

## CURRENT POSITION

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### Post Doctoral Researcher

September 2023 - Present

*Max-Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin*

EU Horizon Project: Social Media for Democracy (SoMe4Dem), affiliated to the working group Cognition in Online Environments of the Center of Adaptive Rationality (ARC)

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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- Public discourse in online environments
- Public opinion, political polarization, online hate speech
- Psychology of sustainable behavior, climate change skepticism

## EDUCATION

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### PhD Political Science

2020-2023

*Hertie School Berlin*

Title: Public Discourse in Online Environments: Contributions to description, measurement and communication behavior change in political online ecosystems. Supervised by Simon Munzert, Ralph Hertwig and Andrew Guess. Evaluated by Fabrizio Giliardi and Yannis Theocharis. Graded with summa cum laude.

### MSc. Social Data Science

2019-2020

*University of Oxford*

Interdisciplinary and international graduate program, hosted by the Oxford Internet Institute, at the intersection of social and computational science, with a practical focus on data analysis and programming with Python, Internet research and political science. Thesis: Should we talk to climate skeptics? Graduated with distinction.

### MSc. Psychology

2016-2019

*University of Kassel*

First major in Social and Environmental Psychology, second major in Clinical Psychology. Master thesis: Social Drivers of Individual Air Travel. Grade 1.0.

### BSc. Psychology

2013-2016

*University of Kassel*

Bachelor thesis in environmental psychology: Outdoor sport and Environmental behavior. Poster presentation of thesis at the AASP Conference in Toronto, 2018. Grade 1.1.

## PUBLICATIONS

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Oswald, L. (2024). More than news! Mapping the deliberative potential of a political online ecosystem with digital trace data. *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*, 11(1), 1–16. <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41599-024-03115-0>

Oswald, L. (2023). Public Discourse in Online Environments. Contributions to description, measurement and communication behavior change in political online ecosystems. Hertie School. DOI: 10.48462/opus4-5066

Lorenz-Spreen, P., Oswald, L., Lewandowsky, S., & Hertwig, R. (2022). A systematic review of worldwide causal and correlational evidence on digital media and democracy. *Nature Human Behaviour*. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-022-01460-1>

Oswald, L., & Bright, J. (2022). How Do Climate Change Skeptics Engage with Opposing Views Online? Evidence from a Major Climate Change Skeptic Forum on Reddit. *Environmental Communication*, DOI: 10.1080/17524032.2022.2071314

Klaus, G., Oswald, L., Ernst, A., & Merk, C. (2021). Effects of opinion statements on laypeople's acceptance of a climate engineering technology. Comparing the source credibility of researchers, politicians and a citizens' jury. *Journal of Science Communication*, 20(1), A03.

Oswald, L., & Ernst, A. (2020). Flying in the Face of Climate Change: Quantitative psychological approach examining the social drivers of individual air travel. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 29(1), 68-86.

Klaus, G., Ernst, A., & Oswald, L. (2020). Psychological factors influencing laypersons' acceptance of climate engineering, climate change mitigation and business as usual scenarios. *Technology in Society*, 60, 101222.

## WORKING PAPERS

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Younger-Khan, S., Weidmann, N. B., and Oswald, L. (2024). Consistent Effects of Science and Scientist Characteristics on Public Trust across Political Regimes.

Oswald, L. (2023). Effects of Preemptive Empathy Interventions on Reply Toxicity among Highly Active Social Media Users. SocArXiv.<https://osf.io/preprints/socarxiv/evdxy/>

Oswald, L., Munzert, S., Barberá, P., Guess, A., and Yang, J. (2022). Beyond the tip of the iceberg? Exploring Characteristics of the Online Public with Digital Trace Data. SocArXiv. <https://osf.io/preprints/socarxiv/yfmzh/>

Oswald, L. (2022). Automating the Analysis of Online Deliberation? A comparison of manual and computational measures applied to climate change discussions. SocArXiv. <https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/qmzwx>

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

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- German Foreign Office** 2024  
*International Diplomats Programme*  
Topic: Digital Media and Democracy
- Abgerodnetenhaus, Berlin** 2024  
*Lebhafte Debatten und wechselvolle Geschichte 125 Jahre ein Haus für unsere Demokratie*  
Vortrag: Die Zukunft der Parlamentarischen Demokratie im Angesicht digitaler Medien
- University College Dublin** 2023  
*Connected Politics Lab Seminar Series*  
Topic: Selective engagement in online public discourse - Description, experimentation and implications for toxicity regulation
- DigDem, Zurich** 2022  
*Digital Democracy Workshop*  
Topic: Exploring the online public (sphere) with digital trace data.
- EPSA, Prague** 2022  
*European Political Science Association*  
Topic: Who Engages Where on the Online Public Square? Evidence from Digital Trace Data.
- ICP+, online** 2021  
*International Congress of Applied Psychology*  
Topic: How do climate change skeptics engage with opposing views? Mechanisms of social identity and cognitive dissonance in an online forum.
- MPA, online** 2021  
*Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association*  
Topic: How do climate change skeptics engage with opposing views? Invited talk within the 'internet explorer' symposium.

## PAST ACADEMIC JOBS

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- Teaching Assistant** Fall 2021, Fall 2022  
*Introduction to Data Science, Hertie School*  
Teaching two groups of MSc students (Data Science for Public Policy), I revisit the topics presented in the lecture on data collection, data storage and programming and demonstrate practical applications in R.
- Teaching Assistant** Spring 2021, Spring 2022  
*Statistical Modeling & Causal Inference, Hertie School*  
Teaching two groups of MSc students (Public Policy), I revisited the topics presented in the lecture on statistical modeling and causal inference and demonstrate practical applications of the methods in R.
- Research Consultant** 2020-2021  
*Data Science Lab, Hertie School*

I provided help with questions of research design, quantitative measurement, statistical inference and computational tools.

**Research Assistant** 2017-2019

*Center for Environmental Systems Research (CESR)*

Within the DFG funded TOMACE project (Trade Offs between Mitigation and Climate Engineering) we analyzed the public attitude towards solar radiation management. I focused on psychological test construction, data analysis and visualization using R. The project was embedded in the SESAM group (Socio-environmental Systems Analysis and Modeling).

**Teaching Assistant** 2014-2016

*University of Kassel, Department of Psychology, Quantitative Methods*

Teaching various groups of undergraduate students, I deepened the topics presented in the Quantitative Methods I and II lectures and demonstrated the practical implementation of methods in R across three subsequent semesters.

**Research Assistant** 2014-2015

*University of Kassel, Department of Psychology, Psychology of Memory*

Within a project on false memories, I conducted experiments in the laboratory.

## **VOLUNTARY ENGAGEMENT**

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**Elected PhD Representative** 2022

*Hertie School, Berlin*

I communicate PhD students' interests to academic faculty and leadership, serve in the academic senate and the on the IT committee.

**Seminar Organization** 2019-2020

*Network Analysis for Sustainable Development*

In collaboration with the German Academic National Foundation (Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes), we hold a 4-day Seminar with 85 participants, international speakers, multiple workshops, talks and hands-on projects on the potentials of network analysis in the context of sustainable development (e.g. mobility networks, ecological networks, climate networks and the Sustainable Development Goals of the UN) in Berlin.

**Elected Student Representative** 2018-2019

*Graduate Center for Environmental Studies and Teaching (GradZ), University of Kassel*

I represented students' interests in the interdisciplinary center for environmental research at the University of Kassel.

**Seminar Organization** 2018-2019

*Artificial Intelligence and Society*

Funded by the German Academic National Foundation (Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes), we organized an interdisciplinary discussion seminar on artificial intelligence with a focus on societal, technical, scientific and ethical perspectives, in collaboration with the Ludwig-Maximilian-University, Munich.

**Seminar Organization** 2017-2018

*Sustainability Scenario Modelling*

We organized this seminar for scholarship holders of the German Academic National Foundation (Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes) with a sustainability focus. We developed

climate models and social scenarios, hosted 9 International speakers, in collaboration with IIASA Vienna and the University of Vienna.

**Elected Student Representative**

2017-2018

*Directorate, Department of Psychology, University of Kassel*

I communicated psychology students' interests to academic faculty and discussed strategic developments of the department.

## **AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

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**Doctoral Scholarship**

2021-2023

*German Academic National Foundation (Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes)*

Supporting doctoral students from different disciplinary and personal backgrounds that are "united in their particular scientific ability, in their curiosity that extends beyond their own discipline and life world, and in their pronounced sense of social responsibility."

**Best poster award**

2022

*Political Methodology Europe*

For the poster: "Measuring Deliberative Potential in the Online Public Sphere – A Latent Class Segmentation Analysis." presented at PolMeth Europe 2022, annual award.

**Highly commended thesis**

2020

*Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford*

Honoring MSc thesis (Should we talk to climate skeptics?), annual award.

**Carl-Friedrich Graumann Award**

2018

*German Psychological Society (DGPs), Section Environmental Psychology*

Honoring BSc thesis (Outdoor Sport and Environmental behavior) as best newcomer scientist work in the field of environmental psychology, biannual award.

**Scholarship**

2016-2020

*German Academic National Foundation (Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes)*

Supporting "the university education of young people who, on account of their exceptional academic or artistic talents and their personalities, can be expected to make an outstanding contribution to society as a whole."

## **CONTACT**

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<i>Mail</i>	<a href="mailto:oswald@mpib-berlin.mpg.de">oswald@mpib-berlin.mpg.de</a>
<i>Web</i>	<a href="https://lfoswald.github.io/">https://lfoswald.github.io/</a>
<i>Twitter</i>	@LisaFOswaldo