

Rebecca C. Kittel

Curriculum Vitae

Free University Berlin
Garystr. 55 – Room 222
14195 Berlin, Germany
✉ rebecca.kittel@fu-berlin.de

Research Interest

text-as-data, populism, party and voter behaviour, democratic processes, political communication, protest behaviour

Current Position

Since 10/2023 **Post Doctoral Researcher**, *Free University*, Berlin, Germany,
ERC-Project LOOPS, PI: Dr. Anna Fruhstorfer

Since 10/2023 **Research Affiliate**, *WZB Berlin Social Science Center*, Center for Civil
Society Research, Berlin, Germany

Education

09/2019 – 09/2023 **Ph.D. in Political Science**, *European University Institute*, Florence,
Italy, *The New Politics of Party Signalling: Language, Positioning and
Electoral Dynamics*, Examining Board: Ellen Immergut (supervisor),
Simon Hix, Amy Catalinac, Sven-Oliver Proksch

09/2021 – 06/2022 **Visiting PhD Researcher**, *New York University*, New York City, USA,
Host faculty: Prof. Amy Catalinac

09/2019 – 08/2020 **M.Res. in Social and Political Science**, *European University Insti-
tute*, Florence, Italy

10/2016 – 08/2019 **M.A. in Political Science**, *University of Cologne*, Cologne, Germany,
*How Do They Talk? A Comparison of Left-Wing and Right-Wing Pop-
ulists' Speeches in Parliament*, Supervision: Prof. Sven-Oliver Proksch

08/2017 – 12/2017 **Visiting Student**, *Sciences Po*, Paris, France

10/2012 – 03/2016 **B.Sc. in Social Sciences**, *University of Cologne*, Cologne, Germany,
*Temporal Distance between European and National Elections – Exploring
the Performance of Eurosceptic Parties*, Supervision: Prof. André Kaiser

08/2014 – 12/2014 **Visiting Student**, *Duquesne University*, Pittsburgh, USA

Teaching Experience

Summer Term 2023 **Teaching Assistant**, *EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE*, Tutor for
Computational Text Analysis by Dr. Jessica di Cocco, Florence, Italy

Spring Term 2023 **Instructor**, *UNIVERSITY OF LUCERNE*, Party Competition and Political
Communication, Master Seminar, 22h, Lucerne, Switzerland

Winter Term 2022 **Instructor**, *HEINRICH-HEINE-UNIVERSITY DÜSSELDORF*, Party Compe-
tition and Political Communication, Bachelor Seminar, 22.5h, Düsseldorf,
Germany (student evaluation: 1.1 on scale from 1.0 to 5.0)

- 09/2022 **Teaching Certificate**, EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE, Introduction to Teaching and Learning in Higher Education
- Winter Term 2013, **Teaching Assistant**, UNIVERSITY OF COLOGNE, Tutor for *Introduction to Comparative Politics: Comparative Analysis of Political Institutions* by Prof. André Kaiser, Chair for Comparative Politics, Cologne, Germany
- 2015 and 2016

Working Papers

Kittel, Rebecca. *What Do Populist and Non-Populist Voters Respond to? A Survey Experiment on the Effect of Simple Language, Blame Attribution and People-Centrism* Draft available upon request.

Kittel, Rebecca. *Language Complexity in Parliament: Use and Effect of Simple Language Among Populist and Mainstream Actors in Parliamentary Debate*. Draft available upon request.

Kittel, Rebecca and Mirko Wegemann. *Federalism in Crisis? The Role of Party Affiliation and Government Status in Sub-National Crisis Management* Draft available upon request.

Work in Progress

Kittel, Rebecca and Mirko Wegemann. *Dataset on Press Releases from National and Sub-National Party Fractions in Germany*. Dataset available upon request.

Kittel, Rebecca and Konstantin Vössing *Political Justifications in Parties' Responses Towards Covid-19: An Analysis of Press Releases from (Sub-) National Party Fractions in Germany*

Professional Experience

- 10/2022 – 10/2023 **Research Associate**, HANS-BOECKLER STIFTUNG & CITY UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, Political explanations and their effects on public opinion and political behavior by Prof. Ellen Immergut and Prof. Konstantin Vössing, Florence, Italy
- 09/2020 – 09/2022 **Research Assistant**, EUI RESEARCH PROJECT, Responding to COVID-19: Government Action, Government Rhetoric, and Public Trust by Prof. Ellen Immergut and Dr. Tamara Popic, Florence, Italy
- 04/2018 – 07/2019 **Student Research Assistant**, CHAIR FOR EUROPEAN AND MULTI-LEVEL POLITICS, Prof. Sven-Oliver Proksch, Center for Comparative Politics, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany
- 09/2018 – 12/2018 **Student Assistant Work**, GERMAN ACADEMIC EXCHANGE SERVICE (DAAD), Bonn, Germany
- 04/2014 – 09/2018 **Student Research Assistant**, CHAIR FOR COMPARATIVE POLITICS, Prof. André Kaiser, Cologne Center for Comparative Politics, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany

- 04/2018 – 07/2018 **Research Assistant Work**, LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE, for Prof. Sara B. Hobolt and Prof. Christopher Wratil about EU Council Deliberations
- 01/2018 – 04/2018 **Internship**, GERMAN ACADEMIC EXCHANGE SERVICE (DAAD), Bonn, Germany
- 06/2016 – 07/2016 **Internship**, WORTWERT - DIE WIRTSCHAFTSREDAKTION, Journalism Bureau, Cologne, Germany
- 03/2016 – 06/2016 **Internship**, MEDIA PROGRAM SOUTH EAST EUROPE, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Sofia, Bulgaria
- 08/2011 – 03/2016 **Freelance Journalist**, WESTFÄLISCHE NACHRICHTEN – LOCAL NEWS-PAPER, Münster, Germany

Scholarships and Competitive Grants

- 2023 **ECPR Grant** for Attending ECPR Joint Sessions in Toulouse (650 Euro)
- 2021 **EUI Exchange Programme with NYU** – Travel Grant (4,600 Euro)
- 2020 **EUI Early Stage Researcher Grant** for a Survey Experiment on Language Complexity (3,800 Euro)
- 2020 **ECPR Grant** for the First Virtual ECPR Method School (465 Pound)
- 2019 – 2023 **Full PhD Scholarship** of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)
- 2012 – 2019 **Study Scholarship** of the Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung, Journalism Programme
- 2017 **Erasmus+ Scholarship** for Study Abroad Programme at the Sciences Po Paris, France
- 2016 **Erasmus+ Scholarship** for an Internship in Sofia, Bulgaria
- 2011 **Federal State Winner** of the History Competition of the German Federal President (250 Euro)

Methods Training

- 2022 – Introduction to Machine Learning for Text Analysis in Python, GESIS Fall course
- Quantitative Political Analysis II - Causal Inference, PhD Seminar NYU
- 2021 – Quantitative Political Analysis III - MLE, Bayesaian, Machine Learning, PhD Seminar NYU
- Measurements in Social Sciences, Workshop EUI
- Survey Analysis and Experiments, Workshop EUI
- 2020 – Computational Text Analysis, Workshop EUI
- Python Programming for Social Scientists, ECPR Summer School
- Sequence Analysis in the Social Sciences, Workshop EUI
- Introduction to Machine Learning for Social Science, Workshop EUI
- Multilevel Data Analysis, Workshop EUI

- Causal Inference, Seminar EUI
- 2019 – Theory and Methodology of Discourse Analysis, Workshop EUI
- 2018 – A Primer to Web Scraping with R, Workshop Cologne Center for Comparative Politics (CCCP)

Presentations and Talks

- 2023 – Talk at “Protest und Widerstand Workshop”, MA Research Project, University Würzburg – DAM Frankfurt, 8. October
 - EPSA – Glasgow, 22. - 24. June
 - ECPR Joint Sessions – Toulouse, 25. -28. April
 - MPSA – Chicago, 4. - 7. April
- 2022 – Lunch Talk – Heinrich-Heine-University Düsseldorf, 1. December
 - Political Behaviour Colloquium – EUI, 22. November
 - CIVICA Data Science Days – Florence Poster Presentation, 6. - 7. October
 - ECPR General Conference - Innsbruck, 22. - 26. August
 - EPSA - Prague:, 23.-25. June
 - Comparative Politics Workshop – NYU, 16. February
- 2021 – ECPR General Conference - Virtual Event, 30. August - 3. September
 - ECPR Standing Group on Parliaments Conference - Virtual Event, 30. - 31. June
 - Populism in power and its socioeconomic policies in Europe, Scuola Normale Superiore – Virtual Event, 18.-19. March
- 2020 – CIVICA PhD Panel on Challenges to Democracy in the EU, 2. December

Professional Memberships and Service

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| Reviewer | Party Politics, Politics of the Low Countries |
| Memberships | European Political Science Association, Midwest Political Science Association |
| Service to Discipline | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Observer in PhD Programme Selection Procedure (cohorts 2020, 2021, 2023), European University Institute, – Panel Organizer and Chair, ECPR Standing Group on Parliaments Conference, 2021 – Chair, EPSA Glasgow, 2023 |

Software Skills

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| Advanced | R, \LaTeX |
| Basic | STATA, Python, Qualtrics |

Languages

German Native
English Fluent, C1
Italian Basic, A2

References

1. Prof. Dr. Ellen M. Immergut

Chair in Political Sciences
Department of Political and Social Sciences
European University Institute
Via dei Roccettini 9
50014 San Domenico di Fiesole (FI), Italy
Email: ellen.immergut@eui.eu

2. Prof. Dr. Konstantin Vössing

Senior Lecturer
Department of International Politics
City University of London
Northampton Square
London EC1V 0HB, United Kingdom
Email: Konstantin.Voessing@city.ac.uk

Berlin, 26. October 2023