

Lennart Schürmann | Dr.

Center for Civil Society Research – WZB Berlin Social Science Center

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Research Interests

Protest, Social Movements, Political Participation, Representation, Electoral Systems, Computational Social Sciences

Current Position

WZB Berlin Social Science Center | Center for Civil Society Research

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow

Berlin

Jan 2023 - present

- Project: Political Protest and Radicalization (WZB ProtestMonitoring & MOTRA)
- Principal Investigator: *Prof. Dr. Swen Hutter*

Previous Academic Positions

University of Cologne | Cologne Center for Comparative Politics

Doctoral Researcher

Cologne

Oct 2019 – Dec 2022

- Member of the Chair for European and Multilevel Politics (*Prof. Dr. Sven-Oliver Proksch*)

Pompeu Fabra University | Institutions and Political Actors Research Group

Visiting Researcher with Dr. Toni Rodon | funded by Cluster of Excellence ECONtribute

Barcelona

Oct - Nov 2022

- Conducting Interviews with Spanish Social Movement Activists and Policy-Makers

WZB Berlin Social Science Center | Center for Civil Society Research

Visiting Researcher with Prof. Dr. Swen Hutter | funded by Cologne Graduate School

Berlin

Jun - Jul 2022

- Theoretical Conceptualization of Why Politicians Refer to Protests and Other Collective Actions

University of Amsterdam | Challenges to Democratic Representation Programme Group

Visiting Researcher with Dr. Gijs Schumacher | funded by German Academic Exchange Service

Amsterdam

Sep - Dec 2021

- Development of a Measurement of Emotional Appeals to Collective Actions in Multi-lingual Texts

Education

University of Cologne

Ph.D. Political Science (Dr. rer. pol.)

Cologne

2019 – 2023

- Dissertation Title: Political Representation and Protest Politics in European Democracies
- Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Sven-Oliver Proksch & Prof. Dr. Ingo Rohlfing
- Date of Defense: June 28th, 2023

Goethe University Frankfurt

M.A. Political Science

Frankfurt | Paris

2016 – 2019

- Semester Abroad: EHESS - School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences Paris

University of Cologne

B.Sc. Social Sciences

Cologne | Grenoble

2013 – 2016

- Major: Political Science and Sociology | Minor: Economics
- Semester Abroad: Grenoble Alpes University | Sciences Po Grenoble

Publications

Journal Articles (Peer-Review)

- [4] Castanho Silva, Bruno, **Lennart Schürmann** & Sven-Oliver Proksch (2024). [Modulation of Democracy: Partisan Communication during and after Election Campaigns](#). *British Journal of Political Science*, 54(2): 339 - 354.
- [3] **Schürmann, Lennart** (2023). [The impact of local protests on political elite communication: evidence from Fridays for Future in Germany](#). *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties*.
- [2] **Schürmann, Lennart** (2023). [Do competitive districts get more political attention? Strategic use of geographic representation during campaign and non-campaign periods](#). *Electoral Studies*.
- [1] **Schürmann, Lennart** & Sebastian Stier (2023). [Who represents the constituency? Online political communication by members of parliament in the German mixed-member electoral system](#). *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, 48(1): 219–234.

Contributions to Edited Volumes

- [2] Basu, Chitralekha & **Lennart Schürmann** (accepted). Media Effects on Political Elites. *Edward Elgar Encyclopedia of Political Communication*
- [1] Hutter, Swen, Eylem Kanol, Daniel Saldivia Gonzatti, **Lennart Schürmann**, Teresa Völker & Ruud Koopmans (2023). [Politischer Protest und Radikalisierung \(WZB-ProtestMonitoring\)](#). *MOTRA-Monitor 2022*. Wiesbaden: Bundeskriminalamt - Forschungsstelle Terrorismus/Extremismus, pp. 111-135.

Other Publications

- [4] **Lennart Schürmann** (2023). [Von der Straße in den Bundestag: Die lokalen Proteste von Fridays for Future zeigen starke Wirkung](#). *WZB Mitteilungen*, 182: 6-9.
- [3] Schmidt, Leonhard, Carina Siebler, **Lennart Schürmann** & Daniel Saldivia Gonzatti (2023). [Fünf Jahre Fridays for Future - Erfolge, Herausforderungen und Chancen zur Erneuerung](#) *Blog: DVPW - Deutsche Vereinigung für Politikwissenschaft*.
- [2] Siebler, Carina, Leonhard Schmidt, **Lennart Schürmann** & Daniel Saldivia Gonzatti (2023). [Five years of 'Fridays for Future': but what future is there now for the movement?](#) *The Loop. A Political Science Blog from ECPR*.
 - re-published as [Five years of 'Fridays for Future': what future now?](#) on *Social Europe*.
- [1] **Schürmann, Lennart**, Caroline Melches, & Stefan Herweg (2019). [Minimalkompromisse machen die Eurozone nicht krisenfest](#). *Makronom – Online-Magazin für Wirtschaftspolitik*.

Working Papers

- [5] **Schürmann, Lennart**, Jan Schwalbach, & Noam Himmelrath. XXX.
 - *Minor Revisions* in XXX
- [4] **Schürmann, Lennart**. Do Restrictions of Protest Rights Provoke Protest Participation? Evidence from Spain and the United Kingdom
 - *Draft available* - presented at EPSA 2022, Pompeu Fabra University 2022, WZB Social Science Center 2023
- [3] **Schürmann, Lennart**. Citizens Protest Locally, Political Elites Protest Globally: Analyzing the Dynamics of Electoral Campaigns and Street Mobilization in Multilevel Electoral Systems
 - *Draft available* - presented 2023 at SNS-WZB workshop: Analyzing protest in the digital age
- [2] Saldivia Gonzatti, Daniel, **Lennart Schürmann**, Sophia Hunger & Swen Hutter. Conventional vs. Unconventional Protests: Citizens' Perceptions of the Legitimacy of Different Forms of Protest and Their Policy Consequences
 - *Draft available* - presented at WZB Social Science Center 2024, MOTRA-K 2024
- [1] Hunger, Sophia, Daniel Saldivia Gonzatti, Swen Hutter & **Lennart Schürmann**. Building a Semi-automated Protest Monitoring. A Hands-on Playbook on Advances and Challenges in Protest Event Analysis
 - *Draft available* - presented 2023 at SNS-WZB workshop: Analyzing protest in the digital age

Media & Public Outreach

Background interviews and expert opinions for Tagesschau (ARD), DIE ZEIT, Quarks (WDR), nd.Aktuell (Neues Deutschland), ntv (RTL), goin' green (Seven.One), taz-die tageszeitung & Frankfurter Rundschau.

Speaker at public events organized by Brandenburgische Landeszentrale für politische Bildung.

Grants & Scholarships

"Empowering Voices Beyond Ballots? Representative Claims by Non-Elected Political Actors"

PRIME Postdoctoral Researchers International Mobility Experience Grant

DAAD German Academic Exchange Service, ~160,000€ 2025 - 2027

Full PhD Scholarship

Cologne Graduate School in Management, Economics and Social Sciences, ~55,000€ 2019 - 2022

Selten Grant for Field Work and Research Stay in Barcelona

Reinhard Selten Institute/Cluster of Excellence ECONtribute: Markets and Public Policy, ~2.000€ 2022

International Mobility Scholarships for Academic Projects Abroad

Schmittmann-Wahlen-Foundation, ~5.500€ 2015 | 2018 | 2021

Short-Term Research Grant for Doctoral Candidates for Research Stay in Amsterdam

DAAD German Academic Exchange Service, ~6.500€ 2021

Grants for GESIS Spring Seminar & GESIS Workshop

University of Cologne & GESIS - Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences 2021 (2x)

Residential Fellow

Fondation de l'Allemagne – Maison Heinrich Heine (Paris) 2018

Grant for ECPR Summer School in Methods and Techniques 2018

European Consortium for Political Research 2018

Erasmus Grants for Exchange Semesters

Erasmus+ Programme 2015 | 2018

Conferences, Workshops & Invited Talks

MOTRA-K, Wiesbaden 2024

SNS-WZB workshop: Analyzing protest in the digital age, WZB Social Science Center Berlin 2023

Authors workshop: Book project on Extremism in Germany, University of Hamburg 2023

European Political Science Association Conference 2021, 2022, 2023

Center for Civil Society Research Colloquium, WZB Berlin Social Science Center 2022, 2023

Institutions and Political Actors Research Seminar, Pompeu Fabra University Barcelona 2022

Cologne Political Science Workshop, Cologne 2022

CompText Conference, University College Dublin 2022

Hot Politics Lab Meeting, University of Amsterdam 2021

European Consortium for Political Research General Conference 2021

Cologne Center for Comparative Politics Research Seminar, University of Cologne 2020, 2021

Colloquium on Empirical Democracy Research, Goethe University Frankfurt 2018

IAPSS World Congress, Paris 2018

Reviewer

American Political Science Review, Journal of Information Technology & Politics, Journal of Legislative Studies, Legislative Studies Quarterly, Social Forces, Social Problems

Previous Student Positions

German Federal Parliament - Bundestag ECOFIN Committee <i>Policy Intern</i>	Berlin 2019 – 2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of Policy Positions on European Stability Mechanism 	
GESIS - Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences Computational Social Science Group <i>Research Intern to Dr. Sebastian Stier</i>	Cologne 2019 – 2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyzed Geographic Representation on Social Media for Master's Thesis 	
Federal Institute for Population Research Migration and Mobility Research Group <i>Research Assistant to PD Dr. Heiko Rüger</i>	Wiesbaden 2018 – 2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of an Online Survey for the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs 	
Goethe University Frankfurt Chair for Comparative Politics <i>Research Assistant to Prof. Dr. Thomas Zittel</i>	Frankfurt 2017 – 2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developed a Dataset for the DFG Research Project <i>Individualized Representation and its Sources</i> 	
Goethe University Frankfurt Graduate Center Social Sciences <i>Administrative Assistant to Prof. Sigrid Roßteutscher, PhD</i>	Frankfurt 2016 – 2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration of PhD Applications and Counseling Concerning Research Funding Opportunities 	
Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies <i>Research Intern Research Assistant to Prof. Dr. Mark Lutter</i>	Cologne 2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collected Publication Records of Social Scientists at German Universities 	
University of Cologne Institute for Sociology and Social Psychology <i>Teaching Assistant to Prof. Dr. Marita Jacob</i>	Cologne 2014 – 2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taught <i>Introduction to Statistics for Social Scientists</i> to First Year Students 	

Teaching Experience

Visualizing Protest Data in the Digital Space and Beyond <i>Supervising WZB Project Partner in ViSoP - Visual Society Program</i>	UdK - Berlin University of the Arts Summer 2023 – Summer 2024
How Can Protest Change Politics? Social Movements and Political Representation <i>Instructor Overall assessment: 4.8 (max = 5)</i>	University of Cologne Summer 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short-listed (Top 3) for University Teaching Award 2022 of the University of Cologne 	
Workshop: Creating a Webpage with R <i>Organizer together with J. Bekmuratovna</i>	University of Cologne Summer 2022
Workshop: Authoring a PhD <i>Organizer together with Ebru Ece Özbey</i>	University of Cologne Summer 2021
Strategic Models of Democratic Politics <i>Teaching Assistant to Jun.-Prof. Chitrlekha Basu, PhD</i>	University of Cologne Winter 20/21
Introduction to Quantitative Methods <i>Teaching Assistant to Dr. Bruno Castanho Silva</i>	University of Cologne Winter 19/20 Winter 20/21
Applied Statistical Analysis: Political Representation by Parliamentary Elites <i>Teaching Assistant to Dr. Dominic Nyhuis</i>	Goethe University Frankfurt Summer 2017
Introduction to Statistics for Social Scientists <i>Teaching Assistant to Prof. Dr. Marita Jacob</i>	University of Cologne Summer 2014 Winter 14/15 Summer 2015

Thesis Supervision

Marie Melchers (ongoing). Democratic backsliding and protest behavior (working title). *BA-Thesis (University of Münster) + Research Internship (WZB Berlin Social Science Center)*

Meret Stephan (ongoing). Bridging social movements and electoral politics: How do migration-related protests influence voting behavior? (working title) *MA-Thesis (Humboldt University Berlin)*

Aurelia von Haugwitz (2022). Why people from the German countryside do not protest: urban-rural divergences of 'unconventional' political participation. *BA-Thesis (University of Cologne)*

Professional Responsibilities & Memberships

German Political Science Association (DVPW) <i>Member</i>	2024 – present
University of Cologne Cologne Graduate School <i>PhD Representative on the CGS Board</i>	2021 – 2022
European Political Science Association (EPSA) <i>Member</i>	2021 – present
Institute for the Study of Protest and Social Movements (ipb) <i>Member</i>	2020 – present

Academic Skills & Methods Training

Seminars on Research Management University of Cologne · Achieving Your Own Scientific Independence - How to Raise Third-Party Funding	2022
Seminars on Science Communication German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) · Fundamentals of Science Communication · Social Media Communication	2022
Center for Higher Education University of Cologne · Planning Teaching Events	2021
Spring Seminar & Workshops GESIS - Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences · Introduction to the Logic of Bayesian Statistics for the Social Sciences · Causal Machine Learning	2021
DS3: CIVICA Data Science Summer School Hertie School · Introduction to Python Programming · Image as Data: Quantitative Image Analysis with R and Python · Introduction to Machine Learning · Introduction to Deep Learning · GeoData and Spatial Analysis with R	2021
Albertus Magnus Center for Early Career Researchers University of Cologne · Academic Writing in the Humanities and Social Sciences · Scientific Presentation - Getting it Right!	2020 – 2021
PhD coursework University of Cologne · Political Choice and Strategy · Analyzing EU Politics with Big Data · Causal Inference and Public Policy in Europe	2019 – 2020
ECPR Summer School in Methods and Techniques Central European University · Automated Collection of Web and Social Data	2018
MA coursework Goethe University Frankfurt · Research Designs in International Relations · Advanced Statistical Data Analysis with R · Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) and Fuzzy Sets	2016 - 2018

Additional Skills

Languages: German (native) · English (C1) · French (C1) · Dutch (A1) · Spanish (A1)
Data Analysis: R · Python · Stata · SPSS
Office & Typesetting: L^AT_EX+Overleaf · Microsoft Office · Apple iWork
Version Control: GitHub