



# TIMO SPRANG

I am a research associate at the chair of Political Science with a Focus on Education Policy/Political Socialization Research at Goethe University. I am interested in parliamentary opposition, coalition dynamics and the links between economic and political inequality.


## CURRENT POSITION

- Present  
|  
Apr. 2024
- **Research Associate**  
University of Frankfurt  Frankfurt, DE
    - Head: Prof. Julian Garritzmann
    - Teaching classes on political system design, political inequality, and research methods
    - Research on parliamentary opposition, coalition dynamics and radicalism


## EDUCATION

- Mar. 2024  
|  
Oct. 2021
- **M.A., Empirical Democracy Research**  
University of Mainz  Mainz, DE
    - GPA: 1.0 (with honors)
    - Thesis: Pick Your Poison — Policy Payoff Proportionality in European Government Coalitions
    - In the German academic system, 1.0 is the best possible grade on a scale running to 5.0.

Sep. 2021  
|  
Oct. 2018

  - **B.A., Communication Science**  
University of Mainz  Mainz, DE
    - GPA: 1.6
    - Thesis: Entering the European Parliament with a Smile — A Content Analysis of the Facebook Campaign for the European Elections of Die PARTEI

Sep. 2021  
|  
Oct. 2016

  - **B.A., Political Science**  
University of Mainz  Mainz, DE
    - GPA: 1.8
    - Thesis: Oasis in the Authoritarian Desert — The Unlikely Case of the Mongolian Democracy



## CONTACT

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- 🖱 [timo-sprang.net](http://timo-sprang.net)
- 🐦 [timo\\_sprang](https://twitter.com/timo_sprang)
- 🌐 [tisprang](https://www.tisprang.com)

## SKILLS

Highly skilled in R and experienced in other statistical software like Stata (advanced), SPSS and Python. Full experience with MS Office and Quarto as well as some experience with LaTeX and HTML. Accustomed to the use of literature management software like Zotero and Citavi. Skilled in graphical editing with GIMP, Scribus, and Avid.

## LANGUAGES

I am a native German speaker. I am also fluent in English and have advanced knowledge of French.



## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Mar. 2024  
|  
Sep. 2022

### Research Assistant

Chair of Comparative Politics

📍 University of Mainz

- Head: Prof. Armin Schäfer
- Assistance in quantitative research on political equality, (descriptive) representation, and responsiveness
- Literature research and database management

Mar. 2024  
|  
Oct. 2021

### Research Assistant

Chair of German Politics and Political Sociology

📍 University of Mainz

- Head: Prof. Kai Arzheimer
- Assistance in quantitative and qualitative research on the (German) populist radical right, electoral integrity, and digital politics
- Technical and content-related teaching assistance

Oct. 2023  
|  
May 2023

### Research Assistant

GerCaMP Project

📍 University of Mainz

- Coordinator: Dr. Lea Elsässer
- Quantitative content analysis of German MP's biographical backgrounds before entering parliament
- Exploration and implementation of automated content analysis methods



## PUBLICATIONS

2025

### Radical Weakness — Do Radical Parties Receive Fewer Ministries?

Comparative Political Studies

- Accepted for Publication

2024

### Oppression of Catholics in Prussia Does Not Explain Spatial Differences in Support for the Radical Right in Germany. A Critique of Haffert (2022)

Electoral Studies

- With Kai Arzheimer and Theresa Bernemann

2024

### Unterstützung für demokratische Werte, Prozesse und Institutionen in der Polizei und Bevölkerung

Innere Sicherheit und Demokratische Resilienz. Bedingungen und Wechselwirkungen polizeilichen Handelns in der pluralen Gesellschaft [INSIDER]. Abschlussbericht der Polizeistudie für das Land Rheinland-Pfalz. Conny Antoni, Kai Arzheimer & Martin Endreß (Ed.)

- With Kai Arzheimer, René Selbach, Lucas Schwarz and Julian Degler

SUMMARY. My research has been published in peer reviewed journals and has been used for policy counselling.



## ONGOING RESEARCH

Present  
|  
Jan. 2025

- **The Concept, Clusters, and Consequences of Parliamentary Opposition**  
Dissertation Project
  - First Supervisor: Julian Garritzmann
  - Second Supervisor: Thomas Zittel



## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Winter  
2025/26

- **Right-Wing Extremism as a Social and Practical Challenge for Teachers**  
BA Level/Teacher Training Seminar University of Frankfurt

Winter  
2025/26

- **Democracy, Parliamentarism and Alternatives**  
BA Level/Teacher Training Seminar University of Frankfurt

Winter  
2025/26

- **Methods Primer for Comparative Democracy**  
MA Level Two Day Workshop University of Frankfurt

Summer  
2025

- **The Politics of Economic Inequality**  
BA Level Seminar University of Frankfurt

Summer  
2025

- **Democracy, Parliamentarism and Alternatives**  
BA Level/Teacher Training Seminar University of Frankfurt

Summer  
2025

- **Causes, Symptoms and Consequences of Political Inequality**  
BA Level/Teacher Training Seminar University of Frankfurt

Summer  
2025

- **A Jump-Start to Data Analysis with R**  
MA Level Two Day Workshop University of Frankfurt

Winter  
2024/25

- **Causes, Symptoms and Consequences of Political Inequality**  
BA Level/Teacher Training Seminar University of Frankfurt

Winter  
2024/25

- **Democracy, Parliamentarism and Alternatives**  
BA Level/Teacher Training Seminar University of Frankfurt

Winter  
2024/25

- **Methods Primer for Comparative Democracy**  
MA Level Two Day Workshop University of Frankfurt

Summer  
2024

- **Causes, Symptoms and Consequences of Political Inequality**  
BA Level/Teacher Training Seminar University of Frankfurt

**SUMMARY.** In my cumulative dissertation, I analyse the institutional structure of parliamentary opposition. Using state of the art AI, I aim to increase transparency by explicitly identifying legal underpinnings.

**TEACHING PORTFOLIO.** System Design, Political Economy, Political Inequality, Economic Inequality, Statistics in R, Quantitative Methods, Data Analysis, Methods of Political Education, Representation, Responsiveness, Survey Design, Data Visualisation, Political Participation, Democratic Innovations

Summer  
2024



### **Democracy, Parliamentarism and Alternatives**

BA Level/Teacher Training Seminar

University of Frankfurt

SUMMARY. Besides engaging in peer review, I participate in different positions in academic self-administration.



## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Apr. 2026



### **ECPR Joint Sessions of Workshops**

Innsbruck, Austria

SUMMARY I present my research at scientific conferences and value scholarly exchange with the research community.

Mar. 2026



### **Annual Meeting of DVPW section 'Methods of Political Science'**

Hannover, Germany

Oct. 2025



### **Annual Meeting of DVPW section 'Comparative Parliamentarism Research'**

Kiel, Germany



## WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

Jan. 2025



### **Using AI for Text Analysis - Introduction and Advanced Applications**

Instats

Online

· By Seraphine Maerz

SUMMARY. I regularly attend workshops to expand my knowledge about scientific methods and regarding my position as an early career researcher.

Jan. 2025



### **Introduction to Data Science with Python**

GRADE

University of Frankfurt

· By Jan Bischoff

May  
2024



### **Causal Inference**

InFER

University of Frankfurt

· By Vicente Valentim

Dec. 2024



### **Causal Graphs**

InFER

University of Frankfurt

· By Julian Schüssler

Nov. 2024



### **Writing and Publishing Journal Articles**

GRADE

University of Frankfurt

· By Noa Milman

May  
2023



### **Reproducible Reports with Quarto**

Institute of Political Science

University of Mainz

· By Julia Schulte-Cloos



## SERVICES TO THE PROFESSION

- **Reviewer**  
 British Journal of Political Science, Comparative Political Studies,  
 Frontiers in Political Science, Parliamentary Affairs, Zeitschrift für  
 Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft
- Present  
 |  
 Jan. 2026 ● **Budget Committee**  
 University of Frankfurt 📍 Frankfurt, DE  
 · ECR Representative
- Present  
 |  
 Apr. 2025 ● **Faculty Council**  
 University of Frankfurt 📍 Frankfurt, DE  
 · ECR Representative
- Present  
 |  
 Apr. 2025 ● **Board of Directors**  
 University of Frankfurt 📍 Frankfurt, DE  
 · ECR Representative
- Present  
 |  
 Apr. 2025 ● **Admissions Board Member**  
 University of Frankfurt 📍 Frankfurt, DE  
 · For the MA Programs “Comparative Democracy” and “Political Science”
- Dec. 2024  
 |  
 Oct. 2024 ● **Hiring Committee Member**  
 University of Frankfurt 📍 Frankfurt, DE  
 · Professorship for Democracy Research in the European Multi-Level  
 System

## GRANTS

- Jan. 2025 ● **Workshop Funding**  
 GRADE Frankfurt  
 · Fully funded participation fee (342€) for workshop “Using AI for Text  
 Analysis”

## OTHER EXPERIENCE

- Dec. 2024  
 |  
 May  
 2019 ● **Tour Guide**  
 Landtag Rheinland-Pfalz 📍 Mainz, DE  
 · Educational programmes on the state parliament and German political  
 system in German and English

**SUMMARY.** I also have experience in journalism and in political education.

Jan. 2020  
|  
Nov. 2019



**Television Journalist, Intern**

SAT.1 Rheinland-Pfalz/Hessen

📍 Mainz/Frankfurt, DE

- Research on regional politics and support of the according video shoots
- Video editing and technical assistance