



**Institut für Politikwissenschaft
(IPW-HSG)**

Jahresbericht 2023

Institut für Politikwissenschaft
Universität St. Gallen
Müller-Friedbergstr. 8
CH-9000 St. Gallen

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Editorial

Herzlich willkommen und danke für Ihr Interesse an der Arbeit des Instituts für Politikwissenschaft an der Universität St.Gallen!

Das Jahr 2023 war uns sowohl von bedeutenden Erfolgen als auch von Herausforderungen geprägt. In einer Zeit politischer Umbrüche, globaler Krisen und technologischen Fortschritts ist die Relevanz politikwissenschaftlicher Forschung von besonderer Bedeutung. Gleichzeitig bedeutet die Aktualität und Dringlichkeit eine stete Veränderung und teils auch Politisierung und Emotionalisierung unseres Forschungsgegenstands. Dies erfordert die Fähigkeit, die notwendige Distanz zu wahren, um fundierte Erklärungsmodelle zu entwickeln und Orientierungshilfen anzubieten.

In dem vorliegenden Jahresbericht möchten wir ein paar Ereignisse des vergangenen Jahres hervorheben. So startete die Forschungsgruppe Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft, geleitet von Tina Freyburg, gleich zwei grösseren Forschungsprojekten, welche mithilfe kompetitiv eingeworbener Drittmittel finanziert werden. In dem vom Schweizerischen Nationalfonds geförderten Sinergia-Projekt REFLEX spürt das St.Galler Team zusammen mit Kolleg:innen an der Universität Lugano sowie der ETH Zürich der wirtschaftlichen Entwicklung der Schweiz seit Mitte des 19.



*Prof. Tina M. Freyburg und Prof. James W. Davis
Direktorat IPW-HSG*

Jahrhunderts auf Basis einer umfangreichen Digitalisierung des Schweizerischen Handelsregisters nach. Ein weiteres, von der Europäischen Kommission gefördertes Horizon Europe-Projekt widmet sich der Rolle von Wahrnehmungen des eigenen Aussenbildes auf aussenpolitische Praktiken. Ganz herzlich willkommen heissen möchten wir die neuen Mitarbeitenden auf diesen Projekten!

Unsere Forschungsergebnisse tragen nicht nur dazu bei, ein besseres Verständnis dieser komplexen Phänomene zu erlangen. Wir haben auch wiederholt erfolgreich konkrete Handlungsempfehlungen für politische Entscheidungsträger:innen formuliert. Besonders hervorzuheben ist hier die Arbeit von Anna Stünzi im Bereich nachhaltiger Finanzierungsmodelle. Zusammen mit Malte Toetzke und Florian Egli von der ETH Zürich entwickelte sie ein Modell zur Verarbeitung natürlicher Sprache - ClimateFinanceBERT genannt - das Klimaprojekte identifiziert und kategorisiert – und gewann damit u.a. den Impact Award der Universität St.Gallen.

Wir danken allen Mitarbeiter:innen und Studierenden für ihr Engagement und ihre Unterstützung im vergangenen Jahr und freuen uns auf weitere erfolgreiche Zusammenarbeit im Jahr 2024!

Personelles

Direktion

Prof. James W. Davis, PhD
Prof. Tina M. Freyburg, PhD

Administration

Anne Kristine Tischhauser
Isabelle Leutenegger

Geschäftsleitender Ausschuss

Prof. Dr. Vito Roberto (Präsident)
Prof. Dr. Thomas J. Biersteker
Prof. Dr. Miriam Meckel
Prof. Dr. Kuno Schedler

Forschungsgruppen

International Relations:

- Prof. James W. Davis, PhD (Lehrstuhl-inhaber)
- Prof. Dr. em. Christoph Heusgen (Honorarprofessor)
- Manali Kumar, PhD (Postdoktorandin)
- Tobias Risse, PhD (Postdoktorand)
- Jana-Christina von Dessien, MA (Doktorandin)
- Konstantin Schendzielorz, MA (Doktorand)
- Benjamin Bertrand, MA (Doktorand)
- Forschungsassistenten: Luc Despotovic, Adrian Pandjaitan

Comparative Politics:

- Prof. Tina Freyburg, PhD (Lehrstuhlinhaberin)
- Anna Stünzi, PhD (Postdoktorandin)
- Alexander Geissler, PhD (Postdoktorand)
- Christoph Steinert, PhD (Postdoktorand)
- Ioannis Vergioglou, PhD (Postdoktorand)
- Lisa Garbe, PhD (assoziierte Postdoktorantin)

- Michael Asiedu, MA (Doktorand)
- Nino Caduff, MA (Doktorand)
- Danyl Denysenko, MA (Doktorand)
- Leslie Fischer, MA (Doktorandin)
- Filippo Pasquali, MA (Doktorand)
- Forschungsassistent:innen:
Line Cottier ; Alessandro Cupolo ; Livia Eckert ; Mathilde Morin; Katharina Ruth ; Moana Stadelmann ; Camilla Weder; Genevieve Quenville ; und Ying Yan

Comparative Political Behavior:

- Prof. Eri Bertsou, PhD (SNSF Assistenzprofessorin)
- Pradeep Krishnan, MSc (Doktorand)
- Amber Cloé Zenklusen, MSc (Doktorandin)
- Forschungsassistentin: Nicole Gilli

Assoziierte Mitglieder

- Prof. Dr. Heinrich Hänggi (Titularprofessor in Politikwissenschaft)



James W. Davis



Tina M. Freyburg



Eri Bertsov



Christoph Heusgen



Heinrich S. Hänggi



Lisa Garbe



Manali Kumar



Alexander Geissler



Christoph Steinert



Anna Stünzi



Ioannis Vergioglou



Tobias Risse



Michael Asiedu



Benjamin Bertrand



Nino Caduff



Danyl Denysenko



Leslie Fischer



Pradeep Krishnan



Filippo Pasquali



Konstantin Schenzielorz



Amber C. Zenklusen



Jana C. von Dessien



Isabell Leutenegger



Anne K. Tischhauser

Happy Birthday, dear James W. Davis!



Anlässlich seines 60ten Geburtstages wurde Institutsdirektor Prof. James W. Davis, zusammen mit Prof. Dirk Lehmkuhl (ebenfalls 60), für seine Verdienste um den Aufbau und die kontinuierliche Vergrößerung des Fachbereichs Politikwissenschaft an der HSG geehrt.

Nach einer kurzweiligen Laudatio von Prof. Miriam Meckel, langjährige Kollegin und Mitglied des Geschäftsleitenden Ausschusses des IPW, sowie Ansprachen weiterer Lehrstuhlinhaber an der SEPS, wurden die Geburtstagskinder bei einem leckeren Buffet von ihren Kolleg:innen herzlich gefeiert.



Forschungsprojekte

Internationale Beziehungen (Davis)

- “Diverting Terror in Its Tracks – Drone Strikes as Battlefield Trolley Dilemmas” (James W. Davis, Tobias Risse & Erik Lin-Greenberg (Massachusetts Institute of Technology))
- “The Return of Great Power War?” (James W. Davis)
- “The Macrofoundations of Behavioral and Rational Choice Assumptions in International Relations Theories” (James W. Davis)
- “Nuclear Strategy and Arms Control” (James W. Davis & Tobias Risse)
- “How Do Rising Power Identities and Interests Change over Time? The Case of India, 1980-2020” (Manali Kumar)
 - Förderung: HSG-GFF International Postdoctoral Fellowship

Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft (Freyburg)

- “Reconfiguring EU Democracy Support – Towards a sustained demos in the EU’s Eastern Neighbourhood” (REDEMOS) (Tina Freyburg)
 - Förderung: Horizon Europe
- “Das Chancenbarometer – Zukunftsscheck für eine Schweiz von morgen” (Tina Freyburg)
 - Förderung: Larix Foundation. Innovation matters
- “Institutional Foundations of Industrialization, Financialization and Globalization of the Swiss Economy. Evidence from 140 Years of the Commercial Registry” (REFLEX) (Tina Freyburg & Anna Stünzi)
 - Förderung: Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF) – Sinergia
- “What Explains Ambitious Climate Policy? Comparing Updated Climate Targets and Covid-19 Recovery Packages and Their Drivers” (Anna Stünzi)
 - Förderung: Swiss Network for International Studies (SNIS)

Politisches Verhalten im Vergleich (Bertsou)

- “Varieties of Expertise – Understanding public demand for independent experts in democratic politics” (Eri Bertsou)
 - Förderung: Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF) – Eccellenza Professorial Grant



Zooming in on ausgewählte Forschungsprojekte

Diverting Terror in Its Tracks – Drone Strikes as Battlefield Trolley Dilemmas

- Projektleitung: James W. Davis, Tobias Risse und Erik Lin-Greenberg (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

Previous studies have shown that the prevention of terrorist attacks increases support for drone warfare, while civilian victims decrease support. However, drone pilots oftentimes face a moral dilemma, being only able to prevent terrorist attacks at the cost of civilian lives. In an experimental setting, we study under which circumstances citizens favor which decision. In survey and lab experiments in four countries, we present participants with vignettes and videos in which a drone pilot has to decide whether or not to fire a missile at an individual believed to be preparing a car bomb attack and ask them whether or not the pilot should take the shot. To gain leverage over the dispositional and situational features that affect judgments over the use of lethal force in battlefield settings, we manipulate the intended target of the car bomb attack and the identities of any collateral fatalities. We thus extend the experimental study of trolley dilemmas to the field of international security by examining individuals' moral judgments that occur in battlefield settings.

Who Cares About Human Rights? Attitudes Towards Arms Exports Among Politicians and Citizens in European Democracies

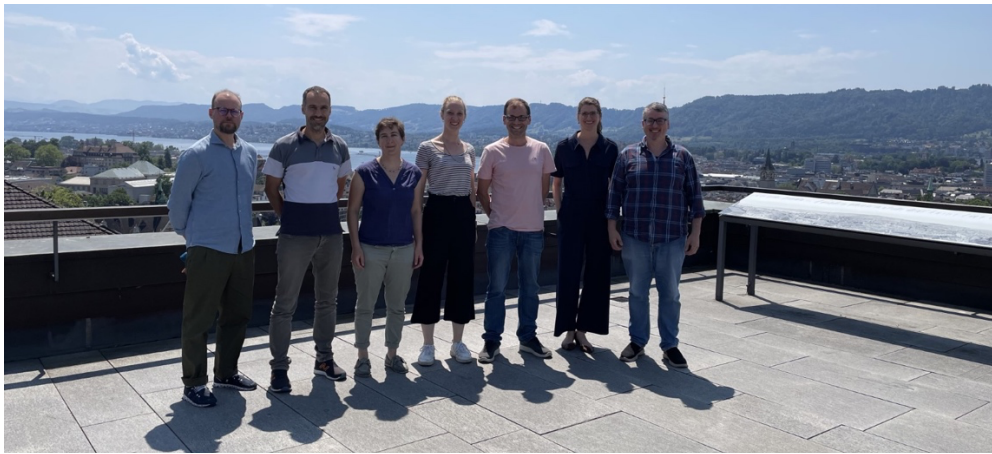
- Projektleitung: Tobias Risse & Christoph Steinert

A large majority of citizens in democratic countries strongly opposes arms exports to regimes with a record of human rights violations. Nevertheless, democratic governments frequently approve arms exports to states such as Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Azerbaijan. What explains this discrepancy between public opinion and policymaking? To address this puzzle, we examine under which circumstances recipient states' human rights violations affect the attitudes of citizens and politicians in Western democracies toward arms exports. To this end, we conduct four survey experiments among parliamentarians and citizens in the United Kingdom and Germany. Our findings contribute to our knowledge not only of the public's as well as leaders' attitudes towards arms exports and human rights, but also of politicians' responsiveness to citizens' demands.

Institutional Foundations of Industrialization, Financialization, and Globalization of the Swiss Economy. Evidence from 140 Years of the Commercial Registry

- Projektleitung an der Universität St.Gallen: Tina Freyburg & Anna Stünzi

Das transdisziplinäre Forschungsprojekt wurde von der USI (Raphaël Parchet und Marco d'Ambros), ETH Zurich (Malka Guillot und Elliot Ash) und Universität St.Gallen (Anna Stünzi und Tina Freyburg) entwickelt. Es stützt sich auf einen Korpus von Dokumenten-- das Schweizerische Handelsamtsblatt (SHAB), das seit 1883 täglich veröffentlicht wird und alle wichtigen Ereignisse der im Handelsregister eingetragenen Unternehmen aufführt. In der Publikation sind alle Eigentümer:innen der Unternehmen sowie die Mitglieder der Verwaltungsrät:innen aufgeführt. Darüber hinaus enthält das Handelsregister Informationen über Firmenkurse und über alle in der Schweiz eingetragenen Marken.



In diesem Projekt werden modernste Algorithmen des maschinellen Lernens und der Textanalyse eingesetzt, um aus dem Korpus eine Datenbank zu erstellen. Ziel ist es, alle relevanten Informationen zu extrahieren und zu klassifizieren, um die Lebensphasen eines Unternehmens zu rekonstruieren, von der Gründung bis zur Auflösung, einschliesslich Verlagerungen, Änderungen der Rechtsform, Fusionen, Übernahmen und Abspaltungen oder Neuausrichtungen der wirtschaftlichen Aktivitäten. Darauf basierend planen wir drei miteinander verknüpfte Forschungsprojekte, um die institutionellen Bedingungen zu untersuchen, die zur Entwicklung der Schweizer Wirtschaft beigetragen haben. Zunächst werden wir die Auswirkungen des internationalen und interkantonalen Steuerwettbewerbs auf die Standortwahl und die Organisationsstruktur der Unternehmen untersuchen. Diese Analyse wird durch einen zweiten Teil ergänzt, der sich auf die wirtschaftlichen Auswirkungen verschiedener kantonalen Vorschriften und Gesetze konzentriert, wie etwa die Industriepolitik oder das Arbeitsrecht. In einem dritten Teil untersuchen wir, wie die Eigentumsstruktur der Unternehmen, ob privat oder öffentlich, national oder international, sowie die Netzwerke zwischen den Wirtschaftsakteuren zur Industrialisierung und Globalisierung der Schweizer Wirtschaft beigetragen haben. Unsere Datenbank über alle Schweizer Unternehmen wird der Öffentlichkeit zugänglich sein und einen intuitiven Zugang zu allen Informationen ermöglichen. Die Erforschung der Wirtschaftsgeschichte der Schweiz wird über eine Suchmaschine zugänglich gemacht.

REDEMOS: Reconfiguring EU Democracy Support. Towards a Sustained Demos in the EU's Eastern Neighbourhood.

- Projektleitung an der Universität St.Gallen: Tina Freyburg, mit Ioannis Vergioglou, Alexander Geisler, and Danyl Denysenko

REDEMOS brings together a consortium of eleven research-oriented and academic institutions, including six universities, four independent think tanks, and one small and medium-sized enterprise from all across Europe, to address the fragile state of democracy in Eastern Europe and provide ways forward for EU democracy support in its eastern neighbourhood. The project takes a deep dive into the full array of political and governance regimes in the EU's eastern neighbourhood, from flawed democratization in some countries to democratic regression and even repressive authoritarianism in others. It aims to break new ground and propose a wholesale, transformative reset in conceptualising, policy-making, and implementing democracy in the EU's eastern neighbourhood and to ensure the voices of marginalized groups are heard.

The research will be conducted over a period of three years (2023-2025), with the goal of understanding and addressing the main challenges to democracy in the EU's eastern neighbourhood, and providing ways forward for EU democracy support in the region. REDEMOS aspires to generate an alternative vision for EU democracy collaboration based on active, deliberative approaches, and to inform policy-making at the EU level by developing an innovative policy toolkit enabling the EU to contribute to lasting democratic change and greater resilience in its neighbourhood.

In St Gallen, we analyse the perceptions of the EU as democracy promoter within the European Commission and across the EaP countries, and how these EU images shape the EU and EaP countries' policy actions.



On 15-17 February 2023, the REDEMOS project consortium held its **Kick-Off Conference** in Trondheim, Norway, hosted by NTNU, the Norwegian University of Science and Technology.

Laufende Dissertationsprojekte

Internationale Beziehungen (Davis)

- *Benjamin Bertrand*: "Strength in Unity? Drivers of Third State Participation in NATO and CSDP"
- *Konstantin Schendzielorz*: "The Making and Maintenance of Extended Nuclear Deterrence: A Critical Discursive Approach to an International Security Policy"
- *Jana C. von Dessien*: "The Framing of Legitimacy: A Longitudinal Study of the Legitimation Process of Drone Strikes in US Counterterrorism"

Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft (Freyburg)

- *Michael Asiedu*: "Court Rulings on Internet Shutdowns in Authoritarian Contexts" (Förderung: Swiss Government Excellence PhD Scholarship)
- *Nino Caduff*: "Foreign Direct Investment in Telecommunications Companies" (Finanzierung: Ernst & Young)
- *Danyl Denysenko*: "A Political Economy Study of EU Support for Democracy in Post-Soviet States"
- *Leslie Fischer*: "Echoes of Conflict: Exploring the Complex Interplay of Gender, Conflict, and Political Dynamics"
- *Filippo Pasquali*: "Reevaluating Institutional Significance: Responsiveness Behavior and Ideological Convergence in the United States and European Union"

Politisches Verhalten im Vergleich (Bertsou)

- *Pradeep Krishnan*: "The Political Drivers of Conspiracy Theory Beliefs" (Ko-Supervisor: Tina M. Freyburg)
- *Amber Zenklusen*: "Complexities of Knowledge-Making in Democratic Systems: Expertise, Representation, and Hybridization" (Ko-Supervisor: Tina M. Freyburg)



Abgeschlossene Dissertationsprojekte

- **Amos Dossi:** "Small Can Be Beautiful: How Military-Technological Trade-Offs Influence Efficient Project Size in Armaments Acquisition" (Supervisor: James W. Davis)
- **Daniel Trusilo:** "Principles in Practice: Applied Ethics for Artificial Intelligence." (Committee Member: James W. Davis)

Wir gratulieren Amos and Daniel ganz herzlich zu ihren bestandenen PhD-Prüfungen!



Dr. Amos Dossi is a Senior Researcher at the CSS Think Tank where he leads the policy consultancy cluster Military Doctrine and Armaments Acquisition. The focus of his academic and applied research is on military technology innovation and defence-industrial strategy. Prior to joining CSS, Amos Dossi worked for RUAG, an international defence contractor owned by the Swiss government. Before that, he was a researcher at the strategic studies chair of the Swiss Military Academy at ETH Zurich. His doctoral dissertation, supervised by Prof. James W. Davis, Ph.D., investigates the working mechanisms and technological success factors of large-scale/cooperative and small-scale/unilateral strategies to armaments acquisition.

Dr. Daniel Trusilo is a postdoctoral scholar at Halicioğlu Data Science Institute at the University of California, San Diego where he works at the intersection of artificial intelligence, applied ethics, and public policy. Previously, Trusilo was a Humanitarian Assistance Advisor for the U.S. Agency for International Development. Prior to that role, Trusilo carried out a Fulbright Public Policy Fellowship in Nepal where he worked on civil-military matters related to disaster preparedness and emergency response. Trusilo also served seven years as a U.S. Army officer where he held a variety of positions in Colorado, Iraq, and Germany.

Berichte aus der Forschung

Interview trip to African countries by Michael Asiedu, Winter 2023

In 2018, the Zimbabwean High Court ruled in favour of civil society organisations (CSOs) that the Zimbabwean government's order to shut down the internet in response to anti-government protests was illegal. This court victory for CSOs made waves and was hailed as a precedent-setting case. Since then, internet shutdowns have been challenged in some of the African countries that have experienced government-ordered manipulation of internet access, but not in others. In my dissertation project, I seek to uncover what led civil society organisations to turn to the courts as sites of contestation in internet shutdown cases. Given the importance of the digital arena in Africa's democratic march, it is crucial to understand the conditions under which CSOs can successfully litigate against the extra-legal digital reach of authoritarian regimes. As part of this research, I interviewed CSO representatives in Zimbabwe, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone, between September and December 2023.



Zimbabwe (September). I arrived in Harare, the capital of Zimbabwe, to cool, windy weather. It was the dry season, I thought. "It's jacaranda season, Michael." I was quickly corrected by my host Sam A., a lawyer based in the capital. Jacaranda trees are endemic to certain southern African countries, including South Africa. From mid-September to the end of October they display their striking purple flowers. This charming display seems to herald the arrival of summer with a chance of rain, although the latter is hardly a given these days. I arrived about a week after the country's presidential and parliamentary elections. President Emmerson

Mnangagwa (who took over when President Robert Mugabe - the country's long-serving leader since independence - was deposed in a coup) had won the elections, although the somewhat tense atmosphere in the capital suggested there was more to it than met the eye. The elections were marred by irregularities. This ensured that ZANU-PF, the party in power since the country's independence, would prolong its rule. Zimbabwe's opposition leader, Nelson Chamisa, had announced his intention to challenge the results in the country's courts. "I went into the elections knowing it was going to be business as usual, so I didn't even look to see who would win, I was only interested in the margin of votes," said my host, lawyer Sam. I had successful interviews with key players who had brought the internet shutdown case to court, such as MISA Zimbabwe, the Journalists' Union and the Zimbabwe Lawyers Forum.

Cameroon (October). I moved on to the beautiful and very hot Doula, where I was hosted by ADISI Cameroon, which is the English-speaking part of Cameroon's Voice on Media and Digital Freedom. My visit was planned so that I was able to participate in a workshop with the Regional Delegate for Communication that addresses threats to the media and issues related to the country's conflict in the North West and South West crisis, between the Francophone and Anglophone parts, or between separatists and the government. This conflict led to the country's longest internet shutdown and numerous misinformation and disinformation campaigns. Attending the workshop in Limbe, on the country's Atlantic coast, allowed me to gain insight into digital censorship in the region from the perspective of the government delegation. It also allowed me to watch Francis Nganou (a Cameroonian boxer living in the US) and Tyson Fury fight with locals in a very warm atmosphere. If you get the chance to visit Cameroon, I recommend Limbe. It holds the record for being the cleanest city in Cameroon and Central Africa.

Ethiopia (November). Next was Ethiopia where I arrived in the thick of the night in 2016 (Ethiopia is the only country in the world with a 12-hour system). Here, I had the opportunity to participate in Africa's first data conference dubbed "Data Governance & Innovation Forum for Africa", held under the auspices of the African Union with sponsorship from German Cooperation's GIZ and European Union's Global Gateway. I benefitted from having a lot of African experts focusing on various data and digital research landscapes, particularly the session on Access to Information and Collaborative Approaches with Policy-Makers. I also had the opportunity to briefly pitch my Ph.D. research. I was met with two-long ongoing internet shutdowns, one in the country's northern region of Tigray where there is a long running conflict between the Ethiopian government and rebels from Tigray. The country's Amhara region was the other region without internet. I benefitted from interviewing political prisoners who started their own civil society organizations and are now pushing for more access to information, including one of the lawyers who defended some of these people.

Nigeria (November/ December). Hosted by the Socio-Economic Rights and Accountability Project (SERAP) headquartered in Lagos I could talk to some of the CSOs at the forefront of Nigeria's infamous Twitter ban that ended up in the ECOWAS Court, such as the Media Rights Agenda and Paradigm Initiative. I was able to participate in regular in-house meetings and speak to the whole SERAP team concerning the work they do and their outreaches. Unfortunately, I could not visit Abuja, where the Economic Community of West Africa Court is situated. I had been down with Malaria for over a week and needed healing and recovery.

Sierra Leone (December 2023). By far my most interesting country in terms of lived experience. Met with a curfew and an airport tax right upon entry, only country to charge airport tax on entry and so you should always have some cash on you, cards do not work. Then met with a coup attempt which left 18 military dead with the former president being under investigations for allegedly being behind the coup. My time there was very pleasant due to my generous host, Campaign for Human Rights and Development International. While there I had the opportunity to participate in the final workshop for the year for Sierra Leonean civil society working on digitally related issues. My host managed to take me to some of the historic places of contestation such as Pademba Road and the country's principal institutions such as the Parliament and various ministries including the judiciary and the Special Court for Sierra Leone/Sierra Leone Tribunal (Special Court) – the judicial body set up by the government of Sierra Leone and the United Nations to prosecute persons who committed crimes against humanity during the country's civil war. I had the opportunity to visit the first site of Fourah Bay College, the first university built for British West Africa during the colonial period. A legendary Institute in pan Africanism as then “lucky students” across British Colonial West Africa had to be sent there for tertiary education.



with Perfect, Secretary-General of the Zimbabwe Union of Journalists (ZUJ), Harare.



with Atnaf, Executive Director of Center for Advancement of Rights and Democracy, Addis Abeba.



with Director Ayo and Legal Head Obioma of Media Rights Agenda (MRA), Lagos.



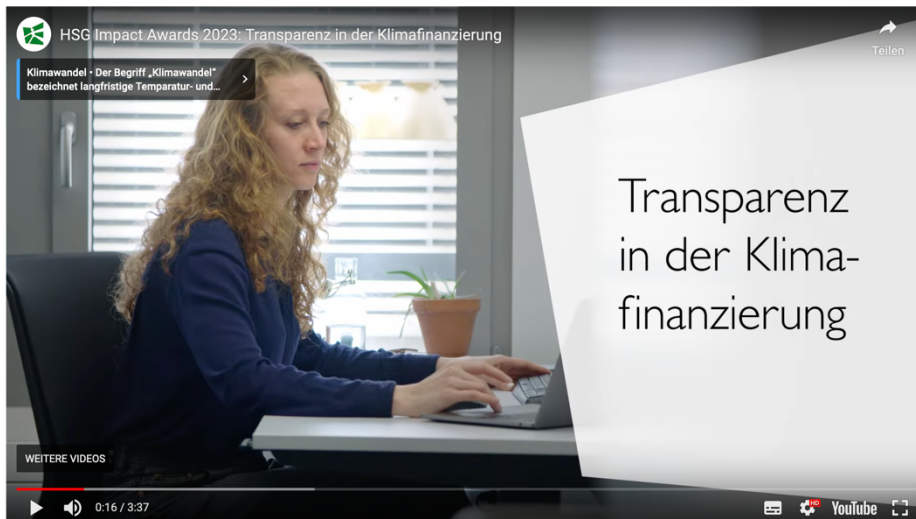
with the Director of Adisi Cameroon, Paul, Douala.



at the premises of Campaign for Human Rights and Development International (CHRDI), Freetown.

HSG Impact Awards 2023: Transparenz in der Klimafinanzierung

Im Projekt «Consistent and replicable estimation of bilateral climate finance» entwickelte Anna Stünzi, zusammen mit Florian Egli und Malte Toetze, ein NLP-Modell (Natural-Language-Processing-Model) namens ClimateFinanceBERT entwickelt, um Klimaschutzprojekte zu identifizieren und zu klassifizieren.



Die Erkenntnisse und die Publikation in *Nature Climate Change* haben ein breites Echo ausgelöst: von den Vereinten Nationen bis hin zur *Financial Times*. Denn die Analyse von 2,7 Millionen Projekten ergab, dass die offiziell gemeldeten Zahlen über bilaterale Klimafinanzierung eine Diskrepanz zu den tatsächlichen Zahlen aufweisen. Das Modell ermöglicht es Beitragszahlern, Empfängern und NGOs, Klimafinanzierungszusagen anhand einheitlicher Kriterien zu überprüfen. Dies schafft Transparenz, was beispielsweise zivilgesellschaftlichen Organisationen erlaubt, unabhängig von der Geberländerseite, diese Daten zu analysieren und einzuordnen.



Toetzke, M., Stünzi, A. & Egli, F. (2022) Consistent and replicable estimation of bilateral climate finance. *Nature Climate Change* **12**.

VAR-EXP Project: First Insights from Focus Group Research

Varieties of Expertise (VAR-EXP), led by Prof. Dr. Eri Bertsou, aims to understand citizens' perceptions of expertise in politics and the tension between the growing demand for expertise, populist backlashes, and the requirements of democratic decision-making. Key questions include which actors citizens consider experts, how citizens use the label "expert", and to what extent citizens are comfortable granting experts policymaking authority (as well as the conditions under which they prefer to do so). The multi-year project takes a mixed methods approach, combining cross-sectional quantitative data with focused qualitative insights from a select handful of contexts that differ in key respects.

While focus groups are frequently used in marketing research, they are gaining more recognition in the political sciences. Focus groups are a qualitative research method that facilitates deliberation among individuals to understand "common sense" justifications, and shared assumptions about specific issues. To understand how citizens think and talk about experts, and their underlying assumptions influencing their responses to survey questions on expertise, we ran 36 focus groups in total, mostly consisting of 6-8 participants in four different countries; the UK, Italy, Sweden and Switzerland. The focus groups were conducted online, to facilitate access to participants that come from varying regional backgrounds.

The focus groups were split into 3 parts that aimed at obtaining a comprehensive understanding of how experts are perceived and understood in relation to policymaking. First, participants were asked a few general questions concerning the extent of their willingness to allow experts to make policy decisions. Next, we presented participants a hypothetical scenario and list of fictional experts with varying characteristics and profiles, to understand whether certain situations and features are likely to bias participants in favour or against thinking of certain individuals as experts. The discussions ended with a broader conversation of special conditions and considerations under which participants may be more comfortable affording policymaking authority to individuals they understand as experts.

Some key findings:

- The relationship between political dissatisfaction and the desire to grant experts political power appears much more complex than previous survey studies would suggest. Indeed, despite expressing deep political scepticism, for many participants in our focus groups, this did not translate into a straightforward preference for more or less expertise in government (however this "expertise" was construed). A striking trend is the value placed on democratic decision-making; in many instances this meant participants wanted more power in the hands of citizens (i.e. as opposed to political or other elites), still with experts in an advisory position.
- Our discussions also revealed the multifaceted understandings people have of experts themselves. While many people attributed high levels of academic and

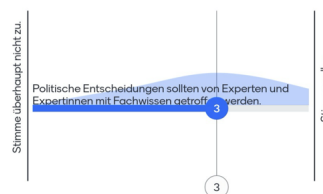
professional expertise and educational credentials to an “expert”, a striking number of participants also expressed desires to confer the label “expert” to actors without high educational qualifications, but instead possess lived experience and other forms of experiential expertise - i.e. “experts” that are not conventionally understood as such. That these attitudes were expressed more readily by participants possessing fewer educational credentials suggests expert panels also invoke concerns of representation; citizens may seek descriptive or other forms of representation in them as their function grows more overtly political.

- Whereas the literature often views "independence" as a critical trait of experts, informants had a varied understanding of this term. Some informants viewed independence from political affiliations as crucial markers of trustworthiness. Others, however, clearly stated that they believed that every expert holds certain political opinions and that political affiliations need to be communicated transparently. Experts' affiliations, however, were judged differently, with experts practising political activism polarising participants the most.

Some key takeaways from the process:

- Survey studies may yield findings which may be valid yet incomplete. Citizens hold nuanced - albeit occasionally incoherent - views of politics, which qualitative techniques are better situated to capture. By gathering rich conversational data, opinion formation and change can be better understood. Focus groups provide rich grounds for uncovering tensions in theories currently shaping the field and serve as tools for theory exploration.
- Retaining the comparative angle when assessing political attitudes is key. We conducted focus groups in four countries with a long democratic tradition. Nevertheless, we observed important disparities and nuances in the group's discourses, as well as the assumptions and values underlying the judgments of our participants, strongly linked to the local contexts participants are from, as well as the political culture of each country studied.

Bitte geben Sie an, inwiefern Sie der folgenden Aussage zustimmen. 1 bedeutet "stimme überhaupt nicht zu", 4 bedeutet "stimme voll zu".



Interactive poll from the Swiss focus group, after which we had in-depth discussions about participants' ways at arriving at their responses.

Lehre

Internationale Beziehungen

James W. Davis

- Dissertation Seminar (FS 2023)
- International Relations (FS 2023)
- Fundamentals of Arms Control (FS 2023)
- Consultancy Project: Cyprus – An Unsolvable Conflict? (mit Christoph Heusgen, FS 2023)
- International Politics and Market Economy (mit Simon Evenett, HS 2023)
- The Second Nuclear Age: Sorting Out What's New and What's Not (HS 2023)

Christoph Heusgen

- Consultancy Project: Cyprus – An Unsolvable Conflict? (mit James W. Davis, FS 2023)
- Multilateralism and the Challenges to the Rules Based International Order (HS 2023)

Heinrich S. Hänggi

- Asia Pacific Security (FS 2023)
- Consultancy Project: Rebuilding Security in Europe (mit Thomas Greminger, HS 2023)
- The Indo-Pacific: Security Issues and Challenges (HS 2023)

Manali Kumar

- Spring Project: Rising Powers (mit Sebastian Plappert, FS 2023)
- Introduction to Contemporary Indian Society (FS 2023)
- Contemporary Social Theory (HS 2023)

Konstantin Schendzielorz

- Tutorial: International Relations: Exercises (FS 2023)

Benjamin Bertrand

- International Politics and Market Economy: Exercises (HS 2023)
- International Politics and Market Economy: Exercises (HS 2023)

Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft:

Tina M. Freyburg

- Die Beziehungen der Schweiz zur EU: Chance auf eine konstruktive Zukunft? (FS 2023)
- Workshop: Effective Writing: Topic Sentences (FS 2023)
- Proposal Colloquium (HS 2023)
- #FreeMyInternet – Illustrierte Kurzgeschichten zur Kommunikation aktueller Internetforschung (mit Pia Valär, HS 2023)

Anna Stünzi

- Consultancy Project: Sustainable Finance – Global Positioning and Policies (FS 2023)
- Climate.Now (HS 2023)
- Governing Finance for Tackling Climate Change (mit Florian Egli, HS 2023)

Christoph Steinert

- Quantitative Methoden: Übungen (HS 2023)
- Quantitative Methods: Exercises (HS 2023)

Politisches Verhalten im Vergleich

Eri Bertsou

- Spring Project: Citizen Support for Liberal Democracy (FS 2023)
- Comparing Political Cultures (HS 2023)

Pradeep Krishnan

- Comparative Politics: Exercises (HS 2023)
- Comparative Politics; Exercises (HS 2023)

Berichte aus der Lehre

Wikipedia goes Hochschule



In ihrem diesjährigen Kurs 'Governing Finance for Tackling Climate Change' haben Anna Stünzi und Florian Egli mit der Stiftung Science et Cité zusammengearbeitet. Über das Projekt «Wiki goes HoCHschule» werden Studierende dabei begleitet, das Wissen aus regulären Kursen in Wikipedia-Artikel zu verarbeiten.

Im dreitägigen Blockkurs lesen und diskutieren die Teilnehmenden eine Vielzahl an Studien zu Themen rund um «Climate Finance» - beispielsweise über Green Bonds oder über die internationalen Verhandlungen zur Finanzierung von Klimaschutz und –anpassungsmassnahmen. Basierend darauf haben die Studierenden bestehende Wikipedia-Artikel ergänzt oder neue Abschnitte hinzugefügt. Sie lernten dabei, die wesentlichen Aspekte eines Themas herauszuarbeiten und komplexe wissenschaftliche Themen auch für die Öffentlichkeit verständlich zu kommunizieren

Science et Cité @ScienceEtCite · Nov 7, 2023
Vom Uni-Seminar direkt auf #Wikipedia! 🌐

Gemeinsam mit rund 25 Studierenden der @HSGStGallen und den DozentInnen @Anna_Stz & @floegli haben wir letzte Woche #Wikipedia-Artikel zum Thema #Klimafinanzierung verbessert, ergänzt und neu geschrieben.

In unserem Projekt «Wiki...
[Show more](#)

Climate finance 14 languages

Article [Talk](#) Read Edit View history Tools

Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

For broader coverage of this topic, see [Economic analysis of climate change](#).

Climate finance are funding processes for investments related to [climate change mitigation and adaptation](#). The term has been used in a narrower sense to refer to transfers of public resources from developed to [developing countries](#), in light of their [UN Climate Convention](#) obligations to provide "new and additional financial resources". In a wider sense, the term refers to all financial flows relating to climate change mitigation and adaptation.^{[2][3]}

The 21st session of the [Conference of Parties \(COP\)](#) to the UNFCCC (Paris 2015) introduced a new era for climate finance, policies, and markets. The [Paris Agreement](#) adopted there defined a global action plan to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change by limiting [global warming](#) to well below 2 °C above preindustrial levels. It

Clean energy investment is an example for climate finance. It has benefited from post-pandemic...

Link zu einem HSG News-Artikel: <https://www.unisg.ch/de/newsdetail/news/hsg-studierende-schreiben-wikipedia-artikel-ueber-nachhaltige-transformation-des-finanzsystems/>

#FreeMyInternet - Illustrierte Kurzgeschichten zur Kommunikation aktueller Internetforschung

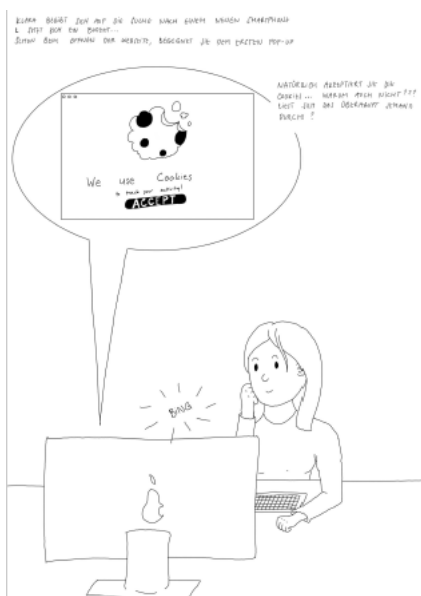


In dem Seminar von Tina Freyburg und Pia Valär setzten sich Studierende mit der Forschung zu aktuellen Internetentwicklungen und ihren Auswirkungen auf Politik, Gesellschaft und Wirtschaft auseinander und entwickelten dazu illustrierte Kurzgeschichten, um die wissenschaftlichen Erkenntnisse zu diesen komplexen Sachverhalten zielgruppengerecht zu vermitteln.

Zwei Lernziele standen dabei im Fokus:

1. Den Teilnehmenden sollte ein grundlegendes Verständnis der Architektur und Funktionsweise des Internets vermittelt werden, das sie zu einer informierten und verantwortungsbewussten Nutzung des Internets im Alltag anleitet.
2. Die Teilnehmenden lernten, wissenschaftliche Erkenntnisse und komplexe Sachverhalte verständlich und korrekt zu kommunizieren, indem sie ein eigenes wissenschaftliches Kommunikationsprodukt in Form einer illustrierten Kurzgeschichte konzipierten, umsetzten und vermittelten.

Das Seminar baute auf einer Miniserie von illustrierten Kurzgeschichten auf, welche die Dozierenden zusammen in einem grösseren Team entwickelten. Eine Webversion ist auf <https://freemyinternet.info/> zugänglich. Geleitet von den Interessen der Teilnehmenden entwickelten wir im Seminar Kurzgeschichten zu relevanten gegenwärtigen Herausforderungen im digitalen Raum wie manipulative Designs der Dark Patterns, Künstliche Intelligenz in der Rechtsprechung und das Phishing von privaten Daten.



Armend Kosovaj, Milan Delic, Tim Laperre und Valentin Nikolaev setzten sich in ihrer Kurzgeschichte beispielsweise mit Dark Patterns auseinander.

Öffentliche Vorlesungen

Globalization in Times of Geopolitical Shifts – 125 Jahre HSG



Im Rahmen der öffentlichen Veranstaltungsreihe zum 125-jährigen Jubiläum der Universität St.Gallen waren Prof. James W. Davis und Dr. Manali Kumar am 7. Dezember Teil eines spannenden Panels zum Thema “Globalization in Times of Geopolitical Shifts.” Gemeinsam mit Dr. Stefan Legge, und moderiert von Virginie Mangin (Swissinfo), vertraten die beiden spannende Perspektiven zu sicherheitspolitischen, psychologischen, und wirtschaftlichen Aspekten und Entwicklungen dieses hochaktuellen Themas. Trotz winterlicher Bedingungen war die Veranstaltung gut besucht. Auffällig viele junge Zuhörer:innen waren der Einladung gefolgt. Sie stellten interessierte Nachfragen – im Anschluss an die Diskussion sowie auch im persönlichen Gespräch für das die Redner gerne zur Verfügung standen.



Die Beziehungen der Schweiz zur EU: Chance auf eine konstruktive Zukunft?

Kaum ein anderes Thema wird von der Politik so mutlos angegangen wie die Beziehungen zur Europäischen Union. Die Schweiz will kein Rahmenabkommen und die EU will keine Fortsetzung des bilateralen Wegs ohne Klärung der institutionellen Fragen. Es ist klar, dass eine Lösung gefunden werden muss – aber bitte keine Diskussion kurz vor den Wahlen 2023. Zu heikel. Zu riskant. Doch die Schweizer Bevölkerung ist viel offener für eine Neugestaltung der Beziehungen zur Europäischen Union (EU), als die öffentliche Diskussion es vermuten lässt. Selbst EU-kompatible Lösungen für kontroverse Themen wie Lohnschutz und Zugang zu den Sozialwerken für EU-Bürger:innen haben gute Chancen, vom Stimmvolk akzeptiert zu werden. Dies zeigt eine Untersuchung der Universität St.Gallen zusammen mit dem StrategieDialog21 im Rahmen des Chancenbarometers 2022.

Die Vorlesungsreihe begann mit einer Diskussion der zentralen Ergebnisse des diesjährigen Chancenbarometers. Die weiteren Vorträge vertieften spezifische Aspekte der EU-Frage aus der Perspektive der Wissenschaft, der Zivilgesellschaft und des Unternehmertums. Welche alternativen Formen der Partnerschaft sind denkbar? Wie können Lösungen in zentralen Streitpunkten wie der Personenfreizügigkeit gefunden werden? Was können wir aus der Geschichte der Schweizer und der Europäischen Integration lernen? Und auch: Was fürchtet die Schweiz? Hat sie nicht wiederholt ihre Leistungsstärke, Lösungsorientiertheit und Innovationskraft unter Beweis gestellt?



- 21. Februar. *Neue Chancen für die Beziehungen der Schweiz mit der EU* | Prof. Dr. Tina Freyburg, Professorin für Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft, HSG | Jobst Wagner, Unternehmer
- 28. Februar. *Die Schweiz am europapolitischen Scheideweg* | Prof. Dr. Matthias Oesch, Professor für Öffentliches Recht, Europarecht und Wirtschaftsvölkerrecht, Universität Zürich
- 7. März. *Die Europa-Initiative: Ein Ausweg aus der Sackgasse* | Isabelle Gerber, Geschäftsführerin, Operation Libero
- 14. März. *Die Schweiz und Europa. Zwei Geschichten der Integration im Vergleich* | Prof. Dr. André Holenstein, Professor für ältere Schweizer Geschichte und vergleichende Regionalgeschichte, Universität Bern
- 21. März. *Warum wir im Verhältnis mit der EU vorwärts machen müssen. Eine industrielle Perspektive* | Martin Hirzel, Präsident, Swissmem
- 28. März. *Podium: Vision einer Schweiz in Europa* | Christina Neuhaus (NZZ, Leiterin der Inlandredaktion) | Benni Würth (Ständerat St.Gallen) | Christian Fichter (Sozial- und Wirtschaftspsychologe und Forschungsleiter, Kalaidos Fachhochschule Zürich) | Moderation: Nathaly Bachmann & Tina Freyburg

Veröffentlichungen

James W. Davis

- [“Better than a bet: good reasons for behavioral and rational choice assumptions in IR theory.”](#) *European Journal of International Relations*.
- [“I Think Therefore IR? Psychology, Biology, and the Notion of Praxis.”](#) In: Hellman Gunther and Steffek, Jens (ed.): *Praxis as a Perspective on International Politics*.
- [„Was geht hier vor sich“ Ein Politikwissenschaftliches Verhör der Einsdreissig-Demonstranten](#)“. In: Huber Monika (ed.): *Archiv Einsdreissig*.

Tina M. Freyburg

- [“The political power of internet business. A comprehensive dataset of Telecommunication Ownership and Control \(TOSCO\).”](#) *The Review of International Organizations* (mit Garbe, Lisa & Wavre, Veronique).

Manali Kumar

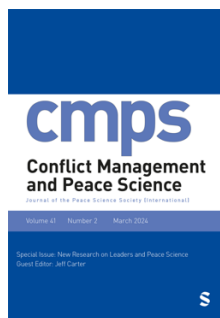
- [“Making decisions under uncertainty: The Prudent Judgement Approach.”](#) *European Journal of International Security*.

Tobias Risse

- [“External threats and state support for arms control.”](#) *Journal of Peace Research*.

Christoph Steinert

- ["The impact of domestic surveillance on political imprisonment: Evidence from the German Democratic Republic."](#) *Journal of Conflict Resolution*.
- ["The duration of political imprisonment: Evidence from China."](#) *Conflict Management and Peace Science*.
- ["Political imprisonment and protest mobilization: Evidence from the GDR."](#) *Journal of Conflict Resolution* (with Christoph Dworschak)
- "Elitist Remedies? Complaint resources and representation in international human rights bodies." *International Studies Quarterly*.



Anna Stünzi

- [“Taking stock of the implementation gap in climate policy.”](#) *Nature Climate Change* (with Fransen, T., Meckling, J., Schmidt, T.S., Egli, F., Schmid, N. & Beaton, C.)
- [“Finance-based accounting of coal emissions.”](#) *Environmental Research Letters* (with Manych, N., Egli, F., Ohlendorf, N., Schmidt, T.S., Steckel, J.C. & Steffen, B.)
- [“Scrutinizing countries’ climate commitments: insights from recovery spending.”](#) *One Earth* (with Egli, F., Fransen, T., Schmidt, T.S., Schmid, N., Isah, A., Pineda, A. & Beaton, C.)
- [Hinausschauen. 26 Globale Entwicklungen und die Schweiz.](#) NZZ Libro, Zurich Switzerland (edited with Müller, AL., Herrmann, M., Zogg, B., Cotton, A., Staeger, U.).



Pradeep Krishnan

- “Securitizing Fertility: Public Resistance to the PAP Government’s Eugenics Program.” *Security Dialogue*.

Jana C. von Dessien

- “Humanitäres Völkerrecht und Rüstungskontrollregime in Zeiten von Drohnen und Robotern.” Kap. 4 in: [Hinausschauen – 26 globale Entwicklungen und die Schweiz](#). FORAUS (ed.). NZZ Libro 2023.

Michael Asiedu

- Ghana: Battling deep economic problems, elites must design new business models. In T. Casas- Klett & G. Cozzi. (Eds.), *Elite Quality Report 2023: Country Scores and Global Rankings*. Zurich: Seismo.

Konferenzen und Workshops

James W. Davis

- Annual Convention der International Studies Association (ISA), Montreal, Teilnehmer des "ISSS Distinguished Scholar Panel Honoring Janice Gross Stein"
- Biennial Conference des Swiss Network of International Studies (SNIS), St. Gallen, Moderator von Plenary Lecture und Roundtables sowie discussant
- Watson Institute Brown University, Research Workshop "Threats and Promises in International Politics"
- Sicherheitspolitische Klausur-Tagung «Cecilienhof», Teilnehmer, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung
- Munich Security Conference (MSC), München, Moderator Transatlantic Forum

Tina M. Freyburg

- REDEMOS Kick-off Conference, Trondheim, Workshop Leader und Präsentation: "Discourses, narratives and perceptions in EU democracy support in the eastern neighbourhood"
- Biennial Conference des Swiss Network of International Studies (SNIS), St. Gallen, Präsentationen: "Delegating censorship: Internet service providers' engagement in internet shutdowns" (mit Lisa Garbe und Joss Wright) & "Europe in the Listening Mode? European Diplomatic Practices and the EU's Understanding of its Image in the Post-Soviet World"
- Jan Tinbergen European Peace Conference, Bologna, Präsentationen: "How online censorship affects offline protest and repression" (mit Lisa Garbe, Elena Kromark und Joss Wright) & "Delegating censorship: Internet service providers' engagement in internet shutdowns" (mit Lisa Garbe und Joss Wright)
- European Communities Studies Association (ECSA) Switzerland Annual Conference, Zürich, Präsentation: "Perception dynamics in democracy promotion: Exploring the EU's self-image, external perspectives, and their impact on diplomatic practices"

Eri Bertsou

- Annual Congress der Swiss Political Science Association (SPSA) in Basel, 2-3. Februar
- Annual Conference European Political Science Association (EPSA): Member of the Committee and Chair of the Behaviour and Opinion Track



Manali Kumar

- Annual Congress der Swiss Political Science Association (SPSA), Basel, Präsentationen: "A Reformist Rising Power – Exploring Narratives of Dissatisfaction in India's Rise to Prominence" und "Too Much Democracy": Insights from India into the Link between National Identity and Democratic Backsliding"
- Biennial Conference des Swiss Network of International Studies (SNIS), St. Gallen, Präsentation: "A Reformist Rising Power – Exploring Narratives of Dissatisfaction in India's Rise to Prominence"

Alexander Geisler

- Annual Meeting der American Political Science Association (APSA) in Los Angeles 31. August - 3. September, Präsentationen: "Evaluating Fairness and Accuracy of Sortition Algorithms for Citizen Assemblies" und "Talking Together? Examining Immigrants' and Immigrant-Origin Citizens' Commitment to Deliberate"
- General Conference des European Consortium for Political research (ECPR) in Prag 4- 9. September, Präsentation: "Is online disinformation a threat to the uptake of deliberative democracy? Investigating citizen responses to elites' disinformative "red scare" claims"

Christoph Steinert

- Annual Convention der International Studies Association (ISA) in Montreal 15-18. März, Präsentation: "Selective Spotlights: Shaming Targets in the UN Special Procedures"
- Konferenz des Center for Early Crisis Warning, Bundeswehr Universität München 23-24. Oktober, Präsentation: "How User Language Affects Conflict Fatality Estimates in ChatGPT"

Anna Stünzi

- Konferenz der European Association of Environmental and Resource Economics (EAERE) in Limassol 27. Juni – 1. Juli, Präsentationen: "They disagree: Second-order beliefs on carbon tax acceptance in Germany" und "The Role of Policy Signals for Stimulating Entrepreneurship" (mit A. Schaefer)
- CO2 Preis Abschlusskonferenz in Berlin 15-16. Juni, Präsentation: "Preaching to the (un)converted: The use of targeted information in strengthening the public acceptance of carbon pricing"
- UNFCCC COP28 in Dubai 9. Dezember: Teilnahme als Beobachterin der Verhandlungen und Moderatorin eines UNFCCC Begleitevents zu "Navigating developing countries' climate finance needs", Livestream: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4wPK_6X0n8s

Tobias Risse

- Annual Congress der Swiss Political Science Association (SPSA) in Basel 2-3. Februar, Präsentation: "Democracy and State Support for Arms Control"
- Biennial Conference des Swiss Network of International Studies (SNIS) in St. Gallen 13-14. Juni, Präsentation: "Democracy and State Support for Arms Control", discussant und chair von Panels
- Empirical Peace and Conflict Research Workshop der German Association of Peace and Conflict Studies in München 5-6. September, Präsentation: "Unfolding Multidimensional Rhetorical Spaces from Political Texts: Conflicts over Disarmament and International Security in the UN General Assembly"

Michael Asiedu

- Global School of Empirical Research Methods (Discourse Analysis), HSG-June 2023, St.Gallen, Switzerland

- ETH Zurich-HSG Winter Retreat, January 2023, Waltensburg, Switzerland: Presentation: Civil Society and Internet Shutdown Lawsuits in Authoritarian Contexts in Africa.
- European Forum Alpbach Participant–29 August – 02 September 2023, Alpbach, Austria
- University of Oxford Media Policy Summer Institute - July 31 to August 11, Jesus College, UK. Participant and Presentation: Civil Society and Internet Shutdown Lawsuits in Authoritarian Contexts in Africa.
- Misinformation and Disinformation Practices in Journalism and the Media in Cameroon – Talk Peace Project hosted by ADISI Cameroon, 11-12th October 2023, Limbe, Cameroon.
- “Data Governance & Innovation Forum for Africa”. Held under the auspices of the African Union with sponsorship from German Cooperation’s GIZ, and European Union’s Global Gateway – 18 – 19 November 2023 | Addis Abeba, Ethiopia.
- Workshop on Digital Rights Defense-Wire Project funded by Internews- Sierra Leone, hosted by Campaign for Human Rights and Development International – Freetown 17-18th December 2023.

Leslie Fischer

- 9th Swiss Summer School in Democracy Studies Democracy and Peace in Zürich 11-15. September, Präsentation: “Victimised societies and voter turnout: a natural experiment assessing the price of indifference to conflict-related sexual violence”

Konstantin Schendzielorz

- ECIB-Conference der Deutschen Vereinigung für Politikwissenschaft (DVPW), Tutzing, “The Making and Maintenance of Extended Nuclear Deterrence: A Critical Discursive Approach to a Military Strategy”
- Annual Doctoral Conference CEU, Wien, “The Making and Maintenance of Extended Nuclear Deterrence: A Critical Discursive Approach to a Military Strategy”
- Biennial Conference des Swiss Network of International Studies (SNIS), St. Gallen, “Spreading the umbrella: A critical discourse analysis of extended nuclear deterrence in East Asia”
- Annual Conference of the British International Studies Association (BISA), Glasgow, “The Making and Maintenance of Extended Nuclear Deterrence: A Critical Discursive Approach to a Military Strategy”
- IPW Summer Retreat, Salenstein, Präsentation: “How to do CDA?”
- ECPR General Conference, Prag, “The Making and Maintenance of Extended Nuclear Deterrence: A Critical Discursive Approach to an International Security Strategy”
- Dreiländertagung, Linz, “The Making and Maintenance of Extended Nuclear Deterrence: A Critical Discursive Approach to an International Security Strategy”
- DIA PhD Day, St. Gallen, “The Making and Maintenance of Extended Nuclear Deterrence: A Critical Discursive Approach to an International Security Strategy”
- Offene Sektionstagung der DVPW zu Kritischer Sicherheitspolitik, Tübingen, “The making and maintenance of extended nuclear deterrence”

Organisation von Konferenzen & Workshops

SNIS Biennial Conference 2023 – International Organization(s) in Crisis

During the past two decades, practitioners and scholars have witnessed a series of crises – financial, health, security, democratic, and climate – that have increased risk and uncertainty for individuals, states, and inter-national organizations. As we seemingly head into an era of multiple and overlapping crises simultaneously unfolding at different speeds, what are the consequences and prospects for international organisation and its attendant organizations? How are international organizations affected by and responding to a world in crisis? During the SNIS 2023 conference, taking place from on the 13-14 of June at the University of St. Gallen, we discussed papers that focus on this broad theme and considered its implications across four tracks: technology & security, norms & normativity, governance & policy, as well as methods & methodologies.



Willkommen und Eröffnung der Biennial Conference des Swiss Network of International Studies (SNIS) durch James W. Davis, 13 Juni 2023, St. Gallen

65 participants from 41 universities in 15 countries (including the global south) were welcomed by Bernhard Ehrenzeller, President of the University of St. Gallen. He raised the fundamental question of whether institutions of the liberal rule-based order are able to adapt to the new political realities they are facing. Prof. James Davis then moderated a plenary lecture by Nathalie Tocci from the Istituto Affari Internazionali, during which she emphasized that Putin's war of aggression in Ukraine led to a strengthening of the EU and the liberal order. A first round table with distinguished guests like Christoph Heusgen, Chairman of the Munich Security Conference, discussed thought-provoking questions such as whether IOs were not only equipped to deal with but actually created for times of crises. Panels for the norms and normativity track featured panels dealing with the struggles over mandates, legitimacy, and

interactions of IOs, as well as the contested (re-) production of norms under the conditions of rising and declining powers. The first day concluded with the presentation of the SNIS visual notes by sketch artist Raphael Gschwind.



The second day started out with another roundtable, this time focusing on new approaches to the study of IOs with distinguished speakers such as Kate McNamara (Georgetown University) or the University of St. Gallen's very own Simon Evenett. The security and technology track brought together researchers working on the governance of European security, autonomous weapons technologies, and the implications of rising power for the international security architecture. In the governance and policies track, participants discussed policy making and institutional arrangements in 'crisis mode' in the fields of human security and climate protection. In the methods and methodologies track, participants from both political science and international law backgrounds explored tools for the study of IOs beyond rational choice approaches, considering new the use of data and new concepts. Day 2 concluded with a hike to the scenic Drei Weieren above the oldtown of St. Gallen.

The 2023 SNIS Conference brought together scholars at various stages of their careers and experienced practitioners dealing with the origins and implications of IOs in the current situation of crisis. The two days provided meaningful exchange on innovative ways to study IOs, and to prepare them for the challenges ahead.

A big **thank you** to the organizing team:

James W. Davis, Manali Kumar, Tobias Risse; Anna Stünzi; Benjamin Bertrand; Konstantin Schendzielorz and Jana C. von Dessien.

REFLEX: Registry of Firms' Life and Exit – Annual Conference, Lugano 2023

The second annual workshop on REFLEX – A Data Platform for the Swiss Commercial Registry (1883-present) brought together researchers and practitioners interested in the study of firms and business groups in Switzerland. It took place on September 01 in Lugano.

The Data Platform has the objective to recreate the 140-year history of all firms in Switzerland. It will shed lights on the different stages in the life of a company, from its founding to its dissolution (including relocations, changes in legal form, mergers and acquisitions,...), identify all owners and investors, and reconstruct groups of related companies, national or foreign, active in Switzerland.

The event was part of the Sinergia project “Institutional Foundations of Industrialization, Financialization and Globalization of the Swiss Economy. Evidence from 140 Years of the Commercial Registry” (<https://data.snf.ch/grants/grant/209465>).

At the University of St.Gallen, Tina Freyburg, Anna Stünzi and Filippo Pasquali are members of the Reflex consortium.

Workshop Programme

Welcome | *Raphaël Parchet (USI) & Marco D'Ambros (CodeLounge, USI)*

Mining a Century of Swiss Trademarks | *Daniel Travaglia, Andrea Mocchi (CodeLounge, USI)*

OCR is Not Enough: How We Made Computers Read Hundred Years of Commercial Registry Entries | *Jesper Findahl, Andrea Mocchi (CodeLounge, USI)*

From Entries to Entities: Modeling the Swiss Official Gazette of Commerce | *Aron Fiechter, Francesco Bresciani, Valerie Burgener (CodeLounge, USI)*

With a Little Help From My Enemy | *Amanda De Pirro (Lancaster University)*

You Only Weave Twice | *Bruno Caprettini (University of St Gallen)*

Tax Technology and Long-Term Regional Development | *Tommaso Giommoni (ETH)*

Project Jadis | *Eve Netchine (Bibliothèque nationale de France)*

The Crux of Capitalism | *Simon Evenett (University of St Gallen)*

Our New Sustainability Policy: Chair of Comparative Politics

The University of St. Gallen has committed to reducing its carbon emissions to net zero by 2030. The Comparative Politics team wants to actively contribute to and go beyond this goal. For that reason, we revised and extended our own sustainability policy. The impetus for this revision was that emissions from our research, and especially travel activities, should not only be offset but reduced wherever possible and that we want to build awareness among the entire team. Additionally, we wanted to approach the topic of sustainability in a more holistic manner and, for example, also address the travel activities of invited guests and our own retreats.

Summary of our environmental policy:

Team travel policy:

- No air travel if destination can be reached in < 8 hours by train.
- Early booking of traveling to garner early bird discounts (especially for train tickets).
- Upgrades to first class for long journeys (>8h, excl. night trains).
- Max. 2 flights per person per year, but with a banking system: possibility to transfer flights to the next year or another team member if not used.
- Book direct flights to avoid emissions from multiple take-offs and landing.
- Exceptions to all measures above may be applied in case of special care obligations, emergencies, or disability reasons. Special career opportunities (e.g., job interviews, decisive talks, etc) and an extraordinary professional interest in participation, beyond the simple presentation of a paper may also allow for an exemption.
- The compensation of CO2 emissions remains to be discussed.
- For all emissions from transportation, we calculate the amount that would be necessary for traditional offsetting. Half of the amount is used to buy Gold Standard offsetting via *myclimate*, the other half is used for financing international train tickets.

Reporting:

- Share planned conference visits in the group meetings ahead of time.
- Each team member calculates their emissions from transport (air travel, ferries, and car journeys) and reports them together with the expenses.
- We report our carbon emissions from travel in the annual report.

Our revised policy is structured in three areas: travel policy, reporting and events. As a research group with an international orientation, research exchange and fieldwork are pivotal to strengthening the quality and relevance of our work. However, related air travel implies significant carbon emissions, which is why we decided to limit individual flights and extend this rule to our academic guests. An individual limit gives equitable opportunities for junior researchers and lowers the administrative burden, while the banking possibility allows for some flexibility. Proactive planning and communication on the use of transportation means aims to encourage all team members to be selective and strategic when choosing transportation and use internal knowledge on affordable train travel to further transition towards a culture of more climate-aligned travelling. Another important adjustment is the gradual shift away from donations to offsetting schemes. Numerous studies have revealed the shortcomings of such schemes. Discussions on how to deal with these shortcomings are ongoing, with the research group collectively taking a decision soon.

2023 emissions from air travel

Transportation:	Number (one-way flights)	Carbon Emissions (in t CO ₂)
International	16	13.156t
National	None	-
Total	16	13.156t

(For 2023 the emissions of the flights are fully compensated with myclimate Gold Standard offsetting.)

Some reflections and open questions

Going from commitment to action always proves to be challenging. It requires attention to environmental and social goals, budgetary and administrative means, group needs, and the more extensive debate about academia's responsibility towards our planet. For example, the University of California served as an inspiring example to replace almost all third-party carbon offsetting and invest in supporting infrastructure to further reduce emissions, crowd-sourced student ideas for offset projects, and donate money to environmental action related to research and education.¹ Similarly, we discussed an internal pot for projects and the organisation of events or donations for policy-related activism, but we encountered limitations in the administrative capacity for the former and university regulations for the latter. Another remaining concern with the policy is its impact on our academic guests. In line with recent debates on academic air travel and citational injustice, we acknowledge that there is a risk of further exacerbating barriers to academic mobility and knowledge circulation for scholars from less affluent universities. Addressing this challenge requires careful consideration as we roll out the new policy. Finally, our policy also ties into conversations within qualitative research communities about challenges posed by restricted mobility during the Covid-19 pandemic. Reduced air travel also impacts individuals in our group engaged in ethnographic research, prompting deeper reflection on the trade-offs between the advantages of spending time with informants, face-to-face conversations, and the environmental effects of air travel.

Looking ahead, we will closely monitor and assess the impacts of our policy and – where necessary – adapt and innovate for even better solutions. We hope that our approach inspires other chairs to follow and are happy to support any efforts in that direction.

¹ More on UC's offset strategy here: Berkeley Public Policy, The Goldman School (2023) *Offset Program Development for the University of California, Berkeley Public Policy*. Available at <https://gspp.berkeley.edu/research-and-impact/centers/cepp/projects/berkeley-carbon-trading-project/developing-UCs-offset-strategy> (Accessed: 01 March 2024).

Sonstige öffentliche (Medien-) Auftritte

James W. Davis

- [“Feminist Foreign Policy: From Principles to Practice”](#), Panel-Session beim 52. St. Galler Symposium in St. Gallen 4-5. Mai
- Reise nach Odessa auf Einladung des ukrainischen Parlaments im Juni: [Gastvorlesung an der Odessa National Economics University](#)
- Session: “The Aftermath of Hot-War Conflicts” beim Horasis Visionary Circle in Vaduz 22-24. September
- Munich Strategy Retreat in Elmau 3 – 5. Dezember



Tina Freyburg



Chancenbarometer 2023 zum Arbeitskräftemangel: Smarte Anreize mobilisieren Frauen und Ü60

Ist der Arbeitskräftemangel in der Schweiz ein Stück weit hausgemacht? Ja, lässt die repräsentative Untersuchung der Universität St.Gallen (HSG), das «Chancenbarometers 2023», vermuten. Gemäss der Umfrage sind sowohl Frauen als auch Personen im Vorruhestand und über 65-Jährige bereit, deutlich mehr zu arbeiten, wären die Rahmenbedingungen besser ausgestaltet.



- NZZ am Sonntag, 15.10.23 „Die Schweiz kann mehr: Antworten zum Arbeitskräftemangel“
- Watson, 29.09.23 „Arbeitskräftemangel in der Schweiz – so könnte er behoben werden“
- CH Media, 29.09.23 „Im Kampf gegen Mangel an Arbeitskräften: So sollen Pensionierte und Frauen vom Arbeiten überzeugt werden“
- CH Media, 30.09.23 „Weckruf gegen Arbeitskräftemangel“

Wie dem Arbeitskräftemangel begegnen? Unter der Leitung von Stephan Ziegler, Chefredaktor, LEADER Magazin, diskutierten Tina Freyburg, Jörg Müller (CEO Arcolor AG) und Daniel Wiessner (Leiter Amt für Wirtschaft und Arbeit, Kanton Thurgau) Fragen rund um den Arbeitsraum Schweiz.



Eri Bertsou

- [“What do citizens consider to be politically legitimate uses of expertise?”](#), Präsentation beim Research Seminar des Institute for Futures Studies in Stockholm
- [“New directions in political trust research”](#), Präsentation beim Workshop der Fritz Thyssen Stiftung Köln (6-7. Juli)



Eri Bertsou regularly contributes to the university's magazine HSG Fokus as sharply observant columnist.



Manali Kumar

- [“Zensur und Gewalt: So spaltet Premier Narendra Modi Indien”](#), Tagesspiegel (28. Januar)
- Panelist: “Globalization in times of Geopolitical Shifts”, School of Economics and Political Science, 7. December

Alexander Geisler

- [“Expanding the demos and giving ordinary citizens a voice”](#), Vortrag bei TedX Geneva (25. Juni)



Pradeep Krishnan

- [“The Awkwardness of ‘Resilience’ in Singapore’s Political Discourse”](#), Jom (9. Juni)
- “Peeking Behind the Curtain: Shades of Political Legitimacy in Singapore”, Jom.

Auszeichnungen & Mandate

James W. Davis

- Präsident des Ethics Board bei blackshark.ai, in Graz, <https://blackshark.ai/>

Tina Freyburg

- Teilnehmerin, National Leadership Programme for Female Professors in Switzerland



Eri Bertso



Anna Stünzi

- HSG Impact Award für das Papier "Consistent and replicable estimation of bilateral climate finance." *Nature Climate Change*. (mit Egli & Toetzke)
- Top 10 KI Projekt, abzielend auf die 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals, ausgewählt vom International Research Committee on Artificial Intelligence (IRCAI) unter Schirmherrschaft der UNESCO, für das Papier "Consistent and replicable estimation of bilateral climate finance." *Nature Climate Change*. (mit Egli & Toetzke)

Alexander Geisler

- Top Student Paper Award, 2023 Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA), Toronto: "Weaponizing memory of an undemocratic past against a democratic future: A study of political actors' deliberate mischaracterization of emergent deliberative democratic forums" (with Megan Mattes).

Chancentag 2023. Arbeitsraum Schweiz – Ready for Re-Design

«Let's chance!» heisst es jedes Jahr am 29. September. An diesem Tag stellte Tina Freyburg, die Leiterin des Chancenbarometers, die Ergebnisse der schweizweiten Studie Chancenbarometer der breiten Öffentlichkeit vor.



Zum diesjährigen Chancentag luden wir an die Universität Zürich zur Lancierung der **4. Ausgabe des Chancenbarometers ein**. Die diesjährige Publikation mit Fokus auf den Arbeitskräftemangel zeigt, was die Schweiz rund ums Thema Arbeit denkt und welche vielfältigen Gestaltungsmöglichkeiten die Bevölkerung sieht. Am Ende des lehrreichen Tages mit unterschiedlichsten Impulsen scheint klar: Wir werden in Zukunft nicht weniger oder mehr arbeiten. Wir werden anders arbeiten.

Der Fachkräftemangel ist grösser denn je. Seine Bewältigung ist ein Eckpfeiler der Wettbewerbsfähigkeit der Schweiz. Sowohl die demografische Entwicklung («more out, less in») wie auch neue Lebensentwürfe und eine heterogene gewordene Gesellschaft rufen nach neuen Modellen. Wie diese aussehen sollen und was es dazu braucht – dies zeigte das Chancenbarometer 2023 auf. Wir schaffen damit Orientierung. Für den zukunftsfähigen Arbeits- und Wirtschaftsraum Schweiz.

Im Rahmen des Chancentags bot Tina Freyburg zusammen mit Lara Landolt (HR-Panel New Work, Ostschweizer Fachhochschule) ein Chancenlab an. Die Teilnehmer:innen näherten sich der Frage „Wie wollen wir heute arbeiten?“ mit Lego Serious Play an und machten die Zukunft der Arbeit gemeinsam spielerisch begreifbar.



Forschungsretreats am Institut für Politikwissenschaft



Sommerretreat des Instituts für Politikwissenschaft, 24 und 25 Juli 2023, Schloss Arenenberg



Winterretreat der Forschungsgruppe Comparative Politics (zusammen mit der Forschungsgruppe European Politics der ETH Zurich, 30. Januar bis 01. Februar 2023, Waltensburg.

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Institut für Politikwissenschaft
Müller-Friedberg-Strasse 8
CH-9000 St. Gallen

Telefon: +41 (0)71 2242600

Email: ipw@unisg.ch

www.ipw.unisg.ch

Redaktion:
Tina M. Freyburg
James W. Davis

Layout:
Jana C. von Dessien