

JULIUS KÖLZER

 Google Scholar  Bluesky  Twitter  LinkedIn

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political Geography, Spatial Inequality, Comparative Political Economy, Electoral Behavior.

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

DYNAMICS PhD - Humboldt University / Hertie School <i>Doctoral Researcher</i>	09/2025 – present <i>Berlin, Germany</i>
Hertie School <i>Research Associate</i>	09/2025 – present <i>Berlin, Germany</i>
Konstanz University and Politics of Inequality Cluster <i>Research Assistant for Dr. Alexander Horn</i>	06/2024 – 08/2025 <i>Konstanz, Germany</i>
TU Darmstadt - Chair of German Politics <i>Research Assistant for Prof. Dr. Christian Stecker</i>	06/2024 – 08/2025 <i>Darmstadt, Germany</i>
Kiel Institute for the World Economy (IfW) <i>Research Assistant for Prof. Dr. Christoph Trebesch</i>	06/2022 – 07/2024 <i>Kiel, Germany</i>
Kiel University - Chair of Comparative Politics <i>Research Assistant for Prof. Dr. Christian Martin</i>	04/2023 – 07/2024 <i>Kiel, Germany</i>
Kiel University <i>Teaching Assistant</i>	Summer Term 2022 and 2023 <i>Kiel, Germany</i>

EDUCATION

Semester at UZH Zurich <i>M.A. Political Science - GPA: 5.875 / 24 ECTS</i>	09/2023 – 03/2024 <i>Zurich, Switzerland</i>
Kiel University <i>M.A. Political Science/Sociology - GPA: 1.1</i>	10/2022 – 08/2025 <i>Kiel, Germany</i>
Kiel University <i>B.A. Political Science/Sociology - GPA: 1.7</i>	10/2018 – 09/2022 <i>Kiel, Germany</i>

PUBLICATION AND ARTICLES

Working Papers

Campaigning Will Not Stop The Far Right: Quasi-Experimental Evidence From Saxony

with Daniel Kuhlen, Andreas Küpfer, and Christian Stecker. Presented at the IASGP Conference, 2024.

Progressive Placeholders? How Party Perceptions Drive Vote Choice of Progressive Voters

with Reto Mitteregger. Presented at the SVPW Conference 2026 in Zurich.

Work in Progress (Selected)

Mind the Gap: Local Decline in Train Service Provision and Electoral Support for the Far-Right

To be presented at CES 2026, Dublin.

On the Right Track? Improving Local Transport Provision and Its Political Consequences

with Charlotte Kuberka. To be presented at EPSS 2026, Belfast.

Mitigating Far-Right Support Through Rental Market Interventions? Evidence from Berlin's Tenant-Protection Policies

with Susanna Wirtghen and Dennis Cohen. To be presented at EPSS 2026, Belfast.

Can Democracy Defend Itself? The 1929 Stahlhelm Ban and Electoral Consequences in Weimar Germany

with Mark Kayser. To be presented at EPSS 2026, Belfast.

Peer-reviewed Publications

Bayerlein, M., Kölzer, J., Metten, A. (2025). Industrial Employment and Populism in Germany—Exploring the Effect of Actual and Looming Decline. *Politische Vierteljahresschrift*, 1-32.

Höhne, B., Kölzer, J., Träger, H. (2025). Geography of Shrinkage: Local Population Decline and Electoral Support for the Anti-establishment Parties AfD and BSW in East German State Elections. *German Politics*, 1-29.

Kölzer, J., Debus, M., Stecker, C. (2025). Alte Wurzeln, neue Wurzeln? Zum Einfluss früherer rechtsradikaler Unterstützung auf den AfD-Wahlerfolg bei der Europawahl 2024. *Politische Vierteljahresschrift*, 1-19.

Articles and Blogposts

Julius Kölzer and Ansgar Hudde. *Von der blauen Welle getragen? Räumliche Muster der AfD-Unterstützung bei der Bundestagswahl 2025*. Published on the blog *DeFacto* (in German).

Julius Kölzer and Ansgar Hudde. *Von der blauen Welle getragen? Räumliche Muster der AfD-Unterstützung bei der Bundestagswahl 2025*. Published on the blog *Über Politik aus der Wissenschaft* at the University of Duisburg-Essen (in German).

Michael Bayerlein, Julius Kölzer, Anne Metten. *From deindustrialization to populism? How economic change shapes voting behavior*. Published on the blog of the German Political Science Association (in German).

Julius Kölzer, Christian Stecker, Daniel Kuhlen, Leon Siefken. *The power of blue maps. Why electoral maps of constituency and municipal winners can distort perceptions*. Published on the blog of the German Political Science Association (in German).

Marc Debus, Julius Kölzer, Christian Stecker. *Records in Western Germany – what factors explain the AfD's gains in Hesse and Bavaria?*. Published on the blog of the German Political Science Association (in German).

Newspaper Articles

Julius Kölzer and Mark Schieritz. *"In their eyes, those who have little have only themselves to blame."* **ZEIT ONLINE**, September 17, 2025

Paul Blickle, Christian Endt, Julius Kölzer, and Selina Rudolph. *"Election Results by Constituency: Where the Election Was Won."* **ZEIT ONLINE**, February 24, 2025

Julius Kölzer, Michael Schlieben, Julius Tröger, and Benja Zehr. *"Historical Bundestag Election Results: How Your Constituency Has Voted Since 1949."* **ZEIT ONLINE**, February 12, 2025.

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PARTICIPATIONS

Berlin-Brandenburg Political Behavior Workshop organized by Bruno Castanho Silva and Rebecca Kittel 09/2025

REXKLIMA Workshop - TU Dresden 09/2025

Presentation of "Mind the Gap: Declining Train Service Provision and Far-Right Support in Germany.

Annual Meeting - Working Group "Elections and Political Attitudes" of the DVPW 09/2025

Presentation of "Mind the Gap: Declining Train Service Provision and Far-Right Support in Germany.

WZB Junior Scholar Workshop - Transformations of Democracy 09/2025

Introduction to Geospatial Data (GESIS) 04/2025

Annual IASGP German Politics Conference 12/2024

General Conference of the German Political Science Association (DVPW) 09/2024

Presentation of a working paper on long-term changes in electoral urban-rural divides in Germany.

Working group "Elections and Political Attitudes" of the DVPW 06/2024

Presentation of a project on welfare chauvinist attitudes and the voting behaviour of left-authoritarian voters.

SPS - Summer Academy of the European University Institute (EUI) 09/2023

Presentation of a project on regional labour market exposure to climate transition and Euroscepticism in Florence.

Spring Academy of the Institute for Parliamentary Research in Berlin 03/2023

Presentation of own research project on the effect of local corona incidence on pandemic response positions of constituency members of the German Bundestag.

Düsseldorf Graduate Conference on Party Research (GraPa) organized by the Düsseldorf Party Research Institute (PRuF) 02/2023

Presentation of a working paper based on my bachelor thesis co-authored with Michael Bayerlein and Anne Metten.

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES / MISCELLANEOUS

Award: Best political science Master thesis at Kiel University in the year 2025

Award: Best political science bachelor thesis at Kiel University in the year 2022

Travel Grant of the International Association for the Study of German Politics for participating in the GraPa Conference

Co-host of the podcast "Political Science? - No problem et al."

Guests included: Kai Arzheimer, Vincente Valentim, Silja Häusermann, Magda Breyer and Noam Gidron.

MEDIA APPEARENCES

- *The Economist* — Article on the growing strength of the AfD and the decline of the German industrial model (2025).
- *Tagesspiegel* — Article on the AfD's electoral performance in the repetition of the federal election in Berlin (2024).

- *TAZ* — Article on the political consequences of industrial decline in the Ruhr area.
- *Berliner Zeitung* — Opinion piece on voter motivations for supporting the AfD (2024).
- *Lage der Nation Podcast*
- *Deutschlandfunk Kultur* — Radio interview on the rise of right-wing extremism in Baden-Württemberg (2024), with Marc Debus.
- *Katapult-Magazin* — Visualization on the AfD's distorted strength in East Germany.
- *Neue Zürcher Zeitung (NZZ)*
- *Público* — International press commentary on the AfD's electoral success and its implications for Germany in the EU elections (2024).
- *Stuttgarter Zeitung* — Data-based analysis of AfD and Green voter distributions in Baden-Württemberg (2025).
- *Esslinger Zeitung* — Expert commentary on class, education, and voting behavior in federal elections (2025).
- *TU Dresden discussion round* — Panel discussion on sources of populist success (2024).
- *Monitor Magazin (WDR)* — Television feature on working-class realignment and the radical right (2024).

LANGUAGES AND FURTHER SKILLS

Languages: German (native), Spanish (B1), English IELTS C1 (8/9).

Methods Training: Quasi-Experimental Designs, Advanced regression modeling, Geospatial data analysis, factor analysis, Data Visualisation.

Statistical Software: STATA (Proficient), R (Proficient), Python (Beginner)