Pınar Barlas

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Western profile // Google Scholar // Twitter // Recorded Presentations

Education

Sep 2022 – current	PhD in Library & Information Science, Western University. *Expected May 2027. Supervisor: Prof. Luke Stark.*
2016 – 2017	MA in Human-Computer Interaction Design, Harbour.Space University.
2012 – 2016	BA in Cultural Studies & Communication, Clark University.

Recent Employment

Sep 2022 – current	Research Assistant, Western University. *Supervisor: Prof. Luke Stark.*
Sep 2022 – current	Teaching Assistant, Western University. *2023-2024: "Introduction to Media, Information and Technoculture" [MIT 1020E], with Prof. John Reed; Winter 2023: "Research Methods for the Digital Age" [MIT 2025B], with Prof. Melissa Adler; Fall 2022: "The Meaning of Technology: Exploring the Relationship Between Technology & Society" [MIT 2500A], with Prof. Tom Streeter.*
Sep 2018 – July 2022	Research Associate, CYENS. *In the fAIre (Fairness and Ethics in AI-Human Interaction) Multidisciplinary Research Group, formerly named the Transparency in Algorithms MRG, RISE. Principal Investigator of the CYCLOPS project.*

Peer-Reviewed Publications

The 🖥 symbol indicates that I presented the work.

2022

Pınar Barlas, Maximilian Krahn, Styliani Kleanthous, Kyriakos Kyriakou, & Jahna Otterbacher. "Shifting Our Awareness, Taking Back Tags: Temporal Changes in Computer Vision Services' Social Behaviors." In *Proc. of the International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media* (**ICWSM**). 2022. [doi] 🖥

Shaoyang Fan, Pınar Barlas, Evgenia Christoforou, Jahna Otterbacher, Shazia Sadiq, & Gianluca Demartini. "Socio-Economic Diversity in Human Annotations." In *Proc. of the 14th International ACM Conference on Web Science* (**WebSci**). 2022. [doi]

[Demo] Periklis Perikleous, Andreas Kafkalias, Zenonas Theodosiou, Pınar Barlas, Evgenia Christoforou, Jahna Otterbacher, Gianluca Demartini, & Andreas Lanitis. "How Does the Crowd Impact the Model? A Tool for Raising Awareness of Social Bias in Crowdsourced Training Data." In *Proc. of the 31st ACM International Conference on Information & Knowledge Management* (**CIKM**). 2022. [doi]

2021

Styliani Kleanthous, Maria Kasinidou, Pınar Barlas, & Jahna Otterbacher. "Perception of Fairness in Algorithmic Decisions: Future Developers' Perspective." In ***Patterns***. 2021. [doi]

Pınar Barlas, Kyriakos Kyriakou, Styliani Kleanthous, & Jahna Otterbacher. "Person, Human, Neither: The Dehumanization Potential of Automated Image Tagging." In *Proceedings of the 2021 AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society* (**AIES**). 2021. [doi] 🖥

Evgenia Christoforou, Pınar Barlas, & Jahna Otterbacher. ""It's About Time": A View of Crowdsourced Data Before and During the Pandemic." In *Proceedings of the 2021 CHI Conf. on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (**CHI**). 2021. [doi]

Maria Kasinidou, Styliani Kleanthous, Pınar Barlas, & Jahna Otterbacher. ""I agree with the decision, but they didn't deserve this"; Future Developers' Perception of Fairness in Algorithmic Decisions." In *Proc. of the 2021 ACM Conf. on Fairness, Accountability, & Transparency* (**FAccT**). 2021. [doi]

2020

Pınar Barlas, Kyriakos Kyriakou, Olivia Guest, Styliani Kleanthous, & Jahna Otterbacher. "To "See" is to Stereotype: Image Tagging Algorithms, Gender Recognition, and the Accuracy–Fairness Trade-off." *In Proc. of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction (V4,* **CSCW**3, *#232).* 2020. [doi] 🖥️

[Demo] Pınar Barlas, Kyriakos Kyriakou, Antrea Chrysanthou, Styliani Kleanthous, & Jahna Otterbacher. "OPIAS: Over-Personalization in Information Access Systems." In *Adjunct Proc. of the 28th ACM Conf. on User Modeling, Adaptation & Personalization* (**UMAP** Adjunct). 2020. [doi] 🖥️

[Demo] Antrea Chrysanthou, Pınar Barlas, Kyriakos Kyriakou, Styliani Kleanthous, & Jahna Otterbacher. "Bursting the Bubble: Tool for Awareness and Research about Overpersonalization in Information Access Systems." In *Proc. of the 25th International Conf. on Intelligent User Interfaces Companion* (**IUI** Companion). 2020. [doi]

2019

Jahna Otterbacher, Pınar Barlas, Styliani Kleanthous, & Kyriakos Kyriakou. "How Do We Talk About Other People? Group (Un)Fairness In Natural Language Image Descriptions." In *Proc. of the 7th AAAI Conf. on Human Computation & Crowdsourcing* (**HCOMP**). 2019. [doi]

[Dataset] Pınar Barlas, Kyriakos Kyriakou, Styliani Kleanthous, & Jahna Otterbacher. "Social B(eye)as: Human and Machine Descriptions of People Images." In *Proc. of the 13th International AAAI Conf. on Web and Social Media* (**ICWSM**). 2019. [doi] 🖥️

Kyriakos Kyriakou, Pınar Barlas, Styliani Kleanthous, & Jahna Otterbacher. "Fairness in Proprietary Image Tagging Algorithms: A Cross-Platform Audit on People Images." In *Proc. of the 13th International AAAI Conf. on Web and Social Media* (ICWSM). 2019. [doi]

Pınar Barlas, Styliani Kleanthous, Kyriakos Kyriakou, & Jahna Otterbacher. "What Makes an Image Tagger Fair?." In *Proc. of the 27th ACM Conf. on User Modeling, Adaptation and Personalization* (**UMAP**). 2019. [doi]

[Extended Abstract] Katta Spiel, Os Keyes, & Pınar Barlas. "Patching Gender: Non-binary Utopias in HCI." In *Extended Abstracts of the 2019 CHI Conf. on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (**CHI** EA). 2019. [doi]

[SIG] K. Spiel, O. Keyes, A.M. Walker, M.A. DeVito, J. Birnholtz, E. Brulé, A. Light, P. Barlas, J. Hardy, A. Ahmed, J.A. Rode, J.R. Brubaker, & G. Kannabiran. "Queer(ing) HCI: Moving Forward in Theory and Practice." In *Extended Abstracts of the 2019 CHI Conf. on Human Factors in Computing Systems* (**CHI** EA). 2019. [doi]

Invited Talks & Workshop/Training Attendance

September 2024 (upcoming): will be at the **doctoral colloquium** of the Data Power Conference.

June 2024 (upcoming): will be at the **doctoral colloquium** of the FAccT Conference.

May 2024 (upcoming): attending the **Summer School** in Responsible AI & Human Rights by Mila and the Université de Montréal.

2021-2024: yearly **guest lecture** (researching AI fairness) for the "AI as a Science" course at Radboud University.

April 2024: **lightning talk** (Work in Progress) at the Interdisciplinary FIMS Graduate Conference at Western University.

March 2024: **public talk** ("Disposable People: Data Cleaning and Power in AI Ethics") at the *Mediations* series at Western University.

October 2023: participation at the work-in-progress **workshop** and **invited attendance** to the "(Dis)Trust and AI: Perspectives from Across Disciplines and Sectors" event at Western University.

June 2023: **conference presentation** ("A critical look at critical care data: MIMIC-IV's construction, contents & potential consequences") at the Data Justice Conference 2023.

June 2023: **exchange program** for researchers working on information ethics and policy at iHub, Radboud University.

June 2022: **invited talk** ("Online Information Filtering & Youth: The CYCLOPS Project") & **participation** at the C2 training course for youth workers by the YNSPEED (Erasmus+) Project.

Fall 2019–Spring 2022: **guest lecture** ("Gender & Technology"), a 3-hour module each semester as a part of the Introduction to Gender Studies course, once each in English & Turkish, at Eastern Mediterranean University.

October 2020: **seminar** ("The Disparate Risk of Automated Image Tagging") at the Bath Human-Computer Interaction Research Group.

June 2020: **presentation** at the European A(i)lliance meeting; February 2020: **invited participation** at the "Generation A = Algorithm" workshop by the Goethe-Institut.

July 2019: invited participation at **workshops** (Expert Group Input for the creation of Ethical Guidelines for the (1) development and (2) use of Smart Information Systems) by SHERPA.

June 2019: on the **panel** ("What is algorithmic bias?") at the Complex Systems perspectives on Algorithmic Bias (CSAB19) workshop at the 13th International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM 2019).

February 2019: **seminar** ("Algorithmic Transparency: What is it and why does it matter?") at the weekly seminar for the Department of Information Systems, Faculty of Social Sciences at Haifa University.

Other Publications

[Whitepaper] FATE in Algorithmic Systems: What Developers Should Know?. Maria Kasinidou, Styliani Kleanthous, Kalia Orphanou, Pınar Barlas, & Jahna Otterbacher. Whitepaper, Cyprus Center for Algorithmic Transparency. October 2021. http://www.cycat.io/white-papers/

[Whitepaper] FATE in Algorithmic Systems: What Higher Education Practitioners Should Know?. Styliani Kleanthous, Maria Kasinidou, Kalia Orphanou, Pınar Barlas, & Jahna Otterbacher. Whitepaper, Cyprus Center for Algorithmic Transparency. February 2021. http://www.cycat.io/white-papers/

[WIP; Non-archival] Kyriakos Kyriakou, Pınar Barlas, Styliani Kleanthous, Evgenia Christoforou, & Jahna Otterbacher. "Crowdsourcing Human Oversight on Image Tagging Algorithms: An initial study of image diversity." Presented at *the 9th AAAI Conf. on Human Computation & Crowdsourcing* (**HCOMP**). 2021. [HCOMP]

[Demo; Non-archival] Kyriakos Kyriakou, Pınar Barlas, Styliani Kleanthous, & Jahna Otterbacher. "OpenTag: Understanding Human Perceptions of Image Tagging Algorithms." Presented at *The 8th AAAI Conf. on Human Computation & Crowdsourcing* (**HCOMP**). 2020. [HCOMP]

[WIP; Non-archival] Evgenia Christoforou, Pınar Barlas, & Jahna Otterbacher. "Crowdwork as a Snapshot in Time: Image Annotation Tasks during a Pandemic." Presented at *The 8th AAAI Conf. on Human Computation and Crowdsourcing* (**HCOMP**). 2020. [HCOMP]

Awards, Grants, & Honors

2024 – Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS), Province of Ontario & Western University. *CAD 15,000.*

2024 – *National nomination for the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship, Government of Canada. CAD 150,000.*

2022 – Catherine Sheldrick Ross Doctoral Recruitment Scholarship, Western University. *CAD 5,000.*

2022 – Island-Wide Perspective & Reach Research & Innovation Grant, CYENS Centre of Excellence for the CyCLOPS Project, Principal Investigator. *EUR 10,000* over 11 months.

2020 – Best Demo Award for "OpenTag: Understanding Human Perceptions of Image Tagging Algorithms" presented at *The 8th AAAI Conf. on Human Computation & Crowdsourcing*

(HCOMP 2020).

2015 – Liberal Education and Effective Practice (LEEP) Fellowship, Clark University. *USD 1,350* over 3 months.

2014 – Steinbrecher Fellowship, Clark University. *USD 1,800* over 3 months.

2011 – Fulbright Cyprus-America Scholarship Program (CASP), Cyprus Fulbright Commission. *USD 100,000* over 4 years.

Academic Service

Conference Organization Committee: Web Co-Chair (ICWSM 2023).

Doctoral Student Association: Vice President of Operations, Doctoral Program Committee member, and Appointment Committee alternate at Western University (2023-2024).

Mentorship: Peer Mentors Program at the Faculty of Information and Media Studies at Western University (2023); three interns at CYENS (Summer & Fall 2020; Summer 2021); two students in the "Critical Data" course at The University of Arts Linz (one chosen as top 5; June 2021).

Peer review for journals: Online Information Review (2018-2020); Cyberpsychology, Behavior, and Social Networking (2019).

Peer review for conferences: AAAI HCOMP (2021); NeurIPS Datasets Track (2021); ACM IDC (2021); ACM CSCW (2020), ACM UMAP (2020) & FairUMAP (2022), ACM CHI (2019-2020); BHCC Symposium (2020).

Volunteering / Activism

since Summer 2020 – *Avli:* civil society organization for environmental & peace activism in Cyprus. Internal communications & relations; event and workshop coordination; march and protest attendance; website redesign; English-Turkish translations. Coordinating Committee member.

2019-2020 – *FEMA:* civil society organization for intersectional feminism in Cyprus. Event coordination; taking turns for leadership in the flat organizational structure.

2012-2016 – *ClarkU OPEN:* student organization for activism and support for & by the LGBTQIA+ community at Clark University, USA. Event coordination; peer counseling; policy recommendations; various activist actions. Member (2012-13), Co-Vice President (2013-2014), President (2014-2016).