

Cornelius Erfort

Witten/Herdecke University

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Current Positions	Witten/Herdecke University	<i>since Sep 2024</i>
	Post-doctoral Researcher, Research Project Election Forecasts for the German Federal Election 2025 – zweistimme.org	
Previous Positions	Hertie School & Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin	<i>Sep 2021 - Aug 2024</i>
	Doctoral Researcher, Research Training Group DYNAMICS	
	Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin	<i>Oct 2023 - Aug 2024</i>
	Doctoral Researcher, Research Project MINISTERIALLOBBY	
	Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin & Freie Universität Berlin	<i>May 2021 - Jul 2022</i>
Education	Doctoral Researcher, Cluster of Excellence SCRIPTS	
	Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin	<i>Dec 2016 - Apr 2021</i>
	Student Assistant, Chair of Comparative Political Behavior	
	Technische Universität Berlin	<i>May 2015 - Mar 2017</i>
	Student Assistant, Institute of Machine Tools and Production	
	Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin	<i>Sep 2021 - Mar 2025</i>
	PhD in Political Science (summa cum laude) Title: <i>Political Parties' Voter Targeting and Campaign Communication Strategies</i> , Committee: <i>Heike Klüver</i> (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin), <i>Anselm Hager</i> (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin), <i>Hanna Schwander</i> (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin), <i>Mark A. Kayser</i> (Hertie School), <i>Sara B. Hobolt</i> (LSE)	
	London School of Economics and Political Science	<i>Sep 2023 - Dec 2023</i>
	Research Visit, Department of Government, Supervisor: Prof. Sara B. Hobolt	
	Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin	<i>Oct 2019 - May 2021</i>
	Master's in Social Sciences, <i>Grade: 1.0</i>	
	Northwestern University	<i>Sep 2020 - Dec 2020</i>
	Exchange Program, Chicago (declined due to pandemic)	
	Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin	<i>Oct 2015 - Mar 2019</i>
	Bachelor's in Social Sciences, <i>Grade: 1.6</i>	
	Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE)	<i>Aug 2017 - Dec 2017</i>
	Exchange Program, Mexico City	
	Technische Universität Berlin	<i>Oct 2011 - Jul 2015</i>
	Bachelor's in Industrial Engineering and Management, <i>Grade: 2.3</i>	

Peer-Reviewed Publications	Gendered targeting: Do parties tailor their campaign ads to women? <i>The Journal of Politics</i>	<i>forthcoming</i>
	An Election Forecasting Model for Subnational Elections <i>Electoral Studies</i> , with Lukas F. Stoetzer, Hannah Rajski, Thomas Gschwend, Simon Munzert, and Elias Koch	<i>forthcoming</i>
	The Zweitstimme Forecast for the German Federal Election 2025: Coalition Majorities and Vacant Districts, <i>PS: Political Science & Politics</i> , with Lukas F. Stoetzer, Thomas Gschwend, Elias Koch, Simon Munzert, and Hannah Rajski	2025
	Targeting Voters Online: How Parties' Campaigns Differ, <i>Electoral Studies</i>	2024
	The PARTYPRESS Database: A New Comparative Database of Parties' Press Releases <i>Research and Politics</i> , with Heike Klüver, and Lukas F. Stoetzer	2023
Under Review	Buying Voter Support for Unpopular Policies: Evidence from German Nuclear Power Plants, with António Valentim and Heike Klüver	
	Parties' issue adaptation between elections, with Lukas F. Stoetzer, and Heike Klüver	
Working Papers	Who Becomes a Lobbyist? Comparative Evidence from the US and Germany, with Jan Stuckatz, Felix Hartmann, and Heike Klüver	
	Measuring protest through news articles: A validation approach for manual and semi-supervised methods using government data	
Other Projects	Election Dataset Germany 1953-2021 (GitHub) County-level results made comparable over time using areal weighted interpolation	2021
	erststimme2017.de Prediction of the district vote at the German Elections	2017
Conferences	EPSA	2022, 2023, 2024
	DVPW	2024
	Transformations of Democracy Junior Scholars Workshop, WZB Berlin	2024
Service to the discipline	Reviewer for: <i>The Journal of Politics</i> (JOP), <i>Political Science Research and Methods</i> (PSRM), <i>Electoral Studies</i> , <i>European Journal of Political Research</i> (EJPR), <i>Political Research Exchange</i> (PRX), <i>Party Politics</i> Student Representative DYNAMICS Research Training Group 2022	
Teaching experience	Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin	
	Automated Web Data Collection (PhD Workshop)	2025
	Automated Web Data Collection and Text as Data (BA)	2023
	Comparative Politics and International Relations (BA)	2022
Invited Talks	MZES Social Science Data Lab	2025
Funding	Fulbright Travel Grant (declined/pandemic) (EUR ~2,000)	2020
	DAAD Promos Scholarship USA (declined/pandemic) (EUR ~3,000)	2020
	DAAD Promos Scholarship Mexico (EUR ~3,000)	2017

Additional training	Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis		<i>2022</i>
	<i>Causal Inference and Experiments in the Social Sciences,</i>		
	by Prof. Ryan T. Moore, PhD (American University)		
	DYNAMICS Graduate Program, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin		
	<i>New Directions in Causal Inference,</i>		
	by Prof. Ryan T. Moore, PhD (American University)		<i>2024</i>
	<i>Image Analysis,</i> by Prof. Michelle Torres (UCLA)		<i>2023</i>
	<i>Good Scientific Practice,</i> by Dr. Christian Dumpitak (iGrad)		<i>2023</i>
	<i>Data Protection in PhD Projects,</i> by Oliver Watteler (GESIS)		<i>2023</i>
	<i>Online Experiments,</i> by Dr. Amalia Alvarez-Benjumea (MPI)		<i>2021</i>
Languages	German	Native	
	English	Advanced (TOEFL iBT: 112/130)	
	Spanish	Fluent (UNiCert II)	
	Latin and Ancient Greek	9 and 6 years of classes	
Software skills	Programming	R, Python, Github, Stata	
	Text processing	LaTeX, MS Office	
	Other technical skills	Web scraping, Data Visualization, Quantitative Text Analysis, Automated Image Analysis	

Last updated May 9, 2025.