

Chris Hughes
Curriculum Vitae

55 Fifth Ave, Suite 1806
New York, NY 10003
chris.rhughes@gmail.com

EDUCATION

The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
PhD Candidate (Legal Studies), expected May 2027
Areas of focus: The Political Economy of Central Banking, Financial Regulation, & Administrative Law

The New School of Social Research, New York, NY
M.A. in Economics, May 2020
Areas of focus: Money and Banking, Macroeconomics

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
B.A., magna cum laude with high honors in History and Literature, June 2006. Citation, French.
Senior thesis: "The Battle of Algiers: Torture and Terrorism in the City"

PUBLICATIONS

Books

[*Marketcrafters: The 100-Year Struggle to Shape the American Economy*](#), Simon & Schuster's Avid Reader Press, April, 2025

[*Fair Shot: Rethinking Inequality and How We Earn*](#), Macmillan's St Martin's Press, February, 2018

Reports & Articles

[Reform the Federal Home Loan Banks to finance the housing America needs](#), Brookings Institution, April, 2026.

[The Price of the Floor: Quantifying the Cost of Ample Reserves in U.S. Monetary Policy Implementation](#), Brookings Institution's Hutchins Center on Fiscal & Monetary Policy, Brookings Institution's Hutchins Center on Fiscal and Monetary Policy, February, 2026.

[Bigger than Penn Central: The Financial Crisis of 1970 and the Origins of the Federal Reserve's Systemic Guarantee](#), *Capitalism: A Journal of History and Economics*, September, 2024.

[Direct Cash Payments in the Next Recession](#), Institute on Race, Power, and Political Economy at The New School, December 2023

[“Marketcrafting: A 21st-Century Industrial Policy,”](#) Roosevelt Institute, May 2023

[“Digital Dollars: Critical Design Choices and Effects of a Central Bank Digital Currency,”](#) Roosevelt Institute, May, 2022

Essays

[The 100-Year-Old Bank That Could Solve Our Housing Crisis](#), *New York Times*, April 8, 2026.

[America’s War Chest in Waiting: Washington's new tool of statecraft is a \\$200 billion checkbook](#), *Foreign Policy*, January 12, 2026.

[Rule by Deal: How Trump Industrial Policy Works](#), *The American Prospect*, November 10, 2025.

[If You Care About Your Savings, Pay Attention to Trump’s Attack on The Fed](#), *New York Times*, April 18, 2025.

[Banking on Democracy: Fed governance can be improved, of course, but it is not fundamentally undemocratic.](#), *Democracy Journal*, Spring 2025

[Why do People Like Elon Musk Love Donald Trump? It's Not Just About Money](#), *New York Times*, September 25, 2024

[“The Promise of Marketcrafting,”](#) *Democracy Journal*, May, 2023

[If Banks Want More Deposit Insurance, They Should Pay for It](#), *TIME Magazine*, March 23, 2023

[“Rethinking Arthur Burns, the ‘Worst’ Fed Chair in History,”](#) *Democracy Journal*, September 26, 2022

[“An American CBDC is not the way to fight China’s financial might,”](#) *Financial Times*, May 11, 2022

[“How to Fix Social Media,”](#) *Wall Street Journal*, October 29th, 2021

[“The Free Market is Dead: What Will Replace It?,”](#) *Time Magazine*, April 26, 2021

["The US Needs Direct Cash Payments Through this Crisis — and the Next,"](#) *Financial Times*, August 18, 2020

["Why Americans Need a Guaranteed Income,"](#) *New York Times*, May 1, 2020

["Americans Need Significant and Sustained Cash Now to Avoid Economic Calamity,"](#) *Time*, March 19, 2020

["Raise My Taxes,"](#) *Democracy Journal*, Summer 2019

["Facebook co-founder: Libra coin would shift power into the wrong hands"](#) *Financial Times*, June 21, 2019

["It's Time to Break up Facebook,"](#) *New York Times*, May 9, 2019

["Progressive Economics Are Ascendant—Among Democrats, and at the Ballot Box,"](#) *The Nation*, November 15, 2018

["The Wealth of Our Collective Data Should Belong to All of Us,"](#) *The Guardian*, April 27, 2018

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2016 – Present Co-Founder & Chair, The Economic Security Project

Lead a nationally recognized think tank developing ideas to build economic power for all Americans. We conduct research on structural problems in the American economy, including today's affordability crisis and the challenges of corporate concentration, and advocate for public policy change. With executive leadership, I set the organization's strategy, manage the board of directors, and assist in fundraising and communications.

2023 - Present Board Member & Finance Committee Chair, New York Public Library

Oversee the development and implementation of the \$450 billion budget of one of the largest library systems in the world.

2023 – Present Co-founder & Chair, The Foundation for Community Psychoanalysis

Started the Brooklyn-based non-profit that seeks to democratize access to the practice of psychoanalysis through a fellowship program, community grants, and weekly event series.

2011 – 2018 Director, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

2012 – 2016 Publisher & Executive Chairman, *The New Republic Magazine*

Invested in the venerable politics and culture magazine at a moment of steep financial losses and declining print readership to introduce it to new audiences and set it on a sustainable financial path. Oversaw all business functions, including print and digital advertising, subscription programs, and events. Redesigned the print edition and launched a new suite of digital products, including a new website, iPhone and iPad apps, and podcasts.

2012 – 2015 Director, GiveDirectly

2009 - 2010 Entrepreneur in Residence, General Catalyst Partners

2007 - 2008 Director of Online Organizing, Barack Obama's Presidential Campaign

Developed and expanded the early Obama social network My.BarackObama.com to enable activists to connect to one another and self-organize on behalf of the campaign. Managed Obama's presence and voice across multiple social networks including Facebook, MySpace, and Twitter. Led the team pioneering the early text messaging platform, encouraging tens of thousands of people to stay in touch with the campaign through SMS updates.

Over 100,000 activists engaged with one another on our own social network to amplify their voices and the message behind the campaign, creating 50,000 grassroots events and raising tens of millions of dollars from personal fundraising pages. Millions of social network users signed up to stay in touch with the campaign and to be notified of key opportunities to pitch in. Deployed early digital field tools, enabling distributed activists to phone bank or canvas without direct supervision by campaign staff.

2006 - 2007 Co-Founder & Product Manager, Facebook, Palo Alto, CA

Managed the development and deployment of the News Feed product and early link sharing functionality. Developed the political feature set leading into the 2006 midterm election, including the ability to support candidates and join political groups. Played a supporting role to the team responsible for opening Facebook up to non-college users.

Launched one of the most popular and resilient consumer technology products (despite its many flaws) thus far this century. Encouraged political activism by creating the structure for people to easily share political opinions and voting preferences.

2004 – 2006 Co-Founder & Spokesperson, Facebook, Cambridge, MA

Helped in the brainstorming and early implementation of key features on the social network as second user after Mark Zuckerberg. Provided ongoing feedback on early functionality, including the photo tagging service and news clips feature. Developed early communications and messaging materials to explain what Facebook was to

potential users, college newspapers, and national press. Pitched stories to outlets at schools where we expanded early and fielded all inbound press inquiries.

In partnership with Mark Zuckerberg and the rest of the early team, helped Facebook explode in size in its early years, quickly becoming one of the country's biggest social networks and achieving near complete saturation in the American college market. Managed over a hundred early articles and press mentions and conducted dozens of in-person and phone interviews. Placed stories about Facebook's rise in major national outlets like *Fast Company* magazine and *Fortune*.

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

Primary: History of Central Banking, Macroeconomic Policy, Industrial Policy

Secondary: History of Antimonopoly, Tax Policy, Administrative Law

LANGUAGES

French: proficient
Spanish: good

References upon Request