

Tobias Widmann

Aarhus University
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Academic position

Aarhus University

Postdoctoral Researcher, Political Science, September 2021 - present

Education

European University Institute

Ph.D., Political Science, 2017 - 2021

Supervisor: Prof. Hanspeter Kriesi

Thesis topic: Emotional Appeals in Political Communication

University of Wisconsin at Madison

Visiting PhD Researcher, January - March 2020

Political Science Department and School of Mass Communication

Host professor: Prof. Young Mie Kim

University of Amsterdam / Aarhus University

Master of Arts, Joint Degree, 2013 - 2015

Political Communication and Journalism

Supervisor: Prof. Sophie Lecheler

Heidelberg University

Bachelor of Arts, 2009 - 2013

Focus: East Asian Studies

Exchange stay: Chiba University, Japan (12 months)

Professional Experience

Editor in Chief

Friends of Europe, Think Tank, Brussels, 2017

Building a German debating platform from scratch, writing articles about politics in Europe, interviewing Members of the European Parliament and European Commission

Journalist

Blendle, Journalism Startup, Utrecht, 2015 - 2017

Creating a daily journalism newsletter, creating PR content, managing data analysis

- Awards and Prizes** **Fulbright Scholarship 2020**
Fulbright Schuman program, jointly financed by the U.S. State Department and the European Commission, awarded for a six-month research stay in the US at UW Madison and Stanford University
- Rudolf Wildenmann Prize 2019**
This prize is awarded annually to a scholar for an outstanding paper presented at the ECPR Joint Sessions of Workshops
Paper title: *How Emotional Are Populists Really? Factors Determining Emotional Appeals in Political Communication*
- Research Grants** **Doctoral Grant from the DAAD 2017 - 2021**
Awarded to German researchers to conduct doctoral research at the European University Institute
- COVID-related Research Grant 2020**
Winner of a European University Institute Research Grant for research in relation to the COVID-19 crisis
- Early Stage Researcher Fund 2019**
Winner of the European University Institute ESR Fund for data-driven research, used to employ crowd-sourcing for the creation of novel text analysis tools
- Publications**
- 4) **Widmann, Tobias** and Maximilian Wich (2022)
Creating and Comparing Dictionary, Word Embedding, and Transformer-Based Models to Measure Discrete Emotions in German Political Text. *Political Analysis.*
 - 3) **Widmann, Tobias** (2022)
Fear, Hope, and COVID-19: Emotional Elite Rhetoric and Its Impact on the Public During the First Wave of the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Political Psychology.*
 - 2) Valentim, Vicente and **Tobias Widmann** (2021)
Does Radical-Right Success Make the Political Debate More Negative? Evidence from Emotional Rhetoric in German State Parliaments. *Political Behavior.*
 - 1) **Widmann, Tobias** (2022)
How Emotional Are Populists Really? Factors Explaining Emotional Appeals in the Communication of Political Parties. *Political Psychology.*

Work in Progress

- 1) **Widmann, Tobias** (2021)
The Effect of Wind Turbine Construction on Elite Discourse.
R & R in *Journal of Politics*.
- 2) Valentim, Vicente and **Tobias Widmann** (2022)
Escalation as a Strategy of Norm Erosion.
- 3) Simonsen, Kristina and **Tobias Widmann** (2022)
Moral appeals in political communication across time, space, ideology, and topics.
- 4) Simonsen, Kristina and **Tobias Widmann** (2022)
When do Political Parties Moralize? Evidence of Strategic Use of Moral Language from a Cross-National Study of Political Communication.
- 5) Conte Keivabu, Risto and **Tobias Widmann** (2022)
The Effect of Temperatures on Politicians' Cognitive Performance and Expressed Emotions
- 6) **Widmann, Tobias** (2022)
The Emotional and Electoral Costs of Gender-Neutral Language in Political Discourse.

Teaching Experience

Aarhus University

Lecturer

Course: Computational Text Analysis

Master Seminar

Spring Term, February 2022 - June 2022

University of Düsseldorf

Lecturer

Course: Introduction to Emotions in Politics

Bachelor Seminar

Winter Term, 2020 - 2021

European University Institute

Teaching Assistant

Course: Computational Text Analysis

PhD Workshop (Lab Sessions)

Winter Term, 2020 - 2021

European University Institute

Participant

Course: Teaching Training

"Teaching for Higher Education"

January 2019

Research Experience

Research Leader

European Governance and Politics Programme

Project: Narrating Covid-19: How Europe as Union fares

Tasks: Planning and Implementing Data Collection, Computational and Manual Data Analysis, Coordination of Research Assistants

Florence, 2020 - 2021

Coordinator: Prof. Brigid Laffan

Research Group Member

Project: Social Media and Democracy (SMAD) - Focuses on the study of user-created digital media and its political and social implications

Madison, 2020

Coordinator: Prof. Dhavan Shah

Research Group Member

Project: Project DATA - Investigation into the sources, content, and targets of digital political campaigns across multiple platforms

Madison, 2020

Coordinator: Prof. Young Mie Kim

Research Assistant

Project: POLCON

Political Conflict in Europe in the Shadow of the Great Recession

Tasks: Manual Content Analysis

Florence, 2018 - 2019

Coordinator: Prof. Hanspeter Kriesi & Dr. Abel Bojar

Additional Training

Workshop: Introduction to Machine Learning

Florence, June 2021

Instructor: Lukas Stoetzer

Workshop: Introduction to R-Markdown and LaTeX

Madison, Wisconsin, 2020

Instructors: Chuan Liu and Josephine Lukito

ECPR Summer School: Quantitative Text Analysis in R

Budapest, 2018

Modules of the course: Scaling, Topic Modelling, Supervised Machine Learning, Sentiment Analysis

Instructor: Iñaki Sagarzazu

Advanced Quantitative Methods – Panel Data Analysis

Florence, 2018

Instructor: Hannes Kröger

Workshop: Text Mining in R

Florence, 2017

Instructor: Paulo Serôdio

Conferences APSA Conference 2022
 EPSA Conference 2022
 Comptext Conference 2022
 International Society for Political Psychology 2019, 2020, 2022
 Young Scholars in Computational Social Science Workshop 2020
 ECPR General Conference 2020, 2021
 ECPR Joint Sessions 2019
 Political Studies Association Conference 2019
 International Communication Association Pre-Conference 2018
 International Journal of Press/Politics Conference 2018

Invited Talks **TextAsData Reading Group**
 April 2023

Hot Politics Lab
 University of Amsterdam, April 2021

Conference on "The Language of Polarization: Methodological Challenges"
 University of Düsseldorf, July 2020

Academic Service **Co-Organizer of the Internet Research Discussion Group**
 Bi-monthly working group to discuss on-going research which involves online data or new computational methods.
 European University Institute, Florence, 2018 - 2020

Referee
 American Political Science Review; Nature Human Behavior; Political Analysis (x2);
 European Journal of Political Research; Political Psychology (x2); Party Politics;
 Journal of Elections, Public Opinion, and Parties; Scandinavian Political Studies (x2);
 Human Communication Research; Political Research Exchange (PRX)

Software R (very good command), Python (intermediate command), L^AT_EX, Markdown, MS-Office

Languages German (native), English (fluent), Japanese (intermediate),
 Danish (basic - currently learning), Italian (basic), French (basic)