

Dr Alexandra Borissova Saleh is an award-winning Russian journalist and science communicator currently focused on science communication teaching, research, and community building. Starting her career as a physical chemist, she got her diploma from Lomonosov Moscow State University (2008) and her PhD degree from Nesmeyanov Institute of Organoelement Chemistry, Russian Academy of Sciences (2012). Since 2008, she has been active in mass media as a science reporter and later as an editor/project leader of leading Russian news outlets (Gazeta.Ru, TASS, RBC, Forbes Russia, etc.). Her articles and opinion pieces covered science policy, particle physics/research at the LHC, microelectronics, life sciences, science and society studies, sociology of science. She was also involved in corporate science communication as a founder and the first Head of Communication at the Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology (2014).

Winning the support of the prestigious German Chancellor Fellowship (Alexander von Humboldt Foundation), in 2016, she started her career in science communication scholarship as a visiting researcher at Rhine-Waal University (Germany). Her research project was focused on SciComm in Russia in an international context. Since 2018, she is an academic supervisor of the Master's program in Science Communication at ITMO University (St. Petersburg). She taught workshops on science communication for researchers, students, and journalists at Rhine-Waal University, Max-Planck Institute for Demographic Research (Germany), TU Delft (Netherlands), University of Pavia (Italy) and a great number of universities in Russia. She also ran international initiatives like the workshop "Communication of vaccination," organised by the World Federation of Science Journalists for European science and medical journalists in Switzerland.

In 2016, Alexandra co-founded AKSON, the Russian Association for Science Communication, and spent two years leading it as president (2018-2020). In this capacity she was in charge of all the activities of the association, such as fundraising and managing partnerships, managing staff, organising two professional awards (for excellence in science journalism and for corporate science communication) and annual conferences, organising professional workshops and training, as well as working with policymakers. Since 2020, she is an advisor on science communication initiatives at the Russian Ministry of Science and Higher Education.

In 2020, as executive director, she co-organised the European Conference of Science Journalism (in conjunction with ESOF2020 Trieste). She is currently Director of Communications at the Russian-speaking Academic Science Association (RASA-USA) and a board member of Science Writers in Italy (SWIM) Association.

She is a co-author of the chapter about Russia in "Communicating Science. A Global Perspective". This chapter became the first comprehensive piece of research on the history of science communication in Russia and the USSR.

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