

# LEON GAWENDA

Ph.D. candidate and Research associate  
Bielefeld University (Faculty of Sociology)

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updated: Oct 11, 2025

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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My current research investigates spatial patterns of political participation and their history. I use electoral data, survey data and quantitative methods to examine historical continuity and change in political behaviour and attitudes.

## EDUCATION

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| <b>Bielefeld University</b>  | Sep 2024 – present |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Ph.D. candidate in Sociology, supervisor: Prof. Dr. Martin Kroh</li><li>◦ Research associate at the Leibniz Science Campus, SOEP RegioHub</li><li>◦ Research topics: political behaviour &amp; attitudes, electoral geography, historical persistence, spatial data analysis</li></ul> |                    |
| <b>Tübingen University</b>   | 2021 – 2024        |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ M.A. Public Policy &amp; Social Change</li><li>◦ Thesis: Environmental issue salience and policy support</li></ul>   |                    |
| <b>Passau University</b>   | 2017 – 2021        |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ B.A. Governance &amp; Public Policy</li></ul>  |                    |

## CURRENT PROJECTS

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**Historical continuity in Germany's electoral geography**  
Working paper

**Electoral districts of Imperial Germany**  
New shapefile

**Environmental issues salience and policy support**  
Working paper

## CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

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| <b>AK Wahlen Jahrestagung</b> , Free University Berlin                              | Sep 2025 |
| <b>EPOP Annau Conference 2025</b> , Exeter University                               | Sep 2025 |
| Paper presentation  |          |
| <b>Workshop on Political Behaviour in Central and Eastern Europe</b> , EUI Florence | Jun 2025 |
| Paper presentation  |          |

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Tübingen University

- Tutorial for "Methods of policy evaluation: panel analysis and quasi-experiments" (Graduate)
- Tutorial for "Introduction to quantitative analysis" (Undergraduate)

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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R, Stata