

# ALEXANDRU VOLACU

06.04.1990

Email: [alexandru.volacu@faa.unibuc.ro](mailto:alexandru.volacu@faa.unibuc.ro)

Website: [www.alexvolacu.com](http://www.alexvolacu.com)

## CURRENT POSITIONS

Associate Professor <sup>1</sup> at the University of Bucharest (Faculty of Business and Administration)	2020 - present
Adjunct Professor at SNSPA <sup>2</sup> (Faculty of Public Administration)	2020 - present
Associate Researcher at the Research Institute of the University of Bucharest (Social Sciences)	2019 - present
Director, <i>Bucharest Center for Political Theory</i>	2017 - present

## PREVIOUS POSITIONS

NEC-Ameropa Fellow, <i>New Europe College</i>	2022 - 2023
Assistant Professor <sup>3</sup> , SNSPA (Faculty of Public Administration), Bucharest, Romania	2018 - 2020
Adjunct Professor, SNSPA (Faculty of Political Science)	2013 - 2019
Co-Editor in Chief, <i>Romanian Journal of Society and Politics</i>	2016 - 2019
Postdoctoral Fellow, Research Institute of the University of Bucharest (Social Sciences)	2017 - 2018

## EDUCATION

PhD in Political Science, SNSPA, Bucharest, Romania	2013-2016
Thesis: <i>An Incrementalist Approach to Political Philosophy. The Case of Heterogeneous Rationality Assumptions in Theories of Distributive Justice</i>	
Supervisor: Adrian Miroiu	
*An extended summary of the thesis is featured in the <i>Erasmus Journal for Philosophy and Economics</i> , 9 (2), pp. 217-220.	
Visiting Doctoral Student, University of Oxford, Department of Politics and IR and CSSJ	Mar 2015 – Jul 2015
Supervisor: Zofia Stemplowska	
Postgraduate Course in Psycho-pedagogy, University of Bucharest, Romania	2015-2016
Modules I and II	
Master of Arts in Political Theory and Analysis, SNSPA, Bucharest, Romania	2011-2013
Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, SNSPA, Bucharest, Romania	2008-2011

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<sup>1</sup> Ro. *conferentiar universitar*.

<sup>2</sup> National University of Political Science and Public Administration.

<sup>3</sup> Ro. *asistent universitar*.

## BOOKS

- Volacu, Alexandru (2023), *Limitele electoratului. Cine ar trebui să poată vota într-o democrație?*, Institutul European, Iași.
- Volacu, Alexandru, Cutaș, Daniela, Miroiu, Adrian (eds.) (2021), *Alegeri morale. Teme actuale de etică aplicată*, Polirom, Iași.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2019), *Avem datoria de a vota?*, Institutul European, Iași.
- Kissane, Dylan, Volacu, Alexandru (eds.) (2015), *Modern Dilemmas: Understanding Collective Action in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, Ibidem-Verlag, Stuttgart.
- Ungureanu, Mihai, Volacu, Alexandru, Roescu, Andra (2015), *Alegere rațională și comportament electoral*, Tritonic, Bucharest.

## ARTICLES (IN INTERNATIONAL JOURNALS – WoS INDEXED)

- Volacu, Alexandru, Aligică, Paul Dragoș (2023), "Conceptualising Democratic Resilience: A Minimalist Account", *Contemporary Politics*, OnlineFirst, DOI: 10.1080/13569775.2023.2213536.
- Poama, Andrei, Volacu, Alexandru (2021), "Too Old to Vote? A Democratic Analysis of Age-weighted Voting", *European Journal of Political Theory*, DOI: 10.1177/14748851211062604.
- Volacu, Alexandru, Terteleac, Vlad (2021), "Mitigating the Costs of Departure. Brain drain, Disadvantage and Fair Burden-sharing", *Ethics and Global Politics*, 14 (3), pp. 127-141. .
- Volacu, Alexandru (2021), "Justice, Symmetry, and Voting Rights Ceilings", *Theoria*, 87 (3), pp. 643-658.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2020), "Democracy and Compulsory Voting", *Political Research Quarterly*, 73 (2), pp. 454-463.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2019), "Electoral *Quid pro Quo*: A Defence of Barter Markets in Votes", *Journal of Applied Philosophy*, 36 (5), pp.769-784.
- Volacu, Alexandru, Dumitru, Adelin (2019), "Assessing Non-intrinsic Limitarianism", *Philosophia*, 47 (1), pp.249-264.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2018), "Bridging Ideal and Non-Ideal Theory", *Political Studies*, 66 (4), pp. 887-902.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2018), "Justice, Efficiency, and the New Public Management", *Australian Journal of Public Administration*, 77 (3), pp.404-414.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2018), "Preferences, Reasoning Errors, and Resource Egalitarianism", *Philosophical Studies*, 175 (8), pp. 1851–1870.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2018), "A Priori Voting Power Distribution under Contemporary Security Council Reform Proposals", *Journal of International Relations and Development*, 21 (2), pp. 247–274.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2017), "Prioritarianism and Other-Regarding Decision-Making under Risk", *Ethical Perspectives*, 24 (2), pp.199-224.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2017), "Heterogeneous Rationality and Reasonable Disagreement in the Original Position", *Journal of Philosophical Research*, 42, pp. 131-148.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2017), "Maximization, Slottean Satisficing and Theories of Sufficiency Justice", *Croatian Journal of Philosophy*, 17 (1), pp.73-90.
- Volacu, Alexandru, Derviş, Oana-Alexandra (2016), "Pluralist Welfare Egalitarianism and the Expensive Tastes Objection", *Contemporary Political Theory*, 15 (3), pp.285-303.

## CHAPTERS (IN INTERNATIONAL VOLUMES)

- Volacu, Alexandru (*forthcoming*), „Ideal and Non-ideal theory: Some Basic Distinctions”, in H.C. Hänel & J. Müller (eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Non-Ideal Theory*, Routledge, Abingdon.

- Volacu, Alexandru (2023), „Age and the Voting-Driving Analogy”, in A. Gosseries and G. Bognar (eds.), *Ageing Without Ageism: Conceptual Puzzles and Policy Proposals*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, pp. 128-142.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2021), "Voting, Ethics of", in H. LaFollette (ed.), *International Encyclopedia of Ethics*, Wiley-Blackwell, Malden.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2021), „Should We Hold Elections During a Pandemic?”, in F. Niker and A. Bhattacharya (eds.), *Political Philosophy in a Pandemic*, Bloomsbury Academic Press, London, pp.137-152.
- Lever, Annabelle, Volacu, Alexandru (2018), "Should Voting Be Compulsory? Democracy and the Ethics of Voting", in A. Lever and A. Poama (eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Ethics and Public Policy*, Routledge, Abingdon, pp.242-254.
- Volacu, Alexandru, Golopența, Iris-Patricia (2015), “First and Second Generation Theories of Collective Action”, in Dylan Kissane and Alexandru Volacu (eds.), *Modern Dilemmas: Understanding Collective Action in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, Ibidem-Verlag, Stuttgart, pp.27-56.

#### ARTICLES (IN NATIONAL JOURNALS)

- Volacu, Alexandru (2019), "Limitarismul: o analiză conceptuală", *Sfera politicii*, 201-202, pp.135-143.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2019), "Drepturile electorale ale migranților în România: o asimetrie nejustificată", *Perspective politice*, 11 (2), pp.63-74.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2016), "Distributive Justice and Political Ideologies: A Rejoinder to Stoian", *Studia Politica. Romanian Political Science Review*, 16 (2), pp.277-286.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2016), "O reconstrucție ipotetic-compensatorie a principiului precauției în politicile de mediu", *Revista Transilvana de Științe Administrative*, 16 (1), pp.126-150.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2015), "On the Ideological Incompatibilities of Distributive Justice", *Studia Politica. Romanian Political Science Review*, 15 (1), pp.109-132.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2014), “Mixed Strategy Nash Equilibrium and Quantal Response Equilibrium. An experimental comparison using RPS games”, *Theoretical and Applied Economics*, 21 (10), pp.89-118.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2012), “Does Voter Distribution Matter in the Directional Model?”, *Perspective Politice*, 5 (1), pp.5-16.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2012), “Cooperation and Competition in the European Parliament: A Game Theoretical Interpretation”, *Romanian Journal of European Affairs*, 12 (1), pp. 39-60.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2011), “Uncertainty and the Logic of Imperfect Ideological Integration”, *Revista de Științe Politice*, 32, pp.50-61.
- Volacu, Alexandru, Golopența, Iris-Patricia (2011), “The Electoral Failure of Liberal Parties in Central Europe: A Directional Model Analysis”, *Romanian Journal of Society and Politics*, 6 (2), Issue 12, pp.65-88.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2011), “Influența negativă a statului minimal nozickian asupra libertății pozitive“, *Sfera Politicii*, 3 (157), pp.75-81.

#### CHAPTERS (IN NATIONAL VOLUMES)

- Volacu, Alexandru (2021), „Datorii morale în procesul electoral. O introducere în etica votului”, in A. Volacu, D. Cutaș, A. Miroiu (eds.), *Alegeri morale. Teme actuale de etică aplicată*, Polirom, Iași, pp.116-136.
- Cutaș, Daniela, Volacu, Alexandru, Miroiu, Adrian (2021), „Etica aplicată și de ce avem nevoie de ea”, in A. Volacu, D. Cutaș, A. Miroiu (eds.), *Alegeri morale. Teme actuale de etică aplicată*, Polirom, Iași, pp.11-34.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2018), "Normele de echitate in economia comportamentala", in M. Ungureanu (ed.), *Economia si psihologia deciziei. Introducere in economia comportamentala*, Institutul European, Iasi, pp.307-328.

- Golopența Iris-Patricia, Volacu, Alexandru (2015), "Problema bunurilor comune. O introducere în teoria clasică și cea ostromiană", in Adrian Miroiu and Iris-Patricia Golopența (eds.), *Acțiune colectivă și bunuri comune în societatea românească*, Polirom, Iași, pp.33-68.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2014), "Marimea si Structura Legislativului", in Mihai Ungureanu (ed.), *Institutiile, Alegeri Individuale si Actiune Colectiva*, Polirom, Iasi, pp.135-151.
- Colbu, Stefan, Volacu, Alexandru (2014), "Analiza Economica a Comportamentului Religios", in Mihai Ungureanu (ed.), *Institutiile, Alegeri Individuale si Actiune Colectiva*, Polirom, Iasi, pp.247-268.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2014), "The Economic Analysis of Terrorism", in Mihai Ungureanu (ed.), *Economic and Evolutionary Approaches to Social Sciences*, Wolters Kluwer, Bucharest, pp.35-66.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2014), "Games and Cooperation", in Mihai Ungureanu (ed.), *Economic and Evolutionary Approaches to Social Sciences*, Wolters Kluwer, Bucharest, pp. 109-142.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (SELECTION)

- Volacu, Alexandru (2023), "The Epistemic Challenge to Democratic Resilience", *3rd Bucharest Conference in Analytical Political Theory*, Bucharest, 8-9 June 2023 & NEC Workshop on "Normative and Conceptual Perspectives on Democratic Resilience", Bucharest, 29 June 2023.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2022), "Free-Riding and Compulsory Voting", *REDEM Workshop on Equality and Electoral Democracy*, Paris, 28-29 November 2022 & *2<sup>nd</sup> ALEF Workshop in Analytic Philosophy*, 25-26 September 2020 (held online).
- Volacu, Alexandru (2022), "Voting Rights and Migration: A Relational Account", *REDEM workshop on Migration, Populism and Ethical Perspectives on Voting*, Stockholm, 29 June – 1 July 2022.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2022), "Age and Electoral Participation. A Proposal for the Expressive Enfranchisement of Children", *REDEM Workshop on Strengthening Electoral Participation*, Barcelona, 2-4 May 2022 & *2<sup>nd</sup> Bucharest Conference in Analytical Political Theory*, Bucharest, 9-10 June 2022.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2022), "Wealth Deconcentration and Democratic Resilience", *30<sup>th</sup> NISPAcee Annual Conference*, Bucharest, 2-4 June 2022.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2021), "Relational Democracy and the Grounding of Electoral Rights", *MANCEPT Workshops 2021*, 7-10 September 2021 (held online).
- Volacu, Alexandru (2021), "Citizenship, Residence, and Electoral Rights: A Relational Account", *15th ECPR General Conference*, 30 August – 3 September 2021 (held online).
- Volacu, Alexandru (2020), "Distance Voting, Turnout, and Electoral Justice", *Digital Ethics Workshop#1: Should we object to distance voting?*, 4 May 2020 (held online).
- Volacu, Alexandru (2020), "Folk arguments in the Ethics of Voting. A Tentative Exploration", *1<sup>st</sup> REDEM Workshop*, Paris, 5-6 February 2020.
- Poama, Andrei, Volacu, Alexandru (2020), "The Electoral Disenfranchisement of the Elderly: A Democratic Analysis", *2020 UK and Ireland Association for Political Thought Conference*, St Catherine's College, Oxford, 9-11 January 2020.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2019), "Some Reasons to Qualify Orthodox Limitarianism", *Extreme wealth as a moral problem Workshop*, Dortmund, 13-14 November 2019.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2019), "Political Capacity and Age-Based Disenfranchisement", *7<sup>th</sup> TADS Workshop*, Louvain-la-Neuve, 18 October 2019.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2019), "Voting Well", *Association for Social and Political Philosophy 2019 General Conference*, University of Newcastle, 24-26 June 2019.
- Volacu, Alexandru, Terteleac Vlad Andrei (2019), "Brain Drain, the Right to Exit, and Distributive Justice", *Association for Social and Political Philosophy 2019 General Conference*, University of Newcastle, 24-26 June 2019.

- Volacu, Alexandru (2019), "Should CEE Countries Introduce Compulsory Voting as an Electoral Policy?", 27<sup>th</sup> *NISPAcee Annual Conference*, 24-26 May 2019, Prague.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2019), "Self-interest, the Common Good, and Epistemic Standards: Three Normative Accounts of Voting", 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Festival of Ideas*, Pompeu Fabra University (Barcelona), 8-9 April 2019.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2019), "Electoral Discrimination Against the Elderly", 6<sup>th</sup> *TADS Workshop*, 5 April 2019, Madrid.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2019), "Limitarianism and Reasonable Partiality", presented at (1) the *Fair Limits Workshop: Patterns, Thresholds and Limits*, 31 Jan – 1 Feb 2019, Utrecht & (2) the 1<sup>st</sup> *Bucharest Conference in Analytical Political Theory*, Bucharest, 13 – 15 June 2019.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2018), "Democracy and Compulsory Voting", 1<sup>st</sup> *POLEMO Symposium*, CEU Budapest, 28-29 September 2018.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2018), "Democratic Legitimacy and Compulsory Voting", *Association for Social and Political Philosophy 2018 General Conference*, LUISS Guido Carli and Sapienza University, Rome, 21-23 June 2018.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2018), "A Defence of Barter Markets in Votes", *Workshop on Justice and Markets*, University of Aarhus, Denmark, 8-10 January 2018.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2017), "Disenfranchisement Through Voting Lotteries", *MANCEPT Workshops 2017*, University of Manchester, UK, 11-13 September 2017.
- Volacu, Alexandru, Dumitru, Adelin (2017), "Assessing Non-Intrinsic Limitarianism", *Europe on Distributive Justice International Workshop*, Aarhus, Denmark, 14-16 June 2017
- Volacu, Alexandru (2016), "Bridging Ideal and Non-Ideal Theory. An Incrementalist Approach to Normative Theorising", presented at the 10<sup>th</sup> *ECPR General Conference*, Prague, Czech Republic, 7-10 September 2016.
- Ungureanu, Mihai, Roescu, Andra, Volacu, Alexandru (2016), "Testing Economic Theories of Electoral Behavior in the Romanian Context", presented at the 10<sup>th</sup> *ECPR General Conference*, Prague, Czech Republic, 7-10 September 2016.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2016), "Heterogeneous Rationality and Reasonable Disagreement in the Original Position", presented at the 4<sup>th</sup> *International Conference of the Group for Social Engagement Studies - Social Justice: New Perspectives, New Horizons*, Belgrade, Serbia, 4-6 May 2016.
- Volacu, Alexandru, Derviş, Oana-Alexandra (2014), "Pluralist Welfare Egalitarianism and the Expensive Tastes Objection", presented at the 8<sup>th</sup> *European Congress in Analytic Philosophy*, Bucharest, 28 August 2014 – 2 September 2014.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2014), "Preference Aggregation and Global Governance: An Analysis of Voting Power in UN Security Council Reform Proposals", presented at the 23<sup>rd</sup> *IPSA World Congress in Political Science*, Montreal, Canada, 19-24 July 2014.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2014), "Hypothetical Insurance as the Basis for a Non-Arbitrary Sufficientarian Threshold", presented at *Brave New World: The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Postgraduate Conference in Manchester*, University of Manchester, UK, 12-13 June 2014.
- Volacu, Alexandru (2014), "Rationality, Responsibility, and Option Luck", presented at the *Warwick Graduate Conference in Political and Legal Theory 2014*, University of Warwick, UK, 15 February 2014.

## TEACHING

No.	University	Faculty	Class	Year	Level of studies	Period
1	SNSPA	Political Science	Political Philosophy	2	Undergraduate (seminars)	2013-2018
2	SNSPA	Political Science	Parties and Electoral Systems	3	Undergraduate (seminars)	2013-2014
3	SNSPA	Political Science	Rational Choice Theory	2	Undergraduate	2014-2017

					(seminars)	
4	SNSPA	Political Science	Fundamental Concepts in Political Science	1	Undergraduate (seminars)	2015-2018
5	SNSPA	Political Science	Behavioural Social Science	3	Undergraduate (seminars)	2015-2017
6	SNSPA	Political Science	Religion and Religious Fundamentalism	3	Undergraduate (seminars)	2015-2016
7	University of Bucharest	Business and Administration	Techniques and Methods for Public Decision-Making	3	Undergraduate (seminars)	2015-2017
8	SNSPA	Political Science	Political Ethics	3	Undergraduate (seminars)	2016-2019
9	SNSPA	Public Administration	The Foundations of Political Science	1	Undergraduate (seminars)	2016-2020
10	SNSPA	Public Administration	Governance and Public Management	1	Graduate (seminar)	2016-2020
11	SNSPA	Public Administration	European Governance	2	Graduate (seminar)	2016-2018
12	SNSPA	Public Administration	Bases of the Public Sector (in English)	1	Graduate (seminar)	2016-2020
13	SNSPA	Public Administration	Decision-making in the European Union	3	Undergraduate (seminars)	2016-2020
14	SNSPA	Political Science	American Politics	3	Undergraduate (seminars)	2017-2018
15	SNSPA	Public Administration	Techniques and Methods for Public Decision-Making	3	Undergraduate (seminars)	2017-2020
16	SNSPA	Public Administration	The Social Psychology of Leadership	3	Undergraduate (course + seminars)	2018-2021
17	SNSPA	Public Administration	European Standards of Public Integrity	2	Graduate (course + seminar)	2018-present
18	University of Bucharest	Business and Administration	Good Governance	1	Graduate (course + seminar)	2019-present
19	University of Bucharest	Business and Administration	Policy-making in the European Union	1	Graduate (course + seminar)	2019-present
20	University of Bucharest	Business and Administration	Ethics and Academic Integrity	2	Undergraduate (course + seminars)	2019-present
21	University of Bucharest	Philosophy (joint with Business and Administration)	Evidence-based Policies	2	Graduate (course)	2021-present
22	University of Bucharest	Business and Administration	Critical Thinking	2	Undergraduate (course + seminars)	2022-present

## RESEARCH PROJECTS

**Researcher (2021-2023)** in the "Resilience and stability in systems of polycentric governance. A theoretical, empirical and applied approach", ID PN-III-P4-ID-PCE2020-1076, financed by UEFISCDI. Research director: *Dragos-Paul Aligică*, University of Bucharest.

**Director (2020-2022)** of the research grant "Electoral Rights: A Relational Approach", ID PN-III-P1-1.1-PD-2019-0868, financed by UEFISCDI.

**Researcher (2019-2022)** in the "Reconstructing Democracy in Times of Crisis: A Voter-Centred Perspective", funded through H2020-SC6-GOVERNANCE-2019, ID number: 870996. Research director: *Annabelle Lever*, Sciences Po.

**Researcher (2019)** in the "Taking Age Discrimination Seriously (TADS)" Project, funded by the Czech Science Foundation, ID number: 17-26629S; Research director: *Axel Gosseries*, Université Catholique de Louvain.

**Spiru Haret Scholarship (2019)** in the Spiru Haret Research Scholarships project PN-III-P1-1.1-BSH-2-2016-0005, financed by UEFISCDI.

**Director (2018-2019)** of the research grant "The Ethics of Voting and Electoral Policies. A Normative Exploration of Some Central Questions", ID PN-III-P1-1.1-PD-2016-0209, financed by UEFISCDI.

**MC Member (2017-2021)** of the COST Action CA16211 "Reappraising Intellectual Debates on Civic Rights and Democracy in Europe", financed through the EU Framework Programme Horizon 2020; Research director: *Jose Maria Rosales*, University of Malaga.

**Principal Researcher (2015-2016)** in the project "Testing Economic Theories of Electoral Behaviour in the Romanian Context", funded through the CERGE-EI Research Competition 15, Faculty of Political Science, SNSPA. Research director: *Mihai Ungureanu*, SNSPA.

**Research Assistant (2012)** in the project "Voting Rules and Strategic Behavior. Field and laboratory experiments in the Romanian context" (PN-II-ID-PCE-2011-3-0746), Faculty of Political Science, SNSPA. Research director: *Adrian Miroiu*, SNSPA.

## OTHER RELEVANT ACADEMIC INFORMATION

**Convener** of the BCEPT Workshop on Political Theory (2014 – present) & the Bucharest Conference in Analytical Political Theory (2019 – present)

**Member of the International Advisory Board** at *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy* (Taylor & Francis)

**House Author** at the *Justice Everywhere* platform (<http://justice-everywhere.org/>)

### Refereed for (selection):

- *American Political Science Review* (multiple) | *British Journal of Political Science* (multiple) | *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy* | *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* (multiple) | *European Journal of Political Theory* | *Global Policy* | *Journal of Applied Philosophy* | *Journal of Political Philosophy* (multiple) | *Journal of Politics* | *Journal of Social Philosophy* | *Journal of the American Philosophical Association* | *Law, Ethics and Philosophy* | *Philosophia* | *Philosophical Quarterly* | *Political Research Quarterly* | *Public Choice* | *Raisons Politique* | *Res Publica* | *Social Theory and Practice* | *Theoria* | *Utilitas* |
- *Open Book Publishers*

**Invited Speaker** at events organized by:

- Research Center in Applied Ethics (CCEA) | International Association for Political Science Students (IAPSS) | Research Institute of the University of Bucharest (ICUB) | Volunteers for Ideas and Projects | Pulse of

