

KEVIN WALZ, M.A.

I am currently searching for a pre-/ or post-doc position from April 2024 at the latest. The exact position will depend on the progress of my dissertation and the exact regulations of the respective university.



EDUCATION

2021
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2024

Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz

PhD in Political Science

Thesis: Sequences of democratic erosion - agents, opportunity structures and patterns of autocratization (Supervisor: Professor Claudia Landwehr)

2017
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2020

Julius Maximilians University Würzburg

M.A. in Political and Social Sciences (1,0)

Thesis: The development of welfare states in post-socialist Central Eastern Europe: A comparative study based on partisan theory (Adviser: Professor Hans-Joachim Lauth; grade: 1,0)

- Comparative Politics
- Democracy Research
- Welfare States

2012
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2016

Julius Maximilians University Würzburg

B.A. in Political and Social Studies (2,2)

Thesis: Rational will formation and deliberative democracy: Is political self-determination in civil society possible? (Adviser: Professor Michael Becker; grade: 1,7)

- Normative Political Theory
- Comparative Politics



RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2021
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2024

PhD student in Graduate Research Group *Resilient Institutions*

University of Mainz

- Development of theory-conceptual and empirical access to democratic resilience
- Empiric mixed-methods research on dissertation project



PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2020
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2021

Academic Assistant

Forum Soziale Bildung Benediktshöhe e.V.

- Organization and conduction of educational events
- Preparation of funding applications
- Networking with schools and associations
- Supervision of interns



GRANTS AND AWARDS

2021
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2024

PhD Scholarship

3-year PhD scholarship funded by the Gutenberg Council for Young Researchers of the University of Mainz

CONTACT INFO

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🐦 [KevinWalz18](https://twitter.com/KevinWalz18)

📧 [@kwalz](https://www.instagram.com/kwalz)

🔗 [kwalz91](https://www.linkedin.com/in/kwalz91)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Comparative Regime Research

Democratic Legitimacy and Democratic Deficit

Transformation of Political Systems

Democratic Resilience

SKILLS

Comparative and Mixed-Methods Designs

Theory-founded research

R, SPSS

Last updated on 2023-03-17.



TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2022
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2023

2018
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2020

2018
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2020

2018
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2020

Theory and empiricism of democratic erosion

Instructor of advanced module course on democratic erosion (B.A & M.Ed.) at University of Mainz

Tutorials on Introduction in Political Philosophy

Teaching assistant University of Würzburg

Tutorials on Introduction to Comparative Politics

Teaching assistant at University of Würzburg

Tutorials on Introduction to the Political System of the FRG

Teaching assistant at University of Würzburg



PUBLICATIONS

2022

A new game in town - Democratic resilience and the added value of the concept in explaining democratic survival and decline

IPP Discussion Paper Series

Johannes Helgest, Lion Merten, Jana Niedringhaus, Matthias Rosenthal, **Kevin Walz**.



WORK IN PROGRESS

Forthcoming

Sequences of democratic erosion

Book manuscript

Kevin Walz.

Forthcoming

Democratic Resilience

Paper manuscript

Johannes Helgest, Lion Merten, Jana Niedringhaus, Matthias Rosenthal, **Kevin Walz**.



PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

July 2023

Typologizing processes of autocratization

Presentation at the Summer School on *Electoral Democracy in Danger?* organized by the CERIU-FMSH Chair on Global Governance of the Sciences Po

📍 Paris, France

Kevin Walz.

March
2023

What is Anti-Pluralism, and if so, how many?

Presentation at the Anniversary Conference of the working group *Democracy Research* of the German Political Science Association

📍 Berlin, Germany

Kevin Walz.

November
2022

Democratic Resilience. Potentials of a New Concept in the Empirical Study of Democracy

Presentation at the Conference *Understanding Resiliencies* of the Leibniz Institute for Resilience Research and the Roman-Germanic Central Museum

📍 Mainz, Germany

Claudia Landwehr, **Kevin Walz**.

October
2022

A new game in town - Democratic resilience and the added value of the concept in explaining democratic survival and decline

Presentation at Conference *Democracy between new crisis and new challenge*

📍 Messina, Italy

Johannes Helgest, Lion Merten, Jana Niedringhaus, Matthias Rosenthal, **Kevin Walz**.



TRAININGS

July 2023

Electoral Democracy in Danger?

5-day doctoral Summer School of the *CERIUM-FMSH Chair on Global Governance/ Sciences Po* including lectures by Markus Wagner, Sarah Birch, Natasha Wunsch, Hannah Werner, and Bert Bakker

📍 Paris, France

June
2023

Process-Tracing Methods

10-day methods training at *Radboud Summer School* instructed by Derek Beach and Hilde van Meedgenburg

📍 Nijmegen, Netherlands

September
2022

Raw texting and revising

Writing workshop of *The General Postgraduate Program (GPP)* of University of Mainz

📍 Online

August
2022

Academic Writing in English

2-day writing workshop of *The General Postgraduate Program (GPP)* of University of Mainz

📍 Online

June
2022

Comparative Research Designs

5-day methods training at *Radboud Summer School* instructed by Benoit Rihoux

📍 Nijmegen, Netherlands

February
2022

Reading strategies and time management

Writing workshop of *The General Postgraduate Program (GPP)* of University of Mainz

📍 Online

July 2021

Introduction to R Programming

Workshop at *Data Science Summer School* of the Hertie School Data Science Lab

📍 Online

2018

Basic Training for Tutors

Tutoring and mentoring program *KOMPASS* of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research

📍 Würzburg, Germany



ORGANIZATION OF ACADEMIC EVENTS

March
2023

Organizing the Workshop “How to save Democracy?”

Responsibilities included conception and organization of a 2-day hybrid format workshop on contemporary challenges of democracy, as well as chairing two panels; hosted by the Graduate Research Group *Resilient Institutions*

📍 Mainz, Germany

September
2021

Organizing the Workshop “Democratic Resilience and its challenges”

Responsibilities included conception and organization of a 1-day hybrid workshop on democratic resilience and challenges of contemporary democracy; hosted by the Graduate Research Group *Resilient Institutions*

📍 Mainz, Germany