

Tobias Widmann

Aarhus University
Department of Political Science
Bartholins Allé 7
8000 Aarhus C - Denmark

widmann@ps.au.dk
www.tobiaswidmann.eu
Twitter: @tobiaswidmann

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
Academic Service	Conference on "The Language of Polarization: Methodological Challenges"
	University of Düsseldorf, July 2020
	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
Software	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)
Languages	R (very good command), Python (intermediate command), L ^A T _E X, Markdown, MS-Office
	German (native), English (fluent), Japanese (intermediate), Danish (basic - currently learning), Italian (basic), French (basic)