 2014.

American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR): 2013.

University of Miami Conspiracy Theories Conference: 2020 (Cancelled due to COVID-19).

invited talks & symposia

The Influence of Partisan Media in the Face of Global Pandemic: How News Shaped COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy, with Matt Motta, presented at the *Junior Americanist Workshop Series - JAWS*, October 27, 2021.

International Symposium entitled *Journalism, Media and the Normalisation of (Right-Wing) Populism and Nativist Authoritarianism: Analysis of Practices and Counteracting Strategies before and during the COVID-19*, hosted by the Uppsala University and Gothenburg University (Sweden), February 4-5. 2021. [LINK](#)

Trust in the news and source credibility in the age of misinformation, Department of Political Science Speaker Series, at the Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC, 2019.

Party cues in the news: Explaining the dynamics of climate change skepticism with Eric Merkley, paper presented at the Michigan Symposium on Media and Politics:

- Environmental advocacy in a polarized world, at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, 2019.
- Source credibility in the age of fake news*, paper presented at the Digital Democracy: Transformations and Public Contestations workshop at McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, 2018.
- Source credibility in the age of fake news* invited talk delivered at the Department of Political Science at Simon Fraser University on November 14, 2017 in Burnaby, BC.
- What To Do Post-Grad?* invited panel discussion about things that can be done with a political science degree for the Political Science Students Association on October 20, 2017 in Vancouver, BC.
- PressReader Covers Politics* invited panel discussion about the media's role in the 2016 Presidential election at Wavefront Accelerator on October 18, 2016 in Vancouver, BC.
- The Dynamics of Polarization. How the Media and Party Elites Facilitated the Growth of Climate Skepticism* with Eric Merkley, presentation delivered at the UBC Journal of Politics Launch Party, April 4, 2016.
- A Cross-National Analysis of the Causes and Consequences of Economic News*, with Christopher Wlezien and Stuart Soroka, paper presented at "The New World of Comparative Political Communication" symposium at Texas A&M University, 2016.
- Polonia: Today's Profile, Tomorrow's Promise* with Thaddeus Radzilowski, presentation delivered at the 11th Annual Dekaban Lecture, November 17, 2013 in Detroit, MI.
- Polish American Community Today. A Comprehensive Picture* with Thaddeus Radzilowski, paper presented at the Polish American Congress National Conference, Chicago, IL, 2009.

**additional
training**

- Social Science Research Council (SSRC) (New York City), March 19, 2021
Teaching Disinformation Studies in Higher Education
A seminar on teaching dis- and mis- information in higher education. Participation selected on a competitive basis.
- Simon Fraser University (Vancouver, Canada), Summer 2015
Introduction to time series analysis
Graduate class on time series, taught by Mark Pickup, usually offered at ICPSR
- Calvin College (Grand Rapids, Michigan), Summer 2009
Graduate workshop in survey research, American religion and politics - "Pollsters and Parishioners"
Fully funded through The Henry Institute at Calvin College
- University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, Summer 2008

ICPSR Summer Program in Methods

Introductory statistics course

Fully funded by the Metro Detroit's Polish-American Community

scholarships, honors, & awards William J. Branstron Award for the Outstanding Performance as a Freshman (2004); University of Michigan at Dearborn Humanities Department Intern of the Year (2007); Jan Adolf Gorecki National Scholarship for Polish and Polish American Students (2007, 2008, 2010); American Institute for Polish Culture Harriet Irsay Scholarship (2007, 2008); Friends of Polish Art Frank Filipek Scholarship for Outstanding Polish Students in Michigan (2008); Andrzej Kapiszewski Piast Institute Scholarship (2006); American Council for Polish Culture Skalny National Scholarship (2008); Honorary committee member of the Young Polonia Foundation's Triada Cultural Events in Warsaw and Vilnius for contributions to preserve Polish language and culture abroad (2009); Chancellor's Medallion (University of Michigan, 2008); The Kosciuszko Foundation Scholarship (2010 - declined); Four Year Fellowship (UBC; 2012-1017), SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship (2015-2017), APSA Travel Grant (2015), SSHRC Talent Award (nominated by the department), CPSA Travel Grant (2018), SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellowship (2018-2020).

service to the profession Reviewer for *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *The Lancet*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Journal of Quantitative Description: Digital Media*, *West European Politics*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *Political Communication*, *Environmental Communication*, *International Journal of Press/Politics*, *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*, *Political Analysis*, *Electoral Studies*, *Social Science & Medicine*, *Social Science Quarterly*, *Psychological Bulletin*, *Political Behavior*, *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, *PS: Political Science & Politics*, *Research & Politics*, *Politics & Gender*, *PLOS One*, *SUNY University Press*, *TESS*, *International Political Science Review*, *European Political Science Review*, *Sociological Perspectives*, *Human Vaccines & Immunotherapeutics*, and *Climate Policy*.

Member of the APSA Political Communication Division Nominating Committee (2018-2020).

Member of the Southern Political Science Political Association's Malcolm Jewell Best Graduate Paper Award Committee (2021).

media appearances CFAX Radio Victoria, *Global BC* morning television show, *CBC Early Edition* radio show, *Roundhouse Radio* (Vancouver), *News 1130* (Vancouver), *Toronto Sun*, *Slate*,

New York Daily News, *Gazeta Wyborcza* (largest Polish daily newspaper), *KCBS Radio San Francisco*, *National Geographic Espana* (Spain), *La Repubblica* (Italy), *The Irish Times*, *Science Daily*, *The Augusta Chronicle*, *Contagion Live*, *US News & World Report*, *International Business Times*, *Agence Science Presse* (Canada), *Forskning & Framsteg* (Sweden), *Afternoons with Rob Breakenridge* (Canada), *Polskie Radio*, *Polsat* (national television in Poland), *Polvision Chicago*, *Polsat News*, *Radio TOK FM*, *Gazeta.pl*, *Denver 7 ABC*, *9News Denver NBC*, *Dziennik Zwiazkowy Chicago*, *The Coloradoan*, *Psy-Post*.

**other
relevant
experiences**

Columnist for the *Polish Times* weekly newspaper (2008-2009); Young Polonia Foundation US Representative (2009); contributed to variety of other Polish-American, Polish and American media outlets, including radio (WDET Detroit, WNVR 1030 Chicago); started a Polish-American online journal *Nihil Novi* (2013); Hamtramck Complete US Census Count Committee Advisory Board (2009-2010); Member of the Selection Committee for the POLISH WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME.

**other
information**

Languages: Polish (Native), English (Fluent).
Citizenship: Poland (EU), Canada. Permanent resident in the United States.
Software: Stata, **R**, L^AT_EX, Python (basic), Automated Content Analysis & Supervised Machine Learning.

references

Available upon request:

Paul Quirk (University of British Columbia)
Stuart Soroka (University of Michigan)
Kathleen Hall Jamieson (University of Pennsylvania)
Matthew Levendusky (University of Pennsylvania)
Richard Johnston (University of British Columbia)
A. Trevor Thrall (George Mason University)
Chris Wlezien (University of Texas at Austin)