

# Research Group on Digital Politology

With an account of outputs and activities from 1 January 2015 to 30 September 2018

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## 1. Leadership of the group, and phases of the group activities

Research at universities increasingly takes places in research groups. Their emphases, sizes and modes of operation vary, they may or may not include externally funded research projects from time to time, and shall they endure, their membership is likely to change.

The leader of the Research Group on Digital Politology is *Pertti Ahonen*, Professor of Political Science, D.Soc.Sc., M.Sc.Econ. From 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2017 the research group had a research project funded with 185 000 euros from Kone Foundation, corresponding with 350 000 euros, had the funding been acquired from the Academy of Finland given the social security coefficient and the overhead cost coefficient that had been applied in the latter case (Ahonen 2018a).

Since 1 January 2018 the research group continues its work with the support of the basic funding of the university, doctoral work, and supplementary funding from the Faculty of the Social Sciences. The research group certainly keeps a keen eye on project funding opportunities.

## 2. Motivation for establishing and maintaining the group

Behind the founding of the research group underlie advancing digitalization and its challenges to political science, and the opportunities provided for research by newer computational and other digital methods (Ahonen 2019). One of the first empirical emphases in the work of the group have comprised public policies as broadly taken in their cycles from incubation in statements of political parties to programs of governments, governmental preparation, parliamentary decision-making, governmental implementation, and to ultimate parliamentary and governmental auditing and evaluation.

Digitalization in politics and society both offers an avalanche of new research themes and gives rise to practical including political contingencies, which should also interest research. The mass of information available in politics, society and research is increasingly digital at the outset, or is increasingly digitized. Reasons why that information cannot be tacked with by other than digital including computational means, starting from magnitude and the insufficiency of many of the entrenched research methods (Wilkerson et al. 2017). However, it may not be possible to include new methods easily. Applying them as at their sources in computer science or data science may not be possible in research fields with pronouncedly different conventions. Moreover, the “selling” of these methods may require effort, and their mainstreaming in specialized research fields may take time. Last, insofar as research material is comprised of text in some natural language, additional challenges arise to be able to utilize the new methods given the specificity of exactly this language.

An important main emphasis in the work of the research group has come to lie in examining political parties, first with special reference to their general, electoral and special party manifestos, but with the intention to examine also other statements by the parties and their representatives and supporters. Since its beginning the group has represented basic research with methodological over- or undertones rather than starting from the promotion of any specific political values, however common their advancement might be within political science or elsewhere in social research and humanities research, such as democracy, equality, justice, emancipation, empowerment, or others. However, the group certainly recognizes what since Max

Weber has been known as the “value relevance” of academic research, requiring particular sensitivity of the researcher to the desirable and undesirable uses of the theoretical frameworks he or she applies, the empirical results, and the methodologies, methods and research techniques used (Weber 1973/1904).

Digitalization takes place in a world that is always already institutionalized, and therefore loaded with sense and meanings, and appropriated by actors committed to various political values. These aspects underline the critical potential of research of the kind of research that the group carries out and promotes in other ways. For instance, new digital tools may inadvertently open up digital divides, or powers-to-be may hideously utilize such tools for imprisoning the citizens in impenetrable networks of surveillance. For another example, excessive concern with digital and other security may lead to negative phenomena of securitization including the narrowing down of the de facto rights and freedoms of the citizens despite no de jure changes (Ahonen 2018b).

Computational and other digital methodologies, methods and techniques may have substantial democratic potential and potential towards creating counterwailing power. Examples include revealing bots (programmed actors in networks with people behind, pretending to represent wide echelons of population instead of their few masters), revealing hate speech and its first hidden sources, revealing racist and other types of questionable anonymous web speech, and promoting the role of skillful and just web moderators and deliberation by means and through the web (Burnap & Williams 2015; Marechal 2016).

### 3. Persons, associated and assisting persons, and national and international relationships of collaboration

The leader of the research group, Pertti Ahonen, D.Soc.Sc. in Political Science and M.Sc.Econ. in Accounting, carries out his leadership role among his other duties as Professor of Political Science at the University of Helsinki, where he has worked since 2010 after a first period as Associate Professor from 1984 to 1989 and twenty years as Professor at another university. *Matti Nelimarkka*, M.Soc.Sc. in Political Science, was employed in the project of the research group from 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2017, and completed his Ph.D. in Computer Science in January 2018 (Nelimarkka 2018).

*Joonas Mattson*, M.Soc.Sc., from among the project members moved on his own initiative to a career of university administration and took distance from the project early, meaning by mid-2015. The project recruited *Mari Marttila*, M.Soc.Sc. in Political Science, to replace Mattson, but – in effect very fortunately – Marttila received a four-year doctoral student position funded by the university for 2016-2019. Marttila became an associate member of the project and the research group. In 2016 the project recruited *Joonatan Virtanen*, M.Sc. in Political Science. Equally fortunately as Mari Marttila, Virtanen also received a four-year doctoral student position funded by the university for 2017-2020.

During his three years in the project Matti Nelimarkka was active in many other ways besides his doctoral work. He effectively connected Political Science, the Helsinki Institute of Information Technology (HIIT) Kumpula activities at the University of Helsinki, and the HIIT activities at Aalto University in Otaniemi, Espoo. Moreover, Matti Nelimarkka has become an active teacher of computational methods in Political Science and elsewhere, an active teacher in the English-

language Master's Programme Global Politics and Communication with special reference to the study unit of this program in Digital Governance, Organizations, and Communication, for which Pertti Ahonen is the principal responsible teacher (University of Helsinki 2018). Matti Nelimarkka was also one of the creators and teachers in a doctoral course on computational methods organized in spring 2017 in the Doctoral School on Political, Societal, and Regional Change (University of Helsinki 2017). Moreover, Nelimarkka is one of the founders of Rajapinta r.y. (Association "Interface") with funding from Kone Foundation, involving also Pertti Ahonen in the activities of this association (Rajapinta 2018).

First since 2017 and ever more actively since 2018 a doctoral student in Political Science, *Juha Koljonen*, M.Sc.Econ. in Information System Science, has stood out in the Research Group on Digital Politology. He is a ICT professional, and prepares his Political Science doctoral dissertation part-time. As can be seen in the list of publications, including publications under preparation, his role is becoming increasingly prominent in the group.

For more than one year from 2015 to 2016 the project of the research group had *Anton Sobolev*, student of statistics, as its research aide. He collected most of the initial data in the project and therefore also for future utilization within the research group. In 2018 the Faculty of the Social Sciences awarded funding to supplement the data collected by 2016. The group will recruit another research aide for the period from 1 November 2018 to 31 January 2019.

The research group has also carried out cooperation with a colleague with whom a joint project application although without winning funding has been prepared, and was one of the teachers in the doctoral training course mentioned above (University of Helsinki 2017) This colleague is *Salla-Maaria Laaksonen*, D.Soc.Sc., postdoctoral researches in Media and Communication Studies at the same university. There is also *Laura Sibinescu*, to defend in public her doctoral dissertation in Political Science at the turn of 2018 and 2019, also at the same university. *Mikko Mattila*, Professor of Political Science and again at the same university, evolves as a cooperation partner through his co-supervisory role together with Pertti Ahonen towards Juha Koljonen of the research group, and through joint publication plans with the research group members.

International cooperation of the research group has included, besides many of the activities of the past group research project member Matti Nelimarkka (see below in section 5), active membership in International Political Science Association (IPSA) Research Committee (RC) 10 on Internet and Politics (including presentations in panels and panel chairpersonship), active membership in the ECPR (European Consortium for Political Research) Standing Group on Internet and Politics (including presentations and panel discussant roles), and active membership in the EGPA (European Group of Public Administration) PSG (Permanent Study Group) on e-government (including two series of presentations on two different topics). Moreover, personal collegial ties have been created and maintained with numerous international and national colleagues, and the interests of the research group will also be taken into account during the research group leader Pertti Ahonen's study leave comprising the first half-year of 2019 and spent in important respects in the Berlin area, Germany. (See ECPR 2018; EGPA 2018; IPSA 2018.)

#### 4. Objectives, their changes, and their emphases

Until the end of 2017 the research group and its project was striving towards reaching objectives first set in autumn 2014, although minor modifications had taken place meanwhile. These objectives were:

1. *Quality of deliberation.* – To examine the quality of deliberation related to the formation of public policies.
2. *Policy formation.* – To examine the formation of policies in and through party politics, government politics and policy-making, and in both ways in interaction.
3. *University strategies.* – To examine the strategies of the Finnish universities by means of computation methods and these methods and other, including traditional and newer qualitative methods in combination.
4. *Evaluation of public policies.* – To examine the polar dimensions according to which the political and administrative evaluation of public policies is organized, the topics of this evaluation organized, and the sentiments that organize evaluation.
5. *Reforms at the center of governance and government.* – To examine the organization of the reform policies of the center of governance and government according to topics, polarity observable in these policies, and the organization of the policies into groups of comparable policies.
6. *Synthesis.* – Synthesizing, to examine public policy formation in its entirety from preliminary deliberation to party manifestos, government programs, and ultimate new rounds of public deliberation.

The first research objective was pursued above all by Matti Nelimarkka during the 2015-2017 research project of the Study Group on Digital Politics. The third objective with a 2016 published study (see the 1<sup>st</sup> item in section 6.1.2. below) has been put into abeyance. The fourth objective was reached by and large, and an article manuscript was put into the referee process in an international journal in early autumn 2018 (see section 6.1.4., the last item Ahonen & Koljonen in the subsection “Under evaluation”). The original 6<sup>th</sup> objective has been dropped as superfluous in some respects and premature in some others.

Since 2018 the objectives of the research group have been specified as follows:

1. *Computational analysis of public statements by political parties and their representatives*
  - The objective aims towards the fine-tuned examination of the contents of the Finnish political party manifestos from 1880s to 2010s using computational methods with special reference to Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA) topic modeling, including doing so by party types (mainstream vs. niche), party manifesto types (general, electoral, and special), and by the position of parties in respect to the government (in government vs. in the opposition) (see, for instance, the Ahonen, Koljonen and Nelimarkka item in section 6.1.4., sub-item In preparation).
  - Moreover, the objective also presupposes examining other statements, such as blogs by individual political actors, data accumulated from the use of voting advice applications by citizens contemplating which party and which candidate to support in imminent elections, and social media data proper.
  - The objective also contains a methodological element of adapting and mainstreaming computational methods in political science research, such as their fine-tuning,

considering their underlying so-called bag-of-words assumptions of textual analysis, and applying available test criteria for the quality of the computational models being estimated (Blei 2003; Ahonen & Koljonen 2018) .

2. *Sentiment analysis of the contents of political and policy documents*
  - The objective implements intentions evolved during the first years of the group but not implemented thus far to extend the methodological arsenal to include sentiment analysis a.k.a. opinion mining of the contents of party manifestos and, possibly, other statements of political parties, and possibly also other political texts (Ravi & Ravi 2015).
3. *Empirical and methodological research with latent trait scaling*
  - The objective aims towards using computational methods of latent trait scaling, at least unsupervised (known under the name Wordfish, developed by Proksch and Slapin, see their article 2008) and possibly also supervised (known under the name Wordscore, developed Michael Laver and others, see Laver et al. 2002).
  - The methods indicated are used to examine party manifestos and other statements of political parties and their representatives, and, possibly, to compare the research outcome with what is achievable by means of using the international MANIFESTO database (now managed at the Social Science Research Center WZB in Berlin) data that has mostly been examined by means of extensions of entrenched quantitative content analysis (Volkens et al. 2013).
  - The objective also contains a considerable methodological element, which is related both to the methodological element of objective 1, and to other considerations.
4. *Computational and other examination of the political programs of the government*
  - Within the limits of the possibilities, the objective aims towards continuing the examination of the master political programs of Finland's governments (*hallitusohjelmat*, with a database put together during the project of the research group). However, this is a somewhat lesser objective than the other five objectives of the research group.
  - The fourth objective also covers examining reform programs of the center of government and governance in Finland (see the Ahonen & Virtanen item in section 6.1.4., sub-item In preparation; also see the Ahonen ECPR 2018 paper mentioned below in section 6.2.3.).
5. *Digital politology other than computational politology*
  - This objective aims towards carrying out and in other ways promoting other digital politology than computational politology, with a first concentration upon examining the opening of government data (Ahonen 2018c), and a second concentration upon smart cities themes (Ahonen 2018b).
  - Notably, although it has been allowed to decouple the fifth objective from using computational methods, this is not completely ruled out in research guided by this objective at later states of the research group.

## 5. Implementation of the research group activities and the group outputs, 1 January 2015 to 30 September 2018

The final part of this document comprises stock-taking of the publications and the other activities of the Research Group on Digital Politology during its first 45 months. There are separate sub-sections on publications, on the one hand, and on the other other activities.

## 5.1. Publications and activities aiming towards publications

### 5.1.1. Activity period 1, 1 January to 31 August 2015

- Ahonen, P. 2015a. Aspects of the institutionalization of evaluation in Finland: Basic, agency, process, and change. *Evaluation* (Sage Publishers), 21, 2015, 3, 308-324. doi: 10.1177/1356389015592546
- Ahonen, P. 2015b. Institutionalizing Big Data methods in social and political research. *Big Data & Society* (Sage Publishers, an open access journal), 2, 2015, doi:10.1177/2053951715591224
- Ahonen, P. 2015c. Institutionalizing Big Data methods in social and political research: New article by Ahonen, blog in the *Big Data & Society* journal website at <http://bigdatasoc.blogspot.fi/2015/07/institutionalizing-big-data-methods-in.html>
- Nelimarkka & Vihavainen 2015. Alumni & Tenured Participants in MOOCs: Analysis of Two Years of MOOC Discussion Channel Activity.” In Learning at Scale.
- Nelimarkka, Lehtinen, Ukkonen, Kuikkaniemi & Jacucci. 2015. Threading and Conversation in Co-Located Chats. *Computers in Human Behavior* 53 (December): 324–331. doi:10.1016/j.chb.2015.07.011

### 5.1.2. Activity Period 2, 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016

- Ahonen, P. 2016. Rhetorical topoi of academic ideology: Examining university strategies in the northeastern European extreme of the Humboldtian tradition. In Eugenie Samier, ed., *Ideologies in Educational Administration and Leadership*, 176-192. Basingstoke: Routledge.
- Laaksonen, S-M., M. Nelimarkka and J. Haapoja. 2016. Telling citizens how to vote: voting advice applications as a boundary object for political influence and discussion. To be presented in the conference Internet, Politics and Policy, University of Oxford, 22-23 September 2016
- Marttila, M., S-M. Laaksonen, A. Kekkonen, M. Tuokko, and M. Nelimarkka. 2016. Digitaalinen vaalitelta: Twitter politiikan areenana eduskuntavaaleissa 2015. Teoksessa *Eduskuntavaalitutkimus 2015: Poliittisen Osallistumisen Eriytyminen*, edited by Kimmo Grönlund and Hanna Wass, 117–37. Helsinki: Oikeusministeriö.

### 5.1.3. Activity period 3, 1 September 2016 to 31 December 2017

- Ahonen, P. 2016. Digital public administration research drawing from Bayesian inspiration: Latent trait scaling and topic modeling examination of budgetary legislation in thirteen countries. *Halduskultuur /Administrative Culture* 17(1), 47-70 (open access).
- Laaksonen, S.-M., M. Nelimarkka, M. Tuokko, M. Marttila, A. Kekkonen & M. Villi. 2017. Working the Fields of Big Data: Using Big-Data-Augmented Online Ethnography to Study Candidate–candidate Interaction at Election Time. *Journal of Information Technology & Politics* 14(1): 1–22.
- Nelimarkka, M. 2016. Kansalaisjärjestöt ja osallistumisvälineiden kehitys verkkosivuilla 1990-luvulta 2010-luvulle. *Widerscreen* 18(1–2).

- Nelimarkka, M., K. Kuikkaniemi, A. Salovaara & G. Jacucci. 2016. Live Participation. In *Proceedings of the 2016 ACM Conference on Designing Interactive Systems - DIS '16*, New York, New York, USA: ACM Press, 509–20.
- Nelimarkka, M., A. Salovaara, B. Semaan & G. Jacucci. 2017. Theory-Driven Collocated CMC” In *Proceedings of the 2017 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems - CHI '17*, New York, New York, USA: ACM Press, 4534–47.
- Nelimarkka, M. & R. Sund. 2017. Viestinnän mittaaminen big datan avulla. *Procomma*: 75–85.
- Nelimarkka, M. 2018. Performative hybrid interaction: Understanding planned events across collocated and mediated interaction spheres. Ph.D. dissertation in Computer Science. Helsinki: Helsingin yliopisto (luettavissa linkistä <https://helda.helsinki.fi/handle/10138/230087>).
- Nelimarkka, M., S.-M. Laaksonen & B. Semaan. 2018. Social Media Is Polarized: Towards a New Design Agenda for Mitigating Polarization. Accepted for publication in *Proceedings of Designing Interactive Systems 2018*.

#### 5.1.4. Activity period 4, 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018 (situation 30 September 2018)

##### Published

- Ahonen, P. 2018. Opening data in the context of e-Government: Finland, with special reference to location data. In Laura Alcaide-Muñoz & al., ed., *International e-Government Development: Policy, Implementation and Best Practices*. London: Palgrave–Macmillan.
- Ahonen, Pertti, and Juha Koljonen. 2018. Transitory and Resilient Salient Issues in Party Manifestos, Finland, 1880s to 2010s. In *International Conference on Social Informatics*, pp. 23–37. Springer, Cham, 2018.

##### Accepted for publication

- Ahonen, P. 2018/2019. The Situation of Research and Teaching in the Discipline of Political Science – Finland: Facing the Digital Revolution. Accepted for publication in a monograph edited within the auspices of IPSA (International Political Science Association), ed. by Helen Milner et al. To appear in 2019. Printing place and published had not been announced by 30 September 2018.

##### Under evaluation

- Ahonen, P. & Koljonen, J. 2018. Performance auditing without and with evaluation: A computational study of topics in performance audits by the Finnish National Audit Office. In referee process in journal *Financial Accountability and Management* (Wiley).
- Laaksonen, S.-M. & Nelimarkka, M. 2018. Omat ja muiden aiheet – laskennallinen analyysi vaalijulkisuuden teemoista ja aiheomistajuudesta.
- Nelimarkka, M. 2018. Aihemallinnus sekä muut ohjaamattomat koneoppimismenetelmät yhteiskuntatieteellisessä tutkimuksessa: muutama kriittinen havainto.

##### In preparation



- Ahonen, P., Koljonen, J., & Nelimarkka, M. 2018. Saliency of issues in Finnish party manifestos from the 1880s to the 2010s: Elaboration by sub-periods, manifesto types, and party types. Research article manuscript under preparation to submit to *Acta Politica – International Journal of Political Science* (Palgrave).
- Ahonen, P. & Virtanen, J. 2018. Reforming the governance center of public management: Rationality, the institutional logics of sectors, and legitimation, Finland, 2012–2016.
- Nelimarkka, M. 2017. Rasismi hybrisisessä mediatilassa, laskennallista analyysiä rasismista sekä laskennallisten menetelmäkohteiden kehitystä.
- Nelimarkka, M. 2018a. Measuring deliberation using machine learning. Tarjotaan julkaistavaksi: *Social Science Computer Review*.
- Nelimarkka, Matti 2018b. Politics and Democracy at SIGCHI community: A Systematic Literature Review and Proposals for Future Work. Tarjotaan julkaisuun *Proceedings of Computer-Supported Collaborative Work & Social Computing*.
- Nelimarkka, M. 2018c. Työskentely kustannusyhtiö Sagen kanssa kirjan julkaiseksi, työnimi *Programming Social Sciences*.
- Nelimarkka, M. ym. 2018d. Online Agenda Building and Normalization in Finnish 2015 Parliamentary Elections. Tarjotaan julkaisuun *European Journal of Communication*.

## 5.2. Other research group activities

### 5.2.1. January to 31 August 2015

- Ahonen, P. 4–6 June 2015 Berlin, WZB (Wissenschaftszentrum für Sozialforschung) MANIFESTO Project Users' Conference.
- Ahonen P. & Nelimarkka, M. 2015. 8–11 June 2015 IC<sup>2</sup>S<sup>2</sup>:iin (International Conference on Computational Social Scienceen), participants without paper.
- Ahonen, P. 26–28 August 2015 EGPA PSG (European Group of Public Administration Permanent Study Group) on eGovernment paper (after substantial development, published as the 1<sup>st</sup> item in 5.1.4., Published
- Nelimarkka, M. 2015. Digivaalit 2015 - gradujen ohjausta sekä laskennallista analyysiä julkisuuden agendasta. Computational analysis and Master's thesis guidance concerning the public sphere during the Finnish 2015 parliamentary elections.
- Nelimarkka, M. & Ahonen, P. 2015. Measuring deliberation using machine learning. Conference paper presented at ECPR conference, Montreal 27–28 August 2015. Participant and presenter was Matti Nelimarkka.
- Nelimarkka, M. 2015. D:CE (Centre of Excellence on Democracy Research) conference, Turku, Finland, participant without paper.
- Ahonen, P. (consortium leader) 2015. Digital Politology: Participation, Policies, and Politics of Open Data. Consortium plan for the Digital Humanities call of the Academy of Finland. Unfortunately, the consortium did not receive funding.

### 5.2.2. 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016

- Ahonen P. 2016. Politological imagination in using Big Data and machine learning methods: Experiences from the examination of party programs and government political programs.

*Eastern Sociological Society Digital Sociology Mini-Conference*, Boston, USA. March 2016. Preliminary version only with a powerpoint set for the below IPSA Poznan presentation.

- Ahonen, P. 2016. Politological imagination in using Big Data and machine learning methods: Experiences from the examination of party programs and government political programs. *24<sup>th</sup> IPSA World Congress of Political Science*, Poznań, Poland. Precedes the publication Ahonen & Nelimarkka 2018 (see section 5.1.4. above, sub-section Published, 2nd item) and the so on to submit refereed article manuscript Ahonen, Koljonen & Nelimarkka 2018 (section 5.1.4, in sub-section In preparation)
- Ahonen, P. 2016. Performance auditing and evaluation by the Finnish National Audit Office: Computational examination of topical structures. *12<sup>th</sup> European Evaluation Society Biennial Conference*, Maastricht. 1st version of the submitted manuscript Ahonen & Koljonen 2018 in section 5.1.4., sub-section Submitted for publication).
- Ahonen, P. 2016. Chairing of a working group on computational and other digital research, Annual Conference of the Finnish Political Science Association, Helsinki 2016, with 5 to 6 presentations.
- Ahonen, P., Sievänen, R. et al. 2016. Application for an r&d project commissioned by the Finnish Council of State on utilizing big data in the public policy domain. Not funded.
- Ahonen, P. & Virtanen, J. 2016. Rationalities, logics and justifications in reforming the center of the state: An empirical examination of Finland, 2010–2016. *European Group of Public Administration (EGPA) Conference*, Utrecht. Under preparation; see in the respective sub-section in the above section 5.1.4.
- Nelimarkka, M. et al. 2016. Conference paper on measuring agenda change. onferenssipaperi aiheena agendan muutoksen mittaaminen. International Communication Association Conference 2016 , Fukuoka Japan.

### 5.2.3. 1 September 2016 to 31 December 2017

- Ahonen, P. 2017a. Doctoral training course on digital methods in the Doctoral School on Political, Societal, and Regional Change. Trainers Dr. Bernhard Rieder, Amsterdamin yliopisto, D.Soc.Sc. Salla-Maaria Laaksonen (University of Helsinki, Media and Communication Studies) sekä M.Sc.Econ. (Later Ph.D.) Matti Nelimarkka (Political Science and Computer Science).
- Ahonen, P, 2017. ECPR General Conference, Oslo, Smart Cities panel, discussant on four papers on request.
- Ahonen, P. 2017. Project funding application to the Academy of Finland for “Digital Politology of the Political and Policy Cycle”. Members doctoral student (and postdoctoral fellow by the project start) Laura Sibinescu, and doctoral student, M.Sc.Econ. Juha Koljonen. The project did not win funding.
- Ahonen, P. 2017. IPSA Digital Conference, Hannover, December. Organizer and chair of panel on computational research in political science, and participation in panel on digitalization in political science research and learning with the paper “The Situation of Research and Teaching in the Discipline of Political Science – Finland: Facing the Digital Revolution”. The presentation is the basis for the forthcoming article mentioned at 5.1.4., sub-section Accepted for publication.
- Nelimarkka, M. 2017. Princeton University, USA, “Summer Institute for Computational Social Science.
- Nelimarkka, M. 2017. Founding the association Rajapinta r.y. (The “Interface”) and its first chairpersonship.

- Nelimarkka, M. 2017. Validity as a Challenge to Mainstream Computational Methods. Presentation in an ECPR 2017 General Conference Standing Group on Internet and Politics Panel, Oslo, Norway.
- Nelimarkka, M. ym., 2017. Less Hate in Politics! Machine Learning and Interventions as Tools to Mitigate Online Hate Speech in Political Campaigns. Association of Internet Researchers, AoIR 2017, Tartu, Estonia.

#### 5.2.4. 1 January to 30 September 2018

- Ahonen, P. 2018. Project funding application for the Finnish Cultural Foundation on obstacles and preconditions for the diffusion of research-based knowledge to decision-making". The application was not accepted to the second and final stage of the application process.
- Ahonen, P. 2018. EGPA (European Group of Public Administration), Permanent Study Group (PSG) on E-government, Lausanne, Switzerland, 4-7 September, 2018, delivered paper "A Greater Helsinki with Cities Smarter than Smart: Minimal Securitization, Maximal Deliberation".
- Nelimarkka, M. 2018. In cooperation with Princeton University and Duke University, both of the USA, the organization of the Summer Institute for Computational Social Science in Helsinki.
- Nelimarkka, M. 2018. Participation in planning the discipline of computational social science in the Faculty of the Social Sciences of the University of Helsinki.
- Nelimarkka, M. 2018. Development and maintenance of the HYBRA analytic tool for the computational analysis of media data, see <https://github.com/HiIT/hybra-core>.
- Nelimarkka, M. 2018. A presentation on the recognition of hate speech, International Communication Association, ICA 2018, Prague, Czech Republic.

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Ahonen, P. 2018a. Digital Humanities of Public Policy-making.

<https://blogs.helsinki.fi/computational-politics/>

Ahonen, P. 2018b. A Greater Helsinki with Cities Smarter than Smart: Minimal Securitization, Maximal Deliberation. *EGPA conference, Lausanne, 5–7 September 2018, PSG 1, E-government.*

[https://tuhat.helsinki.fi/portal/files/115655726/AHONEN\\_A\\_Greater\\_Helsinki\\_with\\_Cities\\_Smarter\\_than\\_Smart\\_169PSGI.pdf](https://tuhat.helsinki.fi/portal/files/115655726/AHONEN_A_Greater_Helsinki_with_Cities_Smarter_than_Smart_169PSGI.pdf)

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