



Stefanie Rueß

PH.D. CANDIDATE & POLITICAL SCIENTIST

Zeppelin University and University of Konstanz

Email: stefanie.ruess@zu.de

RESEARCH FIELDS

Welfare state research; unemployment benefits; bureaucratic discrimination; media framing; legislative design; quantitative methods; survey experiments; text-as-data

ACADEMIC EDUCATION

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| Since 01/2022 | Ph.D. Politics and Public Administration / Konstanz, Germany
Graduate School of Social and Behavioral Sciences, University of Konstanz
Thesis: "Biased by the Media? The Occurrence and Mitigation of Discrimination in German Welfare Offices"
Expected graduation: June 2025 |
| 09/2019 – 09/2021 | M.A./M.Sc. Double Degree Master Political Science / Stockholm, Sweden, and Munich, Germany
LMU Munich and Stockholm University
Master thesis: "A comparative analysis of long-term care policy. How traditional welfare policies shape the regulatory welfare state in long-term care policy"
Focus: Welfare state, long-term care policy, quantitative methods |
| 10/2015 – 03/2019 | B.A. Politics and Public Administration / Konstanz, Germany
University of Konstanz / Erasmus Semester at University Granada |

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| Since 04/2025 | Research Associate / Friedrichshafen, Germany
Zeppelin University Friedrichshafen / Collaboration in ERC-project "DEMOLAW (The design, creation and survival of democratic laws)" with Prof. Dr. Steffen Hurka |
| 01/2025 – 03/2025 | Research Associate / Konstanz, Germany
University of Konstanz and Cluster of Excellence "The Politics of Inequality"/ Collaboration in project "Administrative Inequality" with Prof. Dr. Gerald Schneider |
| 01/2022 – 12/2024 | Research Associate / Konstanz, Germany
University of Konstanz and Research Institute Social Cohesion / Collaboration in project "Institutions & Racism" (funded by the Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community) and sub-project "Prejudices and Stereotyping in Job Centers?" with Prof. Dr. Gerald Schneider <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data collection, management, and analysis• Coordination and execution of survey experiments with job centers• Networking events with ministries and stakeholders• Supervision of student assistants and theses |
| 06/2021 – 08/2021 | Research Assistant / Munich, Germany
LMU Munich / Chair for Empirical Theory of Politics of Prof. Dr. Christoph Knill |

10/2020 – 04/2021	Research Assistant / Munich, Germany German Youth Institute München
05/2019 – 07/2019	Intern / Hamburg, Germany German Institute of Global and Area Studies
06/2018 – 08/2018	Intern / Hamburg, Germany Senate Chancellery Hamburg
02/2018 – 04/2018	Intern / Madrid, Spain Goethe Institute Madrid

CONFERENCES & INVITED TALKS

2025: Management and Public Administration Colloquium, Konstanz, Germany: Rueß, Stefanie. 2025. The Pursuit of Fairness: Can Media Literacy Interventions Mitigate Discrimination in Welfare Offices? *Presentation*.

Brown Bag Seminar, Konstanz, Germany: Rueß, Stefanie. 2025. The Pursuit of Fairness: Can Media Literacy Interventions Mitigate Discrimination in Welfare Offices? *Presentation*.

Research Day at the Cluster of Excellence, Konstanz, Germany: Rueß, Stefanie. 2025. The Pursuit of Fairness: Can Media Literacy Interventions Mitigate Discrimination in Welfare Offices? *Presentation*.

INTER Lunch Seminar, Institute for Employment, Nuremberg, Germany: Rueß, Stefanie. 2025. The Pursuit of Fairness: Can Media Literacy Interventions Mitigate Discrimination in Welfare Offices? *Invited talk*.

2024: MPSA, Chicago, USA: Rueß, Stefanie. 2024. Narrative Crossroads: How Regional Immigration Discourses and Structural Factors Shape Sanction Decisions. *Conference presentation*

Inequality Conference, Konstanz, Germany: Leue, Miriam, Stefanie Rueß, and Gerald Schneider. 2024. Hurting the needy? Regional inequities in sanction decisions against German welfare recipients. *Conference presentation*

Progressive Governance Summit, Berlin, Germany: Rueß, Stefanie, Maren Lüdecke, and Gerald Schneider. Escaping the Backlash? Inclusive Immigration and Integration in Europe. *Invited talk*

EPSA, Cologne, Germany: Rueß, Stefanie. 2024. Dismantling stereotypes with diversity stories? Investigating job placement services allocations in German job centers. *AND*

Leue, Miriam, Stefanie Rueß, and Gerald Schneider. 2024. Hurting the needy? Regional inequities in sanction decisions against German welfare recipients. *Conference presentation*

DVPW, Göttingen, Germany: Leue, Miriam, Stefanie Rueß, and Gerald Schneider. 2024. Administrative Welfare Chauvinism? Regional Inequities in Sanction Decisions against Different Welfare Recipients. *Conference presentation*

2023: EPSA, Glasgow, UK: Rueß, Stefanie, Gerald Schneider, and Jan P. Vogler. 2024. Framed and Frugal: Media Framing of Welfare Fraud and the Granting of Unemployment Benefits. *Conference presentation*

Research day at the Cluster of Excellence, Konstanz, Germany: Rueß, Stefanie, Gerald Schneider, and Jan P. Vogler. 2024. Framed and Frugal: Media Framing of Welfare Fraud and the Granting of Unemployment Benefits. *Presentation*

APSA, Los Angeles, USA: Rueß, Stefanie, Gerald Schneider, and Jan P. Vogler. 2024. Priming and Prejudice: Unequal Treatment of Unemployment Benefit Claimants in Germany. *Conference presentation*

2022: European Social Citizenship Winter School, Milan, Italy: Rueß, Stefanie. 2024. Weakening EU social citizenship in local policy implementation? An analysis of the influence of local sentiments in German job centers. *Presentation*

WORKING PAPERS (submitted/conference drafts)

Leue, Miriam, Stefanie Rueß, and Gerald Schneider. 2024. **Administrative Welfare Chauvinism? Regional Inequities in Sanction Decisions against Different Welfare Recipients.** (manuscript phase)

Rueß, Stefanie. 2025. **Regional News, Regional Bias: Unequal Sanction Decisions in Welfare Offices.** (manuscript phase)

Rueß, Stefanie. 2025. **The Pursuit of Fairness: Can Media Literacy Interventions Mitigate Discrimination in Welfare Offices?** (manuscript phase)

Rueß, Stefanie, and Gerald Schneider. 2024. **Zufriedenheit am Arbeitsplatz, Verminderung von Diskriminierung? Ergebnisse eines Umfrageexperiments in Jobcentern.** (expected publication in spring 2025 as part of an anthology)

Rueß, Stefanie, Gerald Schneider, and Jan P. Vogler. 2024. **Priming and Prejudice: Experimental Evidence on Negative News Frames and Discrimination in German Welfare Offices.** *Working Paper Series / Cluster of Excellence 'The Politics of Inequality'*; 34 [[Link to Manuscript](#)] (and under review)

Geith, Johannes, Alexander Passer-Jähnel, Stefanie Rueß, and Lukas Rudolph. 2023. **Inequality and Immigration Do Not Necessarily Increase Welfare Chauvinism – A Replication of Two Influential Studies.** [[Link to Manuscript](#)] (under review)

PUBLICATIONS

Schneider, Gerald, Maren Lüdecke, and Stefanie Rueß. 2024. **Zur falschen Zeit am falschen Ort? Administrative Ungleichbehandlung in der deutschen Justiz und Verwaltung.** *Policy paper. Cluster of Excellence "The Politics of Inequality" and "Das Progressive Zentrum"*. [[Link to Manuscript](#)]

AWARDS & GRANTS

09/2019	DAAD Scholarship Double Master Degree with Stockholm University
07/2015	Scheffelpreis (Best A-level result in the subject "German")

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

10/2018 – 02/2019	B.A. Tutorial International Relations / Konstanz, Germany University of Konstanz
04/2017 – 07/2017	B.A. Tutorial Strategic Management / Konstanz, Germany University of Konstanz

VOLUNTEERING

Since 11/2024	The Greens / Konstanz, Germany Support of election campaigns
10/2023 – 03/2025	Faculty Council Politics and Public Administration / Konstanz, Germany Representative of academic staff at University of Konstanz

08/2019 – 01/2020	Language Café Stockholms universitet / Stockholm, Sweden Preparation and conversations with other students
08/2018 – 08/2020	Students Connecting Cultures e.V. / Konstanz, Germany Founding member, head of public relations
04/2017 – 09/2018	IstKon Student Exchange / Konstanz, Germany Head of public relations for the intercultural exchange
10/2015 – 03/2019	Student Council Politics and Administration / Konstanz, Germany Editor-in-chief of the student council magazine

SKILLS Microsoft Office / Coding R & STATA / Survey Qualtrics / EndNote / Project Management Trello & Notion

LANGUAGES German (mother-tongue) / English (fluent) / Spanish (advanced) / Latin Proficiency Certificate

ACTIVITIES Swimming / Yoga / Photography

REFERENCES Prof. Dr. Gerald Schneider / Prof. Dr. Jan P. Vogler / Further mentors on request

Friedrichshafen, April 2025