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Academic Employment

10/2022 – present	Postdoctoral Researcher and Program Coordinator Department of Political Science, University of Münster, Germany
10/2018 – 09/2022	Research Associate Department of Political Science, University of Salzburg, Austria
11/2019	Visiting Researcher EUROLAB, GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, Cologne, Germany
10/2014 – 09/2018	Research Assistant Department of Political Science, University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany

Education

10/2018 – 09/2022	Ph.D. in Political Science Department of Political Science, University of Salzburg, Austria
10/2016 – 09/2018	M.A. in Survey Methodology (without degree) Department of Sociology, University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany
10/2014 – 07/2017	M.A. in Theory and Comparative Studies of Political Systems in Transition Department of Political Science, University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany
02/2017 – 07/2017 02/2016 – 07/2016	Erasmus+ Visiting Student in M.A. Research Design and Social Data Analysis Department of Political Science, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
10/2011 – 12/2014	B.A. in Political Science Department of Political Science, University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany

Publications

Journal articles	<p>McDonnell, Duncan, Sofia Ammassari, Annika Werner, Niklas Bolin, Marco Valbruzzi, Hugo Ferrinho Lopes, Reinhard Heinisch, Ann-Cathrine Jungar, and Carsten Wegscheider. 2025. "Young Radicals, Moderates, and Aligned: Ideological Congruence and Incongruence in Party Youth Wings." <i>European Journal of Political Research</i>. DOI: 10.1111/1475-6765.70000.</p> <p>Wegscheider, Carsten, and Marlene Mauk. 2025. "Capable but not empowered? How emancipative values affect protest participation across different contexts." <i>Political Studies</i> 73 (1): 391–411. DOI: 10.1177/00323217241247377.</p> <p>McDonnell, Duncan, Sofia Ammassari, Marco Valbruzzi, Niklas Bolin, Annika Werner, Reinhard Heinisch, Ann-Cathrine Jungar, and Carsten Wegscheider. 2024. "Inside party youth wings: The YOUNEM project." <i>Party Politics</i>. DOI: 10.1177/13540688241310349.</p>
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Habersack, Fabian, and Carsten Wegscheider. 2024. "Left behind economically or politically? Economic grievances, representation, and populist attitudes." *Politics and Governance* 12: 1–15. DOI: [10.17645/pag.8567](https://doi.org/10.17645/pag.8567).

Anter, Luise, Uwe Backes, Reinhard Heinisch, Steffen Kailitz, and Carsten Wegscheider. 2024. "Challenging liberal principles: Understanding of democracy among populist radical right youth leaders in Austria and Germany." *German Politics*. DOI: [10.1080/09644008.2024.2353071](https://doi.org/10.1080/09644008.2024.2353071).

Marco Fölsch, Martin Dolezal, Reinhard Heinisch, Carsten Wegscheider, and Annika Werner. 2024. "Cue-taking, populist attitudes, and support for holding a referendum: evidence from survey experiments." *Contemporary Politics* 30 (4): 553–575. DOI: [10.1080/13569775.2023.2297507](https://doi.org/10.1080/13569775.2023.2297507).

Wegscheider, Carsten, Cristóbal Rovira Kaltwasser, and Steven M. Van Hauwaert. 2023. "How citizens conceptions of democracy relate to positive and negative partisanship towards populist parties." *West European Politics* 46 (7): 1235–63. DOI: [10.1080/01402382.2023.2199376](https://doi.org/10.1080/01402382.2023.2199376).

Bucher, Hannah et al. 2023. "Special Issue Conclusion: The GLES Open Science Challenge 2021 in hindsight: Experiences gained and lessons learned." *Politische Vierteljahresschrift* 64 (1): 207–19. DOI: [10.1007/s11615-022-00437-z](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11615-022-00437-z).

Huber, Robert A., Michael Jankowski, and Carsten Wegscheider. 2023. "Explaining populist attitudes: The impact of policy discontent and representation." *Politische Vierteljahresschrift* 64 (1): 133–54. DOI: [10.1007/s11615-022-00422-6](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11615-022-00422-6).

Wegscheider, Carsten, and Toralf Stark. 2020. "What drives citizens evaluation of democratic performance? The interaction of citizens democratic knowledge and institutional level of democracy." *Zeitschrift für Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft* 14 (4): 345–74. DOI: [10.1007/s12286-020-00467-0](https://doi.org/10.1007/s12286-020-00467-0).

Heinisch, Reinhard, and Carsten Wegscheider. 2020. "Disentangling how populism and radical host ideologies shape citizens' conceptions of democratic decision-making." *Politics and Governance* 8 (3): 32–44. DOI: [10.17645/pag.v8i3.2915](https://doi.org/10.17645/pag.v8i3.2915).

Book chapters

Huber, Robert A., Carsten Wegscheider, and Thomas Lehner. 2024. "Populist parties and persistent non-compliance with EU law." In *The Ideational Approach to Populism, Volume II: Consequences and Mitigation*, eds. Angelos Chrysosgelos, Eliza Tanner Hawkins, Kirk A. Hawkins, Levente Littvay, Nina Wiesehomeier. London: Routledge, 199–217. DOI: [10.4324/9781003489993-13](https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003489993-13).

Habersack, Fabian, and Carsten Wegscheider. 2021. "Populism and Euroscepticism: Two sides of the same coin?" In *Political Populism: Handbook on Concepts, Questions and Strategies of Research*, eds. Reinhard Heinisch, Christina Holtz-Bacha, Oscar Mazzoleni. Baden-Baden: Nomos, 195–212. DOI: [10.5771/9783748907510-195](https://doi.org/10.5771/9783748907510-195).

Wegscheider, Carsten, and Roula Nezi. 2021. "Who belongs to 'the people'? The societal boundaries of national and European notions of citizenship." In *Democratic Citizenship in Flux: Conceptions of Citizenship in the Light of Political and Social Fragmentation*, eds. Markus Bayer, Oliver Schwarz and Toralf Stark. Bielefeld: transcript-Verlag, 173–92. DOI: [10.14361/9783839449493-009](https://doi.org/10.14361/9783839449493-009).

Heinisch, Reinhard, and Carsten Wegscheider. 2019. "[Zum Verhältnis des Populismus zur liberalen Demokratie](#)." In *Die Komplexität der Welt und die Sehnsucht nach Einfachheit*, ed. Martin Dürnberger. Innsbruck: Tyrolia, 107–18.

Stark, Toralf, Carsten Wegscheider, Elmar Brähler, and Oliver Decker. 2017. "Wahlurne ohne WählerInnen – eine Analyse der Ursachen für Nichtwahl in Deutschland." In *Wahlenthaltung. Zwischen Abwendung, Verdrossenheit und Desinteresse*, ed. Horst Kahrs. Berlin: Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung, 11–28.

- Conference reports** Wurthmann, L. Constantin, Cemal Öztürk, and Carsten Wegscheider. 2016. „Vorsicht Sicherheit! Legitimationsprobleme der Ordnung von Freiheit“ aus vergleichender Perspektive. Kongressbericht der Sektion Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft vom 26. wissenschaftlichen Kongress der Deutschen Vereinigung für Politische Wissenschaft (DVPW), 21.–25. September 2015 in Duisburg“, *Zeitschrift für Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft* 9 (4): 317–33. DOI: [10.1007/s12286-016-0276-y](https://doi.org/10.1007/s12286-016-0276-y).
- Online publications** Rovira Kaltwasser, Cristóbal, Carsten Wegscheider, and Steven M. Van Hauwaert. 2022. *Supporting and Rejecting Populist Parties in Western Europe*. SCRIPTS Working Paper No. 14, Berlin: Cluster of Excellence 2055 “Contestations of the Liberal Script - SCRIPTS”.
- Stark, Toralf, Carsten Wegscheider, Elmar Brähler, and Oliver Decker. 2017. *Sind Rechtsextremisten sozial ausgegrenzt? Eine Analyse der sozialen Lage und Einstellungen zum Rechtsextremismus*. Papers 2/2017. Berlin: Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung.

Awards and Grants

- 12/2023 **Research Grant: Ideenlabor** (€ 80,000)
granted by University of Münster, Germany
- 11/2023 **Dissertation Prize** (€ 2,000)
awarded by University of Salzburg and Rotary Club Salzburg-Nord, Austria
- 11/2021 **Young Investigators Award (2nd Place)** (€ 200)
awarded by University of Salzburg, Austria
- 07/2021 **Research Grant** (€ 3,600)
granted by Faculty of Cultural and Social Sciences, University of Salzburg, Austria
- 08/2021 **Travel Grants** (€ 640)
08/2020 granted by Austrian Political Science Association (ÖGPW), Austria
- 11/2019 **EUROLAB Grant** (€ 1,500)
granted by GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, Cologne, Germany
- 02/2017 – 07/2017 **ERASMUS+ Scholarship** (€ 1,500)
02/2016 – 07/2016 granted by European Commission, Luxembourg
- 09/2016 **UDE-Scholarship** (€ 300)
granted by University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany

Conference and Workshop Participation

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| Austrian Political Science Association (ÖGPW) Political Science Day | 2020, 2021 |
| AUTNES Data Conference, University of Vienna, Austria | 2019 |
| “Citizen Perspectives on Democracy” (Workshop), University of Mainz, Germany | 2024 |
| “Current Directions in Research on Political Support”, University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany | 2024 |
| Dreiländertagung (DVPW, ÖGPW & SVPW) | 2019, 2023 |
| EUROLAB Author’s Conference, Cologne, Germany | 2019 |
| European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) General Conference | 2019, 2020, 2022, 2024, 2025 |

<i>Joint Sessions of Workshops</i>	2021, 2025
Falling Walls Science Summit, Berlin, Germany	2024
German Political Science Association (DVPW) Congress	2021, 2024
Working Group “Demokratieforschung”	2018, 2019, 2021, 2023
Working Group “Wahlen und politische Einstellungen”	2021
GESIS Political Science Research Roundtable, Cologne, Germany	2019
International Political Science Association (IPSA) World Congress	2021
Pre-EPISA Workshop, University of Münster, Germany	2024
Team Populism Author’s Conference, IE University Segovia, Spain	2019

Teaching Experience

University of Münster, Germany

Winter 2024/25	Introduction to Public Governance (Bachelor) Lecture (taught in German)
Summer 2025 Summer 2024 Summer 2023	Challenges of Public Governance (Bachelor, 2x) Seminar (taught in German)
Winter 2023/24	Quantitative Methods (Master) Seminar (taught in German)
Winter 2024/25 Winter 2023/24 Winter 2022/23	Elections and Voting Behavior in the European Union (Master) Seminar (taught in English)
Winter 2022/23	Political Culture and Democracy (Bachelor) Reading course (taught in German)

University of Salzburg, Austria

Summer 2022	Introduction to Comparative Politics (Bachelor) Proseminar (taught in German)
Winter 2021/22	Parties, Voters and Elections (Bachelor & Master) Seminar (taught in German)
Summer 2021 Winter 2020/21	Introduction to Political Psychology (Bachelor & Master) Seminar, co-taught with Lena Ramstetter (taught in German)
Summer 2021 Winter 2020/21	Introduction to Comparative Politics (Bachelor) Proseminar, co-taught with Lena Ramstetter (taught in German)
Winter 2019/20	Introduction to Comparative Politics (Bachelor) Guest Lectures on “Political Parties and Cleavages” and “Voting Behavior” (taught in German), Course Instructor: Zoe Lefkofridi Populism in Qualitative Text Analysis (Master) Guest Lecture on “Content Analysis” (taught in German), Course Instructor: Reinhard Heinisch Workshop “EU: Why is there no agreement on European asylum policy?”

Pupils University (taught in German)

- Summer 2019 **Introduction to Comparative Politics** (Bachelor)
 Guest Lectures on “Political Parties and Cleavages” and “Voting Behavior” (taught in German), Course Instructor: Zoe Lefkofridi
- Research Design** (Master)
 Guest Lectures on “Qualitative Research – Coding and Text Analysis” and “Presentations” (taught in English), Course Instructor: Reinhard Heinisch
- Political Campaigning** (Master)
 Guest Lecture on “Presentations” (taught in English), Course Instructor: Reinhard Heinisch
- Winter 2018/19 **Introduction to Comparative Politics** (Bachelor)
 Guest Lecture on “Political Parties and Cleavages” (taught in German), Course Instructor: Zoe Lefkofridi
- Comparative Populism** (Master)
 Guest Lecture on “Populism and Communication” (taught in English), Course Instructor: Reinhard Heinisch
- Workshop “Syria Conflict: Why is a solution so difficult?”**
 Pupils University in Cooperation with Friedensbüro Salzburg (taught in German)

University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany

- Winter 2017/18 **Measuring the Understanding of Democracy with International Surveys & Civil**
 Winter 2016/17 **Society in Eastern Europe** (Master)
 Winter 2015/16 Teaching Assistant, Annual Excursion to Babe-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania (taught in German and English), Course Instructor: Susanne Pickel
- Summer 2015 **Statistics for Political Science** (Bachelor)
 Tutor (taught in German), Course Instructor: Achim Goerres

Research Experience

- 05/2024 – 10/2024 [“GESIS Panel \(Wave 1c\)”](#): Questionnaire design and implementation of a survey module on “Public attitudes towards party bans in Germany”; GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, Cologne, Germany
- 01/2024 – 12/2025 [“Mapping \(Anti-\)Globalization Attitudes \(MAGA\): An Exploratory Geo-Coded Survey Analysis”](#) (Principal Investigator): Develop a measurement instrument that captures the multidimensional nature of globalization attitudes and investigate spatial variations of attitudes through a geo-coded survey taking into account local and regional context; University of Münster, Germany
- 10/2021 – 06/2022 [“ProConEU”](#) and [“Euromanifesto Study”](#): Manual coding of Austrian party manifestos for the 2019 European Parliament election; Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, Germany & Mannheim Centre for European Social Research (MZES), University of Mannheim, Germany
- 03/2021 – 04/2021 [“Europeanising the elections of the European Parliament”](#): Data collection and report writing on the electoral law, ballots, results and party information for the 2019 European Parliament election in Austria; European University Institute (EUI), Italy

03/2020 – 07/2020	“Making Tomorrow’s Leaders: Youth Movements of Right Wing Populist Parties” : Conducting qualitative semi-structured elite interviews with leaders and executive members of the youth organization of the Austrian Freedom Party (Freiheitliche Partei Österreichs/FPÖ) “Ring Freiheitlicher Jugend” (RFJ), conducting an online survey among the members and collecting information on the organizational structure; Swedish Research Council, Sweden
02/2019 – 05/2019	“euandi2019 Voting-Advice-Application” : Manual coding of Austrian party positions for the 2019 European Parliament election; European University Institute (EUI), Italy
11/2018 – 03/2019	“Austrian National Election Study (AUTNES) Online Panel Study 2017–2019, Wave 7” : Questionnaire design and implementation of a survey module on “Understanding of Representative Democracy in Austria: Causes and Consequences”; Vienna Center for Electoral Research (VieCER), University of Vienna, Austria
10/2018 – 11/2018	“The One Percent Problem: Muslims in the West and the Rise of the New Populists” : Conducting qualitative semi-structured elite interviews with party officials of the Austrian Freedom Party (Freiheitliche Partei Österreichs/FPÖ); Brookings Institution, Washington, D.C., U.S.

Media Coverage and Blogs

“Rechtsextremismus in Deutschland.” [Radio Q](#), 13.07.2024.

“Demokratiefördergesetz: Ampel will mit Geld Demokratie fördern – Gegner wittern Gedankenpolizei.” [20 Minuten](#), 27.02.2024.

“Radio Fluchtpunkt: Rechtspopulismus.” [Antenne Münster](#), 07.11.2023.

Dingler, Sarah, Fabian Habersack, Reinhard Heinisch, Zoe Lefkofridi, and Carsten Wegscheider. 2019. “EU-Wahl: Wie finde ich heraus, wer meine politische Position vertritt?” [ÖGPW Political Science Blog – derStandard.at](#).

Additional Academic Training

04/2024	Introduction to Geospatial Techniques for Social Scientists in R GESIS Training, GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, Cologne, Germany
11/2018 – 10/2021	Third-Party Funding Management (Zertifikatsprogramm “Drittmittelführerschein”), University of Salzburg, Austria
08/2021	Scaling Methods for Social Science: Measurement and Ideal Point Estimation for Surveys and Behavior Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis, Virtual Summer School
03/2019 – 07/2021	HSD+ Certification in University Didactics (HSD+ Hochschuldidaktik Lehrgang), University of Salzburg, Austria
03/2021	Multilevel Structural Equation Modelling ECPR Winter School in Methods and Techniques, Virtual Winter School
07/2020 – 08/2020	Causal Inference and Experiments in the Social Sciences Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis, Virtual Summer School
02/2020	Maximum Likelihood Estimation; Introduction to Bayesian Inference; Introduction to Machine Learning for the Social Sciences ECPR Winter School in Methods and Techniques, University of Bamberg, Germany

02/2019 – 03/2019 **Introduction to R; Multilevel Regression Modelling; Structural Equation Modelling (SEM) with R**
ECPR Winter School in Methods and Techniques, University of Bamberg, Germany

Academic Services and Memberships

Committees: Speaker of the Working Group “Demokratieforschung” of the German Political Science Association (DVPW) (09/2021 – present); Member of the Department Council, University of Salzburg (12/2019 – 09/2022); Member of the Study Advisory Board, University of Münster (10/2022 – present); Member of the Ethics Committee, University of Münster (01/2024 – present)

Memberships: Austrian Political Science Association (ÖGPW) (12/2018 – 12/2024); Doctoral School “Internet & Democracy”, University of Salzburg (10/2018 – 09/2022); German Political Science Association (DVPW) (03/2021 – present); International Political Science Association (IPSA) (03/2021 – 12/2021); International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP) (02/2021 – 02/2022)

Reviewer: American Political Science Review, Australian Journal of Political Science, British Journal of Political Science, Comparative European Politics, European Journal of Political Research, Frontiers in Political Science (Review Editor), International Journal of Sociology, Journal of Political Sociology, Journal of Politics, Party Politics, Policy Studies, Political Behavior, Political Research Exchange, Political Research Quarterly, Political Studies, Politische Vierteljahresschrift, West European Politics, Zeitschrift für Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft

Languages

German (native), English (fluent), Spanish (basic), Romanian (basic)

Computational Skills

R, Stata, Mplus, SPSS, L^AT_EX, MAXQDA, Qualtrics, LimeSurvey, MS Office

Last updated: February 6, 2025