



**Alexis Wichowski** is a public servant, teacher, and writer. She currently serves with the newly founded US Digital Corps at the Technology Transformation Service for the federal government and teaches on policy, media, and technology at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs.

Prior public service includes: Deputy Chief Technology Officer for Innovation, Acting DCTO for Broadband, and Acting Director of Communications for the CTO (City of New York); Associate Commissioner, Department of Veterans' Services (City of New York); Program Officer Office of eDiplomacy, Diplomatic Innovation Division (US Department of State); Director of Media Analysis & Strategy (Permanent Mission of the United States to the United Nations); Disaster Relief Field Responder (American Red Cross of Greater New York). She's also led crisis response work, including NYC's COVID-19 PPE coordination in spring of 2020 and Ground Zero field response on and after 9/11.

Awards includes: OPM's Presidential Management Fellowship; two Meritorious Honor Awards; Distinguished Dissertation Award; "Women in Technology" award;" Columbia SIPA student-nominated teaching award; NYC[x] Tech & Innovation Award; and a Fulbright. Outside government, Wichowski has worked in media impact, information architecture, academic book indexing, web coding, theater production, foreign sitcoms, and pretzel vending.

Wichowski regularly conducts research and writes about the impact of media, technology and government, with publications such as, "[Net states rule the world](#)," in *WIRED*, "[Hack the bureaucracy: a user's guide to getting things done in government](#)," in *GovExec*, "[Let's polarize together](#)," in *Public Books*, "[The U.S. can't regulate Big Tech companies when they act like nations](#)," in *The Washington Post*, "[Social diplomacy, or how diplomats learned to stop worrying and love the tweet](#)," in *Foreign Affairs*, "[What government can and should learn from hacker culture](#)," in *The Atlantic*, and a chapter in *Digital Diplomacy: Theory & Practice*, entitled "[Secrecy is for losers': why diplomats should embrace openness to protect national security](#)." Wichowski's book, "[The Information Trade: How Big Tech Conquers Countries, Challenges Our Rights, and Transforms Our World](#)" (HarperCollins) was published in 2020. Additional writing and other information can be found at [awichowski.com](http://awichowski.com).

Current SIPA courses include "[Tech & Tactics for Innovative Policymaking](#)" (winner of SIPA's "Top 5 Course Award," selected by students out of over 200 courses), which is taught in the fall; and "[Technology, National Security & The Citizen](#)," taught in the spring. She also routinely serves as faculty advisor for capstones, which have included a study of China's rising technological authoritarianism for the US Congress; advising on digital transformation for the government of Aruba; and proposals for expanding Kosovo's digital economy with the United Nations Development Programme.

Wichowski holds a PhD in Information Science from the University at Albany's College of Engineering and Applied Sciences and a BA in Chinese from Connecticut College, completed in three years *cum laude*. She lives in Brooklyn with her family and reads science fiction voraciously.