

# JULIUS KÖLZER

 Google Scholar  Bluesky  Twitter  LinkedIn

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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

## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

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

## EDUCATION

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

## PUBLICATION AND ARTICLES

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### *Working Papers*

**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.

**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**

To be presented at CES 2026, Dublin.

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

with Charlotte Kuberka. To be presented at EPSS 2026, Belfast.

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

with Susanna Wirtghe and Dennis Cohen. To be presented at EPSS 2026, Belfast.

## **Can Democracy Defend Itself? The 1929 Stahlhelm Ban and Electoral Consequences in Weimar Germany**

with Mark Kayser. To be presented at EPSS 2026, Belfast.

### *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

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- Berlin-Brandenburg Political Behavior Workshop** 09/2025
- REXKLIMA Workshop - TU Dresden** 09/2025  
Presentation of "Mind the Gap: Declining Train Service Provision and Far-Right Support in Germany.
- Annual Meeting - Working Group "Elections and Political Attitudes" of the DVPW** 09/2025  
Presentation of "Mind the Gap: Declining Train Service Provision and Far-Right Support in Germany.
- WZB Junior Scholar Workshop - Transformations of Democracy** 09/2025
- Introduction to Geospatial Data (GESIS)** 04/2025
- Annual IASGP German Politics Conference** 12/2024
- General Conference of the German Political Science Association (DVPW)** 09/2024  
Presentation of a working paper on long-term changes in electoral urban-rural divides in Germany.
- Working group "Elections and Political Attitudes" of the DVPW** 06/2024  
Presentation of a project on welfare chauvinist attitudes and the voting behaviour of left-authoritarian voters.
- SPS - Summer Academy of the European University Institute (EUI)** 09/2023  
Presentation of a project on regional labour market exposure to climate transition and Euroscepticism in Florence.
- Spring Academy of the Institute for Parliamentary Research in 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.
- Düsseldorf Graduate Conference on Party Research (GraPa) organized by the Düsseldorf Party Research Institute (PRuF)** 02/2023  
Presentation of a working paper based on my bachelor thesis co-authored with Michael Bayerlein and Anne Metten.

## VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES / MISCELLANEOUS

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- 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

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- *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

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**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)