Kilian Buehling

Postdoctoral researcher
University of Tübingen
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Academic Positions

2025 – now   **University of Tübingen, Institute for Research on Far Right Extremism (IRex)**
Postdoctoral Research Associate

2021 – 2025   **Free University Berlin / Weizenbaum Institute for the Networked Society - The German Internet Institute,** Germany
Postdoctoral Research Associate

2024   **University of Zurich, Department of Communication and Media Research,** Switzerland
Visiting Researcher

2017 – 2021   **Technische Universität Dresden, Research Group Knowledge and Technology Transfer**, Germany
Research Associate

2019   **Indiana University, Luddy School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering,** USA
Visiting Researcher

Education

2023   Technische Universität Dresden, Faculty of Economics
Ph.D. in Economics
Dissertation: *How Economic Incentives in Science Shape Knowledge Transfer and Knowledge Creation*

2017   Technische Universität Dresden, Faculty of Economics
M. Sc. in Economics
Thesis: *Comparison of Cognitive Biases in Individual and Team Decisions - An Agent-Based Simulation Based on the El Farol Bar Problem*

2014	Technische Universität Dresden, Faculty of Economics
	B. Sc. in Economics
	Thesis: *"Inequality and Economic Growth"*

Scholarly publications

Buehling, K., Becker, J., Zhang, X., Heft, A. (2025). Rechte Verschwörungstheorien in hyperparteiischen Medien – Was hätte ein Verbot des Compact-Magazins für das anti-demokratische Online-Ökosystem bedeutet? In *Wissen schafft Demokratie. Schwerpunkt Demokratiegefährdung online*, *18*, 82-99. Jena. https://doi.org/ 10.19222/202618/06

Schulze, H., **Buehling, K.,** & Zehring, M. (2025). The Telegram COVID-19 Protest Dataset 2020-2022. *Computational Communication Research*, *7*(1), 1-19. https://doi.org/10.5117/CCR2025.1.9.SCHU

Pasitselska, O., **Buehling, K.**, & Gagrčin, E. (2025). Chat groups as local civic infrastructure: A case study of "Solidary neighborhood help" Telegram groups during the COVID-19 pandemic in Germany. *New Media & Society*, *0*(0). https://doi.org/10.1177/14614448251349426

Schindler, J., Jha, S., Zhang, X., **Buehling, K.**, Heft, A., & Barahona, M. (2025). LGDE: Local Graph-based Dictionary Expansion. *Computational Linguistics*, 1–32. https://doi.org/10.1162/coli_a_00562

Buehling, K., Zhang, X., & Heft, A. (2025). Veiled conspiracism: Particularities and convergence in the styles and functions of conspiracy-related communication across digital platforms. *New Media & Society*, *0*(0). https://doi.org/10.1177/14614448251315756

Heft, A., **Buehling, K.**, Zhang, X., Schindler, D., & Milzner, M. (2024). Challenges of and approaches to data collection across platforms and time: Conspiracy-related digital traces as examples of political contention. *Journal of Information Technology & Politics*, *21*(3), 323-339. https://doi.org/10.1080/19331681.2023.2250779

Buehling, K. (2024). Message Deletion on Telegram: Affected Data Types and Implications for Computational Analysis. *Communication Methods and Measures*, *18*(1), 92-114. https://doi.org/10.1080/19312458.2023.2183188

Buehling, K., & Heft, A. (2023). Pandemic Protesters on Telegram: How Platform Affordances and Information Ecosystems Shape Digital Counterpublics. *Social Media + Society*, 9(3), 20563051231199430. https://doi.org/10.1177/20563051231199430

Jost, P., Heft, A., **Buehling, K.**, Zehring, M., Schulze, H., Bitzmann, H., & Domahidi, E. (2023). Mapping a Dark Space: Challenges in Sampling and Classifying Non- Institutionalized Actors on Telegram. *M&K Medien & Kommunikationswissenschaft*, 71(3–4), 212–229. https://doi.org/10.5771/1615-634X-2023-3-4-212

Heft, A., & **Buehling, K.** (2022). Measuring the diffusion of conspiracy theories in digital information ecologies. *Convergence: The International Journal of Research into New Media Technologies*, 28(4), 940–961. https://doi.org/10.1177/13548565221091809

Kindt, A.-M., Geissler, M., & **Buehling, K.** (2022). Be my (little) partner?!—Universities' role in regional innovation systems when large firms are rare. *Journal of Regional Science*, *62*(5), 1274-1295. https://doi.org/10.1111/jors.12596

Buehling, K., Geissler, M., & Strecker, D. (2022). Free access to scientific literature and its influence on the publishing activity in developing countries: The effect of Sci-Hub in the field of mathematics. *Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology*, *73*(9), 1336-1355. https://doi.org/10.1002/asi.24636

Buehling, K., & Geissler, M. (2022). PhDs with Industry Partners–Assessing Collaboration and Topic Distribution Using a Text Mining Methodology. In *University-Industry Knowledge Interactions* (pp. 9-24). Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-84669-5_2

Bueckle, A., **Buehling, K.**, Shih, P. C., & Börner, K. (2022). Optimizing Performance and Satisfaction in Matching and Movement Tasks in Virtual Reality with Interventions Using the Data Visualization Literacy Framework. *Frontiers in Virtual Reality*, *2*. https://www.frontiersin.org/article/10.3389/frvir.2021.727344

Buehling, K. (2021). Changing research topic trends as an effect of publication rankings – The case of German economists and the Handelsblatt Ranking. *Journal of Informetrics*, *15*(3), 101199. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.joi.2021.101199

Bueckle, A., **Buehling, K.**, Shih, P. C., & Börner, K. (2021). 3D virtual reality vs. 2D desktop registration user interface comparison. *PLOS ONE*, *16*(10), e0258103. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0258103

Working papers

Fan, Y., **Buehling, K.**, & Stocker, V. (2025). Beyond Citations: Measuring Idea-level Knowledge Diffusion from Research to Journalism and Policy-making (Version 1). *arXiv*. https://doi.org/10.48550/ARXIV.2511.03378

Other

Zhang, X., Becker, J., **Buehling, K.**, Heft, A. (2024, December 18). Die Transnationalität rechtsextremer Verschwörungstheorien online und ihre länderspezifische Adaption. NEOVEX Blog. https://neovex-projekt.de/die-transnationalitat-rechtsextremer-verschworungstheorien-online-und-ihre-landerspezifische-adaption/

Buehling, K., Heft, A., Zhang, X. (2024, March 12). Der Ton macht die Musik – Die sprachlichen Finessen von Verschwörungserzählungen auf digitalen Plattformen. NEOVEX Blog. https://neovex-projekt.de/der-ton-macht-die-musik-die-sprachlichen-finessen-von-verschwoerungserzaehlungen-auf-digitalen-plattformen/

Buehling, K. (2023, July 5). How well can conspiracy theory content be measured on social media? It's a matter of time! *DigiMoD Blog.* https://digimod.weizenbaum-institut.de/how-well-can-conspiracy-theory-content-be-measured-on-social-media/

Buehling, K. (2023, April 17). Wie gut kann man verschwörungstheoretische Inhalte auf Social Media messen? Alles eine Frage der Zeit! *NEOVEX Blog.* https://neovex-projekt.de/wie-gut-kann-man-verschwoerungstheoretische-inhalte-auf-social-media-messen-alles-eine-frage-der-zeit/

Buehling, K., & Heft, A. (2022, June 15). Wie wird die Verbreitung von Verschwörungstheorien gemessen? *NEOVEX Blog*. https://neovex-projekt.de/2022/2541/

Buehling, K. (2022). *fouRplebsAPI: R package for accessing 4chan posts via the 4plebs.org API* (0.9.0) [R]. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.6637440

Teaching

Freie Universität Berlin

2025	Information Disorders (Seminar)
	Introduction to Actor Sampling and Data Collection on Telegram (Workshop)
2024	Anti-democratic mobilization on messenger apps – working with Telegram data (University of Zurich, guest lecture)
2024	Digital trace data collection (University of Tübingen, guest lecture)
2024	Telegram and its affordances for anti-democratic mobilization (University of Groningen, guest lecture)
2023	Introduction to digital trace data (Workshop)

Technische Universität Dresden

2019	Scientific working [*Wissenschaftliches und praktisches Arbeiten*]
2018	Scientific working [*Wissenschaftliches und praktisches Arbeiten*]
2017	Applied Econometrics (Excercise) [*Quantitative Verfahren – Ökonometrische Modelle und Ihre Anwendungen]*

Conferences and Talks

2026	Jahrestagung der DGPuK-Fachgruppe "Kommunikation und Politk", Hamburg, Germany
2025	Platform Governance Network Conference (PlatGovNet) 2025, online
2025	Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR) Conference, Niteroì, Brazil
2025	Computational Visual Media Research Symposium, Universität Zürich, Zürich, Switzerland
2025	Expert:innenworkshop: "Ideologieklassifizierung nicht-institutionalisierter Akteur:innen in digitalen Räumen", Weizenbaum Institute, Berlin, Germany
2025	75th Annual ICA Conference: Disrupting and Consolidating Communication Research, Denver, CO, USA
2025	7th Weizenbaum Conference: "Empowering People in Online Spaces: Democracy and Well-being in Digital Societies", Berlin.
2025	Workshop: Current Issues and Projects in Political Communication and Digital Public Spheres, Weizenbaum-Institute, Berlin, Germany
2025	70. Jahrestagung DGPuK, Institut für Publizistik und Kommunikationswissenschaft and Weizenbaum Institut, Berlin, Germany
2025	Jahrestagung 2025 der Fachgruppen „Kommunikation und Politik" (DGPuK), „AK Politik und Kommunikation" (DVPW) und „Politische Kommunikation" (SGKM), Universität Innsbruck, Austria

2024	Workshop: Conditions of Success for the Far-Right: A One-Day Exploration of Communication Strategies, Critique and Scholarly Insights, Freie Universität Berlin, Berlin, Germany
2024	Workshop: Visual Aspects of Political Communication and Digital Platforms, Collegium Helveticum, Zurich, Switzerland
2024	Workshop: Contextualizing Misinformation Research - Theoretical, Empirical, and Legal Frameworks, Weizenbaum Institute, Berlin, Germany
2024	ECREA - 10th European Communication Conference: Ljubljana, Slovenia
2024	Weizenbaum Conference 2024, Weizenbaum Institute, Berlin, Germany
2024	74th Annual ICA Conference: Communication and Global Human Rights, Gold Coast, Australia
2024	69. Jahrestagung der DGPuK, Erfurt, Germany
2023	ECREA Political Communication Section Conference 2023, Weizenbaum Berlin, Germany
2023	International Society for Informetrics and Scientometrics Conference (ISSI) Bloomington, Indiana, USA
2023	73rd Annual ICA Conference: Reclaiming Authenticity in Communication, Toronto, Canada
2022	Digital Democracy Workshop, University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland
2022	ECREA Post-Conference: "Digital media and information disorders: Theorizing and investigating influence operations, impact and contextual factors", Aarhus, Denmark
2022	ECREA - 9th European Communication Conference: "Rethink Impact", Aarhus, Denmark
2022	23. Tagung der Fachgruppe Methoden der Publizistik- und Kommunikationswissenschaft der DGPuK, Munich, Germany
2022	12th International Conference on Social Media & Society, online
2021	Media and Publics Conference, Roskilde, Denmark
2021, 2019, 2018	INNcentive Workshop on Quantitative Innovation Research, Bremen, Germany
2021	Research Colloquium of the Faculty of Business and Economics of the TU Dresden, Dresden, Germany
2019	European Meeting on Applied Evolutionary Economics (EMAEE): Economics, Governance and Management of AI, Robots and Digital Transformations, Brighton, United Kingdom
2018	12th Workshop on the Organization, Economics and Policy of Scientific Research, Bath, United Kingdom

Additional Training

2021	10th GESIS Summer School on Collecting and Analyzing Longitudinal Social Network Data
2020	Tableau Desktop I&II: Intermediate Level Certificate
2018	European Summer School for Scientometrics, Wien
2018	Massachusetts Institute of Technology Battlecode Challenge
2017	37th GESIS Methods Seminar on Text Mining with R, Cologne, Germany

Awards, Grants, & Fellowships

2026	Weizenbaum Institute Interdisciplinary Project Seed Funding (11,800 €)
2024	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Publizistik- und Kommunikationswissenschaft: Best journal paper in communication science 2023 (2nd price) for Jost et al. (2023)
2024	Journal of the Association of Information Science and Technology: Most downloaded paper award for Buehling et al. (2022)
2023	Weizenbaum Institute Interdisciplinary Project Seed Funding (8,000 €)
2018	INNcentive Fellowship for Empirical Innovation Research (3,000 €)

Skills

Languages   German (native), English (business fluent), Russian (basic), Latin (basic)
Computing   R, Python, SQL, Tableau, Microsoft Office, Stata, SPSS, Matlab

Service to the discipline

2024   Early career scholar representative for the Methods division of the German Society for Communication Science (DGPuK)

Berlin, 13 February 2026