

Prof. Dr. L. Constantin Wurthmann

PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL BEHAVIOR AND REPRESENTATION · JOHANNES GUTENBERG UNIVERSITY MAINZ

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Professional Experience

- 2026 – now **Associate Professor of Political Behavior and Representation**, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz
2024 – 2026 **Research Fellow**, Mannheim Centre for European Social Research (MZES), University of Mannheim
2023 – 2024 **Acting Professor of Comparative Politics**, Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen–Nuremberg
2022 – 2023 **Lecturer**, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz
2021 – 2023 **Postdoctoral Researcher**, GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences
2017 – 2021 **Research Associate**, Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf
2017 **Lecturer**, University of Duisburg–Essen

Education

Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf

Düsseldorf

PH.D. IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

06/2017 – 02/2022

- Title of dissertation: *Value Orientations and Voting Behaviour. Effects of Societal Value Orientations in the Federal Elections 2009–2017*
- Supervisors: Stefan Marschall and Susanne Pickel
- Grade: *summa cum laude*

University of Duisburg–Essen

Duisburg

M.A. THEORY AND COMPARISON OF POLITICAL SYSTEMS IN TRANSITION

10/2014 – 09/2016

- Master's thesis: *The Understanding of Democracy among Germans and Russians*
- Final grade: 1.6

University of Duisburg–Essen

Duisburg

B.A. POLITICAL SCIENCE

10/2011 – 09/2014

- Bachelor's thesis: *Issue Orientation among Green and Union Voters – A Positioning*
- Final grade: 1.7

Don Bosco Gymnasium

Essen

ABITUR (GERMAN UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE QUALIFICATION)

09/2002 – 07/2011

- Final grade: 1.4

Publications

MONOGRAPHS AND EDITED VOLUMES

Wurthmann, L. Constantin, 2026: Raus aus der Polarisierungsfalle! Klar in der Sache, fair im Ton: Wahlkampfstrategien zwischen demokratischer Polarisierung und populistischen Versuchungen. Monitor Parteien. Berlin: Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e.V.

Wurthmann, L. Constantin, and Marius Sältzer, 2025: Der digitale Bundestagswahlkampf 2025: Erste Einblicke. Berlin: Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e.V.

Wagner, Sarah, and **L. Constantin Wurthmann**, 2025: Das Bündnis Sahra Wagenknecht – Vernunft und Gerechtigkeit (BSW). Eine politikwissenschaftliche Einordnung. Wiesbaden: Springer VS.

Wurthmann, L. Constantin, and J. Philipp Thomeczek, 2025: Umbrüche im deutschen Parteiensystem: eine (neue) populistische Herausforderung? Potsdam: Friedrich-Naumann-Stiftung für die Freiheit.

- Riebe, Frauke, Lukas Hetzer, and **L. Constantin Wurthmann**, 2022: Die Bundestagswahl 2021: Perspektiven und Daten aus der deutschen Wahlstudie. *easy_social_sciences* 67. Mannheim: GESIS – Leibniz-Institut für Sozialwissenschaften.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, 2022: Wertorientierungen und Wahlverhalten. Effekte gesellschaftlicher Wertorientierungen bei den Bundestagswahlen 2009–2017. Mannheim: Springer VS.

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Berz, Jan and **L. Constantin Wurthmann**, 2026: No laughing matter? How damaging are inappropriate emotional displays by political leaders? *Electoral Studies*.
- Gross, Martin and **L. Constantin Wurthmann**, 2026: Beyond ideology: do dialect-speaking citizens want to be represented by dialect-speaking politicians? *Political Studies*.
- Riebe, Frauke, **L. Constantin Wurthmann**, and Lukas Hetzer, 2026. Ideological Positions and Representational Isolation: Emotional Responses to the Climate Crisis. *Representation*.
- Birkenmaier, Lukas, Anne-Kathrin Stroppe, **L. Constantin Wurthmann**, and Marius Sältzer, 2026: Between Home Turf and Hinterland: Directly Elected MPs Focus More on Local and Deprived Places than List Candidates on Social Media. *Research & Politics*.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, Kira Kurz, and Sarah Wagner, 2026. Breaking the German Cold War Taboo? The Generational Divide in Evaluating a Coalition Between CDU/CSU and The Left. *Politische Vierteljahresschrift*.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, Daniel Hagemann, and Stefan Marschall, 2026: Low Education – Low Impact? The Effects of Voting Advice Applications on an Underexposed Segment of Users. *Politics and Governance*.
- Thomeczek, J. Philipp, **L. Constantin Wurthmann**, and Christian Stecker, 2025: Studying Party-Voter Congruence in the European Elections 2024: Introducing a New VAA Dataset on German Voter Positions. *European Union Politics*.
- Wagner, Sarah, and **L. Constantin Wurthmann**, 2025: Bündnis Sahra Wagenknecht: Curse or Blessing for AfD in the State Elections? *German Politics*.
- Bäuerle, Joscha, and **L. Constantin Wurthmann**, 2025: Do They Know What They Represent? Parliamentary Candidates' Perceptions of Their Own Party's Positions. *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion, and Parties*.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, and Marius Sältzer, 2025: Issue Congruence Between Candidates' Twitter Communication and Constituencies in a MMES: Migration as an Exemplary Case. *Parliamentary Affairs*.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, and Sarah Wagner, 2025: Much Ado About Nothing? Understanding Germany's Bündnis Sahra Wagenknecht (BSW) Potential Voters. *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion, and Parties*.
- Heckmann, Leon, **L. Constantin Wurthmann**, and Sarah Wagner, 2025: Who's Afraid of Sahra - Understanding the Shift in Votes Towards Germany's Bündnis Sahra Wagenknecht. *Research and Politics*, 12(1), 1–8.
- Kurz, Kira, **L. Constantin Wurthmann**, and Martin Gross, 2025: The Influence of Age on Citizens' Preferences for Age-Related Descriptive Representation. *Politics and Governance*, 13, 1–18.
- Walke, Lian, and **L. Constantin Wurthmann**, 2025: Koalitionen mit der AfD? Determinanten der Präferenzbildung in Ost- und Westdeutschland vor der Bundestagswahl 2021. *Zeitschrift für Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft*, 18, 401–426.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, and Sarah Wagner, 2025: On the Association of Attitudes Toward NATO and Weapon Deliveries for Ukraine with Vote Intentions in Germany. *German Politics*, 34(1), 1–24.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, and Alberto López Ortega, 2025: Bisexual Erasure and Homophobia – Attitudinal Patterns Under Consideration of Sexual Identity. *European Journal of Politics and Gender*, 8(1), 55–81.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, 2024: Political Attitudes and Sexual Identity in Germany: Examining the Sexuality Gap. *Swiss Political Science Review*, 1–13.
- Debus, Marc, and **L. Constantin Wurthmann**, 2024: LGB+ identity and its implications for the policy positions of parliamentary candidates. *European Political Science Review*, 16(4), 483–502.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, and Svenja Krauss, 2024: The closer, the better – How perceived ideological proximity affects the emergence of coalition preferences. *Political Research Exchange*, 6(1), 1–23.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, 2024: Black–Blue or Bahamas? Explaining CDU, CSU, FDP and AfD Voter Attitudes Towards a Common Governmental Coalition Before the 2017 German Federal Election. *German Politics*, 33(1), 110–132.

- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, 2024: The German Transgender Self-Determination Law: Explanatory Factors for Support within the Population. *European Journal of Politics and Gender*, 7(1), 135–139.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, Michael Angenendt, and Jan Philipp Thomeczek, 2024: The “Free Voters” - A Decent Alternative for Conservatives? *Politische Vierteljahresschrift*, 65(1), 99–122.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, 2023: German Gays Go Green? Voting Behaviour of Lesbians, Gays, and Bisexuals in the 2021 German Federal Election. *Electoral Studies*, 81(1), 1–11.
- Wagner, Sarah, **L. Constantin Wurthmann**, and Jan Philipp Thomeczek, 2023: Bridging Left and Right? How Sahra Wagenknecht could change the German party landscape. *Politische Vierteljahresschrift*, 64(3), 621–636.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, 2023: Kooperation oder Abgrenzung? Einstellungen zum oppositionellen Umgang der CDU/CSU mit der Linken und der AfD. *Zeitschrift für Parlamentsfragen*, 54(1), 69–86.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, 2022: Regional election in North Rhine-Westphalia, 15 May 2022. *Electoral Bulletins of the European Union*, 2(3).
- Roßmann, Joss, **L. Constantin Wurthmann**, Frauke Riebe, Lukas Hetzer, and Manuela Blumenberg, 2022: Die Bundestagswahl 2021: Eine außergewöhnliche Wahl in ungewöhnlichen Zeiten. In: Riebe, Frauke, Lukas Hetzer, and **L. Constantin Wurthmann** (eds.): *Die Bundestagswahl 2021: Perspektiven und Daten aus der deutschen Wahlstudie*. *easy_social_sciences* 67.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, and Joscha Bäuerle, 2022: Eine:r von uns? - Kandidierende und Wähler:innen zur Bundestagswahl 2021 im Vergleich. In: Riebe, Frauke, Lukas Hetzer, and **L. Constantin Wurthmann** (eds.): *Die Bundestagswahl 2021: Perspektiven und Daten aus der deutschen Wahlstudie*. *easy_social_sciences* 67.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, Stefan Marschall, Vasiliki Triga, and Vasilis Manavopoulos, 2021: Many losers – One winner? An examination of vote switching to the AfD in the 2017 German federal election using VAA data. *Party Politics*, 27(5), 870–882.
- Manavopoulos, Vasilis, Vasiliki Triga, Stefan Marschall, and **L. Constantin Wurthmann**, 2019: The Impact of VAAs on (non-Voting) Aspects of Political Participation: Insights from Panel Data Collected During the 2017 German Federal Elections Campaign. *Statistics, Politics and Policy*, 9(2), 105–134.

BOOK AND HANDBOOK CHAPTERS

- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, Sarah Wagner, and Susanne Pickel, 2026: Gekommen, um zu bleiben? Das Bündnis Sahra Wagenknecht – Vernunft und Gerechtigkeit (BSW). In: Schiffrs, Maximilian, Arno von Schuckmann, and Karl-Rudolf Korte (eds.): *Die Bundestagswahl 2025. Analysen der Wahl-, Parteien-, Kommunikations-, Regierungs- und Policyforschung*. Springer VS.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, and Sarah Wagner, 2026: Thematic Introduction: Issue Saliency in the 2025 Federal Election. In: Ross, Campbell, and Louise K. Davidson-Schmich (eds.): *The German Federal Election 2025*. Palgrave Macmillan, 129–141.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, 2026: Mikroanalytische Verfahren in der Vergleichenden Politikwissenschaft: Individualdaten- und Einstellungsforschung. In: Kneuer, Marianne, Gert Pickel, and Susanne Pickel (eds.): *Handbuch Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft*. 2. Auflage. Springer VS.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, forthcoming: Heterosexism in Germany: What We can Learn about the Differentiated Perception of Public Affection. In: Bailey, Mandi, Steven Nawara, and Andrew Flores (eds.): *LGBTQ+ Public Opinion: The United States in Global Context*. University of Michigan Press.
- Grahn, Michal, and **L. Constantin Wurthmann**, 2026: The political behavior of lesbians, gays, bisexuals and trans+ people. In: Lefkofridi, Zoe (eds.): *Elgar Encyclopedia of Gender and Politics*. Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd.
- Sältzer, Marius, and **L. Constantin Wurthmann**, 2025: Online Campaigning. In: Nai, Alessandro, Max Grömping, and Dominique Wirz (eds.): *Elgar Encyclopedia of Political Communication*. Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd, 114–117.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, and Frank Decker, 2025: Bündnis Sahra Wagenknecht – Vernunft und Gerechtigkeit (BSW). In: Decker, Frank, and Viola Neu (eds.): *Handbuch der deutschen Parteien*. Springer VS, 214–221.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, 2024: »Kontrovers besprochen«: Spaltung und Zusammenhalt einer Gesellschaft. In: Backes, Uwe, Alexander Gallus, Eckhard Jesse, and Tom Thieme (eds.): *Jahrbuch Extremismus & Demokratie*. Nomos Verlagsgesellschaft, 324–336.

- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, 2023: Thematic Introduction: Issue Saliency in the 2021 Federal Election. In: Ross, Campbell, and Louise K. Davidson-Schmich (eds.): *The German Federal Election 2021*. Palgrave Macmillan, 291–303.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, and Daniel C. Hagemann, 2023: Wahlkampf im Netz: Policy oder Person? Eine inhaltsanalytische Untersuchung der Twitter-Accounts im Bundestag vertretener Parteien vor der Bundestagswahl 2021. In: Motzkau, Martin, and Martin Fuchs (eds.): *Digitaler Wahlkampf im Superwahljahr 2021*. Springer VS, 7–25.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, and Stefan Marschall, 2023: Kommunikation und Komplexität politischer Informationssuche in der Pandemie: Der Wahl-O-Mat, Social Media und klassische Informationsressourcen im Bundestagswahljahr 2021. In: Korte, Karl-Rudolf, Maximilian Schiffers, Arno Von Schuckmann, and Sandra Plümer (eds.): *Die Bundestagswahl 2021*. Springer VS, 207–231.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, 2021: Werte und Wertewandel. In: Andersen, Uwe, Jörg Bogumil, Stefan Marschall, and Wichard Woyke (eds.): *Handwörterbuch des politischen Systems der Bundesrepublik Deutschland*. Springer VS, 1001–1005.
- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, Stefan Marschall, and Maike Billen, 2019: Regierungsoptionen zwischen Bürgerwille und Issue-Nähe – eine Analyse von Koalitionspräferenzen vor der Bundestagswahl 2017. In: Korte, Karl-Rudolf, and Jan Schoofs (eds.): *Die Bundestagswahl 2017*. Springer VS, 293–321.

DATASETS

- Thomeczek, J. Philipp, **L. Constantin Wurthmann**, and Christian Stecker, 2024: GEPARTEE – German Parties before the European Elections 2024. Harvard Dataverse, <https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/7PBJ59>.

CONFERENCE REPORTS

- Wurthmann, L. Constantin**, Cemal Öztürk, and Carsten Wegscheider, 2016: „Vorsicht Sicherheit! Legitimationsprobleme der Ordnung von Freiheit“ aus vergleichender Perspektive. Kongressbericht der Sektion Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft vom 26. wissenschaftlichen Kongress der Deutschen Vereinigung für Politische Wissenschaft (DVPW), 21.–25. September 2015 in Duisburg. *Zeitschrift für Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft*, 9(4), 317–333.

Research Grants and Scholarships

2025	Partisanship and Support among Sexual and Gender Minorities in Eastern and Western Europe , European Research Council (ERC) – Starting Grant <i>Planned project duration: 04/2026 – 03/2031</i> <i>Role: Principal Investigator</i>	€1,499,541
2025	German Sexual Identity and Election Study (GSIES) , German Research Foundation (DFG) <i>Project duration: 01/2026 – 12/2028</i> <i>Role: Principal Investigator</i>	€454,158
2024	The European Elections as a Seismograph of Political Trust? A German–Austrian Comparison (EUROPOLVER) (translated) , Universitätsbund Erlangen-Nürnberg, International Association for the Study of German Politics, Luise Prell Foundation <i>Project duration: 05/2024 – 10/2024</i> <i>Role: Principal Investigator (with Sandra Eckert and Simon Primus)</i>	€5,795
2023	Citizen Conceptions of Representation in the German Multi-Level System (BeReDeM) (translated) , Fritz Thyssen Foundation <i>Project duration: 06/2023 – 12/2023</i> <i>Role: Principal Investigator (with Martin Gross)</i>	€21,000
2022	Open-Access Publication of Doctoral Dissertation , Open Access Fund of Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf <i>Funding period: 2022</i>	€5,355
2011	Study Scholarship , Konrad Adenauer Foundation <i>Funding period: 10/2011 – 09/2016</i>	€20,000

INSTITUTIONALLY ACQUIRED COMPETITIVE FUNDING

2022	Values, Attitudes and Participation towards Environmental and Climate Issues (VAPECI) , GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences <i>Project duration: 10/2022 – 12/2022</i> <i>Role: Principal Investigator</i>	€5,160
2021	All Queer, or What? Sexual and Gender Identity of Queer Adolescents – Qualitative Expert and Target Group Interviews (translated) , GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences <i>Project duration: 11/2021 – 12/2021</i> <i>Role: Principal Investigator</i>	€600
2021	Breaking the Fourth Wall – In Conversation with Experts: A Multimedia Teaching Project for the Social Sciences (translated) , E-Learning Support Fund <i>Project duration: 04/2021 – 01/2022</i> <i>Role: Project Lead</i>	€9,000

PARTICIPATION IN GRANT APPLICATIONS

2021	Elections in Turbulent Times: New Patterns of Individual Communication and Information Using the Example of the Wahl-O-Mat (translated) , Fritz Thyssen Foundation <i>Project duration: 05/2021 – 01/2022</i> <i>Role: Project Coordinator (Project Lead: Stefan Marschall)</i>	€17,800
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Science Communication and Media Engagement

INTERVIEW PARTNER FOR THE FOLLOWING MEDIA OUTLETS (AMONG OTHERS)

- 1LIVE
- Bayerischer Rundfunk
- DER SPIEGEL
- Der Standard (Österreich)
- Deutschlandfunk
- Deutschlandfunk Nova
- Euractiv
- Frankenschau
- Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung
- Handelsblatt
- Hessischer Rundfunk
- MDR
- NDR
- Phoenix
- RBB
- Stern
- Süddeutsche Zeitung
- Tagesschau
- Tagesthemen
- Tages-Anzeiger (Schweiz)
- Tagesspiegel
- The Guardian
- T-Online
- The Economist
- WDR
- WELT Online
- WirtschaftsWoche
- ZDFheute
- Zeit Online

Service to the Profession

ENGAGEMENT IN PROFESSIONAL AND PUBLIC ASSOCIATIONS

Since 2026 **Board of Trustees of the State Agency for Civic Education (LpB) North Rhine-Westphalia (translated)**
Scientific Advisor

2024–2027 **German Political Science Association (translated)**
Board Member

REVIEWER FOR ACADEMIC JOURNALS

British Journal of Political Science; Electoral Studies; European Journal of Political Research; European Journal of Politics and Gender; European Politics and Society; German Politics; German Studies Review; International Journal of Public Opinion Research; Journal of European Public Policy; Journal of Homosexuality; Party Politics; Political Behavior; Political Psychology; Political Studies; Political Studies Review; Politics & Gender; Politische Vierteljahresschrift; Public Opinion Quarterly; Politics and Governance; Regional and Federal Studies; SN Social Sciences; Statistics, Politics and Policy; The Journal of Politics; West European Politics; Zeitschrift für Politikwissenschaft; Zeitschrift für Religion, Gesellschaft und Politik; Zeitschrift für Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft

REVIEWER FOR RESEARCH FUNDING ORGANISATIONS

Austrian Academy of Sciences; Israel Science Foundation

SUPERVISION OF DOCTORAL RESEARCHERS

Mara Wiegmann, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz

MENTORING OF DOCTORAL RESEARCHERS

Joscha Bäuerle, GESIS/University of Darmstadt

Rohan Khan, Humboldt University Berlin

Gwendolyn Mingham, Technical University of Munich

Engagement in Student and Academic Self-Governance _____

10/2024– **Deputy Gender Equality Officer**

03/2026 Mannheim Centre for European Social Research, University of Mannheim

01/2022– **Proud@GESIS**

09/2023 Steering Group – Representation of LGBTIQ* Employees at GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences

10/2019– **Elected Mid-Level Academic Representative and Member of the Institute Board**

10/2021 Institute of Social Sciences, Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf

07/2019– **Elected Deputy Representative of Mid-Level Academic Staff on the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities**

06/2021 Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf

03/2012– **Various Roles in Student and Academic Self-Governance**

09/2016 University of Duisburg–Essen