

Alex Rochefort

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EDUCATION

- 2018 – Pres. **PhD Candidate, 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 – Pres. **Policy Fellow, Ranking Digital Rights, New America**, Washington, DC
- Aug 2018 – Pres. **Communication Research Center Fellow, Boston University**, Boston, MA
- July – Sep 2019 **Google Public Policy Fellow, Freedom House**, New York, NY

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- 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

- (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) Marechal, N., Rochefort, A., & Ucciferri, L. (under review). The Business Model is the Message: Reconfiguring the Enabling Environment for Hate Speech.

- (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

- (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>.
- (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>.

Policy Engagement (Serving as primary drafter of submitted comment/public consultation)

- (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 on 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 on 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 in Support of 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

- (4) Ranking Digital Rights. (2021). Big Tech Scorecard. Available at: <https://rankingdigitalrights.org/index2022/>. (Conducted Twitter company analysis and assisted with report drafting.)
- (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>.

Works-in-Progress

- (2) Rochefort, A. (in-progress). Populism, Platforms, and the Politics of Social Media Regulation: How the American Right Shapes the Debate.
- (1) Rochefort, A. (in-progress). The Facebook Oversight Board: Policy Design, Implementation Analysis, and the Future of Platform Governance.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- (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

- (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

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| 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

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| May 2022 | \$5,000 – Graduate Student Research Grant, Boston University |
| May 2021 | \$20,000 – Cognizant Trust & Safety Scholarship Program |
| Jan. 2019 | \$1,000 – Feld Research Grant, Boston University |
| June 2017 | \$600 – Academic Excellence Award, Northeastern University |

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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| 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

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| Dec. 2017 –
Pres. | Alumni Advisory Board, Northeastern University, College of Professional Studies. |
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EMPLOYMENT

- Aug. 2018 –
Dec. 2021 **Research Assistant, Boston University**, Boston, MA.
Research assistant to Drs. Chris Wells, Jacob Groshek, and James Cummings on topics related to digital politics, the media ecosystem, the democratic implications of new media, and digital wellness.
- Jun. 2015 –
Dec. 2016 **Social Media Coordinator, Superfly**, New York, NY.
Managed the digital marketing strategies, online presence, and communities for 4 national brands on various social media platforms, accounts with 1.5+ million followers. Among these were the Bonnaroo Music and Arts Festival and Outside Lands Music Festivals.
- Jan. 2013 –
Jun. 2013 **QA/Marketing Intern, Spotify (formerly Echo Nest)**, Somerville, MA
Provided quality assurance and marketing assistant for the world’s largest music intelligence company. Primarily analyzed features for, and the accuracy of, its proprietary music discovery/recommendation algorithm.