DR. CARL ÖHMAN

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HIGHLIGHTS

Recognized among six of the top early-career researchers in the UK by Scopus (Scopus Award) | Recognized as Uppsala University's 'most promising' young researcher (Oscar Prize) | *The Afterlife of Data* listed among 2024's best books in *Nature, The Guardian,* and *The Economist,* etc. | Translated into 9 languages | Member of the Young Academy of Sweden | 2025 Swedish Research Grand Prix Winner | 2026 winner of the Hans L. Zetterberg Prize in Sociology | Oxford Internet Institute Thesis Prize winner, with record score (87)| >13 journal articles | Altmetric >3340, >200,000 article downloads |PI of 2 major research projects | 4 PhD students + 1 postdoc | Career age: 4,5 years since PhD (parental leave deducted) | BA, MSc, and PhD in <6 years of study

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Uppsala University, Department of Government — Uppsala, Sweden
Senior Lecturer, Tenured (Universitetslektor) — *2026–ongoing*

Uppsala University, Department of Government — Uppsala, Sweden
Assistant Professor (Bitr. Universitetslektor) — *2021–2026*

PI, *AI and Political Communication,* 10 Mn SEK, 2021-2026

Uppsala University, Department of Informatics and Media — Uppsala, Sweden
Junior Lecturer (Universitetsadjunkt) — *2021–2021*

EDUCATION

University of Oxford, Oxford Internet Institute, Merton College — Oxford, United Kingdom
D.Phil. in Information, Communication and the Social Sciences, Supervisor: Luciano Floridi — *2017–2020*

University of Oxford, Oxford Internet Institute, Merton College — Oxford, United Kingdom
M.Sc. in Social Science of the Internet (Distinction) — *2015–2016*

Uppsala University, Department of Sociology — Uppsala, Sweden
Double Major B.A. in Sociology and Comparative Literature (Distinction) — *2013–2015*

GRANTS

2023–2027 *Building Democratic Resilience in the Age of Information Warfare.* Funded by the Swedish Research Council. 5,000,000 SEK. (PI, co-applicants: Åsa Wikforss and Siri Sylvan)

2023 *National Network for AI and Politics.* Funded by WASP-HS. 100,000 SEK, (PI)

2015–2020 Marcus Wallenberg Foundation for Education in International Industrial Economy. Two separate grants of totally 1,200,000 SEK to fund my PhD research.

PARENTAL LEAVE

2021–2023 Edith (total 7 months)

2023–2025 Folke (total 7 months)
2026 Boel (10 days)

DOCTORAL SUPERVISION

2026– Erik Olsson, Department of Government, Uppsala University, principal supervisor

2021–2026 Sophie Mainz, Department of Government, Uppsala University, co-supervisor

2021–2026 Emelie Karlsson, Department of Government, Uppsala University, co-supervisor

2022–2026 Igor Ryazanov, Department of Government, Uppsala University, co-supervisor

MASS MEDIA OUTREACH (SELECTED)

Hundreds of interviews in some of the world's most prominent outlets and several documentary films, including: *New York Times, Time Magazine, The Washington Post, The Economist, The Guardian, Wallstreet Journal, The Economist, Le Monde, Der Spiegel, El Pais, MIT Technology Review, Le Monde, The London Times, The Telegraph, Nature Outlook, La Vanguardia, Wired, Dagens Nyheter, Svenska Dagbladet, Chouson Daily, SVT Nyheter, Business Insider, Neue Züricher Zeitung, Globo, Vice, Fast company, Reuters, BBC Ideas* (Documentary), *CNN's Beme News* (TV), *Sky News* (Live TV*), NTV* (Russian TV), *SVT Aktuellt* (Swedish public TV), *SVT Morgonstudion* (Swedish public live TV), *TV4 Nyhetsmorgon* (Swedish Live TV)*, Eternal You* (documentary film), *Metro UK* (TV), *NPR NewsTalk* and *Times Radio*. Links at request.

PEER RECOGNITION (SELECTED)

2026 Hans L. Zetterberg Prize in Sociology. An international award in the memory of Hans L. Zetterberg given annually to a young sociologist who has advanced the discipline's research front, preferably by fruitfully combining theory and practice. "Carl Öhman demonstrates a remarkable ability to connect the abstract and principled questions posed in his research to the ways in which individuals and societies concretely navigate a changing contemporary world. His scholarly work exhibits an unusual capacity to unite philosophical analysis with issues of direct societal significance." 100,000 SEK ($ 10,000)

2026 Invited participant (one of ten Sweden-based scholars) in Human Futures: AI Transitions in a Global Context (2026–2027), an international interdisciplinary research program initiated by SCAS in collaboration with Tokyo College and STIAS, bringing together selected scholars to develop long-term collaborations on AI and societal and scientific transformations. Meetings are held in Uppsala, Tokyo, and Stellenbosch across a two-year period.

2026 Elected member of the Young Academy of Sweden, "an independent, interdisciplinary academy that brings together a selection of the most prominent younger researchers in Sweden."

2025. Winner, Swedish Research Grand Prix, a national competition where researchers compete in five heats, making the most captivating, inspiring, and educational presentation of their research in <4 minutes. The final is broadcast and assessed by an expert jury. 20,000 SEK ($2000).

2025	The Oscar Prize. Awarded annually to Uppsala University's most promising and prominent young researcher. For "breaking new ground at the intersection between political science, philosophy, and digital anthropology." 70,000 SEK ($7000)
2024	Appointed Associate Professor (Docent) of political science.
2024.	Nature's top 10 books of 2024; The Economist, best books 2024; The Guardian, best books 2024.
2024-2026	Translation rights sold for Spanish, Arabic, Chinese (complex), Chinese (simplified), Japanese, Korean, Swedish, Croatian, and Czech.
2020	Scopus UK Early Career Researcher Award (Winner in Arts and Humanities). The top 5 most-cited early-career scholars in each scientific discipline are assessed by an expert jury that qualitatively evaluates the entirety of their scientific output. $1,500.
2016	Oxford Internet Institute Thesis Prize (receiving a score of 87, which is the highest in the department's history). ($200).

PUBLICATIONS

In the pipeline:

Öhman, C. & Khayati, E. (n.d.). Should Feminists Welcome the Advent of Synthetic Porn? Article pending review in *Minds & Machines*

Öhman, C (n.d.). AI och politisk kommunikation. Book chapter pending review in *Digital politisk kommunikation* (Eds. Ekman & Widholm), Studentlitteratur

Öhman, C. & Sylvan, S. (n.d.). Folly As a Political Asset: Why Epistemically Inferior Actors Succeed in Democratic Competition. Article to be submitted to the *American Political Science Review* in August 2026.

Sylvan, S. & Öhman, C. (n.d.). Three Conceptions of the Public: The Market, the Square, and Democracy's Infrastructure. Article to be submitted to *Political Studies* in August 2016.

Öhman, C. & Ryazanov, I. (n.d.). Ukrainians Killed by Russia; Palestinians Dead? A Computational Semantic Analysis of Western Media's Attribution of Agency in War. Article to be submitted to *Journal of Communication* or *Media, War & Conflict* in August 2026

Peer-reviewed books and edited volumes:

Öhman, C. (Set for release 2027). *Gods of Data: An Atheist Critique of AI*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Öhman, C. (2024). *The afterlife of data: What happens to your information when you die and why you should care*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Öhman, C. & Watson, D. (Eds.) (2019). *The 2018 Yearbook of the Digital Ethics Lab*. Heidelberg: Springer

Peer-reviewed journal articles:

Öhman, C. (2025). Wherever There is AI There is Memory: AI as The Agency of the (Synthesized) Past. Memory, Mind & Media, 4, e12. doi:10.1017/mem.2025.10008

Olsson, E., Öhman, C. (2025). The Quantum Panopticon: A Theory of Surveillance for the Quantum Era. *Minds & Machines* 35, 17. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11023-025-09723-2

Ryazanov, I., Öhman, C. & Björklund, J. (2024). How ChatGPT Changed the Media's Narratives on AI: A Semi-Automated Narrative Analysis Through Frame Semantics. *Minds & Machines* 35, 2. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11023-024-09705-w

Öhman, C. (2024). Who are the targets of deepfakes? Evidence from disclosed deepfakes on TikTok and YouTube. *Journal of Digital Social Research*. https://doi.org/10.33621/jdsr.v7i255529

Öhman, C. (2023). We Are Building Gods: AI as the Anthropomorphised Authority of the Past. *Minds & Machines,* https://doi.org/10.1007/s11023-024-09667-z

Öhman, C. (2022). The Identification Game: Deepfakes and the Epistemic Limits of Identity. *Synthese* 200(319). https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-022-03798-5

Öhman, C. (2022). The Case for a Digital World Heritage Label. *Information and Culture*. 57(1). https://doi.org/10.7560/IC57106

Öhman, C. & Aggarwal, N. (2020). What if Facebook Goes Down? Ethical and Legal Considerations or the Demise of Big Tech. *Internet Policy Review*, 9(3). https://doi.org/10.14763/2020.3.1488

Öhman, C. (2020). A Theory of Temporal Telepresence: Reconsidering the Digital Time Collapse. *Time & Society*. 29(4), 1061-1081. https://doi.org/10.1177/0961463X20940471

Öhman, C. (2019). Introducing the Pervert's Dilemma: A Contribution to the Critique of Deepfake Pornography. *Ethics & Information Technology*, 22, 133–140. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10676-019-09522-1

Öhman, C., & Watson, D. (2019). Are the Dead Taking Over Facebook? A Big Data Approach to the Future of Death Online. *Big Data & Society*, 6(1). https://doi.org/10.1177/2053951719842540

Öhman, C. & Floridi, L. (2018). An Ethical Framework for the Digital Afterlife Industry. *Nature Human Behaviour,* 2(5), 318–320. http://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-018-0335-2

Öhman, C. & Floridi, L. (2017). The Political Economy of Death in the Age of Information: A Critical Approach to the Digital Afterlife Industry. *Minds & Machines*, 27(4), 639–662. http://doi.org/10.1007/s11023-017-9445-2

Book chapters and other papers:

Öhman, C. (in press). Gods of Data: Why AI Systems are the Deities of the Information Age. In *Religion and AI: Theoretical and empirical approaches.* (Tsuria, Ed.). Bloomsbury

Öhman, C. (2023). A critical reading of the GDPR: How data protection is turned against the working class. In Handbook of Critical Studies of Artificial Intelligence (Lindgren, Ed.), Edward Elgar Publishers

Öhman, C. & Watson, D. (2022). Are the Dead Taking Over Instagram? A Follow-up to Öhman & Watson (2019). In *The 2020 Yearbook of the Digital Ethics Lab.* (Cowls & Morley Eds.). Heidelberg: Springer

Öhman, C., Gorwa, R., Floridi, L. (2019). Prayer-Bots and Religious Worship on Twitter: A Call for a Wider Research Agenda. *Minds & Machines 29*, 331–338. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11023-019-09498-3

Öhman, C. (2019). From Bones to Bytes: A New Chapter in the History of Death. In *The 2018 Yearbook of the Digital Ethics Lab* (Öhman & Watson Eds.). Heidelberg: Springer

Öhman, C. & Watson, D. (2019). Digital Ethics: Goals and Approach. In *The 2018 Yearbook of the Digital Ethics Lab.* (Öhman & Watson Eds.). Heidelberg: Springer

Öhman, C. (2018). The Grand Challenges of Death in the 21st Century. *Swissfuture*, May 2018.

Book reviews:

Öhman, C. (2026). The Mechanic and the Luddite. *The Economic Record,* 102 (336), 154-155. https://doi.org/10.1111/1475-4932.70025

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (PEER-REVIEWED)

Öhman, C. (2024). We are building Gods: AI as the anthropomorphized authority of the past. Conference paper, Arbetarrörelsens forskarnätverk, Stockholm

Öhman, C. (2023). Who are the targets of Deepfakes? Evidence from disclosed deepfakes on YouTube and TikTok. Conference paper, ECPR, Prague

Öhman, C. (2020). The Case for a Digital World Heritage Label. Conference presentation, ECSCW workshop Datafication and cultural heritage, (virtual presentation due to COVID-19).

Öhman, C. (2019). Are the Dead Taking Over Facebook? Conference presentation. International Conference on Memories of the Future, London, UK.

Öhman, C. (2018). The Politics of Deletion: Facing the Global Challenges of Post-Mortal Society, Conference Presentation, DORS4, Hull, UK.

Öhman, C. (2018). Are the Dead Taking Over Facebook? Conference presentation. Dis-connection symposium, Uppsala Sweden.

Öhman, C. (2016). The Political Economy of Death in the Age of Information, Conference presentation, Connected life, Oxford, UK.

INVITED TALKS (IN SELECTION)

Öhman, C. (2026). Privacy beyond life. Digital Rights Forum, Barcelona (invited by the Spanish government as "one of the leading voices on digital ethics."

Öhman, C. (2026). What happens to your data when you die? Opening Keynote speaker. Data Insights x Shoosmiths. London

Öhman, C. (2025). The Afterlife of Data. Closing keynote speaker, International Association of Privacy Professionals. Brussels, Belgium. Audience of 3,500.

Öhman, C. (2025). Vad händer med vår data när vi dör? Och varför spelar det roll? Presentation at Forum för Forskningskommunikation.

Öhman, C. (2025). The Afterlife of Data. Opening keynote speaker, International Association of Privacy Professionals. London, UK. Audience of 700.

Öhman, C. (2025). Gods of Data. Presentation, Center for Multidisciplinary Research on Religion and Society. Uppsala, Sweden.

Öhman, C. (2024). What happens to your data when you die and why you should care. Closing keynote speaker. LabourDigital Conference, Zürich, Switzerland

Öhman, C. (2024). Digitala kvarlevor. Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters, Oslo.

Öhman, C. (2023). Memory in the Machine. Presentation, The Conference. Malmö, Sweden

Öhman, C. (2020). The Ethics and Politics of Digital Remains. Presentation, British Computing Society (virtual presentation due to COVID19).

Öhman, C. (2019). The Ethics and Politics of Digital Remains. Life itself in theory and Practice, Trinity College, Oxford. UK.

Öhman, C. (2019). The Ethics of Digital Remains. Keynote Presentation, Open Source Festival. Düsseldorf, Germany.

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP

2026–present *Falling Walls Berlin Engage*. Member of the advisory board. Responsible for selecting a shortlist of 15 of the strongest science communication projects globally.

2025–2026 *Princeton University's Research Accelerator*. Member of the ethics committee. An international task force that helped establish the center's ethical infrastructure and review process.

2023 Initiator and author of a national petition to change Sweden's research ethics law (Etikprövningsuppropet), signed by over 2,500 Swedish researchers within a single week. The signatures were delivered to the Minister of Education by me personally. A law was subsequently passed in direct accordance with the petition's demands.

2023–2024 *Uppsala Political Science Association* (UPSA) (Statsvetenskapliga föreningen). Secretary of the committee, responsible for organizing public debates and social events.

2023–2024 *The Labour Movement's Research Network* (Arbetarrörelsens forskarnätverk). Committee member, conference organizer 2023-2024. As member of the committee, I helped co-ordinate relationships and meeting spaces for actors in academia and other sectors, including labour unions and think thanks.

2024 *Swedish Network for AI and Politics.* Initiator and conference organizer of a network of Swedish political scientists with a focus on AI. The network formed the basis for what later became a WASP-HS cluster encompassing 30 Mn SEK.

2023–2024 *SACO-S,* local labor union club. Committee member 2023-2024.

COURSES AND ACADEMIC TRAINING

2021– WASP-HS Academic leadership training program. 4 two-day workshops yearly, covering themes like PhD recruitment, team management, grant applications, etc.

2025 Supervision of degree projects, 2 weeks, Unit for Academic Teaching and Learning, Uppsala University

2023 Doctoral Supervision, 3 weeks, Unit for Academic Teaching and Learning, Uppsala University

2022 Academic teacher training course, 5 weeks, Unit for Academic Teaching and Learning, Uppsala University

2019 Media training, Press office, University of Oxford

ACADEMIC TEACHING

Uppsala University, Department of Government — Uppsala, Sweden
Assistant Professor (Bitr. Universitetslektor) — *2021 – ongoing*

Teaching a variety of courses, including *Elementary social science for teachers*, *qualitative methods (B),* and supervision at the Master's and Bachelor's levels.

Uppsala University, Department of Informatics and Media — Uppsala, Sweden
Junior lecturer — *2021-ongoing*

Convenor for one 15-credit theory course and one 7.5-credit methods course for approximately 100 undergraduates. I also supervised four master's theses in the Digital Media and Society and Management, Communication and IT programmes, and co-supervised three, plus two undergraduate theses. Average student feedback: 4.6/5. *"Carl is the best teacher I have ever had", "Carl is a god and every teacher should learn from him."*

Oxford Internet Institute — Oxford, United Kingdom
Teaching assistant, Digital Social Research Methods Core — *Autumns 2018 – 2019*

This role involved designing and leading seminars, designing, and giving extensive written feedback to, student assignments, and meeting with students one-to-one to discuss their progress. Average student

feedback: 5.23/6. "*Absolutely amazing*", "*The TAs for this course went above and beyond for the students*".

Stanford University in Oxford — Oxford, United Kingdom
Tutor (Instructor), Philosophy and Ethics of Information — *Autumn 2019*

This role involved designing a one-semester-long course, including a syllabus and marking a weekly assignment of 2000 words. I also had weekly one-hour tutorials discussing the student's written work and progress. Student feedback: 4/4. "*Compared to every other class I've taken before, I believe I have improved the most as a thinker and writer in this tutorial*".

Williams College in Oxford — Oxford, United Kingdom
Tutor (Instructor), Big Data & Society — *Spring 2018*

This role involved designing a one-semester-long course, including a syllabus and a weekly assignment of 2000 words. I also had weekly one-hour tutorials discussing the student's written work and progress. No score available. "*He was able to clarify arguments that I had troubles grasping even after extensively thinking about them.*"

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The Citizens' Education Association — Uppsala, Sweden
Coordinator — *2016 – 2017*

This position involved a variety of responsibilities, including assisting the secretary general in summoning, preparing, and leading board meetings, organising national conferences, external representation, and political lobbying. I also personally developed an internal training program for committee members.

The Swedish Federation of Student Unions — Stockholm, Sweden
Organisation developer — *2011 – 2013*

This position involved frequent public speaking and lecturing. As part of a selected task force, I also developed the organisation's new student committee education program, annually used by approximately 300 committees.

REVIEWS

Regularly reviewing manuscripts for journals including New Media & Society, Philosophy & Technology, Ethics & Information Technology, Analysis, International Journal of Communication, American Journal of Bioethics, Minds & Machines, Digital Society, Digital Social Research, and books for Bloomsbury.

LANGUAGES

Languages: Swedish (native); English (fluent); Spanish (basic)