



## Xhenis Shehu

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### ABOUT MYSELF

Political theorist and researcher with expertise in feminist political theory, capabilitarianism, feminist epistemology, gender studies and deliberative democracy. Experienced in teaching and research, with strong methodological skills in qualitative analysis.

### WORK EXPERIENCE

#### SNSPA

##### ACADEMIC TEACHING & EDITORIAL WORK – 2020 – CURRENT

**University Teaching Associate**, National University of Political Studies and Public Administration (SNSPA), Bucharest (Feb 2023 – Present)

Conduct seminars on *Gender and Politics*, and *Human Rights and Democratic Values* for undergraduate students.

**Skills:** teaching & facilitation, academic feedback, curriculum alignment, communication.

**Editor, Romanian Journal of Society and Politics (Sep 2020 – Present)**

Contribute to the editorial process of a peer-reviewed journal in political science and international relations.

**Skills:** academic editing, peer-review coordination.

#### SNSPA

##### EXPERT IN RESEARCH – 05/2022 – 12/2023

Worked across multiple CNFIS-FDI research projects (#AlegeEducația, #AlumniSNSPA, #Împreună spre succes, #Practică pentru viitor). Designed and implemented methodologies, conducted focus groups, produced reports and policy recommendations, organised academic student conferences.

**Skills:** mixed-methods research, project coordination, report drafting, organizational skills.

#### FRIEDRICH EBERT STIFTUNG (FES) – BUCHAREST

##### RESEARCHER – 10/2024 – 06/2025

- (Oct 2024 – Jun 2025) **Project: Analyzing Gender and Minority Representation in Romania's 2024 Elections.** Conducted media discourse analysis, coordinated a team of student monitors, applied MAXQDA, co-authored final report.
- (March 2025 - April 2025) **Project: Young people in Romania: Gender differences, political participation and upholding democratic values.** Explored gender differences in political values and attitudes among Romanian youth (14–29 years old) using IPSOS survey data across 12 South-Eastern European countries. Co-authored report publication.

**Skills:** mixed-method research, data analysis and interpretation, policy-oriented writing, discourse coding, team coordination.

#### F-SIDES CINECLUB

##### GENDER STUDIES EXPERT – CULTURAL PROJECT F-SIDES CHAPTERS 2023 – 07/2023 – 11/2023

Developed an educational manual on gender studies aimed at adolescents aged 14–18, providing accessible and engaging content to promote understanding of gender issues.

**Skills:** feminist and gender theory, curriculum design, communication with youth audiences.

#### ACZ CONSULTING

##### CONSULTANT IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION – 06/2022 – 09/2023

**Key project: POCA** (Programul Operațional Capacitate Administrativă) - Contributed to public sector modernization efforts through research, analysis, and structured documentation for planning and evaluation

**Skills:** policy analysis, reporting & documentation, implemented methodologies, stakeholder communication, monitoring & evaluation basics.

## **SECTOR 1, MUNICIPAL CITY HALL OF BUCHAREST**

### **WORKING ASSISTANT – SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY PROJECT – 04/2020 – 09/2020**

Supported development of a local sustainability strategy through literature/benchmarking review and coordination support.

**Skills:** policy support, desk research.



### **INTERNSHIPS – 2016 – 2020**

#### **Selected internships:**

**Freedom House Romania** – Project Proposal EU/CoE DISCO micro-grant application (Oct–Nov 2020) (winner).

**European Movement in Albania (EMA)** – Policy research & communication on EU integration (May–Aug 2020).

**Albanian Embassy in Romania** – Diplomatic and administrative support (2017).

**GSARI (Advanced Studies in IR Group)** – Research desk (Feb–May 2017).

**Centrul FILIA** – Supported feminist advocacy campaigns (Oct 2016 – Apr 2017).

**Skills:** policy support, research assistance, Excel, communication, early professional training.

## ● **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

01/10/2020 – 10/2025 Bucharest

### **PHD CANDIDATE IN POLITICAL SCIENCE** National University of Political and Administrative Studies (SNSPA)

**Thesis** Claiming Feminist Subjectification: A Political Framework on Objectification and Capabilities

01/10/2018 – 06/2020 Bucharest

### **MA IN POLITICAL THEORY AND ANALYSIS** National University of Political and Administrative Studies (SNSPA)

**Final grade** 10 | **Thesis** Torched Bodies: A Political Framework for Understanding Objectification through Male Gaze

01/10/2015 – 06/2018 Bucharest

### **BA IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND EUROPEAN STUDIES** National University of Political and Administrative Studies (SNSPA)

**Final grade** 9.66 | **Thesis** Cult of Personality: An Approach on Totalitarianism and the Emergence of the Regime of Enver Hoxha

## ● **LANGUAGE SKILLS**

Mother tongue(s): **ALBANIAN**

Other language(s):

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken production	Spoken interaction	
<b>ENGLISH</b>	C2	C2	C1	C1	C2
<b>ROMANIAN</b>	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
<b>ITALIAN</b>	B2	B2	B1	B1	B1

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user - B1 and B2: Independent user - C1 and C2: Proficient user

## ● SKILLS

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critical thinking | good listener and communicator | writing skills | research skills | analytical skills | decision-making | reliability

### Digital skills

MS Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, SharePoint) | Teams | Zoom | Canva | Webex | MAXQDA (advanced)

## ● PUBLICATIONS

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### Selected Publications

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#### Peer-Reviewed Academic

- Shehu, X. (2021). [\*Nimble fingers. The predestined fate based on exploitation and sexualized division of labor in export-oriented sector in the Balkans.\*](#) **Perspective Politice**, 12(XII): 25–34.
- Shehu, X., & Trifon, M. (2020). [\*Undoing Motherhood. How IVF Breeds 'New' Mothers.\*](#) **Analize**, 15(29): 45–62.
- Alexandru, A., & Shehu, X. (forthcoming). *A critique on the male gaze surrounding the city.* **European Journal of Women's Studies**.

#### Policy-Oriented

- Mihai, T., & Shehu, X. (2025). [\*Young people in Romania: Gender differences, political participation and upholding democratic values.\*](#) Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Romania, pp. 1–26.
- Dragolea, A., et al., (2025). [\*Monitorizarea alegerilor prezidențiale și parlamentare 2024/2025 din România. O perspectivă intersecțională: gen, orientare sexuală și minorități.\*](#) Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Romania, pp. 1-56.

#### Other Publications

- Shehu, X. (2019). [\*The necessity for female rage in Kosovo.\*](#) Kosovo 2.0.
- Shehu, X. (2020). [\*Të jesh i papunë në kohëra pandemie.\*](#) EuroSpeak.
- Shehu, X. (2021). [\*Përgjegjësia e Votës.\*](#) Reporter.
- Shehu, X (2022). [\*Traficul sexual în România și etica grijii: Structurarea legii prin grijă.\*](#) Contributors.ro/Sinopsis/HotNews

## ● CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

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26/11/2025 – 27/11/2025 Marrakech

**International Conference “Other Narratives: Voicing the Different Memory”**

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30/10/2025 – 31/10/2025 Bucharest

**Conferința Națională a Societății Sociologilor din România: “Un secol de sociologie în România: Metamorfoze” 2025**

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11/11/2024 – 12/11/2024 European University Institute, Florence

**FEMETRICS Lab – Visible Women: Gender, Data, Social Europe**

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16/05/2024 – 17/05/2024 CEU, Vienna

**Polemo Symposium, CEU Political, Legal and Moral Philosophy Research Group**

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04/09/2023 – 07/09/2023 Florence

**CIVICA Summer School 2023 – Challenges on Transitional Democracy**

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27/10/2022 – 28/10/2022 Cluj-Napoca

**International Conference – Migration Dynamics and New Trends in European (in)Security**

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24/09/2022 – 25/09/2022 Belgrade

**Serbian Political Science Association Annual International Conference: Social Justice in Post-Communist Societies**

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11/07/2022 – 15/07/2022 Menaggio

**CIVICA Summer School 2022 – Reconstructing Europe after Crisis**

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05/04/2022 – 07/04/2022 Vienna/online

**CEU Annual Doctoral Conference – Politics of Uncertainty**

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