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SIMON MUNZERT

personal information

Citizenship: German
Year of birth: 1985
Title: Dr.rer.soc.

academic employments

Hertie School of Governance

Lecturer in Political Data Science, 2017–Present.

University of Maryland and Joint Program of Survey Methodology

Adjunct assistant professor, 2018–Present.

Humboldt University of Berlin

Postdoctoral research and teaching fellow, Department of Social Sciences, Chair of Comparative Political Behavior (Prof. Dr. Heike Klüver), 2017.

University of Mannheim

Postdoctoral research fellow; founder and manager of the Social Science Data Lab, Mannheim Centre for European Social Research (MZES), 2016.

Duke University

Visiting research fellow, Department of Political Science and Ward Lab, 2014.

University of Konstanz

Research and teaching assistant, Chair for Survey Research (Peter Selb), 2011–2016.

Stipendiary, Center for Quantitative Methods and Survey Research, 2009–2011. Project "Integrating Disparate Data into a Geographic Information System of the German Electoral Districts" (together with Peter Selb and Susumu Shikano).

Student assistant, 2006–2009. Work at the chairs of Wolfgang Seibel, Rainer Schnell, Thomas Bräuninger, Susumu Shikano, and Christoph Knill.

academic education

University of Konstanz

Ph.D., Political Science, Graduate School of Decision Sciences, University of Konstanz, 2015.
Grade: summa cum laude. Thesis: *Contributions to the Measurement of Public Opinion in Subpopulations.* Committee: Peter Selb, Susumu Shikano, Michael D. Ward.

M.A., Politics and Public Administration, University of Konstanz, 2011.
Grade: 1.0; ranked 1st among 35 students. Thesis: *Political Representation Of Constituents' Attitudes Towards Nuclear Power Phaseout. A Bayesian Hierarchical Approach*

Exploiting Sparse Survey Data And Geographic Information. Supervisors: Peter Selb, Susumu Shikano.

B.A., Political and Administrative Science, University of Konstanz, 2009.
Grade: 1.5; ranked 5th among 61 students. Thesis: *Vote Overreporting. Ein einfaches Erklärungsmodell auf Basis der Wahlbeteiligung.* Supervisor: Peter Selb.

research grants
and scholarships

2017–2019. Daimler and Benz Foundation, Postgraduates and Junior Professors Fellowship Program. *"Citizen and Elite Activity on the Wikipedia Market Place of Political Information."* Total amount: EUR 40,000.

2017–2019. VolkswagenStiftung. *"Paying Attention to Attention: Media Exposure and Opinion Formation in an Age of Information Overload."* Main principal investigator; co-principal investigators: Dr. Pablo Barberá, Dr. Andrew Guess, Dr. JungHwan Yang. 2017–2019. Total amount: EUR 736,600.

2014. DFG / Excellence Initiative Research Fellowship at the Department of Political Science, Duke University (granted for five months). Total amount: EUR 6,750.

2009–2011. Stipendiary at the Center for Quantitative Methods and Survey Research. Total amount: approx. EUR 24,000.

awards

2014. ALLBUS Award for the best paper published using data from the German General Social Survey, awarded by GESIS–Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences (together with Paul Bauer) for *"Political Depolarization in German Public Opinion, 1980-2010"*.

2014. Best Paper Award of the German Society for Electoral Studies (DGfW), together with Peter Selb, for *"Estimating Constituency Preferences from Sparse Survey Data Using Auxiliary Geographic Information"*.

2011. VEUK Award (Verein der Ehemaligen der Universität Konstanz) for best M.A. thesis.

publications

Monographs

Simon Munzert. 2015. *Contributions to the Measurement of Public Opinion in Subpopulations.* Konstanz: Universität Konstanz. PhD Thesis.

Simon Munzert, Christian Rubba, Peter Meißner, and Dominic Nyhuis. 2014. *Automated Data Collection with R. A Practical Guide to Web Scraping and Text Mining.* Chichester: John Wiley & Sons.
Accompanying website: http://r-datacollection.com/
Review in *JStatSoft*: https://www.jstatsoft.org/article/view/v068b03

Journal articles (peer-reviewed)

Sascha Göbel and **Simon Munzert**. "Political Advertising on the Wikipedia Market Place of Information." Forthcoming at *Social Science Computer Review*.

Simon Munzert, Lukas Stötzer, Thomas Gschwend, Marcel Neunhoeffer, and Sebastian Sternberg. 2017. "Zweitstimme.org. Ein strukturell-dynamisches Vorhersagemodell für Bundestagswahlen." *Politische Vierteljahresschrift* 58(3): 418–441.
Accompanying website: Zweitstimme.org.

Simon Munzert. 2017. "Forecasting elections at the constituency level: A correction– combination procedure." *International Journal of Forecasting* 33(2): 467–481.

Simon Munzert and Peter Selb. 2017. "Measuring Political Knowledge in Web-Based Surveys: An Experimental Validation of Visual versus Verbal Instruments." *Social Science Computer Review* 25(2): 167–183.

Peter Selb and **Simon Munzert**. 2016. "Forecasting the 2013 Bundestag Election Using Many Polls and Historical Election Results." *German Politics* 25(1): 73–83.

Michael Herrmann, **Simon Munzert**, and Peter Selb. 2016. "Determining the Effect of Strategic Voting on Election Results." *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society (Series A)* 179(2): 583–605.

Julian Bernauer and **Simon Munzert**. 2014. "Loyal to the Game? Strategic Policy Representation in Mixed Electoral Systems." *Representation* 50(1): 83–97.

Simon Munzert and Paul Bauer. 2013. "Political Depolarization in German Public Opinion, 1980–2010." *Political Science Research and Methods* 1(1): 67–89. *Winner of the ALLBUS Award 2015 for the best paper published using data from the German General Social Survey, awarded by GESIS–Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences.*

Peter Selb, Michael Herrmann, **Simon Munzert**, Thomas Schübel, and Susumu Shikano. 2013. "Forecasting Runoff Elections Using Candidate Evaluations From First Round Exit Polls." *International Journal of Forecasting* 29: 541–547.

Peter Selb and **Simon Munzert**. 2013. "Voter Overrepresentation, Vote Misreporting and Turnout Bias in Postelection Surveys." *Electoral Studies* 32(1): 186–196.

Peter Selb and **Simon Munzert**. 2011 "Estimating Constituency Preferences from Sparse Survey Data Using Auxiliary Geographic Information." *Political Analysis* 19(4): 455–470. *Winner of the Best Paper Award 2015 of the German Society for Electoral Studies (DGfW).*

Other articles

Simon Munzert. 2014. "Big Data in der Forschung! Big Data in der Lehre? Ein Vorschlag zur Erweiterung der bestehenden Methodenausbildung." *Zeitschrift für Politikwissenschaft* 24(1-2): 207–222.

Book chapters

Simon Munzert and Dominic Nyhuis. Forthcoming. "Die Nutzung von Webdaten in den Sozialwissenschaften," in *Handbuch Methoden der Politikwissenschaft*, edited by Claudius Wagemann, Achim Goerres, and Markus Siewert. Springer, Heidelberg.

Simon Munzert. Forthcoming. "Auf dem Weg zu einer fundierten Softwareausbildung in der Politikwissenschaft," in *Big Data: Große Möglichkeiten oder große Probleme?*, edited by Joachim Behnke, Andreas Blätte, Kai-Uwe Schnapp, and Claudius Wagemann. Nomos Verlagsgesellschaft, Baden-Baden.

Susumu Shikano, **Simon Munzert**, Thomas Schübel, Michael Herrmann, and Peter Selb. 2014. "Eine empirische Schätzmethode der Valenz-Issues auf der Basis der Kandidatenbeurteilung am Beispiel der Konstanzer Oberbürgermeisterwahl 2012," in *Jahrbuch für Handlungs- und Entscheidungstheorie 8*, edited by André Bächtiger, Eric Linhart, and Bernhard Kittel. Wiesbaden: Springer, 113–131.

Book reviews

Simon Munzert. 2014. Review of *XML and Web Technologies for Data Sciences with R* by Deborah Nolan and Duncan Temple Lang. *Journal of Statistical Software* 81: Book Review 1.

Papers under review

Peter Selb and **Simon Munzert**. "Examining a Most Likely Case for Strong Campaign Effects: Hitler's Speeches and the Rise of the Nazi Party, 1927–1933." (Second round of Revise & Resubmit at *American Political Science Review*)

Lukas F. Stötzer, Marcel Neunhoeffer, Sebastian Sternberg, Thomas Gschwend, and **Simon Munzert**. "Forecasting Elections in Multi-Party Systems: A Backwards Random-Walk Approach" (Revise & Resubmit at *Political Analysis*)

Andreas E. Murr and **Simon Munzert**. "Forecasting Turnout at UK Elections."

Working papers

Simon Munzert. "Using Wikipedia Article Traffic Volume to Measure Public Issue Attention."

Simon Munzert. "Measuring the Significance of Political Elites."

Simon Munzert, Pablo Barberá, Andrew Guess, and JungHwan Yang. "Media Exposure and Opinion Formation in an Age of Information Overload."

Simon Munzert, Pablo Barberá, Andrew Guess, and JungHwan Yang. "What and How Do Citizens Learn from Voting Advice Applications?"

"Citizen and Elite Activity on Wikipedia." Hertie School of Governance, Berlin, 2017.

"Media Exposure and Opinion Formation." USC, Los Angeles, 2017.

"International Research in Computational Social Sciences." GESIS Cologne, 2017.

"Election Forecasting with R." University of Konstanz, 2017.

"A Primer to Web Scraping with R." AAPOR Webinar, 2017.

"A Primer to Web Scraping with R." European University Institute, Florence, 2017.

"Beyond the Crystal Ball: Scientific Forecasts of the 2017 German Federal Election." Hertie School of Governance, Berlin, 2017.

"Networks of Knowledge and the Study of Political Behavior." Keynote speech, Graduate School of Decision Sciences, Konstanz, 2016.

"Examining a Most Likely Case for Strong Campaign Effects: Hitler's Speeches and the Rise of the Nazi Party, 1927–1933." University of Mannheim, 2016.

"A Primer on Web Scraping with R." Joint Statistical Meetings, Chicago, 2016.

"Empirical Economic and Social Research Workshop." ZEW/MZES Mannheim, 2016.

"International Research in Computational Social Sciences." GESIS Cologne, 2016.

"Measuring Public Attention using Wikipedia Access Statistics." ZU Friedrichshafen, 2015.

"Measuring Political Knowledge in Web-Based Surveys." GESIS Mannheim, 2015.

"Introduction to Web Scraping with R." Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin, 2015.

"A Primer on Web Scraping with R." University of Bamberg, 2015.

"Web Scraping with R." Workshop, Duke University, 2014.

"Automated Data Collection in the World Wide Web with R." University of Bern, 2014.

"Introduction to Web Scraping with R." University of Zurich, 2013.

"Are Voters Really Sensitive to Weather Conditions? Turnout at German Federal Elections under the Meteorological Microscope." Lange Nacht der Wissenschaft, Konstanz, 2012.

"Introduction to R and Web Scraping." University of Mannheim, 2012.

"Estimating Constituency Preferences from Sparse Survey Data Using Auxiliary Geographic Information." SciencePo Paris, 2012.

Annual Conference of the DVPW Working Group on Elections: 2015

Annual Conference of the DVPW Working Group on Political Methodology: 2014, 2016 (co-organizer)

Annual Conference of the American Political Science Association (APSA): 2017 (discussant)

Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA): 2014

Conference of the European Survey Research Association (ESRA): 2011, 2013 (panel chair), 2015, 2017

General Conference of the European Political Science Association (EPSA): 2012, 2013, 2014 (panel chair, discussant), 2016 (discussant), 2017

Annual Convention of the Swiss Political Science Association (SVPW): 2013 (discussant)

Webdatanet Conference: 2015 (roundtable organizer)

General Online Research Conference: 2018 (track chair)

The Empiricist's Challenge Conference: 2015

teaching

Hertie School of Governance

Statistics 2: Time-Series Panel Data & Maximum Likelihood (MPP)

Election Forecasting (MPP)

Web Data Collection and Social Media Mining (MPP & MIA)

International Program in Survey and Data Science

A Primer to Web Scraping with R (executives)

Humboldt University

Methods of Election Forecasting (undergraduate level; in German)

Web Data Collection and Social Media Mining (graduate level)

Mannheim Centre for European Social Research

A Primer to Web Scraping with R (graduate level)

Recent Advances in R (graduate level)

University of Konstanz

Introduction to Stata (undergraduate level; in German)

Introduction to Questionnaire Design (undergraduate level, in German)

Computational Political Science (undergraduate level)

Data Collection in the World Wide Web (graduate level, in German)

Methods of Election Forecasting (graduate level, in German)

Introduction to Survey Methodology with R (graduate level)

service to the profession

Referee for *American Political Science Review*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Data*, *IC2S2 2017*, *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties*, *Knowledge and Information Systems*, *Party Politics*, *Political Behavior*, *Political Science Research and Methods*, *Politische Vierteljahresschrift*, *Public Choice*, *Public Opinion Quarterly*, *Sage Open*, *Social Science Computer Review*, *Survey Research Methods*, *Swiss Political Science Review*.

Manuscript review for *John Wiley & Sons*.

Conference/workshop organizer of *Political Economy in the Computational Age Workshop, 2018, Berlin* (co-organizer), *General Online Research 2018, Cologne* (chair of track "Politics and Communication"), *Citizen and Elite Activity on Wikipedia Workshop, 2017, Berlin* (organizer), *Media Exposure and Opinion Formation Workshop, 2017, Los Angeles* (co-organizer), *DVPW Working Group on Political Methodology Meeting 2016, Mannheim* (co-organizer), *Webdatanet Conference 2015, Salamanca* (roundtable organizer).

Member of *American Political Science Association*, *European Survey Research Association*, *European Political Science Association*, *Deutsche Vereinigung für Politische Wissenschaft*.

institutional service

Member of the PhD Board, 2018–Present, Hertie School of Governance.

Student representative in the study commission, 2007, Department of Politics and Public Administration, University of Konstanz.

Student representative in search committee "Methoden der empirischen Politikforschung", 2007, Department of Politics and Public Administration, University of Konstanz.

survey project management

Paying Attention to Attention Panel Survey, German Panel ("Politik und Medien"), 2017.

Political Science and Public Administration Alumni Survey, University of Konstanz, 2014/15.

Journalist Expert Survey on the German Federal Election, 2013.

Survey on Studies and Politics, University of Konstanz, 2012.

Exit poll at Konstanz mayoral election, 2012.

media attention

The Monkey Cage, Sep 23, 2017, "New German election forecast: Merkel's party will win but lose seats".

Financial Times, Sep 20, 2017, "German election: AfD's advance in six charts" by Martin Stabe and Haluka Maier-Borst.

Merkur, Sep 18, 2017, "Erststimmen-Vorhersage: Diese Wahlkreise sind noch offen" by Florian Naumann.

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung Online, Aug 30, 2017, "Meinungsforscher in der Krise?" by Rebecca Winkels.

Die-Debatte.org, Aug 29, 2017, "Meinungsforschung der Zukunft" by Rebecca Winkels.

ARD Hauptstadtstudio Blog, May 4, 2017, "Wir wissen bereits, wer die Bundestagswahl ge-
  winnt – vielleicht" by Marko Milovanovic.

Spektrum.de, Nov 21, 2016, "Wikipedia – Liebling der Wissenschaft" by Stefan Mey.

Slate.fr, Aug 19, 2016, "Hitler, cet orateur surestimé" by Jean-Marie Pottier.

Statistics Views, Dec 15, 2014, "Automated Data Collection with R: A Practical Guide to Web
  Scraping and Text Mining. An interview with co-author Simon Munzert."

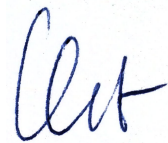Südkurier, Aug 27, 2013, "Erste deutschlandweite Umfragen auf Wahlkreisebene."

The Monkey Cage, Jul 25, 2013, "Political Depolarization in Germany" by Andrew Gelman.

Südkurier, May 2, 2012, "Wie das Wetter die Politik beeinflusst."

skills   *Software*: R, Stata, SPSS, LaTeX, JAGS, WinBUGS, QuantumGIS, SQL; HTML, CSS, XML, XPath;
                  code repository and replication archive: github.com/simonmunzert

                  Languages: German (native), English (fluent)

references   Available upon request.

Berlin, March 2018.