

Dr. Jens Wäckerle

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🏛️ Chair for European and Multilevel Politics - Department of Political Science

University of Cologne - Herbert-Lewin-Straße 2, 50931 Köln, Germany

Education

- 2017 – 2022 ♦ **Ph.D., Universität zu Köln** Political Science, *summa cum laude*.
Thesis title: *The Representation of Women in European Politics*
Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Sven-Oliver Proksch
Date of Award: 14 June 2022
Date of Defense: 7 February 2022
- 2016 – 2017 ♦ **M.Sc., University of Essex** in Public Opinion and Political Behaviour.
Thesis title: *The Success of Women and Ethnic Minorities in British Politics*.
Supervisor: Prof. Jonathan Slapin
Date of Award: 5 December 2017
- 2013 ♦ **Semester abroad Sciences Po, Paris.**
- 2011 – 2016 ♦ **B.A., Zeppelin University, Friedrichshafen** in Politics, Administration and International Relations.
Thesis title: *Geschlecht und Wahlerfolg: Ein Mehrebenenmodell des Wahlerfolgs von Frauen und Männern bei baden-württembergischen Landtagswahlen*.
Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Joachim Behnke
Date of Award: 12 March 2016

Employment History

- 2022 – 2026 ♦ **Post-Doctoral Researcher.** ERC Project MinorityRule, Chair for European Politics, Cologne Center for Comparative Politics, University of Cologne. Work package 3: Citizen Evaluations of Minority Rule.
- 2023 – 2024 ♦ **Professorial Substitute.** Chair for European Politics, Cologne Center for Comparative Politics, University of Cologne.
- 2021 – 2022 ♦ **Post-Doctoral Researcher.** Chair for European Politics, Cologne Center for Comparative Politics, University of Cologne.
- 2020 – 2021 ♦ **Project Administrator.** "Curriculum 4.0", modernising methods teaching at the Cologne Center for Comparative Politics, University of Cologne.
- 2017 – 2021 ♦ **Doctoral Researcher.** Chair for European Politics, Cologne Center for Comparative Politics, University of Cologne.

Publications

Peer-reviewed journal publications

- 1 Castanho Silva, Bruno, Danielle Pullan, and **Jens Wäckerle** (2025). "Blending in or standing out? Gendered political communication in 24 democracies". *American Journal of Political Science* 69 (2), pp. 653–668. 📄 DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/ajps.12876>.
- 2 **Wäckerle, Jens** and Sven-Oliver Proksch (2025). "Political Knowledge and Perceptions of Minority Governments in Europe". *European Journal of Political Research* FirstView, pp. 1–13. 📄 DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S147567652510025X>.
- 3 **Wäckerle, Jens** (2023). "A bill of their own: collaboration of women in European parliaments". *European Journal of Politics and Gender* 6 (3), pp. 308–327. 📄 DOI: [10.1332/251510821X16782058189028](https://doi.org/10.1332/251510821X16782058189028).

- 4 **Wäckerle, Jens** (2023). "The end of the all-male party? Voter preferences for gender representation in political parties". *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties* 33 (4), pp. 726–745.  DOI: 10.1080/17457289.2022.2120885.
- 5 **Wäckerle, Jens** and Bruno Castanho Silva (2023). "Distinctive Voices: Political Speech, Rhetoric, and the Substantive Representation of Women in European Parliaments". *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 48 (4), pp. 797–831.  DOI: 10.1111/lsq.12410.
- 6 Wratil, Christopher and **Jens Wäckerle** (2023). "Majority representation and legitimacy: Survey-experimental evidence from the European Union". *European Journal of Political Research* 62 (1), pp. 285–307.  DOI: 10.1111/1475-6765.12507.
- 7 Wratil, Christopher, **Jens Wäckerle**, and Sven-Oliver Proksch (2023). "Government Rhetoric and the Representation of Public Opinion in International Negotiations". *American Political Science Review* 117 (3), pp. 1105–1122.  DOI: 10.1017/S0003055422001198.
- 8 **Wäckerle, Jens** (2022). "Parity or patriarchy? The nomination of female candidates in British politics". *Party Politics* 28 (1), pp. 10–23.  DOI: 10.1177/1354068820977242.
- 9 Proksch, Sven-Oliver, Christopher Wratil, and **Jens Wäckerle** (2019). "Testing the Validity of Automatic Speech Recognition for Political Text Analysis". *Political Analysis* 27 (3), pp. 339–359.  DOI: 10.1017/pan.2018.62.
- 10 Proksch, Sven-Oliver, Will Lowe, **Jens Wäckerle**, and Stuart Soroka (2018). "Multilingual Sentiment Analysis: A New Approach to Measuring Conflict in Legislative Speeches". *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 44 (1), pp. 97–131.  DOI: 10.1111/lsq.12218.

Conference proceedings

- 1 Mertens, Armin, Franziska Pradel, Ayjeren Rozyjumayeva, and **Jens Wäckerle** (2019). "As the Tweet, so the Reply? Gender Bias in Digital Communication with Politicians". *WebSci '19: Proceedings of the 10th ACM Conference on Web Science*, pp. 193–201.  DOI: 10.1145/3292522.3326013.

Book chapters

- 1 Wratil, Christopher and **Jens Wäckerle** (2026). "Consequences of in/effective representation for system support". *Elgar Encyclopedia of Political Representation*. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing, pp. 660–666. ISBN: 9781035324828.  DOI: 10.4337/9781035324828.00139.

Working papers

- 1 **Wäckerle, Jens**, Bruno Castanho Silva, Danielle Pullan, and Firuze Taner (2025). "The CMD: A Comparative Dataset on Parliamentary Committee Membership in 14 Countries". *ECONtribute Discussion Paper*.  URL: https://www.econtribute.de/RePEc/ajk/ajkdps/ECONtribute_376_2025.pdf.
- 2 Basu, Chitralekha, **Jens Wäckerle**, and Lea Kaftan (2024). "Intersectional identities and citizens' preferences for representation". *Under review, last presented at EPSA 2024*.
- 3 Castanho Silva, Bruno, Danielle Pullan, and **Jens Wäckerle** (2024). "Undermining the Parliamentary Patriarchy: Women, Political Speech, and Power around the World". *Last presented at EPSA 2024*.
- 4 Castanho Silva, Bruno, **Jens Wäckerle**, and Christopher Wratil (2024). "Coming to the Rescue: Public opinion support for fulfilling NATO Article 5 in Germany". *Under review*.
- 5 Castanho Silva, Bruno, **Jens Wäckerle**, and Christopher Wratil (2024). "Determinants of public opinion support for a full embargo on Russian energy in Germany". *ECONtribute Discussion Paper*.  URL: <https://www.econstor.eu/bitstream/10419/262332/1/ECONtribute-170-2022.pdf>.

- 6 Proksch, Sven-Oliver, **Jens Wäckerle**, Lukas Hetzer, Paula Hoffmeyer-Zlotnik, Jasmin Rath, and Hauke Licht (2024). "Rise of the Radical Right and Minority Governments: A Survey Experiment of Voters' Coalition Preferences". *Under review, last presented at EPSA 2024*.
- 7 **Wäckerle, Jens** (2024). "Seeking policy across the aisle: cross-party collaboration in Europe". *Last presented at EPSA 2024*.
- 8 **Wäckerle, Jens** and Hauke Licht (2024). "How Public Opinion Shapes Conflict in International Negotiations: Evidence from Debates in the Council of the European Union". *Last presented at ECPR Standing Group for European Politics, 2024*.

Teaching

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| Summer 2026 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Introduction to Quantitative Text Analysis with R. Methods Seminar (Englisch, joint with Lea Kaftan), GESIS - Leibniz-Institut für Sozialwissenschaften, Cologne. |
| Winter 2025/26 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Introduction to Quantitative Methods. Master Lecture, University of Cologne.  Syllabus |
| Summer 2025 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Natural Language Processing. Methods Seminar (Englisch), Witten-Herdecke University.  Syllabus ◇ Introduction to Quantitative Text Analysis with R. Methods Seminar (Englisch, joint with Lea Kaftan and Jan Schwalbach), GESIS - Leibniz-Institut für Sozialwissenschaften, Cologne.  Syllabus |
| Winter 2024/25 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Introduction to Quantitative Methods. Master Lecture, University of Cologne.  Syllabus |
| Summer 2024 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Grundlagen der Europäischen Politik: Das politische System der Europäischen Union. Bachelor Lecture (German), University of Cologne.  Syllabus ◇ Causal Inference and Public Policy in Europe. Master Seminar (English), University of Cologne.  Syllabus ◇ Introduction to Quantitative Text Analysis with R. Methods Seminar (Englisch, joint with Lea Kaftan and Jan Schwalbach), GESIS - Leibniz-Institut für Sozialwissenschaften, Cologne.  Syllabus ◇ Introduction to Machine Learning for Social Sciences. Methods Seminar, Bamberg Graduate School of Social Sciences.  Syllabus |
| Winter 2023/24 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Comparing European Democracies. Master Lecture, University of Cologne.  Syllabus ◇ Introduction to Quantitative Methods. Master Lecture and Lab, University of Cologne.  Syllabus ◇ Women in European Politics. Master Seminar, University of Cologne.  Syllabus |
| Summer 2022 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Women in European Politics. Bachelor Seminar (German), University of Cologne.  Syllabus |
| Winter 2021/22 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Comparing European Democracies. Master Lecture, University of Cologne.  Syllabus ◇ The dynamic architecture of European institutions. Master Seminar, CIFE, Nice.  Syllabus |
| Winter 2019/20 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Women in European Politics. Bachelor Seminar, University of Cologne.  Syllabus ◇ Quantitative Text Analysis Bachelor Seminar, Zeppelin University Friedrichshafen.  Syllabus |

Conference and Seminar Presentations

- 2026
 - ◇ **EPSA, Annual Conference** Belfast, UK.
 - ◇ **European Conference on Politics and Gender, Biennial Conference** Newcastle, UK.
 - ◇ **Research Seminar, University of Vienna, Invited Talk** Vienna, Austria.
- 2025
 - ◇ **IPSA, World Congress of Political Science** Seoul, South Korea.
 - ◇ **EPSA, Annual Conference** Madrid, Spain.
 - ◇ **7th Annual COMPTExT Conference 2025** Vienna, Austria.
- 2024
 - ◇ **EPSA, Annual Conference** Cologne, Germany.
 - ◇ **Standing Group on the European Union, ECPR, Biennial Conference.** Lisbon, Portugal.
- 2023
 - ◇ **APSA, Annual Meeting** Los Angeles, USA.
 - ◇ **EPSA, Annual Conference** Glasgow, UK.
 - ◇ **Comptext, Annual Conference** Glasgow, UK.
- 2022
 - ◇ **EPSA, Annual Conference** Prague, Czechia.
- 2021
 - ◇ **APSA, Annual Meeting** online, due to Covid-19.
 - ◇ **EPSA, Annual Conference** online, due to Covid-19.
 - ◇ **ECPR Joint Sessions, Workshop** online, due to Covid-19.
- 2020
 - ◇ **Connected Politics Lab, University College Dublin, Research Seminar** online, due to Covid-19.
 - ◇ **EPSA, Annual Conference** online, due to Covid-19.
- 2019
 - ◇ **Zurich Text-as-Data, Workshop** Zurich, Switzerland.
 - ◇ **APSA, Annual Meeting** Washington, DC, USA.
 - ◇ **EPSA, Annual Conference** Belfast, UK.
 - ◇ **MPSA, Annual Conference** Chicago, USA.
- 2018
 - ◇ **EPSA, Annual Conference** Vienna, Austria.

Training

- Aug 2022
 - ◇ **Designing, Implementing, and Analyzing Longitudinal Surveys.** GESIS Summer School in Survey Methodology, Cologne.
- Mar 2019
 - ◇ **Introduction to Bayesian Models for the Social Sciences.** GESIS Spring Seminar, Cologne.
 - ◇ **Bayesian Multilevel Modelling.** GESIS Spring Seminar, Cologne.
- 2017-2018
 - ◇ **Advanced Quantitative Analysis: Experiments and Causal Inference.** PhD Coursework, University of Cologne.
 - ◇ **Strategies of causal analysis and comparative research designs.** PhD Coursework, University of Cologne.
- Aug 2017
 - ◇ **Web Scraping and Data Management in R.** Essex Summer School.
 - ◇ **Quantitative Text Analysis.** Essex Summer School.
- Mar 2017
 - ◇ **Social Network Analysis.** Oxford Spring School in Social Science Research Methods.
 - ◇ **Forecasting.** Oxford Spring School in Social Science Research Methods.
 - ◇ **Spatial Analysis.** Oxford Spring School in Social Science Research Methods.
- Aug 2014
 - ◇ **Introduction to Research Data Management.** GESIS Summer School in Survey Methodology, Cologne.
 - ◇ **Introduction to Web Surveys.** GESIS Summer School in Survey Methodology, Cologne.

Awards

- 2022 ♦ **Junior Teaching Award**, Course: Women in European Politics, Summer 2022 – WiSo Faculty, University of Cologne, Germany.
- 2018 ♦ **Member of the winning team, Dataset Challenge**, European Symposium on Societal Challenges in Computational Social Science – Cologne, Germany.
- 2016 ♦ **Best Bachelor Thesis Award**, Zeppelin University Friedrichshafen.

Grants

- 2023 ♦ **Selten Seeding Grant**. together with Chitrlekha Basu, 2500 €.
- 2020 ♦ **ECPR Joint Sessions Conference Travel Grant**. postponed due to Covid-19.
- 2019 ♦ **DAAD Conference Travel Grant**. 1400 €.
- 2014 ♦ **Deutschlandstipendium (National Scholarship Program)**. 3600 €.

Support for the Discipline

- Reviewer ♦ American Political Science Review, Computational Communication Research, Comparative Political Studies, European Journal of Politics and Gender, European Journal of Political Research, European Union Politics, Government and Opposition, Journal of Computational Social Science, Journal of Politics, Legislative Studies Quarterly, Party Politics, Perspectives on Politics, Political Analysis, Politics and Religion, Political Behavior, Political Psychology, Political Research Exchange, Political Research Quarterly, Political Science Research and Methods, Politics & Gender, Politics & Policy, Review of International Organizations, The Journal of Legislative Studies.
- Organising Committee ♦ Member, Lecture Series at the Cologne Center for Comparative Politics: Micro-foundations of Political Science 2017-2019.
- Expert Panel ♦ Member, Evaluation of the "Social Scientific Data Analysis" Master Program at Lund University.
- Outreach Activities ♦ Moderation of the event „Firewall against the right - even when it comes to climate protection? “, 27 May 2024, KölnAgenda e.V.
- Public relations ♦ Interview on the topic „Mothers in Politics “, 05 August 2023, Kölner Stadtanzeiger.  [Link zum Artikel](#)
♦ Moderation of the event „Europe, the great climate saviour? What the EU can and must do now “, 09 May 2023, Kölner Europadialog.
♦ Information event on the elections to the European Parliament, 07 March 2019 and 20 March 2019, Volkshochschule Köln.
- Departmental service ♦ Academic staff representative at the Department of Political Science at the University of Cologne (2025-).

Skills

- Languages ♦ German (Native speaker), English (Fluent, TOEFL iBT Score 111), French (Basic)
- Coding ♦ R, $\LaTeX$, HTML, STATA, SPSS

Software

- 2018 ♦ 'wersim: Simulating and Measuring Word Error'. R package. available at:
<https://github.com/jenswaeckerle/wersim>
- 2023 ♦ 'IntroRUzK: A Political Science R Tutorial from the University of Cologne'. R Self-learning tutorial.
available at: <https://github.com/jenswaeckerle/IntroRUzK>