

# HAUKE LICHT

## Computational Political Scientist

Last update: June 22, 2025

### Contact Information

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#### Address

University of Innsbruck  
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Universitätsstraße 15  
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#### Contact

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🌐 [haukelicht.github.io](https://haukelicht.github.io)

### Current Position

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#### Assistant Professor of Computational Political Science

08/2024 – present

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

### Previous Positions

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#### Post-doctoral Researcher

01/2022 – 07/2024

University of Cologne, Cologne Center for Comparative Politics *Cologne, Germany*

- 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

#### Doctoral researcher


05/2018 – 12/2021

University of Zurich, Department of Political Science *Zurich, Switzerland*



- 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 *summa cum laude*


### Publications






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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**. *The British Journal of Political Science* (forthcoming). 

Hauke Licht, Tarik Abou-Chadi, Pablo Barberá, and Whitney Hua. 2025. **Measuring and understanding parties' anti-elite strategies**. *The Journal of Politics*, 87(1), 0-0. 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.      </>

## Working Papers

Hauke Licht\*, Rupak Sarkar\*, Patrick Wu, Niklas Stoehr, Pranav Goel, Elliott Ash, and Alexander Hoyle\*. **Measuring Scalar Constructs in Social Science with LLMs**. under review (available on request).

## Awards

**PolMeth Europe Best Poster Award for Innovative Data Science** (300 EUR) 06/2022  
 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  
 with Ronja Szczepanski (ETH Zurich)

## 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 “GAPED - Group Appeals in Parliamentary and  
 Electoral Debates”  
 with Lena M. Huber (University of Mannheim)

**Selten Seeding Grant** (500 EUR) 01/2024 – 03/2024  
 awarded by the “ECONtribute: Markets & Public Policy” Cluster of Excellence

**Selten Seeding Grant & LMU Munich Postdoc Funding** (4,800 EUR) 01/2024 – 12/2024  
 awarded by the “ECONtribute: Markets & Public Policy” Cluster of Excellence  
 and LMU Munich, Faculty for Social Science  
 with Leonce Röth (LMU Munich)

**Selten Seeding Grant** (5,000 EUR) 10/2022 – 01/2023  
 awarded by the “ECONtribute: Markets & Public Policy” Cluster of Excellence  
 with Ronja Szczepanski (ETH Zurich)

**CIS Collaboration Grant** (2,930 CHF) 05/2021 – 10/2021  
 awarded by the Center for Comparative and International Studies of  
 the University of Zurich and the ETH Zurich  
 with Ronja Szczepanski (ETH Zurich)

## Conference Participation

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

## Invited Talks

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<b>Bundeswehr University Munich</b> Competence Center Early Warning speaker series	17/06/2025 <i>online</i>
<b>University of Duisburg-Essen</b> Empirical Political Science Working Group	01/06/2024 <i>Dusseldorf, Germany</i>
<b>GESIS Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences</b> Knowledge Technologies for the Social Sciences Colloquium	18/01/2023 <i>Cologne, Germany</i>
<b>Text-as-Data Reading Group</b> Text-as-Data Reading Group Speaker Series	13/12/2022 <i>online</i>
<b>University of Gothenburg</b> Research Seminar of the Party Research Group	29/11/2022 <i>Gothenburg, Sweden</i>

## Teaching

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<b>Data Management II</b> Minor "Digital Science", University of Innsbruck <i>co-taught with Reto Stauffer and Joanna Chimiak-Opoka</i>	03/2025 – 07/2025 <i>Innsbruck, Austria</i>
<b>Comparative perspectives on elite rhetoric and democratic competition</b> University of Innsbruck, BA Political Science	10/2023 – 01/2024 <i>Innsbruck, Austria</i>
<b>Expand your toolkit! How to harness more diverse task types for concept measurement</b> 7 <sup>th</sup> Annual COMPTExT Conference 2022 <i>pre-conference workshop</i>	04/2025 <i>Vienna, Austria</i>
<b>Data Management II</b> Minor "Digital Science", University of Innsbruck <i>co-taught with Reto Stauffer and Joanna Chimiak-Opoka</i>	10/2024 – 01/2025 <i>Innsbruck, Austria</i>
<b>Introduction to R programming</b> Minor "Digital Science", University of Innsbruck <i>co-taught with Francesca Finotelle</i>	10/2024 – 01/2025 <i>Innsbruck, Austria</i>
<b>From Embeddings to LLMs: Advanced Text Analysis with Python</b> GESIS Fall Seminar in Computational Social Science 2023 <i>co-taught with Lisa Wierer-Lechner (University of Innsbruck)</i>	09/2024 <i>Mannheim, Germany</i>
<b>Hands-on text coding with Large Language Models for social scientists in R</b> University of Cologne, Center for Comparative Politics	06/2024 <i>Cologne, Germany</i>
<b>Hands-on text coding with Large Language Models for social scientists</b> Max-Planck Institute for the Study of Societies	02/2024 <i>Cologne, Germany</i>
<b>Comparative perspectives on elite rhetoric and democratic competition</b> University of Cologne, MA Political Science	10/2023 – 01/2024 <i>Cologne, Germany</i>
<b>Going Cross-Lingual: Computational Methods for Multilingual Text Analysis</b> GESIS Training Workshop <i>co-taught with Fabienne Lind (University of Vienna)</i>	12/2023 <i>Cologne, Germany</i>

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

## Education

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<b>Doctoral Program Political Science</b> University of Zurich · 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>	05/2018 – 03/2022 Zurich, Switzerland
<b>M.A. International Relations</b> Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt University Berlin, University of Potsdam	10/2014 – 04/2018 Berlin, Germany
<b>Visiting student, Graduate Studies in Political Science</b> Duke University	08/2015 – 05/2016 Durham, NC, USA
<b>B.A. Social Sciences</b> Humboldt University Berlin	09/2011 – 09/2014 Berlin, Germany
<b>ERASMUS student, B.A. Peace and Development Studies</b> Uppsala University	09/2013 – 01/2014 Uppsala, Sweden

## Visiting stays

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

## Supervision and mentoring

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

## Reviewer Activity

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*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

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<b>Data Analyst</b> German Social Democratic Party, Federal Party Executive <i>Section for Databased Campaigning/Analytics</i>	03/2017 – 09/2017 <i>Berlin, Germany</i>
<b>Student Assistant</b> German Social Democratic Party, Federal Party Executive <i>Section for Databased Campaigning/Analytics</i>	08/2016 – 03/2017 <i>Berlin, Germany</i>
<b>Research Assistant</b> Humboldt University Berlin, Chair of Comparative Politics <i>NORFACE project “The Paradox of Health Care Futures HEALTHDOX”</i>	05/2015 – 10/2016 <i>Berlin, Germany</i>
<b>Research Assistant</b> Humboldt University Berlin, Chair of Comparative Politics <i>DFG project “The Impact of Electoral Vulnerability on Institutional Change”</i>	02/2014 – 10/2016 <i>Berlin, Germany</i>

## Languages

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<b>Languages</b>	German (native), English (fluent)
<b>Programming Languages</b>	R, Python, bash/shell, SQL, JavaScript/ReactJS, Stata, LaTeX