

Adam Hanzel

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Education

Metropolitan University Prague

Ph.D. Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow: Counter-Terrorism in EU Strategic Relations with Eurasia Oct. 2024 – Sep. 2027

University of Texas at Austin

M.A. Russian and Eurasian Studies, GPA: 3.967/4.0

Aug. 2020 – May 2023

University of Texas at Austin

B.A. Computational Linguistics

Aug. 2013 – May 2020

University of Texas at Austin

B.A. Russian and Eurasian Studies

Aug. 2013 – May 2019

Experience

International Management In Prague Liaison - University of Texas at Austin

McCombs Business School

June 2024 – July 2024

Graduate Research Assistant - University of Texas at Austin

Global Disinformation Lab (GDIL) | Intelligence Studies Project

August 2021 – May 2024

Teaching Assistant - University of Texas at Austin

Geography of Europe, Political Warfare and Propaganda, Eastern Bloc Intelligence

August 2022 – December 2023

Digital Project Intern - University of Texas at Austin

Initiative for the Study of Politico-Religious Ideation and Influence (ISPRII)

August 2019 – August 2023

Research Assistant - George Washington University

Elliott School of International Affairs

May 2022 – August 2022

Publications

Adam Hanzel and Kiril Avramov.

LADDERS OF ESCALATION: Flexible Modeling in Comparative Cases of State-sponsored Targeted Killings. Springer Briefs. S.l.: SPRINGER NATURE, 2026. ISBN: 978-3-032-21610-6

Adam Hanzel. "Book Review: Ball, Simon, Death to Order: A History of Modern Assassination, New Haven, Connecticut: Yale University Press. 466 Pp". In: Journal of European and American Intelligence Studies 8.2 (Dec. 2025). ISSN: 2585-383X

Kiril Avramov et al. "Crossing the "Red Lines": Target Assessment and Typology of the Post-Soviet Targeted Retributions". In: Killing in the Name of the State. Lynne Rienner, 2025. ISBN: 979-8-89616-357-2

Mary Neuburger and Adam Hanzel. "Mediums, Media, and Mediated "Post"-Truth: Baba Vanga in the Russian Imagination". In: Comparative Studies in Society and History (Oct. 2024), pp. 1–26. ISSN: 0010-4175, 1475-2999. DOI: 10.1017/S0010417524000264. (Visited on 10/31/2024)

Works in Production

Adam Hanzel et al. "Alternative AI and Digital Authoritarianism: Analyzing AI as a Cultural Object". In: (2026)

Adam Hanzel. "Legislating Security: Computational Mapping of Ukraine's Counterterrorism Legislation 1991-2026". In: (2026)

Adam Hanzel and Kiril Avramov. "Russia Has a Different Path:' Yarovaya and the Russian Security Council Redefining and Normalizing Terrorism in Eurasia." In: (2025)

Languages and Skillsets

Spoken Languages: Russian (Advanced), Chinese (Intermediate), English (Native)

- Studied abroad in Irkutsk, Siberia, Russia in the summer of 2014, studied with FLAS fellowship summer 2021.

Programming Languages: Python, JavaScript, HTML/CSS, PHP, bash, SQL

- Data scraping, including dynamic web and Telegram scraping, using Python and official APIs.

- Data visualization, using python, javascript (D3), and ArcGIS to visualize Russian targeted assassination locations and their associated demographics.
- Data Analysis using traditional statistical measures, natural language processing, and machine learning/AI in mixed methods approaches.

Developer Tools: PyCharm, Jupyter Notebooks, Git, Google Cloud Platform, AWS

- Primary development environment is PyCharm, but I have helped develop tools for network analysis in Jupyter Notebooks for portability across teams. This translates to Google cloud platform services such as Google collab for GPU tasks supported by AWS data storage and Google cloud APIs.

Frameworks: $\LaTeX$, Atlas.ti, MAXQDA, Tensorflow, PyTorch, Keras, Drupal, WordPress

- I have used qualitative methods through frameworks such as MAXQDA and Atlas.ti. In one instance I have codified Russian private military company transcripts to analyze the geopolitical rhetoric.
- I also leverage GPU frameworks such as Tensorflow, Keras, and PyTorch for machine learning and AI research and natural language processing, and I am able to write in $\LaTeX$. I also have developed Drupal and WordPress sites for research labs and initiatives.

Environments: Linux (Arch x11/Wayland), Windows/WSL

Awards, Scholarships, Academic Recognitions

LBJ Graduate Student Fellowship: 2023-2025

Affordable Education Champion - UT Libraries: Spring 2023

Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship: Summer 2021

Electrical Engineering Scholarship: August 2012

Talks, Papers, Conference Contributions

Knowledge Graphs and AI-assisted “Forensic Reading” in Bulgarian spy fiction.	June 1-3, 2026
<i>IAFIE Global Conference - University of North Georgia, USA</i>	
Counterterrorism in EU Strategic Relations with Eurasia	April 10, 2026
<i>ICCT - The Hague, The Netherlands</i>	
Digital Humanities Methods in the Social Sciences	November 27, 2025
<i>PUC Minas Gerais - Belo Horizonte, Brazil</i>	
“Ladders of Escalation” Flexible Modeling in Comparative Cases	September 9, 2025
<i>IAFIE Europe Annual Conference - Madrid, Spain</i>	
Russian Orthodoxy as Political Tool of Putin	February 13, 2024
<i>Osher Lifelong Learning Institute - University of Texas at Austin</i>	
The Logic of Vengeance: Patterns of Escalation of the Post-Soviet Targeted Killings	December 15, 2023
<i>EUACADEMY conference co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme</i>	
Indigenous Peoples Misrepresentation Heuristic	December 1st, 2023
<i>University of Texas at Austin</i>	
Raskol Ripples: Schism into the 19th Century	October 12th, 2023
<i>University of Texas at Austin</i>	
The Logic of Vengeance	October 12th, 2023
<i>Hybrid Warfare Security Conference - University of South Wales</i>	
Crossing the “Red lines”	May 17, 2023
<i>State-Sponsored Assassinations in International Politics, History, and Law - Swansea University</i>	
Mediums, Media, and Mediated “Post”-Truth: Baba Vanga in the Russian Imagination	April 24, 2023
<i>UT CREEES one-day workshop - University of Texas at Austin</i>	

Developed Tools

Comparative Legislative Knowledge Graph

- Python and Neo4j pipeline that scrapes, sections, and ingests national legal corpora from four post-Communist states into a single citation graph.

Cross-Lingual Legal Citation Extractor and Resolver

- Python tool that recovers citation networks from legal corpora published without hyperlinks, resolving references by act title and article through a corpus-derived index. Handles Bulgarian definite-article morphology and unpublished parent codes, reaching resolution parity with corpora that ship machine-readable references.

Multi-Space Semantic Classifier for Legal Text

- Python classifier that scores legislation against seed-law centroids in three independent embedding spaces (OpenAI text-embedding-3-large, BGE-M3, Qwen3-8B) as a replication design. Uses bounded-chunk scoring and a Wilson score-interval lower bound to remove document-length bias from the classification.

Legislation Research Dashboard

- Read-only Python web interface for cross-jurisdiction legal search over full document text, provisions, and legislative-history records, with morphology-aware query expansion, matched-term timelines, and an interactive directed citation-network graph.

Legislative Document Extraction and OCR Pipeline

- Python pipeline that retrieves and text-extracts parliamentary bill attachments across PDF, Word, Excel, RTF, and legacy encodings, with a Tesseract OCR fallback for scanned documents. Recovered 4.3 billion characters from 315,000 files at 98% extraction.

BERTopic topic modeling and Legislation Graphing

- Python-based transformer topic model utilizing BERTopic to group legislation by semantic content analysis and metadata.

Telegram Social Media Scraper and Archiver

- command line interface tool based on Telegram's API that will scroll through selected channel(s), grab a messages metadata, text, and media and archive it on an online database.

Static and Dynamic Webscraper

- command line interface tool that is able to scrape both static and dynamic (javascript) websites. It stores the textual data and metadata of the site.

ACH Analysis in Google Sheets

- A port of an existing ACH algorithm and further statistical methods into Google Sheets using Google App Script (javascript) for version controlled, multiple user analysis of competing hypotheses (ACH).

Zotero Translator for Cyrillic Transliteration

- An add-on for the citation software Zotero that cites transliterated titles and end of citation sources for use when drafting text.

Fine-Tuned GPT-2 Text Generator for Disinformation

- Using Sergey Lavrov's speeches from the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, I trained a language model on GPT-2 to produce fake addresses. These were then evaluated by disinformation experts to gauge results.