

Dr. Cornelius Erfort

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

Peer-Reviewed Publications	Gendered Targeting: Do Parties Tailor Their Campaign Ads <i>forthcoming</i> <i>The Journal of Politics</i>	
	Parties' issue responsiveness between elections <i>forthcoming</i> with Lukas F. Stoetzer, and Heike Klüver <i>West European Politics</i>	
	Buying Voter Support for Unpopular Policies: Evidence from German Nuclear Power Plants <i>2025</i> with António Valentim and Heike Klüver <i>Electoral Studies</i>	
	An Election Forecasting Model for Subnational Elections <i>2025</i> with Lukas F. Stoetzer, Hannah Rajski, Thomas Gschwend, Simon Munzert, and Elias Koch <i>Electoral Studies</i>	
	The Zweitstimme Forecast for the German Federal Election 2025: Coalition Majorities and Vacant Districts <i>2025</i> with Lukas F. Stoetzer, Thomas Gschwend, Elias Koch, Simon Munzert, and Hannah Rajski <i>PS: Political Science & Politics</i>	
	Targeting Voters Online: How Parties' Campaigns Differ <i>2024</i> <i>Electoral Studies</i>	
	The PARTYPRESS Database: A New Comparative Database of Parties' Press Releases <i>2023</i> with Heike Klüver, and Lukas F. Stoetzer <i>Research and Politics</i>	
Work in Progress	Who Becomes a Lobbyist? Comparative Evidence from the US and Germany , with Jan Stuckatz, Felix Hartmann, and Heike Klüver	
	Do Politicians Respond to Hostility? Evidence from Germany with Elias Koch	
	Measuring Protest through News Articles: Validating Manual and Semi-Supervised Methods Using Government Data	
Other Projects	Election Dataset Germany 1953-2021 (GitHub) <i>2021</i> County-level results made comparable over time using areal weighted interpolation	
	erststimme2017.de Prediction of the district vote at the German Elections <i>2017</i>	
Presentations	LSE Climate and Political Behaviour Workshop <i>2026</i> MZES Social Science Data Lab <i>2025</i> Lunchtalk – Arbeitskreis "Wahlen und politische Einstellungen", DVPW <i>2025</i> APSA <i>2025</i> EPSA <i>2022, 2023, 2024, 2025</i> MPSA <i>2025</i> DVPW <i>2024</i> Transformations of Democracy Junior Scholars Workshop, WZB Berlin <i>2024</i>	
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> , <i>Environmental Politics</i> , <i>Comparative European Politics</i> , PVS Student Representative DYNAMICS Research Training Group <i>2022</i>	

Teaching experience	Automated Web Data Collection (PhD) Automated Web Data Collection and Text as Data (BA) Comparative Politics and International Relations (BA)	2025 2023 2022
Funding	LSE Seed Research Fund (with Zach Dickson) (GBP 9,600)	2025
	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>Causal Inference and Experiments in the Social Sciences</i> , by Prof. Ryan T. Moore, PhD (American University)	2022
	DYNAMICS Graduate Program, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin <i>New Directions in Causal Inference</i> , by Prof. Ryan T. Moore, PhD (American University)	2024
	<i>Image Analysis</i> , by Prof. Michelle Torres (UCLA)	2023
	<i>Good Scientific Practice</i> , by Dr. Christian Dumpitak (iGrad)	2023
	<i>Data Protection in PhD Projects</i> , by Oliver Watteler (GESIS)	2023
	<i>Online Experiments</i> , by Dr. Amalia Alvarez-Benjumea (MPI)	2021
	<i>Survey Experiments</i> , by Sofia Breitenstein (UAB)	2021
	<i>Spatial Data Analysis</i> , by Prof. Dr. Karsten Donnay (UZH)	2021
	<i>Beyond Counting Words: Working with Word Embeddings</i> , by Prof. Dr. Damian Trilling (UvA)	2021
Languages	German Native English Advanced (TOEFL iBT: 112/130) Spanish Fluent (UNIcert II)	
Software skills	Programming R, Python, Github, Stata Text processing LaTeX, MS Office Other technical skills Webscraping, Data Visualization, Quantitative Text Analysis, Automated Image Analysis	

Last updated February 15, 2026.