



**Kultur-, Sozial- und
Bildungswissenschaftliche
Fakultät**

Institut für
Sozialwissenschaften

Lehrbereich Politisches Verhalten im
Vergleich

Cover Letter

Dear Editors,

Please find enclosed our manuscript "The PARTYPRESS Database: A New Comparative Database of Parties' Press Releases" to be considered for publication in Research & Politics (RAP).

In our article, we present a new comprehensive database of over 250,000 press releases from 68 parties in nine European countries. The database also provides a classification of press releases into 21 unique issue categories. Our database can be used to study parties' issue agendas comparatively and over time.

We believe that Research & Politics is an ideal outlet for this paper as our database makes an important contribution to the study of party competition and will facilitate many research projects in this field.

Despite their advantages, press releases have only been used by a handful of scholars to measure issue attention in case studies of specific countries (e.g., Gessler & Hunger, 2021; Hopmann et al., 2012), given the massive investments for collecting and analyzing press releases.

We confirm that none of the materials have been published or are under consideration for publication elsewhere. The code we use to build and evaluate our text models can be accessed here: <https://github.com/cornelius-erfort/scripts-issue-agendas>

The replication data as well as the database itself is not publicly available and can only be accessed with this link: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1WemYj-sIBWRv72ymPT57rh98Q4wCr7s-?usp=sharing>

We thank you in advance for considering our manuscript and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Cornelius Erfort

Research Fellow
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Cornelius Erfort
Wiss. Mitarbeiter

Datum:
25.11.2022

Bearbeiter/in:

Geschäftszeichen:

Postanschrift:
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
10099 Berlin

Tel: +49 (0)30-2093 665 55
+49 (0)30-2093 665 56

cornelius.erfort@hu-berlin.de
<https://hu.berlin/45274>

Sitz:
Universitätsstr. 3b
Raum 419a
10117 Berlin

Verkehrsverbindungen:
S+U Friedrichstr.
Sprechzeiten:
nach Vereinbarung

References

Gessler, T., & Hunger, S. (2022). How the refugee crisis and radical right parties shape party competition on immigration. *Political Science Research and Methods*, 10 (3), 524-544.
<https://doi.org/10.1017/psrm.2021.64>

Hopmann, D. N., Elmelund-Præstekær, C., Albæk, E., Vliegenthart, R., & Vreese, C. H. d. (2012). Party media agenda-setting: How parties influence election news coverage. *Party Politics*, 18 (2), 173-191.
