Silvia Ioana Fierascu

Nationality: Romanian   **Date of birth:** 22/04/1987   **Gender:** Female

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in **LinkedIn:** https://www.linkedin.com/in/silviafierascu/

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📍 **Work:** Bd. Vasile Parvan 4, 300223 Timisoara (Romania)

ABOUT ME

As an educator, researcher, practitioner, leader, and mother - I am a changemaker.
I believe in human connection, doing work with meaning and purpose, and making a positive difference - because we can.
I walk this talk with dignity and grit, and I invite you to join me on this difficult but amazing journey.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Communications lecturer
West University of Timisoara [16/10/2019 – Current]

Address: Bd. Vasile Parvna 4,

City: Timisoara

Country: Romania

Website: https://www.uvt.ro/en/

Name of unit or department: Department of Philosophy and Communication Sciences - **Business or sector:** Education

Links: https://bit.ly/silviafierascu | https://bit.ly/fablab_uvt | https://www.connectm-uvt.com/ | https://bit.ly/katalog_uvt

Teaching to BA and MA students in Digital Media, Advertising, Communications and PR, Journalism, and Cultural Mediation:
1. Introduction to Network Science to Communication Sciences students and to students across the 11 faculties in the university
2. Analysis of Digital Media
3. Research Methods in Communication Sciences
4. Online Advertising
5. Research Ethics

Research:
1. Collaboration and Communication Networks in Organizations and Communities
2. Social Cohesion and Social Innovation
3. Corruption Networks
4. Organizational Development, Urban Development, Change Management, Talent Management, Culture Change
5. Employability of higher education and vocational education graduates

Supervision:
1. Co-supervising a Marie Curie Individual Fellow
2. Committee member for PhD candidates at the local and international levels

Founder and Director of Social Fabrics Research Lab - research, development and social innovation lab, acting as a living lab:
1. Conducting research and training in applied network and data science for diverse audiences
2. Developing Digital Education and Culture products and services
3. Leading Career-Connected Learning Programs for students
4. Organizing and moderating education and professional events

Ambassador:
1. Smart City and Digital Transformation Strategy (coordination group member)

2. Women in Data Science (country ambassador)
3. Innovation Labs (city ambassador)
4. Gender Equality in West University of Timisoara (researcher and coordinator mentoring program)
5. Global Shapers Timisoara Hub (founding curator)

Head of OrgMapper Academy
Maven7 [01/08/2020 – Current]

City: Budapest
Country: Hungary
Website: https://orgmapper.com/
Email address: silvia.fierascu@maven7.com
Business or sector: Professional, scientific and technical activities
Link: https://orgmapper.com/i-want-to-learn/

1. Learning and Development Manager of the OrgMapper Academy, a professional academy dedicated to leaders, practitioners, and researchers in business, government, civil society and academia
2. Designing and conducting learning and mentorship programs in organizational network analysis for leadership, organizational development, change management, organizational culture, innovation, DEI, HR Tech software
3. Initiating and maintaining partnerships with organizations and experts around the globe on the areas of interest to the academy
4. Preparing and analyzing OrgMapper benchmark data (the largest standardized database of organizational influencers and formal and informal communication and collaboration networks worldwide)

Research Fellow
Fagaras Research Institute [05/2018 – Current]

City: Fagaras
Country: Romania
Website: https://icf-fri.org/
Email address: silvia.fierascu@icf-fri.org
Business or sector: Professional, scientific and technical activities

1. Conducting research in digital inclusion, organizational development, civil society mobilization, emergency situations coordination, freedom of expression
2. Conducting trainings in research methods for practitioners (social network analysis, organizational network analysis, social research methodology, data collection and data analysis methodologies)

Visiting Scholar
Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Information Management School [01/10/2019 – 31/10/2019]

City: Lisbon
Country: Portugal
Website: https://novaims.unl.pt/en/

1. Conducted research on corruption risks in public procurement networks and anticorruption policymaking
2. Held presentations

Consultant
Romanian Competition Council [08/2020 – 12/2020]

City: Bucharest
Country: Romania

1. Co-developed the network and data analysis methodology implemented in the Big Data platform of the Romanian Competition Council (RCC)
2. Trained RCC experts in using network analysis for documentation and investigation analyses

Demographic Forecasting Expert
Executive Unit for Financing Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation (UEFISCDI) [06/2019 – 11/2019]

City: Bucharest
Country: Romania

Co-authored a forecasting study on student population flows in Romanian universities with recommendations on making recruitment more competitive and sustainable.

Consultant and Analyst
Open Society Foundations, Open Society Initiative for Europe [05/2017 – 05/2018]

City: Budapest
Country: Hungary
Website: https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/
Business or sector: Professional, scientific and technical activities
Links: https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/publications/end-manels-closing-gender-gap-europe-s-top-policy-events | https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/publications/end-manels-ii-closing-gender-gap-europe-s-top-policy-events

Representation gaps at the largest high-level public policy conferences in Europe

Country Manager, European Cooperation for Statistics of Network Data Science
European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) Action, CA15109 [03/2016 – 03/2020]

City: Budapest
Country: Hungary
Website: https://costnet.webhosting.rug.nl/

1. Co-leader of the Working Group *Exploring (Massive) Network Data*
2. Conducted research
3. Presented at conferences (Brussels, Ljubljana, Cambridge)

Product Developer and Analyst
Maven Seven Network Research Inc. [09/2015 – 09/2016]

City: Budapest
Country: Hungary
Website: https://orgmapper.com/maven7/

1. Helped develop software in organizational network analysis (ONA) applied in change management, political communication, and school integration
2. Wrote standardized narrative analytic reports
3. Analyzed historical client data
4. Trained global consultants on OrgMapper software and ONA methodology
5. Conducted research into organizational influencers, social media influencers, and school cohesion

Researcher
Open Society Foundations, Central European University Liaison Office [10/2012 – 04/2013]

City: Budapest
Country: Hungary
Website: https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/

Analysis of collaboration and innovation capacity between OSF and CEU

Researcher
Open Society Institute, International Higher Education Support Program [01/2012 – 03/2012]

City: Budapest
Country: Hungary
Website: https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/

Optimization of global educational support programs

Research Assistant
Center for Network Science [10/2011 – 06/2012]

City: Budapest
Country: Hungary
Website: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CEU_Center_for_Network_Science

Conducted research on organizational networks

Analyst
Gordio Consult Kft. [10/2011 – 06/2012]

City: Budapest
Country: Hungary
Website: https://www.gordio.hu/

Conducted Organizational Network Analysis (ONA)

Research Assistant
Median Research Centre [01/2011 – 10/2011]

City: Bucharest
Country: Romania
Website: https://medianresearch.ro/en/

1. Conducted research on news media
2. Collected and standardized data

Guest Lecturer
Methods Excellence Network [2022 – Current]

Website: https://www.methodsnet.org/events

Applied Social Network Analysis (PhD)
Methods Excellence Network, 3SRM Summer School in Methods and Techniques at Radboud University, Nijmegen, Netherlands.

Guest Lecturer
Fagaras Research Institute [2019 – Current]

Website: https://icf-fri.org/structure/fagaras-summer-school/

Fagaras Summer School - Research Skills for Government and Civil Society Practitioners (Applied Social and Organizational Network Analysis)

Guest Lecturer
European Consortium for Political Research [2017 – Current]

Website: https://ecpr.eu/Events/EventTypeDetails.aspx?EventTypeID=5

Social Network Analysis (PhD)
ECPR Summer School and Winter School in Methods and Techniques at Central European University, Budapest, Hungary; Bamberg University, Bamberg, Germany; KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

PhD
Central European University [09/2012 – 06/2017]

Address: Budapest (Hungary)
Website: https://www.ceu.edu/
Field(s) of study: Political Science & Network Science
Final grade: Summa cum laude
Thesis: The Networked Phenomenon of State Capture: Network Dynamics, Unintended Consequences, and Business-Political Relations in Hungary, 2009-2012
Link: https://sites.google.com/e-uvt.ro/silviafierascu/research/state-capture-country-profiles?authuser=1

1. Specialized in Comparative Politics
2. Obtained an Advanced Certificate in Network Science
3. Conducted an interdisciplinary theoretical research and a transdisciplinary methodological research on improving high level anticorruption practice and policymaking
4. Developed a methodology for analyzing public procurement networks and the signatures of state capture (political capture and business capture) which I first tested on Hungary (investigating the democratic backsliding and institutionalization of corruption after 2010)

After PhD:
1. 2 months after my PhD, I developed the PhD thesis into a software prototype, at a hackathon, where the project won first place in Civic Tech
2. I then continued with a 10-month postdoc at West University of Timisoara, where I scaled the methodology across 28 European countries, including the EU institutions, analyzing more than 10 million public procurement contracts
3. 3 years from my PhD, I implemented the methodology of analyzing inter-organizational networks in anti-competitive behavior in the Big Data platform of the Competition Council in Romania

Visiting Scholar
University of Cambridge [09/2016 – 11/2016]

Address: Cambridge (United Kingdom)
Website: https://www.cam.ac.uk/
Field(s) of study: Sociology

1. Funded by the Doctoral Research Grant at CEU, I conducted the last part of my PhD dissertation work in Cambridge, under the supervision of Larry King and Mihaly Fazekas

MA
Central European University [09/2009 – 06/2011]

Address: Budapest (Hungary)
Website: https://www.ceu.edu/
Field(s) of study: Political Science
Final grade: Disctinction
Thesis: The Effects of the Electoral Reform on Members of the Romanian Parliament: A Network Analysis

1. Conducted a before and after analysis of MPs' co-sponsorship network change given the 2008 electoral system change in Romania, from PR party lists to Single Member Districts
2. Obtained a Certificate of Specialization in Political Research Methodology and Social Analysis
3. Obtained the Best MA Thesis Award granted by the Department of Political Science at CEU

BA
West University of Timisoara [10/2006 – 06/2009]

Address: Bd. Vasile Parvan 4, Timisoara (Romania)
Website: https://www.uvt.ro/en/

Erasmus Student
University of the West of Scotland [09/2008 – 02/2009]

Address: Paisely (United Kingdom)
Website: https://www.uws.ac.uk/

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Mother tongue(s): **Romanian** | **English**

Other language(s):

German	Spanish
LISTENING B1 **READING** B1 **WRITING** A2	**LISTENING** B2 **READING** B1 **WRITING** A2
SPOKEN PRODUCTION A2 **SPOKEN INTERACTION** A2	**SPOKEN PRODUCTION** A2 **SPOKEN INTERACTION** A2

DIGITAL SKILLS

Data visualization software / Data analysis software / Basic and advanced text processors (Word, LaTeX) / Social Media management software / Learning management software / Basic audio-visual design software