

KEVIN WALZ, M.A.

I plan to complete my PhD by spring 2025, and will be looking for a PostDoc position from then on.

EDUCATION

2021
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2024

Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz

PhD in Political Science

Thesis: Anti-Pluralists, Democratic Erosion, and the Breakdown Resilience of Democratic Regimes (Supervisor: Professor Claudia Landwehr)

2017
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2020

Julius Maximilians University Würzburg

M.A. in Political and Social Sciences (1,0 - 'with distinction')

Thesis: The Development of Welfare States in post-socialist Central Eastern Europe: A comparative Study based on Partisan Theory (Adviser: Professor Hans-Joachim Lauth; Grade: 1,0)

- Comparative Politics
- Democracy
- Welfare States

2012
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2016

Julius Maximilians University Würzburg

B.A. in Political and Social Studies (2,2)

Thesis: Rational Will Formation and Deliberative Democracy: Is political Self-Determination within Civil Society possible? (Adviser: Professor Michael Becker; Grade: 1,7)

- Normative Political Theory
- Comparative Politics

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2024

Research Associate

Institute for Political Science at Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz

2020
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2021

Academic Assistant

Forum Soziale Bildung Benediktushöhe e.V.

2018
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2020

Teaching Assistant

Institute of Political Science and Sociology at Julius-Maximilians-University Würzburg

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2021
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2024

PhD student in Graduate Research Group *Resilient Institutions*

University of Mainz

- Development of theory-conceptual and empirical Access to Democratic Resilience
- Empiric multi-methods Research on Dissertation Project

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2021
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2024

PhD Scholarship

3-year PhD scholarship funded by the Gutenberg Council for Young Researchers of the University of Mainz

CONTACT INFO

 kwalz@uni-mainz.de

 [ORCID](#)

 [Bluesky](#)

 [LinkedIn](#)

 [GitHub](#)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Democratic Erosion and Resilience

Political Institutions

Democratic Theory

Comparative Politics

SKILLS

Comparative Research Designs

Process Tracing

R, Quarto

LANGUAGES

German (native)

English (fluent)

Last updated on 2024-09-30.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2024
The Political System of Germany
Instructor of Basic Module Course (B.A. & B.Ed.)
Winter Term  University of Mainz
- 2024
Political Theory
Instructor of Basic Module Course (B.A. & B.Ed.)
Summer Term  University of Mainz
- 2022
Theory and Empiricism of Democratic Erosion
Instructor of Advanced Module Course (B.A. & M.Ed.)
Winter Term  University of Mainz
- 2018
|
2020
Tutorials on Introduction in Political Philosophy
Teaching Assistant
Summer Terms  University of Würzburg
- 2018
|
2020
Tutorials on Introduction to Comparative Politics
Teaching Assistant
Winter Terms  University of Würzburg
- 2018
|
2020
Tutorials on Introduction to the Political System of the FRG
Teaching Assistant
Winter Terms  University of Würzburg

PUBLICATIONS

- 2023
“Democracy - flexible, contestable or endangered?” Anniversary conference of the standing group ‘Demokratieforschung’ in the German Political Science Association (DVPW) on March 30 and 31, 2023
Zeitschrift für Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft
Simon Bein, Dennis Kurrek, Kevin Walz.
- 2022
A new game in town - Democratic resilience and the added value of the concept in explaining democratic survival and decline
IPP Discussion Paper Series
Johannes Helgest, Lion Merten, Jana Niedringhaus, Matthias Rosenthal, Kevin Walz.

WORK IN PROGRESS

- Anti-Pluralists, Democratic Erosion, and the Breakdown Resilience of Democratic Regimes**
Book Manuscript
Kevin Walz.
- What is Anti-Pluralism? Outlines, Varieties, and Application Contexts of a (re)emerged Concept**
Under Review
Kevin Walz

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

September
2024

Anti-Pluralists, Democratic Erosion, and the Breakdown Resilience of Democratic Regimes

Presentation at the *29th Convention* of the German Political Science Association (DVPW)

📍 Göttingen, Germany

Kevin Walz

September
2023

A three-dimensional Conceptualization of Autocratization – How it started, how its going and how we can systemize Research on Democratic Breakdown and Survival

Presentation at the *General Conference* of the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR)

📍 Prague, Czechia

Kevin Walz.

July 2023

Typologizing processes of autocratization: How to integrate time, outcome, and context?

Presentation at the Summer School on *Electoral Democracy in Danger?* organized by the Chair on Global Governance of the Sciences Po

📍 Paris, France

Kevin Walz.

June
2023

Typologizing processes of autocratization: How to integrate time, outcome, and context?

Presentation at the Workshop on *Democracy in an Age of Autocratization* organized by the Standing Group Political Regimes of the Italian Society of Political Science (SISP)

📍 Milan, Italy

Kevin Walz.

May
2023

What is Anti-Pluralism?

Presentation at the trilateral Colloquium of the Departments of Political Theory of the Universities of Darmstadt, Gießen and Mainz

📍 Darmstadt, Germany

Kevin Walz

March
2023

What is Anti-Pluralism, and if so, how many?

Presentation at the Anniversary Conference of the Working Group *Democracy Research* of the German Political Science Association (DVPW)

📍 Berlin, Germany

Kevin Walz.

November
2022

Democratic Resilience. Potentials of a New Concept in the Empirical Study of Democracy

Presentation at the Conference *Understanding Resiliencies* of the Leibniz Institute for Resilience Research and the Roman-Germanic Central Museum

📍 Mainz, Germany

Claudia Landwehr, Kevin Walz.

October
2022









A new game in town - Democratic resilience and the added value of the concept in explaining democratic survival and decline

Presentation at the Conference *Democracy between new Crisis and new Challenge*

📍 Messina, Italy

Johannes Helgest, Lion Merten, Jana Niedringhaus, Matthias Rosenthal, Kevin Walz.

TRAININGS

- November 2023 **Successful Use of Podcasts in Teaching**
2-day Didactics Workshop of the *Hochschulevaluierungsverbund Südwest* e.V.
 Online
- July 2023 **Electoral Democracy in Danger?**
5-day PhD Summer School of the *CERIUM-FMSH Chair on Global Governance/ Sciences Po* including lectures by Markus Wagner, Sarah Birch, Natasha Wunsch, Hannah Werner, and Bert Bakker
 Paris, France
- June 2023 **Process-Tracing Methods**
10-day Methods Training at *Radboud Summer School* instructed by Derek Beach and Hilde van Meedgenburg
 Nijmegen, Netherlands
- June 2023 **Data Visualization**
Short Course at *Radboud Summer School* instructed by Akos Mate
 Nijmegen, Netherlands
- January 2023 **Reproducible Reports with Quarto and RMarkdown**
PhD Training Course instructed by Julia Schulte-Cloos  Mainz, Germany
- June 2022 **Comparative Research Designs**
5-day Methods Training at *Radboud Summer School* instructed by Benoit Rihoux
 Nijmegen, Netherlands
- July 2021 **Introduction to R Programming**
Workshop at *Data Science Summer School* of the Hertie School Data Science Lab
 Online
- October 2018 **Basic Training for Tutors**
Tutoring and mentoring program *KOMPASS* of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research
 Würzburg, Germany

ORGANIZATION OF ACADEMIC EVENTS

- September 2024 **Organizing a Panel on “Democratic Backsliding and Resilience” at the 29th Convention of the German Political Science Association (DVPW)**
Responsibilities included the conception, organization and chairing of a closed panel comprising contributions on issues of democratic backsliding and democratic resilience
 Göttingen, Germany
- March 2023 **Organizing the Workshop “How to save Democracy?”**
Responsibilities included the conception and organization of a 2-day hybrid format workshop on contemporary challenges of democracy, as well as chairing two panels; hosted by the Graduate Research Group *Resilient Institutions*
 Mainz, Germany
- September 2021 **Organizing the Workshop “Democratic Resilience and its challenges”**
Responsibilities included the conception and organization of a 1-day hybrid workshop on democratic resilience and challenges of contemporary democracy; hosted by the Graduate Research Group *Resilient Institutions*
 Mainz, Germany