

KEVIN WALZ, M.A.

I plan to complete my PhD by spring/fall 2024, and will be looking for a PostDoc position from then on.



EDUCATION

2021
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2024

Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz

PhD in Political Science

Thesis: Anti-Pluralists, Democratic Erosion, and the Breakdown Resilience of Democratic Regimes (Supervisor: Professor Claudia Landwehr)

2017
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2020

Julius Maximilians University Würzburg

M.A. in Political and Social Sciences (1,0 - 'with distinction')

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 within 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 multi-methods Research on Dissertation Project



PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2020
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2021

Academic Assistant

Forum Soziale Bildung Benediktushöhe 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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■ [kwalz](#)

🔗 [kwalz91](#)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Democratic Erosion

Democratic Resilience

Comparative Politics

Political Theory

SKILLS

Comparative and Multi-Methods Designs

Process Tracing

R, Quarto

LANGUAGES

German (native)

English (fluent)

Last updated on 2024-01-23.



TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2022
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2023
- Theory and Empiricism of Democratic Erosion**
Instructor of Advanced Module Course (B.A & M.Ed.) at University of Mainz
- 2018
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2020
- Tutorials on Introduction in Political Philosophy**
Teaching Assistant at University of Würzburg
- 2018
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2020
- Tutorials on Introduction to Comparative Politics**
Teaching Assistant at University of Würzburg
- 2018
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2020
- Tutorials on Introduction to the Political System of the FRG**
Teaching Assistant at University of Würzburg



PUBLICATIONS

- 2023
- “Democracy - flexible, contestable or endangered?” Anniversary conference of the standing group ‘Demokratieforschung’ in the German Political Science Association (DVPW) on March 30 and 31, 2023**
Zeitschrift für Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft
Simon Bein, Dennis Kurrek, Kevin Walz.
- 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
- Anti-Pluralists, Democratic Erosion, and the Breakdown Resilience of Democratic Regimes**
Book manuscript
Kevin Walz.
- Forthcoming
- What is Anti-Pluralism? Outlines, Varieties, and Application Contexts of a (re)emerged Concept**
Under Review
Kevin Walz
- Forthcoming
- Strengthening Democratic Resilience as an analytical Concept**
Working Paper
Kevin Walz, Lion Merten, Jana Niedringhaus, Matthias Rosenthal, Johannes Helgest



PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

- September
2024
- Anti-Pluralists, Democratic Erosion, and the Breakdown Resilience of Democratic Regimes**
Presentation at the *29th Convention* of the German Political Science Association (DVPW)
Kevin Walz
- 📍 Göttingen, Germany

September
2023

A three-dimensional Conceptualization of Autocratization – How it started, how its going and how we can systemize Research on Democratic Breakdown and Survival

Presentation at the *General Conference* of the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR)

📍 Prague, Czechia

Kevin Walz.

July 2023

Typologizing processes of autocratization: How to integrate time, outcome, and context?

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

📍 Paris, France

Kevin Walz.

June
2023

Typologizing processes of autocratization: How to integrate time, outcome, and context?

Presentation at the Workshop on *Democracy in an Age of Autocratization* organized by the Standing Group Political Regimes of the Italian Society of Political Science (SISP)

📍 Milan, Italy

Kevin Walz.

May
2023

What is Anti-Pluralism?

Presentation at the trilateral Colloquium of the Departments of Political Theory of the Universities of Darmstadt, Gießen and Mainz

📍 Darmstadt, Germany

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 (DVPW)

📍 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 the Conference *Democracy between new Crisis and new Challenge*

📍 Messina, Italy

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



TRAININGS

November
2023

Successful Use of Podcasts in Teaching

2-day Didactics Workshop of the *Hochschulevaluierungsverbund Südwest* e.V.

📍 Online

July 2023

Electoral Democracy in Danger?

5-day PhD 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 <i>Radboud Summer School</i> instructed by Derek Beach and Hilde van Meedgenburg Nijmegen, Netherlands
June 2023	Data Visualization Short Course at <i>Radboud Summer School</i> instructed by Akos Mate Nijmegen, Netherlands
January 2023	Reproducible Reports with Quarto and RMarkdown PhD Training Course instructed by Julia Schulte-Cloos Mainz, Germany
June 2022	Comparative Research Designs 5-day Methods Training at <i>Radboud Summer School</i> instructed by Benoit Rihoux Nijmegen, Netherlands
July 2021	Introduction to R Programming Workshop at <i>Data Science Summer School</i> of the Hertie School Data Science Lab Online
October 2018	Basic Training for Tutors Tutoring and mentoring program <i>KOMPASS</i> of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research Würzburg, Germany



ORGANIZATION OF ACADEMIC EVENTS

September 2024	Organizing a Panel on “Democratic Backsliding and Resilience” at the 29th Convention of the German Political Science Association (DVPW) Responsibilities included the conception, organization and chairing of a closed panel comprising contributions on issues of democratic backsliding and democratic resilience Göttingen, Germany
March 2023	Organizing the Workshop “How to save Democracy?” Responsibilities included the 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 <i>Resilient Institutions</i> Mainz, Germany
September 2021	Organizing the Workshop “Democratic Resilience and its challenges” Responsibilities included the conception and organization of a 1-day hybrid workshop on democratic resilience and challenges of contemporary democracy; hosted by the Graduate Research Group <i>Resilient Institutions</i> Mainz, Germany