

Esther Eriksson von Allmen

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Education

University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA (August 2019-May 2023)

B.A. in Political Philosophy, Policy, & Law (PPL) and English with Highest Distinction | GPA: 3.92/4.00

Thesis: A Privilege for Some or a Right for All? The Moral Case for a Right to Roam in the United States

Academic Areas of Interest: National Security, Criminal Justice, Voting Rights, Constitutional Law

Professional Research & Journalism Experience

Liberty & National Security Research Intern, The Brennan Center for Justice (September 2022-Present)

- Analyzed hundreds of internal records from the Department of Homeland Security's Violent Extremism Prevention program
- Produced an extensive county-by-county analysis of police social media surveillance policies across the country
- Researched and tracked upcoming Supreme Court cases related to policing, surveillance, and the Fourth Amendment

Research Associate, National Security Policy Center (June 2022-Present)

- Studied China's Belt and Road Initiative alongside three other associates to evaluate current Chinese investment projects in Africa on a country-by-country basis and identify opportunities for US engagement
- Briefed senior U.S Department of Defense officials on the NSPC China project
- Manipulated data using Excel to measure Chinese and American diplomatic engagement in Africa
- Conducted landscape overview of the United States biosecurity sphere for a contract project with the United States Defense Intelligence Agency

Fall Writing Fellow, The Nation (November 2021-March 2022)

- Selected out of 150+ applicants for a funded fellowship with the country's oldest weekly magazine
- Published a thoroughly researched [2,500-word article](#) on the ethics of unpaid activist work which featured numerous interviews with prominent activists and scholars

Editorial Intern, The American Prospect (August 2021- December 2021)

- Fact-checked seven long-form articles and wrote four articles related to abortion rights, climate change, the supply chain crisis, and homelessness
- Gained extensive knowledge on the impact of international supply chains on national security, specifically regarding the medical supply chain. (My article on this topic was featured in [The Prospect's Feb. 2022 Print Issue](#).)
- Drafted hundreds of original, creative posts for *The Prospect's* Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook

Freelance Journalist, The Intercept (August 2020-July 2021)

- Co-authored [4,500-word investigative piece](#) on a police DNA collection operation from early 2000s
- Analyzed hundreds of pages of internal police records; interviewed police officers, residents, lawyers, and public officials; submitted 10+ FOIA requests

Government & Public Affairs Experience

Legislative and Communications Intern, The City Council of the District of Columbia (May 2021-July 2021)

- Drafted biweekly newsletters for 10,000+ readers highlighting legislative and community news
- Wrote talking points and brief speeches for Councilmember Pinto's speaking events including the groundbreaking ceremony of the Capital Jewish Museum
- Engaged directly with constituents to resolve issues related to rental and unemployment assistance

Media Creation Intern, Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service (August 2020-May 2021)

- Designed, edited, and recorded episodes for the *Intersections in Public Service* podcast
- Published two episodes on housing inequality in Charlottesville and three episodes on returning citizens
- Interviewed public servants from across the Charlottesville area to discuss their work

Outreach Coordinator, The Poll Hero Project (July 2020-March 2021)

- Recruited poll workers for the 2020 General Election with over 37,000 people recruited total
- Contacted ~400 individuals and organizations, effectively communicating organizational goals to the public

Honors & Awards

- **Robert Kent Gooch Scholarship (2022):** Awarded for qualities of character and mind considered requisite for Rhodes Scholarship
- **Highest Distinction Graduation Honors (2022):** One of four students in the 25-person PPL Distinguished Majors cohort awarded with highest departmental honors for outstanding contributions to the program
- **Catherine F. Underwood Scholarship (2021):** One of two students in the College of Arts & Sciences awarded for academic excellence and outstanding record of service
- **Echols Scholar (2019):** Selected for UVA's honors program, awarded to 6% of the incoming freshman class