

# Nikolina Klatt

Freie Universität Berlin  
Cluster of Excellence  
“Contestations of the Liberal Script – SCRIPTS”  
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## CURRENT ACADEMIC POSITIONS

10.2024 – present **Doctoral Researcher**, SCRIPTS, Cluster of Excellence at Freie Universität Berlin  
01.2025 – present **Visiting Research Fellow**, WZB Berlin, *Transformations of Democracy*

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Democratization and Autocratization
- Reproductive Rights
- Computational Social Science and Text as Data

## EDUCATION

2024 – 2027 **Ph.D. in Political Science** at the Otto-Suhr-Institute Freie Universität Berlin  
Dissertation: *Reproductive Rights and Political Regime Transformations*  
Berlin Graduate School for Global and Transregional Studies (BGTS) of  
SCRIPTS, Cluster of Excellence  
2021 – 2024 **Master of Public Policy**, Hertie School, Berlin  
Thesis: *The Effect of Judicial Decisions on Policy Narratives. Analyzing the  
Impact of Roe v. Wade's Overturning on Digital Discourse Using Machine  
Learning* (grade 1.0)  
2022 **Bachelor of Arts in Political Science**, FernUniversität in Hagen, Germany  
Thesis: *“Scientific evidence in policy narratives”* (grade 1.0)  
Commencement Speaker  
2011 **Master of Arts in Art History**, University of Vienna, Austria  
2007 – 2008 Visiting Student, University of Edinburgh, Scotland, UK

## PREVIOUS POSITIONS

02.2024 – 12.2024 **Research Fellow**, WZB Berlin, “Transformations of Democracy” unit  
Speaker of the Doctoral Researchers at WZB  
02.2024 – 05.2024 **Research Fellow**, Bundestag for Anna Lührmann, Minister of State for  
Europe and Climate  
10.2021 – 12.2023 **Student Research Assistant**, WZB Berlin  
03.2020 – 07.2020 **Research Assistant**, CoronaNet Research Project  
2017 – 2018 **Program Development Assistant**, Friendship Ambassadors Foundation,  
NYC  
2015 – 2017 **Gallery Assistant**, Galerie Valentien, Stuttgart, Germany  
2012 – 2014 **Trainee and Book Editor**, frechverlag GmbH, Stuttgart, Germany

## AWARDS

2024 **Data Science Thesis Award 2024**  
by the Data Science Lab at the Hertie School  
2024 **Best Poster Award at the #4GenderStudies Poster Exhibition**  
by the Margherita-von-Brentano Center for Gender Studies

## SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS

2024 **Travel Grant**, American Political Science Association (APSA)  
2021 – 2023 **Hans N. Weiler Fellowship**, Hertie School of Governance  
2019 – 2021 **Deutschlandstipendium Scholarship**, FernUniversität Hagen  
2010 **Research Scholarship**, Royal Academy of Arts and the Paul Mellon Center  
for British Art, London, UK

## PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Klatt, Nikolina** and Blum, Sonja. 2024 "How does the use of evidence in policy narratives change during crises? A comparative study of New York City's pandemic school shutdowns." In: *Review of Policy Research* (Early View), [10.1111/ropr.12589](https://doi.org/10.1111/ropr.12589)
- Klatt, Nikolina** and Böhret, Ines. 2021. "Women's Rights in Childbirth during the COVID-19 Pandemic: A comparison of WHO guidelines to policies, recommendations, and practices in the US and Germany." In: *Cross-cultural Human Rights Review* (3):1–41, [10.52854/cchrr-51](https://doi.org/10.52854/cchrr-51)

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Klatt, Nikolina**. 2024. "[Judicial Rulings and Political Narratives. Analyzing the Impact of Roe v. Wade's Overturning on Digital Discourse Using Machine Learning](#)". *WZB Discussion Paper SP V 2024-502*. Berlin: WZB.
- Klatt, Nikolina**. 2024. "[Zwischen Fortschritt und Rückschritt. Der komplexe Kampf um Frauenrechte weltweit](#)" In: *WZB-Mitteilungen* H. 1(183): 33–36.
- Vanessa Boese-Schlosser, Fabio Ellger, **Nikolina Klatt**, Janice Ngiam und Daniel Ziblatt. 2024. "[Als Begriff umstritten, als Modell umkämpft. Was Menschen in Deutschland unter „Demokratie“ verstehen](#)" In: *WZB-Mitteilungen* H. 1(183):20–24.
- Klatt, Nikolina** and Boese-Schlosser, Vanessa. 2023. "[Zwischen Fakten und Fiktion. Wie industrielle Desinformation die Demokratie bedroht](#)" In: *WZB-Mitteilungen*, H. 2(180):32–35.
- Klatt, Nikolina** and Boese-Schlosser, Vanessa. 2023. "[Authoritarianism and Disinformation: The Dangerous Link](#)." In *The Loop. ECPR's Political Science Blog*
- Klatt, Nikolina**; Hellmeier, Sebastian and Ziblatt, Daniel. 2022. "[Politische Gewalt und Demokratie](#)." In: *WZB-Mitteilungen*, H. 4(178):62.
- Klatt, Nikolina**. 2022. "Die Schließungen des öffentlichen Schulsystems in New York City während der Covid-19-Pandemie – Eine Fallstudie zu politischen Erzählungen." In: *Facetten Politischer Kommunikation – Beiträge zum 18. Düsseldorfer Forum Politische Kommunikation*, edited by Lara Boden, Robin Schröer, Natalie Ryba, and Leon Becher, Shaker Verlag GmbH. <https://doi.org/10.2370/9783844087567>

## WORK IN PROGRESS

- *Judicial Decisions and Political Narratives. The Effect of Roe v. Wade's Overturning on Digital Discourse*. Under Review
- *Reproductive Regimes and Political Demography in the United States* with Myra Marx Ferree
- *What is Democracy to You?* with Vanessa Boese-Schlosser, Janice Ngiam and Daniel Ziblatt
- "Democratization, de-democratization, and human rights," chapter for the *Handbook of Democratization and De-Democratization* edited by Matthijs Bogaards
- "Authoritarianism and disinformation," entry for the *Encyclopedia of Authoritarianism* edited by Thomas Ambrosio and Stephen Hall

## CONFERENCES and WORKSHOPS

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|------|---|
| 2025 | <b>MPSA</b> , Annual Conference, Presenter  |
| 2024 | <b>ECPG, Section Chair</b> "Reproductive Justice: Policy, Politics, and Intersectionality" <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Organization of 9 panels</li><li>• Roles: Panel Chair, Co-Chair, Discussant and Presenter</li></ul> <b>APSA</b> Annual Meeting 2024, Presenter |
|      | Conference on Policy Process Research ( <b>COPPR</b> ), Presenter   |
|      | Research Day on Intersectional Gender Politics, <b>Freie Universität</b> Berlin   |
|      | #4GenderStudies Science Day, Poster, <b>Freie Universität</b> Berlin  |
| 2023 | <b>ECPR</b> General Conference, Presenter   |
|      | <b>APSA</b> Annual Meeting 2023, Presenter  |
|      | 6th International Conference on Public Policy ( <b>ICPP6</b> ), Presenter   |
|      | <b>ECPR</b> Joint Sessions Workshop, Presenter and Discussant   |
| 2022 | <b>ECPR</b> General Conference, Presenter   |
|      | European Conference on Politics and Gender ( <b>ECPG</b> ), Presenter   |
|      | International Workshop for Public Policy ( <b>IWPP</b> ), Presenter   |
|      | Düsseldorfer Forum für Politische Kommunikation, Presenter  |
| 2021 | <b>DVPW</b> -Conference, Presenter  |
|      | <b>COVID-19 PHSMs</b> Research Outcome Conference, Round Table Participant  |

## TEACHING

Spring Semester 2025 **Co-leader** of a Student Research Group on “*Backlash Against Gender: Comparative Perspectives on Europe’s Anti-Gender Politics*” by the Berlin University Alliance

## WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING

03.2025 Comparing Countries with Multivariate Statistical Techniques, ECPR Methods School by Bruno Cautrès  
02.2025 **Automated Image and Video Data Analysis with Python**, DiMES Workshop by Felicia Loecherbach  
07.2023 **Summer Institute in Computational Social Science (SICSS)** at WZB. Focus on text as data, website scraping, machine learning, and ethics  
04.2023 **Developing Bots & Scrapers with Python** by Pierre Daix-Moreux, Hertie School  
03.2023 **Introduction to Python** by Joshua Ayodele Aje, Hertie School  
11.2022 **Tools for Data Science Workshop**  
Presentation of “janitor” package: [Video](#) and [Materials](#)  
09.2022 **Introduction to Recommender Systems** by Pierre Daix-Moreux, Hertie School  
05.2022 **Data Management for Social Scientists** by Nils Weidmann at WZB Berlin  
08.2021 **The Science of Stories: Theory and Practice of the Narrative Policy Framework** by Elizabeth A. Shanahan

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

10.2024 – present Speaker of the Doctoral Researchers at SCRIPTS, Freie Universität Berlin  
03.2024 – 04.2025 Speaker of the Doctoral Researchers at WZB  
2024 Selection Committee Member for Seed Money call at the WZB  
2024 Selection Committee Member for the WZB Merit Fellowship  
**Organizer** **ECPG 2024, Section Chair** “Reproductive Justice: Policy, Politics, and Intersectionality”

- Organization of 9 panels
- Roles: Panel Chair, Co-Chair, Discussant and Presenter

**Reviewer** Discussion Paper Series of the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies  
Interdisciplinary Political Studies (IdPS)

## SKILLS

Technical Skills **R & Python**  
Experimental Analysis and Causal Inference  
Web Scraping and Automated Data Collection  
Quantitative Text Analysis and Natural Language Processing  
Machine Learning  
LaTeX, HTML, Markdown  
Languages **German** (native)  
**English** (bilingual proficiency, TOEFL 115/120)  
**French, Spanish, Croatian, Macedonian, ASL** (elementary)

## REFERENCES

**Daniel Ziblatt** Director, Center for European Studies  
Eaton Professor of the Science of Government at Harvard University  
Director Transformations of Democracy Unit, WZB Berlin  
**Gülay Çağlar** Professor of Political Science  
Program Director MA Gender, Intersectionality & Politics  
Freie Universität Berlin  
**Kathrin Zippel** Einstein Strategic Professor in the Department of Sociology  
Freie Universität Berlin  
**March 12, 2025**