

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

Academic Positions

WZB Berlin Social Science Center | Center for Civil Society Research Berlin (DE)
Post-Doctoral Research Fellow Jan 2023 - present

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

University of Cologne | Cologne Center for Comparative Politics Cologne (DE)
Doctoral Researcher 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 Barcelona (ES)
Visiting Researcher with Dr. Toni Rodon | funded by Cluster of Excellence ECONtribute Oct - Nov 2022

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

WZB Berlin Social Science Center | Center for Civil Society Research Berlin (DE)
Visiting Researcher with Prof. Dr. Swen Hutter | funded by Cologne Graduate School Jun - Jul 2022

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

University of Amsterdam | Challenges to Democratic Representation Programme Group Amsterdam (NL)
Visiting Researcher with Dr. Gijs Schumacher | funded by German Academic Exchange Service Sep - Dec 2021

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

Education

University of Cologne Cologne (DE)
Ph.D. Political Science (Dr. rer. pol.) 2019 – 2023

- 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 Frankfurt (DE) | Paris (FR)
M.A. Political Science 2016 – 2019

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

University of Cologne Cologne (DE) | Grenoble (FR)
B.Sc. Social Sciences 2013 – 2016

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

Publications

Journal Articles (Peer-Review).....

- [5] **Schürmann, Lennart**, Jan Schwalbach, & Noam Himmelrath (accepted). Location Matters! Geopolitical Dynamics of MP Engagement in COVID-19 Protests in Multilevel Systems. *European Journal of Political Research*.
- [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, Chitrakha & **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.....

- [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, ZEIT-Stiftung Bucerius, Deutschlandfunk und ZEIT Campus.

Podcast appearances in Wissen unplugged/Hörsaal (Deutschlandfunk Nova).

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

WZB Harvard Merit Fellowship 2024/2025

Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies - Harvard University, ~40.000\$ 2025

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

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> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Short-listed (Top 3) for <i>University Teaching Award 2022</i> of the University of Cologne	University of Cologne Summer 2022
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)

Member

2024 – present

University of Cologne | Cologne Graduate School

PhD Representative on the CGS Board

2021 – 2022

European Political Science Association (EPSA)

Member

2021 – present

Institute for the Study of Protest and Social Movements (ipb)

Member

2020 – present

Academic Skills & Methods Training

Seminars on Research Management | University of Cologne

2022

- Achieving Your Own Scientific Independence - How to Raise Third-Party Funding

Seminars on Science Communication | German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)

2022

- Fundamentals of Science Communication
- Social Media Communication

Center for Higher Education | University of Cologne

2021

- Planning Teaching Events

Spring Seminar & Workshops | GESIS - Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences

2021

- Introduction to the Logic of Bayesian Statistics for the Social Sciences
- Causal Machine Learning

DS3: CIVICA Data Science Summer School | Hertie School

2021

- 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

Albertus Magnus Center for Early Career Researchers | University of Cologne

2020 – 2021

- Academic Writing in the Humanities and Social Sciences
- Scientific Presentation - Getting it Right!

PhD coursework | University of Cologne

2019 – 2020

- Political Choice and Strategy
- Analyzing EU Politics with Big Data
- Causal Inference and Public Policy in Europe

ECPR Summer School in Methods and Techniques | Central European University

2018

- Automated Collection of Web and Social Data

MA coursework | Goethe University Frankfurt

2016 - 2018

- Research Designs in International Relations
- Advanced Statistical Data Analysis with R
- Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA) and Fuzzy Sets

Additional Skills

Languages: German (native) · English (C1) · French (C1) · Dutch (A1)

Data Analysis: R · Python · Stata · SPSS

Office & Typesetting: \LaTeX +Overleaf · Microsoft Office · Apple iWork

Version Control: GitHub