



# MATILDA

## EFFECT



Pionierinnen der Forschung      Female Pioneers  
of Research

Pt. 60

Lina Khan





Lina Khan (\*1989)  
Lawyer & former Chair of the FTC

Born in London to Pakistani parents, her family moved to New York State in 2000. She completed her political science studies at *Williams College* with a thesis on Hannah Arendt (PdF 14).





## • NEW AMERICA

After graduating, she worked at the *New America Foundation*, focusing on market monopolies and concentration.

She chose not to pursue a career in journalism and instead enrolled at *Yale Law School*.



Her article written there, "Amazon's Antitrust Paradox", reignited the debate on antitrust law and brought her public recognition.





She subsequently became a legal advisor in the U.S. Congress and later a professor at *Columbia Law School*.

In addition, she worked as a legal clerk at the *Federal Trade Commission* (FTC).

Her publications are considered groundbreaking contributions to a new perspective on antitrust law.





In 2021, she was appointed Chair of the FTC by U.S. President Joe Biden – the youngest person ever to hold the position, despite opposition from Amazon and other companies seeking to preserve their monopolies.

Her resignation in 2025 marked the end of a progressive era in competition policy. Although her fundamentally "hands-on" approach drew considerable criticism, even her critics acknowledged the FTC's efficiency under her leadership.





Lina Khan (\*1989)

“Stop worshiping the American tech giants. Their dominance is not a sign of strength, but of a market failure that stifles innovation and harms consumers.”

„Hört auf, die amerikanischen Tech-Giganten zu verehren. Ihre Dominanz ist kein Zeichen von Stärke, sondern ein Marktversagen, das Innovation unterdrückt und Verbraucher\*innen schädigt.“

-Essay: “Stop Worshiping the American Tech Giants”,  
NYT, 4. Februar 2025

