Alex Rochefort, Ph.D.

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EDUCATION

2018 – 2025	**Ph.D. Emerging Media Studies**, College of Communication, Boston University, Boston, MA.
2016 – 2018	**M.S. Corporate & Organizational Communication**, Northeastern University, Boston, MA.
2009 – 2015	**B.A. Music Industry**, Northeastern University, Boston, MA.

FELLOWSHIPS

Sep 2021 – Dec 2022	**Policy Fellow, Ranking Digital Rights, New America**, Washington, DC
July 2019 – Sep 2019	**Google Public Policy Fellow, Freedom House**, New York, NY
Aug 2018 – May 2025	**Communication Research Center Fellow, Boston University,** Boston, MA

OTHER ACTIVITIES

June 2024 –	**Research Consultant,** The Center for Democracy & Technology, Washington, D.C.
Aug 2023 –	**Graduate Research Affiliate, The Center for Information, Technology, and Public Life (CITAP),** University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
July 2023	**Participant, Oxford Internet Institute Summer Doctoral Program**, Oxford, ENG
	Invited participant and presenter at the Oxford Internet Institute's Summer Doctoral Program.
Aug 2022	**Participant, Oxford Media Policy Summer Institute**, Oxford, ENG
	Invited participant and presenter at Oxford University's Media Policy Summer Institute.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journals
    (5)   Rochefort, A. (2025). Online Advertising, Content Moderation, and Corporate Accountability: A Civil Society Perspective. *Internet Policy Review*.

    (4)   Eschmann et al. (2024). Uncivil for Civil Rights: A Machine Learning and Qualitative analysis of incivility in the X-based conversation about Black Lives Matter. *Computers in Human Behavior.*

    (3)   Trifiro, B., Wells, C., & Rochefort, A. (2022). The Disinfectant Diversion: The Use of Narratives in Partisan News Media. *Mass Communication and Society*, 1-22.

    (2)   Wertz, B., Groshek, J., & Rochefort, A. (2021). The Humpty Dumpty Effect: Emerging Media Diffusion and (Granger) Causal Democratic Change in 122 Countries from 1946 to 2014. *Journal of Information Technology & Politics*, 18(2), 230-241.

    (1)   Rochefort, A. (2020). Regulating Social Media Platforms: A Comparative Policy Analysis. *Communication Law and Policy*, 25(2), 225-260.

Book Chapters
    (2)   Maréchal, N., Rochefort, A., & Ucciferri, L. (forthcoming). The Business Model is the Message: Reconfiguring the Enabling Environment for Hate Speech. In Bahador, B., Borwn, R., Hammer, C., & Livingston, L. (Eds.), *Countering Hate Speech in Conflict-Affected Situations*.

    (1)   Wells, C., & Rochefort, A. (2021). Populism and Misinformation from the American Revolution to the 21st-century United States. In Tumber, H., & Waisbord, S. (Eds.), *The Routledge Companion to Misinformation and Populism*.

Freedom on the Net Reports
    (3)   Funk et al. (2023). Freedom on the Net 2023: The Repressive Power of Artificial Intelligence. *Freedom House.* Available at https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-net/2023/repressive-power-artificial-intelligence.
        (Contributing editor: Bangladesh, Vietnam, South Korea, and Singapore country reports.)

    (2)   Rochefort, A. (2021). United States Country Report, Freedom on the Net 2021. *Freedom House*. Available at https://freedomhouse.org/country/united-states/freedom-net/2021. (Contributing author of United States country report.)

    (1)   Rochefort, A. (2020). United States Country Report, Freedom on the Net 2020. *Freedom House*. Available at https://freedomhouse.org/country/united-states/freedom-net/2020. (Contributing author of United States country report.)

Policy Engagement

(7) Ranking Digital Rights. (2022, November). Comment for the FTC's Announcement of Proposed Rulemaking on Commercial Surveillance and Data Security. 87 FR 51273.

(6) Ranking Digital Rights. (2022, July). Comment for the FTC's Digital Advertising Business Guidance Request for Information. Digital Advertising P114506.

(5) Ranking Digital Rights. (2022, June). Reply Comment to the FCC on Preventing Digital Discrimination. FCC-22-21, GN Docket No. 22-69.

(4) Ranking Digital Rights. (2022, May). Comment on the United States National Action Plan on Responsible Business Conduct. DOS-2022-0002-0001.

(3) Ranking Digital Rights. (2022, March). Comment for the Federal Communications Commission's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Empowering Broadband Consumers Through Transparency. GG Docket No. 22-2.

(2) Ranking Digital Rights. (2022, January). Comment for Accountable Tech's Federal Trade Commission Rulemaking Petition to Ban Surveillance Advertising. 86 FR 73206.

(1) Ranking Digital Rights. (2021, September). Response to the Canadian Government's Proposed Approach to Regulating Social Media and Combatting Harmful Content Online. Public Consultation.

Non-refereed/Other

(6) Rochefort, A. (2024). Research Memo: Online Advertising and Privacy. *Center for Democracy & Technology.* (Internal memo).

(5) Ranking Digital Rights. (2022). Telco Giants Scorecard. Available at: https://rankingdigitalrights.org/tgs22/.

(4) Ranking Digital Rights. (2021). Big Tech Scorecard. Available at: https://rankingdigitalrights.org/index2022/.

(3) Rochefort, A., Rogoff, Z., & RDR staff. (2021). "Cross-checking Facebook: Five Lies Revealed by Frances Haugen." *Ranking Digital Rights.* Available at: https://rankingdigitalrights.org/2021/10/14/cross-checking-facebook-frances-haugen/.

(2) Rochefort, A. (2019). Regulating Social Media via Content Moderation: Policy Background, Freedom of Speech Issues, and a Global Human Rights Perspective, *Freedom House* (Internal report).

(1) Rochefort, A. (2019). Avoiding the Pitfalls of Social Media Regulation. *Freedom House,* available at: https://freedomhouse.org/blog/avoiding-pitfalls-social-media-regulation.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

(10) Rochefort, A. (2023). Social Media Governance via an "Anemic" Policy Regime? How Boundary Spanning, Competing Issue Definitions, Lack of Cohesion, and Administrative Fragmentation Impede Regulatory Reform. *The 24th Annual Conference of the Association of Internet Researchers*, Philadelphia, PA.

(9) Rochefort, A. & Marechal, N. (2023). Platform Governance and Civil Society: The Call for an Accountable Business Model. *The Platform Governance Research Network Conference*, Virtual.

(8) Trifiro, B., Wells, C., & Rochefort, A. (2021). The Disinfectant Diversion: Framing Strategies of Partisan Media In Interpreting the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Association of Internet Researchers*, Virtual.

(7) Rochefort, A. (2021). The "New Governors'" Tools: A Policy Design and Implementation Analysis of the Facebook Oversight Board, *International Communication Association*, Virtual.

(6) Rochefort, A., Auger, R., Trifiro, B., & Wells, C. (2021). Weathering a Media Storm: Agenda-Setting and the Politics of Attention During the Coronavirus Pandemic, *International Communication Association,* Virtual.

(5) Rochefort, A. (2020). Media Agenda-Setting versus Political Agenda-Setting: Towards a Needed Convergence of Research across Two Related Literatures, *Association for Education in Journalism & Mass Communication*, San Francisco, CA.

(4) Rochefort, A. (2019). Regulating the Social Media Industry: A Comparative Policy Analysis, *International Communication Association,* Washington, DC.

(3) Wertz, B., Groshek, J., & Rochefort, A., (2019). The Humpty Dumpty Effect: Emerging Media Diffusion and (Granger) Causal Democratic Change in 122 Countries from 1946 to 2014, *International Communication Association*, Washington, DC.

(2) Rochefort, A. (2017). Information Bias and Social Media: How Algorithmic Regulation Can Strengthen the Republic, *International Conference on Social Media and Society*, Toronto, ON.

(1) Rochefort, A. (2017). Echo Chambers, Information Bias, and Social Media, *Boston University #Screentime Conference*, Boston, MA.

INVITED TALKS

(10) Rochefort, A. (2025). An Introduction to Platform Regulation and Content Moderation. Undergraduate course, *University of Vermont*.

(9) Rochefort, A. (2023). Platform Governance: Historical, Economic, and Policy Considerations. *University of Salzburg*, Salzburg, AT.

(8) Rochefort, A. (2023). Dissertation Research Presentation*, Oxford Internet Institute Summer Doctoral Program, *Oxford University*, Oxford, UK.

(7) Rochefort, A. (2022). The Politics of Platform Governance in the United States, Oxford Media Policy Summer Institute, *Oxford Internet Institute*, Oxford, UK.

(6) Rochefort, A. (2022). Ranking Digital Rights and Corporate Accountability, Oxford Media Policy Summer Institute, *Oxford Internet Institute*, Oxford, UK.

(5) Rochefort, A. (2022). Navigating Professional Development in Graduate School, COM EM 808: Upper-level Seminar, Graduate course. *Boston University*

(4) Marechal, N., Rochefort, A., & Ucciferri, L. (2022). The Business Model is the Message: Reconfiguring the Enabling Environment for Hate Speech, *The Media and Peacebuilding Project and The School of Media and Public Affairs, George Washington University.*

(3) Rochefort, A. (2021). Digital Politics and Content Moderation. COM JO 502: Journalism Special Topics, Undergraduate course, *Boston University*.

(2) Rochefort, A. (2021). An Introduction to Technology Policy and Human Rights, COM EM 877: Politics and Policy in Emerging Media Environments, Graduate course, *Boston University.*

(1) Rochefort, A. (2020). Civil Society Research and Advocacy: The Case of Freedom House, COM CM 831, International Communication, Graduate Course, *Boston University.*

AWARDS

May 2022	Finalist, Information Disorder Prize Competition, Aspen Institute. (Part of Ranking Digital Rights team project: "Treating Information Disorder by Making Online Ads Accountable")
June 2021	Graduate Student Research Award, Boston University

GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Jan. 2024	Cognizant Trust & Safety Scholarship Program
May 2022	Graduate Student Research Grant, Boston University
May 2021	Cognizant Trust & Safety Scholarship Program
Jan. 2019	Feld Research Grant, Boston University
June 2017	Academic Excellence Award, Northeastern University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Fall 2020	COM CM 321: Communication Research Methods, Boston University
Spring 2019	COM CM 101: Introduction to Communication, Boston University
Fall 2018	COM CM 101: Introduction to Communication, Boston University

SERVICE

2017 – 2025	Alumni Advisory Board, Northeastern University, College of Professional Studies.