

JULIUS KÖLZER

 Google Scholar  Bluesky  Twitter  LinkedIn

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political Geography, Spatial Inequality, Comparative Political Economy, Electoral Behavior.

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

DYNAMICS PhD - Humboldt University / Hertie School <i>Doctoral Researcher</i>	09/2025 – present <i>Berlin, Germany</i>
Hertie School <i>Research Associate</i>	09/2025 – present <i>Berlin, Germany</i>
Konstanz University and Politics of Inequality Cluster <i>Research Assistant for Dr. Alexander Horn</i>	06/2024 – 08/2025 <i>Konstanz, Germany</i>
TU Darmstadt - Chair of German Politics <i>Research Assistant for Prof. Dr. Christian Stecker</i>	06/2024 – 08/2025 <i>Darmstadt, Germany</i>
Kiel Institute for the World Economy (IfW) <i>Research Assistant for Prof. Dr. Christoph Trebesch</i>	06/2022 – 07/2024 <i>Kiel, Germany</i>
Kiel University - Chair of Comparative Politics <i>Research Assistant for Prof. Dr. Christian Martin</i>	04/2023 – 07/2024 <i>Kiel, Germany</i>
Kiel University <i>Teaching Assistant</i>	Summer Term 2022 and 2023 <i>Kiel, Germany</i>

EDUCATION

Semester at UZH Zurich <i>M.A. Political Science - GPA: 5.875 / 24 ECTS</i>	09/2023 – 03/2024 <i>Zurich, Switzerland</i>
Kiel University <i>M.A. Political Science/Sociology - GPA: 1.1</i>	10/2022 – 08/2025 <i>Kiel, Germany</i>
Kiel University <i>B.A. Political Science/Sociology - GPA: 1.7</i>	10/2018 – 09/2022 <i>Kiel, Germany</i>

PUBLICATIONS AND ARTICLES

WORKING PAPERS

On the Right Track? Improving Local Transport Provision and Its Political Consequences

with Charlotte Kuberka. To be presented at EPSS 2026.

Mitigating Far-Right Support Through Rental Market Interventions? Evidence from Berlin's Tenant-Protection Policies

with Susanna Wirtghen and Dennis Cohen. To be presented at EPSS 2026.

The Place-Based Consequences of Green Investments: Evidence from Germany's Tesla Factory

Presented at PoBI CIVICA Conference 2026 at Bocconi.

Progressive Placeholders? How Party Perceptions Drive Vote Choice of Progressive Voters

with Reto Mitteregger. Presented at the SVPW Conference 2026 in Zurich.

WORK IN PROGRESS (SELECTED)

Mind the Gap: Local Decline in Train Service Provision and Electoral Support for the Far-Right

Presented at AK Wahlen in Berlin 2025.

The Continued Life and Relevance of Banned Parties

with Thomas Tichelbäcker.

Fuel to the Fire? Local Gasoline Price Shocks from the Iran Crisis and Baden-Württemberg's 2026 State Election

Campaigning Will Not Stop The Far Right: Quasi-Experimental Evidence From Saxony

with Daniel Kuhlen, Andreas Küpfer, and Christian Stecker. Presented at the IASGP Conference 2024.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Bayerlein, M., Kölzer, J., & Metten, A. (2025). Industrial Employment and Populism in Germany—Exploring the Effect of Actual and Looming Decline. *Politische Vierteljahresschrift*, 1–32.

Höhne, B., Kölzer, J., & Träger, H. (2025). Geography of Shrinkage: Local Population Decline and Electoral Support for the Anti-establishment Parties AfD and BSW in East German State Elections. *German Politics*, 1–29.

Kölzer, J., Debus, M., & Stecker, C. (2025). Alte Wurzeln, neue Wurzeln? Zum Einfluss früherer rechtsradikaler Unterstützung auf den AfD-Wahlerfolg bei der Europawahl 2024. *Politische Vierteljahresschrift*, 1–19.

Articles and Blogposts

Julius Kölzer and Ansgar Hudde. *Von der blauen Welle getragen? Räumliche Muster der AfD-Unterstützung bei der Bundestagswahl 2025*. Published on the blog *DeFacto* (in German).

Julius Kölzer and Ansgar Hudde. *Von der blauen Welle getragen? Räumliche Muster der AfD-Unterstützung bei der Bundestagswahl 2025*. Published on the blog *Über Politik aus der Wissenschaft* at the University of Duisburg-Essen (in German).

Michael Bayerlein, Julius Kölzer, Anne Metten. *From deindustrialization to populism? How economic change shapes voting behavior*. Published on the blog of the German Political Science Association (in German).

Julius Kölzer, Christian Stecker, Daniel Kuhlen, Leon Siefken. *The power of blue maps. Why electoral maps of constituency and municipal winners can distort perceptions*. Published on the blog of the German Political Science Association (in German).

Marc Debus, Julius Kölzer, Christian Stecker. *Records in Western Germany – what factors explain the AfD's gains in Hesse and Bavaria?*. Published on the blog of the German Political Science Association (in German).

Newspaper Articles

Julius Kölzer and Mark Schieritz. *"In their eyes, those who have little have only themselves to blame."* **ZEIT ONLINE**, September 17, 2025

Paul Blickle, Christian Endt, Julius Kölzer, and Selina Rudolph. *"Election Results by Constituency: Where the Election Was Won."* **ZEIT ONLINE**, February 24, 2025

Julius Kölzer, Michael Schlieben, Julius Tröger, and Benja Zehr. *"Historical Bundestag Election Results: How Your Constituency Has Voted Since 1949."* **ZEIT ONLINE**, February 12, 2025.

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PARTICIPATIONS

PoBI CIVICA Conference – Bocconi University **06/2026**

Presentation of "The Place-Based Consequences of Green Investments: Evidence from Germany's Tesla Factory".

DVPW Working Group "Elections and Political Attitudes" – JGU Mainz **05/2026**

Presentation of "The Place-Based Consequences of Green Investments: Evidence from Germany's Tesla Factory".

Dimensions of Place-Based Inequalities in Urban & Rural Life – LSE **04/2026**

Presentation of "On the Right Track? Improving Local Transport Provision and Its Political Consequences" (with Charlotte Kuberka).

The Social Costs of Decarbonization – Hertie School **03/2026**

Presentation of "The Place-Based Consequences of Green Investments: Evidence from Germany's Tesla Factory".

Berlin-Brandenburg Political Behavior Workshop – FU Berlin **09/2025**

REXKLIMA Workshop – TU Dresden **09/2025**

Presentation of "Mind the Gap: Declining Train Service Provision and Far-Right Support in Germany".

DVPW Working Group "Elections and Political Attitudes" – FU Berlin **09/2025**

Presentation of "Mind the Gap: Declining Train Service Provision and Far-Right Support in Germany".

Junior Scholar Workshop: Transformations of Democracy – WZB Berlin **09/2025**

Introduction to Geospatial Data – GESIS Cologne **04/2025**

Annual IASGP German Politics Conference – TU Darmstadt **12/2024**

DVPW General Conference – Georg-August University Göttingen **09/2024**

Presentation of a working paper on long-term changes in electoral urban-rural divides in Germany.

DVPW Working Group "Elections and Attitudes" – University of Siegen **06/2024**

Presentation of a project on welfare chauvinist attitudes and the voting behaviour of left-authoritarian voters.

SPS Summer Academy – European University Institute **09/2023**

Presentation of a project on regional labour market exposure to climate transition and Euroscepticism in Florence.

Spring Academy – Institute for Parliamentary Research (IParl), Berlin **03/2023**

Presentation of own research project on the effect of local corona incidence on pandemic response positions of constituency members of the German Bundestag.

Conference on Party Research – Düsseldorf Institute for Party Research **02/2023**

Presentation of a working paper based on my bachelor thesis co-authored with Michael Bayerlein and Anne Metten.

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES / MISCELLANEOUS

Award: Best political science Master thesis at Kiel University in the year 2025

Award: Best political science bachelor thesis at Kiel University in the year 2022

Travel Grant of the International Association for the Study of German Politics for participating in the GraPa Conference

Co-host of the podcast "Political Science? - No problem et al."

Guests included: Kai Arzheimer, Vincente Valentim, Silja Häusermann, Magda Breyer and Noam Gidron.

MEDIA APPEARANCES

- *The Economist* — Article on the growing strength of the AfD and the decline of the German industrial model (2025).
- *Tagesspiegel* — Article on the AfD's electoral performance in the repetition of the federal election in Berlin (2024).
- *TAZ* — Article on the political consequences of industrial decline in the Ruhr area.
- *Berliner Zeitung* — Opinion piece on voter motivations for supporting the AfD (2024).
- *Lage der Nation Podcast*
- *Deutschlandfunk Kultur* — Radio interview on the rise of right-wing extremism in Baden-Württemberg (2024), with Marc Debus.
- *Katapult-Magazin* — Visualization on the AfD's distorted strength in East Germany.
- *Neue Zürcher Zeitung (NZZ)*
- *Público* — International press commentary on the AfD's electoral success and its implications for Germany in the EU elections (2024).
- *Stuttgarter Zeitung* — Data-based analysis of AfD and Green voter distributions in Baden-Württemberg (2025).
- *Esslinger Zeitung* — Expert commentary on class, education, and voting behavior in federal elections (2025).
- *TU Dresden discussion round* — Panel discussion on sources of populist success (2024).
- *Monitor Magazin (WDR)* — Television feature on working-class realignment and the radical right (2024).

LANGUAGES AND FURTHER SKILLS

Languages: German (native), Spanish (B1), English IELTS C1 (8/9).

Methods Training: Quasi-Experimental Designs, Advanced regression modeling, Geospatial data analysis, factor analysis, Data Visualisation.

Statistical Software: STATA (Proficient), R (Proficient), Python (Beginner)