

HAUKE LICHT

Computational Political Scientist

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Contact Information

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Current Position


Assistant Professor of Computational Political Science





08/2024 – present



University of Innsbruck, Department of Political Science & Digital Science Center *Innsbruck, Austria*


Publications




Hauke Licht, Rupak Sarkar, Patrick Y. Wu, Niklas Stoehr, Pranav Goel, Elliott Ash, and Alexander M. Hoyle. 2025. **Measuring Scalar Constructs in Social Science with LLMs**. *Proceedings of the 2025 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP (Main))*. DOI:10.18653/v1/2025.emnlp-main.1635.  

Hauke Licht, Ronja Sczepanski, Moritz Laurer, and Ayjeren Bekmuratovna. 2025. **Validating open-source machine translation for quantitative text analysis**. *Political Science Research and Methods* (conditionally accepted). 

Hauke Licht and Ronja Sczepanski. 2025. **Detecting Group Mentions in Political Rhetoric: A Supervised Learning Approach**. *British Journal of Political Science*, 55, e119. DOI:10.1017/S0007123424000954.    

Hauke Licht, Tarik Abou-Chadi, Pablo Barberá, and Whitney Hua. 2025. **Measuring and understanding parties' anti-elite strategies**. *Journal of Politics*, 87(1), 275-290. DOI:10.1086/730711.  

Hauke Licht and Fabienne Lind. 2023. **Going cross-lingual: A guide to multilingual quantitative text analysis**. *Computational Communication Research*, 5(2), 1-31. DOI:10.5117/CCR2023.2.2.LICH. 

Hauke Licht. 2023. **Cross-lingual classification of political texts using multilingual sentence embeddings**. *Political Analysis*, 31(3), 366-379. DOI:10.1017/pan.2022.29.   

Grants

DFG–FWF-funded Weave project (214,451 EUR)

02/2026 – 01/2028

awarded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) and the Austrian Science Fund (FWF) for the project “GAEPD - Group Appeals in Electoral and Parliamentary Debates”

with Lena M. Huber (University of Mannheim)

Tyrolean early career researchers funding (16,500 EUR) awarded by the State of Tirol for the project "GROUPY: Zero-shot multitask models for analyzing group-based rhetoric in political texts from synthetic labeled data"	01/2026 – 06/2027
Selten Seeding Grant (500 EUR) awarded by the "ECONtribute: Markets & Public Policy" Cluster of Excellence	01/2024 – 03/2024
Selten Seeding Grant & LMU Munich Postdoc Funding (4,800 EUR) awarded by the "ECONtribute: Markets & Public Policy" Cluster of Excellence and LMU Munich, Faculty for Social Science <i>with Leonce Röth (LMU Munich)</i>	01/2024 – 12/2024
Selten Seeding Grant (5,000 EUR) awarded by the "ECONtribute: Markets & Public Policy" Cluster of Excellence <i>with Ronja Szczepanski (ETH Zurich)</i>	10/2022 – 01/2023
CIS Collaboration Grant (2,930 CHF) awarded by the Center for Comparative and International Studies of the University of Zurich and the ETH Zurich <i>with Ronja Szczepanski (ETH Zurich)</i>	05/2021 – 10/2021

Awards

PolMeth Europe Best Poster Award for Innovative Data Science (300 EUR) awarded by the European Society for Political Methodology for the poster "Who are you talking to? Automated measurement of group appeals in political texts" sponsored by the Hertie School Data Science Lab <i>with Ronja Szczepanski (ETH Zurich)</i>	06/2022
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Conference Participation

American Political Science Association	2024, 2023, 2021, 2019
European Political Science Association	2024, 2023, 2022, 2021
Conference on the Quantitative and Computational Analysis of Textual Data (COMPTXT)	2025, 2024, 2023, 2022
Conference on New Directions in Analyzing Text as Data (TADA)	2021
ECPR Joint Sessions of Workshops	2023
PolMeth Europe	2022, 2021
Swiss Political Science Association	2021, 2020

Invited Talks

GESIS Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences CSS Seminar	08/07/2025 <i>online</i>
Bundeswehr University Munich Competence Center Early Warning speaker series	17/06/2025 <i>online</i>
University of Duisburg-Essen Empirical Political Science Working Group	01/06/2024 <i>Dusseldorf, Germany</i>
GESIS Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences Knowledge Technologies for the Social Sciences Colloquium	18/01/2023 <i>Cologne, Germany</i>

Text-as-Data Reading Group

Text-as-Data Reading Group Speaker Series

13/12/2022

online

University of Gothenburg

Research Seminar of the Party Research Group

29/11/2022

Gothenburg, Sweden

Teaching**Data Management II**University of Innsbruck, Minor *Digital Science*,
co-taught with Reto Stauffer and Joanna Chimiak-Opoka

10/2025 – 01/2026

Innsbruck, Austria

Introduction to Computational Text Analysis with RUniversity of Innsbruck, BA *Political Science*

10/2025 – 01/2026

Innsbruck, Austria

Text AnalysisDiplomatic Academy Vienna, MA *Digital International Affairs*

10/2025 – 12/2025

Vienna, Austria

Data Management IIUniversity of Innsbruck, Minor *Digital Science*,
co-taught with Reto Stauffer and Joanna Chimiak-Opoka

03/2025 – 07/2025

Innsbruck, Austria

Comparative perspectives on elite rhetoric and democratic competitionUniversity of Innsbruck, BA *Political Science*

03/2025 – 07/2025

Innsbruck, Austria

**Expand your toolkit! How to harness more diverse task types
for concept measurement**7th Annual COMPTTEXT Conference 2022
pre-conference workshop

04/2025

Vienna, Austria

From Embeddings to LLMs: Advanced Text Analysis with Python

GESIS Fall Seminar in Computational Social Science 2025

09/2025

Mannheim, Germany

Data Management IIUniversity of Innsbruck, Minor *Digital Science*,
co-taught with Reto Stauffer and Joanna Chimiak-Opoka

10/2024 – 01/2025

Innsbruck, Austria

Introduction to R programmingUniversity of Innsbruck, Minor *Digital Science*,
co-taught with Francesca Finotelle

10/2024 – 01/2025

Innsbruck, Austria

From Embeddings to LLMs: Advanced Text Analysis with PythonGESIS Fall Seminar in Computational Social Science 2024
co-taught with Lisa Wierer-Lechner (University of Innsbruck)

09/2024

Mannheim, Germany

Hands-on text coding with Large Language Models for social scientists in R

University of Cologne, Center for Comparative Politics

06/2024

Cologne, Germany

Hands-on text coding with Large Language Models for social scientists

Max-Planck Institute for the Study of Societies

02/2024

Cologne, Germany

Comparative perspectives on elite rhetoric and democratic competitionUniversity of Cologne, MA *Political Science*

10/2023 – 01/2024

Cologne, Germany

Going Cross-Lingual: Computational Methods for Multilingual Text AnalysisGESIS Training Workshop
co-taught with Fabienne Lind (University of Vienna)

12/2023

Cologne, Germany

From Embeddings to Transformers: Advanced Text Analysis with Python GESIS Fall Seminar in Computational Social Science 2023 <i>co-taught with Jennifer Scurrall (ETH Zurich)</i>	09/2023 Mannheim, Germany
Automated Web Data Collection with R GESIS Fall Seminar in Computational Social Science 2023 <i>co-taught with Allison Koh (Hertie School Berlin)</i>	09/2023 Mannheim, Germany
Big Data: Collecting Web Data with R MethodsNET 2023 Summer School in Social Research Methods	06/2023 Nijmegen, Netherlands
Automated Web Data Collection GESIS Fall Seminar in Computational Social Science 2022 <i>co-taught with Theresa Gessler (European University Viadrina)</i>	09/2022 Mannheim, Germany
Collecting Web Data with R MethodsNET 2022 Summer School in Social Research Methods	06/2022 Nijmegen, Netherlands
Multilingual Supervised Text Classification 4 th Annual COMPTExT Conference 2022 <i>pre-conference workshop</i>	05/2022 Dublin, Ireland
Automated Web Data Collection GESIS Fall Seminar in Computational Social Science 2021 <i>co-taught with Theresa Gessler (European University Viadrina)</i>	09/2021 online
Tutor to the lecture “Theories and Systems” University of Zurich, Department of Political Science	03/2019 – 05/2020 Zurich, Switzerland
Tutor to the lectures Statistics I and II Humboldt University Berlin, Chair of Empirical Social Research	10/2012 – 10/2013 Berlin, Germany

Previous Positions

Post-doctoral Researcher University of Cologne, Cologne Center for Comparative Politics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · researcher in Prof. Sven-Oliver Proksch's ERC-funded MINORITYRULE project with focus on work package on political polarization under minority governments · associated member of the “ECONtribute: Markets & Public Policy” Cluster of Excellence of the universities of Cologne and Bonn 	01/2022 – 07/2024 Cologne, Germany
Doctoral researcher University of Zurich, Department of Political Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Doctoral Program Political Science · committee: Tarik Abou-Chadi (supervisor), Jonathan Slapin, and Sven-Oliver Proksch · thesis: “Harnessing large, diverse, and multilingual text data in party competition research” · defended on January 26, 2022, with <i>summa cum laude</i> 	05/2018 – 12/2021 Zurich, Switzerland

Education

Doctoral Program Political Science	05/2018 – 03/2022
University of Zurich	<i>Zurich, Switzerland</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · committee: Tarik Abou-Chadi (supervisor), Jonathan Slapin, and Sven-Oliver Proksch · thesis title: “Harnessing large, diverse, and multilingual text data in party competition research” · defended on January 26, 2022, with <i>summa cum laude</i> 	
M.A. International Relations	10/2014 – 04/2018
Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt University Berlin, University of Potsdam	<i>Berlin, Germany</i>
Visiting student, Graduate Studies in Political Science	08/2015 – 05/2016
Duke University	<i>Durham, NC, USA</i>
B.A. Social Sciences	09/2011 – 09/2014
Humboldt University Berlin	<i>Berlin, Germany</i>
ERASMUS student, B.A. Peace and Development Studies	09/2013 – 01/2014
Uppsala University	<i>Uppsala, Sweden</i>

Visiting stays

Visiting Researcher with the Law, Economics, and Data Science group	07/2023 – 08/2023
ETH Zurich, <i>hosted by Elliott Ash</i>	<i>Zurich, Switzerland</i>
Visiting Ph.D. Researcher with the Data Science Lab group	09/2020 – 12/2020
Hertie School of Governance <i>hosted by Slava Jankin</i>	<i>Berlin, Germany</i>

Supervision and mentoring

Master theses (second reader)	2025 (1), 2023 (3), 2022 (1)
Research assistant supervision	2025 (6), 2024 (5), 2023 (6), 2022 (4), 2021 (1), 2020 (2)

Reviewer Activity

American Journal of Political Science, Political Analysis, Journal of Computational Social Science, European Political Science Review, Legislative Studies Quarterly, Electoral Studies, Computational Communication Research, Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties, Western European Politics, Regulation & Governance, Workshops on Computational Linguistics for Political Text Analysis (in 2022 & 2024)

Other Professional Experiences

Data Analyst	03/2017 – 09/2017
German Social Democratic Party, Federal Party Executive <i>Section for Databased Campaigning/Analytics</i>	<i>Berlin, Germany</i>
Student Assistant	08/2016 – 03/2017
German Social Democratic Party, Federal Party Executive <i>Section for Databased Campaigning/Analytics</i>	<i>Berlin, Germany</i>

Research Assistant

Humboldt University Berlin, Chair of Comparative Politics

NORFACE project "The Paradox of Health Care Futures HEALTHDOX"

05/2015 – 10/2016

*Berlin, Germany***Research Assistant**

Humboldt University Berlin, Chair of Comparative Politics

DFG project "The Impact of Electoral Vulnerability on Institutional Change"

02/2014 – 10/2016

*Berlin, Germany***Languages**

Languages

German (native), English (fluent)

Programming Languages

R, Python, bash/shell, SQL, JavaScript/ReactJS, Stata, LaTeX