

Curriculum Vitae

Łukasz Walenty Niparko, Ph.D.

website: niparko.online

Skills:

Research: AI, Data Privacy, Digital Civil Society, Digital Ethics, Trust & Safety, User Experience

Research Methods: Mixed Methods Research, Legal and Policy Research

Data: Statistical Modeling, Surveys, Interviews, Big Data, *SQL, R, Python, Spotfire, Tableau*, Data Analysis and Visualization

Communication: Public Speaking, Policy Memos, Data Reporting, Producing Online Content and Video Editing, Website Design, *Canva, Adobe Suite, Mailchimp, Datawrapper, WordPress* | Host of The B-Effect (<https://beffect.online>) and The Digital Kallipolis (<https://niparko.online/blog/>)

Other: Grant Management, Ability to Develop Successful Grant Proposals and Receive Funding

Education and Training:

2019-2024 **Doctor of Philosophy**

Political Science, University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Lincoln, NE

Research Fellow at the Nebraska Governance and Technology Center

Concentrations: Governance and Technology

Dissertation Title: **Digital Kallipolis: Being Homo Sentiens in a Post-Digital World**

Graduate Certificate in **Mixed Methods Research**

Graduate Certificate in **Public Relations & Social Media**

Graduate Certificate in **Digital Humanities**

2013-2016 **Master of Laws**

International Law, European University Viadrina, Frankfurt(Oder), Germany

2009-2013 **Bachelor of Arts** with Honors

Global Studies, St. Lawrence University, Canton, NY

Minors in Asian and European Studies

2007-2009 **International Baccalaureate**

United World College of the American West, Montezuma, NM

Selected Work and Research Experience:

2025- **Founder and Managing Partner**

present BE Side By Side, Bethesda, MD

- Founded and lead an early-stage venture studio and public-interest technology company developing projects at the intersection of AI, civil society, local economy, digital governance, and media

- Lead product strategy, research, positioning, partnership development, and early-stage venture design across multiple initiatives
 - Oversee a portfolio of projects, including stealth-mode technology ventures in civic/social infrastructure and local-service marketplaces, [UP-LIFTED](#) in Canada, and media projects such as [The Butterfly Effect](#), Efekt Motyla and [Digital Kallipolis](#)
 - Translate research on digital society, human rights, platform governance, and civic participation into applied technology, media, and products
 - Manage core operations, including budgeting, strategic planning and communication
 - Build partnerships to advance impact-driven enterprises and ensure fiscal sustainability
 - Produce public-facing analysis, interviews, and educational content on AI, democracy, civil society, and technology ethics
- Skills:** project and product development and management; bottom-up technology; product strategy; budgeting and accounting; digital platform design; media production; strategic communication; partnership building; fundraising

2024-2025

Data Fellow

Death Penalty Information Center, DPIC, Washington, DC

- Developed and delivered data-driven insights to policymakers and media outlets
- Led multiple research projects analyzing trends and producing comprehensive reports
- Conducted advanced statistical analyses and created impactful data visualizations to communicate complex findings using *Spotfire*, *Tableau* and *R*
- Managed and mentored a team of interns, oversaw data collection protocols and quality assurance
- Designed and implemented data collection methodologies

Skills: data analytics and visualization; statistical modeling; research methodology; project management; team leadership; stakeholder engagement

2022-2024

Principal Investigator

Nebraska Governance and Technology Center, Lincoln, NE

- Spearheaded a comprehensive mixed-methods research project examining the societal impact of very large online platforms (VLOPs)
- Designed and executed large-scale data collection, including surveys, in-depth interviews, and social media analysis
- Developed and implemented rigorous sampling methodologies to ensure representative data collection on data privacy concerns
- Conducted extensive policy analysis of EU and US legislation
- Generated evidence-based policy recommendations
- Secured and managed research grants
- Ensured compliance with IRB protocols and data privacy standards

Skills: research design and data collection; user experience research; public opinion research; policy analysis; stakeholder engagement; grant writing; data privacy compliance; project management

2019-2022

Research Coordinator

University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE

- Managed a 1,000+ participant research pool, ensuring efficient recruitment and training

- Developed and administered surveys, implementing methodological rigor and data quality
- Implemented comprehensive data privacy protocols for handling sensitive participant information
- Trained and supervised research teams in platform usage and data collection methodologies

Skills: research operations management; survey design; data privacy compliance, organizing workshops

2022

Legal HQ Summer Intern

TIBCO Software (now Cloud Software Group), Palo Alto, CA

- Contributed to databases of inbound and outbound contracts, ensuring accuracy and compliance
- Assessed contracts for adherence to domestic and international data privacy regulations
- Trained AI models to parse legal clauses, and developed methodologies to evaluate parsing accuracy
- Presented analytical findings to senior leadership

Skills: digital contract lifecycle management; training AI; data privacy compliance assessment

2022

Country Expert

Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem), Gothenburg, Sweden

2020, 2021

Summer Research Laboratory Associate

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, IL

2018

Analyst

Thomson Reuters, Gdynia, Poland

- Conducted comprehensive financial data analysis for the Know Your Customer Team, evaluating institutional compliance and risk factors
 - Executed in-depth due diligence reviews ensuring regulatory compliance
 - Obtained professional certifications in Data Privacy and Information Security
- Skills:** financial risk assessment; regulatory compliance; due diligence; information security

2017

Fellow

American Civil Liberties Union, Cleveland, OH

- Conducted research on human rights and civil liberties violations
- Actively advocated for the respect of rights, including the right to asylum, rights of incarcerated persons, and against various forms of discrimination
- Utilized public speaking skills to share findings and promote ACLU's initiatives, communicating complex legal concepts to diverse audiences
- Collaborated with a multidisciplinary team to further the ACLU's mission

Skills: legal and policy analysis; advocacy; public speaking; stakeholder engagement

2017

Specialist

Polish Humanitarian Action-PAH, Warsaw, Poland

- Secured external funding through successful grant applications
 - Developed and delivered compelling presentations to institutional and corporate donors
 - Managed global education programs, fostering relationships with diverse stakeholders
 - Supervised and mentored staff and interns to drive effective program delivery
- Skills:** stakeholder engagement; program development and management; team leadership; grant writing

2016

Pat Cox Fellow

European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium

- Supported a Member of the European Parliament by coordinating schedules, organizing meetings, and managing daily operations in a fast-paced environment
- Built and maintained relationships with diverse stakeholders, including policymakers
- Drafted policy memos and edited proposed resolutions
- Delivered presentations and effectively conveyed complex information to varied audiences
- Collected, analyzed, and synthesized data to support policy recommendations

Skills: office management; relations building with diverse stakeholders; data and policy analysis

2013-2016

Graduate Researcher

European University Viadrina, Frankfurt(Oder)

- Conducted a legal analysis of the People's Republic of China policies toward ethnic, religious, and linguistic minorities and their compliance with international law treaties
- Skills:** international law research; legal writing; policy analysis

2009-2013

Undergraduate Researcher

St. Lawrence University, Canton NY

- Thesis Title: Transformation: Hopes, Shock, and New Order
- Conducted a mixed methods research project surveying the 25 years of Polish transformation from the political economy perspective—preceded with ethnographic fieldwork in Poznań, Gdańsk, Warsaw, and within the Polish countryside

Skills: mixed methods research; ethnographic fieldwork; political economy analysis; interviewing

Teaching:

Fall 2023

Instructor, POLS 338 **Women and Politics**. This course was cross-listed with Gender Studies and explored women's participation in political life, the barriers they face in this participation, and discrimination against women and LGBTQIA+ persons in politics

Spring &
Summer
2023

Instructor, POLS 108 **Political Ideas**. This course engaged with political theories, philosophers, and ideas from antiquity to the postmodern day, also from the Global South

- Fall 2022 Teaching Assistant, POLS 100 **Power and Politics in America**. This course focused on the fundamentals of the United States political system and its institutions
- Spring 2022 Co-Instructor, HON 291 Honors **Global Dialogue: Forum for Hope, Freedom, and Belonging**. This course surveyed Central European civil society and activism throughout history, especially with an outlook on anti-totalitarian civil disobedience and current developments associated with the erosion of democracy
- Spring 2022 Instructor, HON 102 The **Science of You**. A course for university honors students, which prepared them for future academic, research, and career endeavors

Grant Awards:

Active

Nebraska Governance and Technology Center Research grant for the project “Digital Civil Society & Democratic Erosion” to facilitate exploration of aspects that relate to the role of technology in society, 11,000 USD total direct (2023)

Completed

Humanity In Action Grant for organizing the anti-discrimination programming “Time to Act: Addressing Discrimination in Nebraska,” 6,000.00 EUR total direct (2019)

EVZ Foundation (Die Stiftung “Erinnerung, Verantwortung und Zukunft”) Grant for organizing the summer school of countering discrimination, 20,000.00 PLN total direct (2015)

Honors and Awards:

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| 2025 | Travel Award from the American Political Science Association, 200 USD |
| 2025 | Travel Award from the Midwest Political Science Association, 685 USD |
| 2023 | Nebraska Governance and Technology, award for the Most Innovative Approach in Research for the project: <i>Global Data – Local Responses</i> |
| 2022 | Travel Award from the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Diversity & Inclusion |
| 2022 | Travel Award from the Political Science Department, UNL, 500 USD |
| 2022 | Summer Research Fellowship, UNL, 3,100 USD |
| 2022 | Travel Award from the Graduate Students Association, UNL, 600 USD |
| 2021 | Travel Award from the Graduate Studies and Political Science Department, UNL, 1,100 USD |
| 2021 | Summer Graduate Assistantship, University Honors Program, UNL, 2,000 USD |
| 2021 | Best Research Assistant Award, the Department of Political Science, UNL |
| 2020 | Anthony Jung Award for Best Graduate Student Research, The 45th European Studies Conference at the University of Nebraska at Omaha |
| 2019 | Travel Award from the Political Science Department, UNL, 600.00 USD |
| 2019 | Donald F. Othmer Fellowship UNL, 12,000.00 USD |

Publications:

Complete List of Peer-Reviewed Publications at [Google Scholar](#)
Submitted and Pre-Print

1. **Niparko, ŁW.** (2026). "Bowling Online: Accounting for Civil Society Reshaped into Streamlined Photons within a Fiber Network." arXiv e-prints, arXiv-2601. Available at arXiv: <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2601.17139>
2. **Niparko, ŁW.** (2026). "Construing a Digital Kallipolis on the Eve of the Fourth Generation of Human Rights." Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=6501843> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.6501843>
3. **Niparko, ŁW.** and Haas, I. "Digital Footprint or Personal Right—Understanding Attitudes Toward Data Privacy Among Internet Users in the United States."
4. Aigbomian F., **Niparko ŁW**, and Kohen A. "Religious Freedom: Balancing Divine and Secular—A Human Rights Perspective."

Peer-Reviewed Articles

5. McMahan, P., and **Niparko, ŁW.** (2022) "Shrinking, Shifting, and Strengthening: The Dynamics and Diversity of Civic Activism in Poland." *East European Politics and Societies*.
6. McMahan, P., and **Niparko, ŁW.** (2021) "Poles Wave the Rainbow Flag." *Georgetown Journal of International Affairs*.

Published Essays

7. **Niparko, ŁW.** (2020) "Return to Materialism: COVID-19 Fieldnotes for Upstanders," *The Weave News*, April 13th.
8. **Niparko, ŁW.** (2018) "Lured to Injustice: The 'Sleep of Reason' in Poland," *The Weave News*, July 23rd.
9. **Niparko, ŁW.** (2017) "Death Penalty: A Poster Child," *American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio (ACLU)*, November 9th.
10. **Niparko, ŁW.** (2017) "The Right to Asylum: What Can We Do?," *ACLU*, November 8th.
11. **Niparko, ŁW.** (2017) "The Right to Asylum: Detention and Legal Counsel," *ACLU*, September 19th.
12. **Niparko, ŁW.** (2017) "International Reactions to Ava DuVernay's Documentary, 13th," *ACLU*, October 3rd.
13. **Niparko, ŁW.** (2017) "The Right to Asylum: Migration Law," *ACLU*, October 2nd.
14. **Niparko, ŁW.** (2017). "The Right to Asylum: Legal Relief from Persecution," *ACLU*, September 20th.
15. **Niparko, ŁW.** (2017). "Death is Back in Ohio," *ACLU*, September 15th.

Conference Proceedings, Abstracts and Presentations (selected):
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1. **Niparko, ŁW.** (2025) Presented a Paper "Religious Freedom: Balancing Divine and Secular—A Human Rights Perspective"; Discussant in the Panel "Law & Society in Europe and Latin America," Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) The 82nd Conference.
2. **Niparko, ŁW.** (2024) "Digital Footprint or a Personal Right: Understanding the Opinions and Attitudes Toward Data Privacy Among Internet Users in the United States." Stanford Law School, Trust & Safety Research Conference.
3. **Niparko, ŁW.** (2023) "Civil Society Response to the Erosion of Democracy: A Multi-Methods Study" Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) The 80th Conference.

4. **Niparko, ŁW.** (2022) "The Dreadful Nexus of Global Public Goods and Democratic Erosion." International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Convention.
5. **Niparko, ŁW.** (2021) "Historical Patterns and Accursed Realities of Anti-Genderism in Poland." ASEES, The 53rd Annual Convention. Participated in the Roundtable "The Power of the Powerless: Gendered Civil Society in Central and Eastern Europe: The Solution?"
6. **Niparko, ŁW.** (2021) "The Pathway to Populism: Poland." The 26th World Congress of Political Science (International Political Science Association, IPSA), Lisbon, Portugal.
7. **Niparko, ŁW.** (2020) "The Civil Society Response to the Backsliding of Democracy: Poland." American Political Science Association (APSA), The 116th Annual Conference.
8. **Niparko, ŁW.** (2020) "The Bright and Somber Hues of the Pandemic: a gendered perspective." European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR), General Conference.
9. **Niparko, ŁW.** (2019) "Atlantis: The Forgotten Jewish Poznań" The 44th European Studies Conference at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.
10. **Niparko, ŁW.** "Transformation: Hopes, Shock, and New Order" (2017). The European Studies Conference at The University of Nebraska at Omaha.
11. **Niparko, ŁW.** "Anti-Discrimination Legal Framework. The Case of Russia, Germany, and Poland" (2014). The 2nd Trilateral Forum: The German-Polish-Russian Dialogue.
12. **Niparko, ŁW.** "China, Through the Prism of Minorities" (2012). The 35th Global Studies Conference at The University of Nebraska at Omaha.
13. **Niparko, ŁW.** "Kerala, Paradise, and Limbo: The Story of a Place where the High Social Standards Do not Originate from Economic Growth" (2011). The 34th Global Studies Conference at The University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Other Invited Presentations and Talks

14. **Niparko, ŁW.** Guest Lecture "AI Progression from a Digital Ethics Perspective" Rochester Institute of Technology (2025)
15. **Niparko, ŁW.** Guest Lecture "Toward a New Generation: Human Rights in the Digital Era" European University Viadrina (2025)
16. **Niparko, ŁW.** St. Lawrence University Alumni Leadership Panel at Morgan Stanley, San Francisco, CA (2023)
17. **Niparko, ŁW.** "Atlantis: The Forgotten Jewish Poznań" (2023) Institute for Holocaust Education, Omaha, NE.
18. **Niparko, ŁW.** "On War in Ukraine" (2022) Executive Club Meeting, Lincoln, NE
19. **Niparko, ŁW.** "The End of Globalization Paradigm?" (2022). Humanities Nebraska Event, Lincoln, NE
20. **Niparko, ŁW.** "Atlantis: The Forgotten Jewish Poznań" (2021) Lincoln Jewish Community School, Lincoln, NE
21. **Niparko, ŁW.** "Bright and Somber Future: The 2048 Perspectives on Labor and Digitalization" (2020). Zukunft für Alle / Future for All Congress, Leipzig
22. **Niparko, ŁW.** "Time to Act: Addressing Discrimination in Nebraska" (2019). Humanity In Action Conference and Action Academy, Berlin, Germany
23. **Niparko, ŁW.** "Career Path Panel with members of the Humanity In Action Senior Fellows Leadership Council" (2018). The Humanity In Action 9th Annual Conference at The European Parliament in Strasbourg
24. **Niparko, ŁW.** "Multicultural Poznań: The legacy of hope, the task for the future" (2018, 2019) a workshop for the students of the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Case Western Reserve University Program in Poznań, Poland

25. **Niparko, ŁW.** "Ohio: ACLU Perspectives on Free Speech and Racial Justice" (2017), a keynote speech. The Humanity In Action New York Conference "State of the States" at The New School
26. **Niparko, ŁW.** "The Roman-Catholic Church in Poland: Its Role and Influence" (2017) a workshop for the Participants of the Humanity In Action Fellowship
27. **Niparko, ŁW.** "The System of Legal Protection of Asylum Seekers and Migrants in The Republic of Poland" (2015). A workshop for the Participants of the Humanity In Action Fellowship
28. **Niparko, ŁW.** "The Violence in the 'Cyberspace'" (2015) a debate at The Zbigniew Tylewicz School in Poznań, Poland
29. **Niparko, ŁW.** "The Legal Framework for the Prevention of Discrimination in The Republic of Poland" (2014). Adam Mickiewicz University

Certificates:

2022, 2023	Google Analytics Individual Qualification
2022	Certificate–Syracuse University Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research
2019, 2014	The Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi (HSK)—The Chinese Proficiency Test: Level III (2019), Level II (2014)
2017	Adam Mickiewicz University (Poznań, Poland), Certificate in Foreign and International Service
2012	The Council on International Educational Exchange and East China Normal University Certificate in Chinese Studies

Professional Society Membership:

2020-present	American Political Science Association, APSA
2020-2025	International Studies Association, ISA
2018-2024	Humanity In Action Senior Fellows Leadership Council
2021-2023	Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, ASEES
2020-2023	International Political Science Association, IPSA; Member of the IPSA Research Committee: <i>Local-Global Relations</i>
2020-2023	Midwest Political Science Association, MPSA
2019-2023	National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity

Service Summary:

Scientific Journal Review:

Ad hoc reviewer for East European Politics and Societies

Reviewer for National and International Fellowship and Scholarship Applications:

United World College (Polish National Committee), 2023, 2024

Humanity In Action, 2020, 2021

2022-present	Alumni Mentor, St. Lawrence University Alumni Mentorship Program
2024	Mentor, United World College Bartos Institute for the Constructive Engagement of Conflict
2021-2024	Graduate Student Assembly (GSA) at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Chair of Diversity & Inclusion Committee (2022-2023); Representative and Member of Diversity & Inclusion Committee (2021-2022)
2021-2023	Political Science Graduate Student Association at University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Faculty-Student Relations Representative (2022-2023); Representative and a Delegate to the GSA (2021-2023)
2020-2022	Discrimination Prevention in Nebraska Humanity In Action (HIA) Project Coordinator
2020	UNL Students for Human Rights Organization, Founder
2016	Sanmen Youwei Library (Zhejiang, China) Peace Studies and Liberal Arts Education Project Coordinator
2015	Anne Frank Project Poznań: Founder and Coordinator
2013	St. Lawrence University (NY-USA) Global Dialogue Center: Founder and Coordinator
2011	Amnesty International at St. Lawrence University: Managing President
2006-2007	Journalist Club and Magazine "TeXT" in Poznań (Poland), Secretary (2006-2007)
2002-2005	"Eurokram" Magazine in Poznań (Poland): Founder and Editor-In-Chief