

ANDREEA IANA

andreea.iana@uni-mannheim.de ♦ [Homepage](#) ♦ [LinkedIn](#) ♦ [Github](#) ♦ [Google Scholar](#)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

News Recommender Systems, Multilingual & Multimodal Representation Learning, Algorithmic Bias, Cross-lingual Transfer, Retrieval-Augmented Generation, Few-Shot Learning, Responsible AI

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Computer Science

University of Mannheim, summa cum laude

Mannheim, Germany

Aug 2020 - Mar 2026

Thesis: "Multifaceted Neural News Recommendation: Core Components, Bias Mitigation, and Multilinguality"

Supervisors: [Prof. Heiko Paulheim](#) (University of Mannheim), [Prof. Goran Glavaš](#) (University of Würzburg)

M.Sc. Business Informatics

University of Mannheim, with honors

Mannheim, Germany

Sep 2017 - Apr 2020

Thesis: "GraphConfRec: A Graph Neural Network Approach to Generating Conference Recommendations"

Supervisor: [Prof. Heiko Paulheim](#) (University of Mannheim)

B.Sc. Liberal Arts and Sciences

Maastricht University, summa cum laude

Maastricht, Netherlands

Sep 2013 - July 2017

Thesis: "Building a Course Recommender System based on Competences"

Supervisor: [Prof. Jerry Spanakis](#) (Maastricht University)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Postdoctoral Researcher

University of Mannheim

Mannheim, Germany

April 2026 - Present

I work on advancing responsible and inclusive AI for information access, with a particular focus on multilinguality, cross-lingual IR, and investigating and mitigating algorithmic bias in retrieval and recommendation systems.

Research Associate

University of Mannheim

Mannheim, Germany

Aug 2020 - Mar 2026

My research focused on analyzing and mitigating algorithmic bias in news recommendation, on developing personalized neural models for multilingual and few-shot recommendation, on constructing resources for improving cross-lingual transfer in content-based recommendation.

Visiting Researcher

University of Würzburg

Würzburg, Germany

Dec 2023 - Feb 2024

My project aimed at developing a multilingual, multi-parallel dataset covering diverse languages for evaluating and developing multilingual and cross-lingual news recommender systems.

Student Research Assistant

University of Mannheim

Mannheim, Germany

Nov 2018 - Apr 2020

I worked on investigating the impact of A-box materialization on RDF2vec knowledge graph embeddings, and on improving entity matching in knowledge graphs.

TEACHING & SUPERVISION EXPERIENCE

School of Business Informatics and Mathematics, University of Mannheim

Mannheim, Germany

- Teaching Assistant for the course of "Data Mining" for the master degree in Business Informatics or Data Science. Period: Sep 2024 - Jan 2025; Feb 2025 - Aug 2025.

- Teaching Assistant for the course of "Data Mining II" for the master degree in Business Informatics or Data Science. Period: Feb 2024 - Aug 2025.
- Teaching Assistant for the course of "Data Mining I" for the master degree in Business Informatics or Data Science. Period: Sep 2023 - Jan 2024.
- Supervisor of 3 bachelor's and master's thesis in Business Informatics or Data Science.
- Supervisor of 4 team projects for the master degree in Business Informatics or Data Science.

GRANT AWARDS

- **Open Science Grant** for SpatialBenchRAG (A Multimodal, Multilingual Benchmark for KG-grounded RAG over Diverse Geographies), **PI** (6.5K EUR).

PROJECTS

SpatialBenchRAG

Principal Investigator

University of Mannheim, Germany

Nov 2025 - Apr 2026

- The Open Science project is funded by the Open Science Office.
- The goal is to develop a multimodal, multilingual benchmark for evaluating retrieval-augmented generation systems grounded in spatial knowledge graphs across tasks such as spatial and visual question answering or multi-hop reasoning.
- Outcome: [MultiGlobeQA: A Multilingual and Globally Diverse Benchmark for Geospatial Reasoning](#)

ReNewRS: Responsible News Recommender Systems

Researcher

University of Mannheim, Germany

Aug 2020 - Nov 2022

- ReNewRS is funded by the German Baden-Württemberg Stiftung (BW-Stiftung).
- The project aimed at investigating the influence of algorithmic news selection on shaping public opinion. Primarily, I have played a pivotal role in developing domain-specific datasets for examining the occurrence of algorithmic biases in news recommenders, in empirically quantifying such biases, and in designing novel models for mitigating their effects.

SERVICE & ACTIVITIES

Editorial Activities

- *Organizer* International Workshop on News Recommendation and Analytics (INRA): @ RecSys 2025, @ UMAP 2026.
- *Program Committee* of the ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval (SIGIR): 2026 (Reproducibility Track, Resources Track), 2025 (Resource & Reproducibility Track).
- *Program Committee* of the ACM International Conference on Knowledge and Information Management (CIKM): 2026 (Full Research Track, Resources Track).
- *Program Committee* of the ACM Conference on Recommender Systems (RecSys): 2026 (Main Track), 2025 (Late Breaking Results Track).
- *Program Committee* of the European Conference on Information Retrieval (ECIR): 2026 (Resources Track).
- *Program Committee* of the International Semantic Web Conference (ISWC): 2024 (Research Track).
- *Program Committee* of the Extended Semantic Web Conference (ESWC): 2026 (Resources Track), 2024 (Resources Track), 2022 (Research Track).
- *Program Committee* of the International Workshop on Knowledge Graphs and Neurosymbolic AI (KG-NeSY) @ ISWC 2026.
- *Program Committee* of the International Workshop on Computational Methods for Online Discourse Analysis (BeyondFacts) @ WWW 2026, 2025, 2024, 2023.
- *Program Committee* of the Workshop on Natural Language Processing for Political Sciences (PoliticalNLP) @ LREC-COLING 2024, @ LREC 2022.
- *Program Committee* of the Deep Learning for Knowledge Graphs Workshop (DL4KG) @ ISWC 2023, 2022.

- *Reviewer* for International Journal of Human–Computer Interaction - Taylor & Francis, ACM Transactions on Intelligent Systems and Technology - ACM, Journal of Web Semantics - Elsevier, Information Systems Journal - Wiley-Blackwell.
- *Reviewer* for ACL Rolling Review (ACL, EMNLP, EACL).

Open Source

- Creator and maintainer of [NewsRecLib](#) (out-of-the-box framework for comparative evaluation of neural news recommenders)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Please refer to the following websites for the complete publication lists: <https://andreeaiana.github.io/publications/> and <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=D8DbFZoAAAAJ>

- **Andreea Iana**, Goran Glavaš, Heiko Paulheim. 2026. [Multilinguality in MIND: Advancing Cross-lingual News Recommendation with a Multilingual Dataset](#). *ACM Transactions on Recommender Systems*, 4(3):1-36.
- Martin Böckling, Heiko Paulheim, **Andreea Iana**. 2025. [Walk&Retrieve: Simple Yet Effective Zero-shot Retrieval-Augmented Generation via Knowledge Graph Walks](#). In *Proceedings of the Workshop Information Retrieval’s Role in RAG Systems (IR-RAG 2025) co-located with the 48th International ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval (SIGIR 2025)*.
- **Andreea Iana**, Fabian David Schmidt, Goran Glavaš, Heiko Paulheim. 2025. [News Without Borders: Domain Adaptation of Multilingual Sentence Embeddings for Cross-lingual News Recommendation](#). In *Advances in Information Retrieval: 47th European Conference on Information Retrieval. ECIR 2025*, pages 119–137. Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland.
- **Andreea Iana**, Goran Glavaš, Heiko Paulheim. 2024. [Train Once, Use Flexibly: A Modular Framework for Multi-Aspect Neural News Recommendation](#). In *Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: EMNLP 2024*, pages 9555–9571, Miami, Florida, USA. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- **Andreea Iana**, Goran Glavaš, Heiko Paulheim. 2024. [MIND Your Language: A Multilingual Dataset for Cross-lingual News Recommendation](#). In *Proceedings of the 47th International ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval, SIGIR ’24*, page 553–563, New York, NY, USA. Association for Computing Machinery
- **Andreea Iana**, Goran Glavaš, and Heiko Paulheim. 2023. [NewsRecLib: A PyTorch-Lightning Library for Neural News Recommendation](#). In *Proceedings of the 2023 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing: System Demonstrations*, pages 296–310, Singapore. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- **Andreea Iana**, Goran Glavaš, Heiko Paulheim. 2023. [Simplifying Content-Based Neural News Recommendation: On User Modeling and Training Objectives](#). In *Proceedings of the 46th International ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval, SIGIR ’23*, page 2384–2388, New York, NY, USA. Association for Computing Machinery
- Katharina Ludwig, Alexander Grote, **Andreea Iana**, Mehwish Alam, Heiko Paulheim, Harald Sack, Christof Weinhardt, Philipp Müller. 2023. [Divided by the Algorithm? The \(Limited\) Effects of Content- and Sentiment-Based News Recommendation on Affective, Ideological, and Perceived Polarization](#). *Social Science Computer Review*, 41(6), 2188-2210.
- Anna Breit, Laura Waltersdorfer, Fajar J. Ekaputra, Marta Sabou, Andreas Ekelhart, **Andreea Iana**, Heiko Paulheim, Jan Portisch, Artem Revenko, Annette Ten Teije, Frank Van Harmelen. 2023. [Combining Machine Learning and Semantic Web: A Systematic Mapping Study](#). *ACM Computing Surveys*, 55(14s), 1-41.
- Mehwish Alam, **Andreea Iana**, Alexander Grote, Katharina Ludwig, Philipp Müller, Heiko Paulheim. 2022. [Towards Analyzing the Bias of News Recommender Systems Using Sentiment and Stance Detection](#). In *Companion Proceedings of the Web Conference 2022, WWW ’22*, page 448–457, New York, NY, USA. Association for Computing Machinery. **Runner up for the Best Paper**.
- **Andreea Iana**, Mehwish Alam, Heiko Paulheim. 2024. [A Survey on Knowledge-aware News Recommender Systems](#). *Semantic Web*, 15(1):21–82.

SKILLS

Programming	excellent proficiency in Python, Linux CLI; good familiarity with Git, HPC with Slurm
ML Frameworks	advanced proficiency in PyTorch(-Lightning), Hydra, WandB, HuggingFace Transformers
Languages	Romanian (native), English (native-level, C2 level), German (intermediate proficiency, B1 level)