



D V AK Wahlen und  
P W politische Einstellungen



# **Annual Conference of the DVPW Working Group Elections and Political Attitudes 2026**

## **CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

Johannes Gutenberg University (JGU) Mainz, 7-8 May 2026

Thursday, 7 May 2026

From 09:00 **Arrival and Conference Registration**

09:20 **Welcome (Room: Alte Mensa, on the left)**

09:30 – 10:45 **Panel 1: Attachments, Voting, and Attitudes towards Compromise (Room: Alte Mensa, on the left) – Panel chair: Nils Steiner**

- (01) Marlene Mußotter, Carolin Hjort Rapp: National Attachments and Party Choice: Evidence from Western European Democracies (discussant: Sophie Suda)
- (02) Thomas Tichelbäcker, Arndt Leininger: Still Competing for Loyalists? Far-Right Voter Loyalty and the Strategic Constraints of Mainstream Parties (discussant: Marlene Mußotter)
- (03) Sophie Suda, Constantin Wurthmann: Democratic Legitimacy and Political Compromise (discussant: Thomas Tichelbäcker)

– Coffee break –

11:15 – 12:30 **Panel 2a: Narratives of Threat (Room: Alte Mensa, on the left) – Panel chair: Matthias Mader**

- (04) Alina Greiner-Filsinger, Maximilian Filsinger, Melanie Sauter: *Gender Equality in Disguise? Stereotyping Immigrants as a Threat to Women* (discussant: Marc Hooghe)
- (05) Niklas Donth: *When Immigration-Related Crime Becomes Salient: Causal Evidence on Immigration Attitudes and Party Preferences* (discussant: Alina Greiner-Filsinger)
- (06) Marc Hooghe: *They Deport Immigrants, Don't They? Do Radical Right Voters Believe their Preferred Party Will Implement Its Pledges?* (discussant: Niklas Donth)

**Panel 2b: Party and Candidate Positions (Room: Infobox) – Panel chair: Anna-Sophie Kurella**

- (07) Caroline Hahn: *Class-Based Issue Priorities of Political Candidates on Social Media During Election Campaigns* (discussant: Armin Seimel)
- (08) Felix Grünewald: *Convergence Through Omission in Party Manifestos* (discussant: Caroline Hahn)
- (09) Armin Seimel: *Party4D – A Bayesian Hierarchical Approach to Measuring Party Positions Across Countries and Time* (discussant: Felix Grünewald)

– Lunch break –

13:30 – 14:00 **Lunch-Talk:** Alexander Jedinger: *GESIS Data Essentials: Finding, Accessing, and Depositing Data* (Room: Alte Mensa, on the left)

- 14:00 – 15:15 **Panel 3a: Identity, Perceptions, and Polarization (Room: Alte Mensa, on the left) – Panel chair: Susanne Garritzmann**
- (13) Marvin Reis, Thorsten Faas: *Priming Status Perceptions: Experimental Evidence on Assessments of Subjective Social Status* (discussant: Sascha Huber)
  - (14) Sascha Huber: *Shaping Pessimistic Views of Reality: How Political Identities Influence Perceptions* (discussant: Arndt Leininger)
  - (15) Arndt Leininger, Timon Scheurer, Lior Sheffer, Yinnon Kadishson Yanay: *Affective Polarisation Among Political Elites: Measurement, Validation, and Behavioural Implications* (discussant: Marvin Reis)
- Coffee break –
- 15:45 – 17:00 **Panel 4a: Security, Defense, and Political Violence (Room: Alte Mensa, on the left) – Panel chair: Marlene Mußotter**
- (16) Markus Steinbrecher: *Mit mir oder ohne mich? Die persönliche Verteidigungsbereitschaft in Deutschland und ihre Erklärungsfaktoren* (discussant: Matthias Mader)
  - (17) Jacob Eicheler, Conrad Ziller: *Boundary Conditions of Political Violence Acceptance in Germany: Partisanship, Social Cues, and Individual Predispositions* (discussant: Markus Steinbrecher)
  - (18) Matthias Mader, Felix Münchow, Harald Schoen: *Public Reactions to Ambiguous Security Events* (discussant: Jacob Eicheler)
- Panel 3b: Rural-Urban Divides (Room: Infobox) – Panel chair: Sigrid Roßteutscher**
- (10) Anne-Kathrin Stroppe, Antonia May: *Listening to Rural Voices: Understanding and Mitigating Rural Resentment* (discussant: Julius Diener)
  - (11) Paul Ruholl, Ansgar Hudde: *Demography of Discontent: Place Resentment in the Face of Population Change in Germany* (discussant: Anne-Kathrin Stroppe)
  - (12) Julius Diener: *The Urban-Rural Divide in Youth Representation: Where Parties Nominate Young Candidates* (discussant: Paul Ruholl)
- Panel 4b: Immigrants' Political Behavior and Attitudes (Room: Infobox) – Panel chair: Sabrina Mayer**
- (19) Jessica Kuhlmann: *Trust Under Pressure: How the Success of Populist Radical Right Parties Shapes Immigrants' Trust* (discussant: Antonia May)
  - (20) Roland Kappe: *Foreign Policy Preferences and Support for the BSW and AfD Among Germans With Russian Migration Background* (discussant: Jessica Kuhlmann)
  - (21) Antonia May, Christian S. Czymara: *Drawing the Line: National Identity, Belonging and Participation among Immigrants in the UK and Germany* (discussant: Roland Kappe)
- 17:00 – 17:45 **Mitgliederversammlung: AK Wahlen und politische Einstellungen (Room: Alte Mensa, on the left)**
- 17:45 – 18:45 **Mitgliederversammlung: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Wahlforschung (DGfW) (Room: Alte Mensa, on the left)**
- 19:00 **Dinner (Baron)**

Friday, 8 May 2026

9:00 – 10:15

**Panel 5a: Opposing the Far Right (Room: Alte Mensa, on the right) – Panel chair: Or Tuttnauer**

- (22) Kai Arzheimer, Sabrina Mayer: *Ideological Roots and Democratic Consequences of Negative Identification with the Far Right* (discussant: Julian Voß)
- (23) Thomas Tichelbäcker, Jeyhun Alizade: *Guarding the State: How Militant Democracy Constrains the Far Right* (discussant: Sabrina Mayer)
- (24) Julian Voß: *The Electoral Consequences of Anti-Far Right Protest: Evidence from the West German Student Movement* (discussant: Thomas Tichelbäcker)

**Panel 5b: Electoral and Polling Dynamics (Room: Infobox) – Panel chair: Arndt Leininger**

- (25) Johann-Friedrich Salzmann: *Modelling Voter Volatility: Analysing Short-Term Voting Intention Change Using High-Frequency Panel Data* (discussant: Werner Krause)
- (26) Malena Ullrich: *A Temporal Perspective on Election Winners and Losers: Evidence from Long-Term Panel Data* (discussant: Johann-Friedrich Salzmann)
- (27) Werner Krause: *Does Polling Herding Exist? Comparative Evidence From 40 Democracies* (discussant: Malena Ullrich)

– Coffee break –

10:45 – 12:00

**Panel 6a: Democratic Support (Room: Alte Mensa, on the right) – Panel chair: Werner Krause**

- (28) Lucca Hoffeller, Manuel Diaz Garcia: *Beyond the Ballot Box: Descriptive Representation of Immigrants and Political Support in Germany* (discussant: Nils Steiner)
- (29) Sven Hillen, Nils Steiner: *Echoes of Discontent: How Information about Collective Democratic Dissatisfaction Affects Individual Dissatisfaction* (discussant: Josefina Sommer)
- (30) Josefina Sommer, Philipp Mendoza, Alexander Wuttke: *Identifying Enemies of the Constitution: An Axiological Scale for Assessing Anti-Democratic Attitudes* (discussant: Lucca Hoffeller)

**Panel 6b: Information Contexts, Campaign Dynamics, and Electoral Decision Making (Room: Infobox) – Panel chair: Sascha Huber**

- (31) Philipp Hoffmann: *“Hey ChatGPT, should I vote or abstain?” How the Use of Artificial Intelligence Chatbots like ChatGPT, Copilot, or Gemini can Boost Voter Turnout* (discussant: Anna-Sophie Kurella)
- (32) Axel Burger, Julia Weiß, Joss Roßmann, Jan Eric Meurer, Axel Babst: *Feeling Politics Day by Day: Dynamics of Emotions, Information Search, and Decision-Making During Election Campaigns* (discussant: Philipp Hoffmann)
- (33) Anna-Sophie Kurella: *How Voters Choose Under the Borda Rule: Evidence from a Post-Election Survey Experiment in Germany 2025* (discussant: Axel Burger)

– Lunch break –

13:00 – 14:15

**Panel 7a: Youth, Political Socialization and Democratic Efficacy (Room: Alte Mensa, on the right) – Panel chair: Antonia May**

- (34) Markus Tausendpfund: *Was wissen Kinder über den Bundestag?* (discussant: Susanne Garritzmann)
- (35) Susanne Garritzmann, Sigrid Roßteutscher: *How Political Efficacy Shapes Gender Gaps in Vote Choice* (discussant: Lea Stallbaum)
- (36) Lea Stallbaum: *“Ostalgie” and Beyond: Authoritarian Legacies and Populist Radical-right Support in East Germany* (discussant: Markus Tausendpfund)

**Panel 7b: Climate Policies and Attitudes (Room: Infobox) – Panel chair: Anne-Kathrin Stroppe**

- (37) Felix Hormig, Cyrill Otteni: *Divided Over the Climate: Mapping Polarization over Climate Change Mitigation* (discussant: Julius Kölzer)
- (38) Sven Hegewald, Diane Bolet, Tarik Abou-Chadi: *How Environmental Policies Fuel Rural Discontent: The Case of the Nitrogen Crisis in the Netherlands* (discussant: Felix Hormig)
- (39) Julius Kölzer: *Politics of Green Investment: Electoral Responses to EV Manufacturing in Rural Germany* (discussant: Sven Hegewald)

– Coffee break –

14:45 – 16:00

**Panel 8: Gender Gaps in Political Behavior (Room: Alte Mensa, on the right) – Panel chair: Conrad Ziller**

- (40) Teresa Haußmann, Aiko Wagner, Jan-Philipp Thomeczek: *Gendered Divides in Populist Voting: Support for BSW and AfD in Germany* (discussant: Werner Krause)
- (41) Melanie Dietz: *Polarized by Gender Issues: Explaining the Youth Gender Gap in Ideological Self-Placement* (discussant: Teresa Haußmann)
- (42) Werner Krause, Denis Cohen: *Electoral Reactions to the Selection of Female Lead Candidates* (discussant: Melanie Dietz)

16:00 – 16:10

**Closing Remarks and Farewell**

## ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

### Registration

Participants who wish to attend the conference (including presenters) are kindly requested to register by **24 April 2026**. Registration is free of charge and takes place via the [meineDVPW](#) portal (under *Events*). Prior registration on the portal is required; this is free of charge for both DVPW members and non-members. For organizational matters and questions regarding the conference schedule, please contact [ak-wahlen@dvpw.de](mailto:ak-wahlen@dvpw.de).

### Language and length of presentations

Presentations may be given in **German or English**, depending on the presenter's preference. Presentations should last no longer than 12 minutes (to leave another 12-13 minutes for the Q&A after the presentation).

### Conference papers

Presenters are kindly requested to upload their papers or PAPs to the Paper Room by **1 May 2026**. Access details for the Paper Room will be sent to registered participants after the registration deadline.

### Written discussant system

To make feedback for presenters even more valuable while maintaining the open discussion atmosphere during the conference itself, we would like to continue the established written feedback system. Discussants are asked to email written comments on the papers to the authors **after the conference, no later than 31 May 2026**. These comments are **not** intended to be presented on site; however, bilateral exchange during the conference is expressly encouraged.



## Accommodation

A room allotment has been reserved at **Holiday Inn – the niu, Mood Mainz** (Mombacher Str. 6, 55122 Mainz) under the booking code “AK Wahlen.” For stays between 6 and 8 May 2026, single rooms including breakfast are available at €82.00 per night, and double rooms including breakfast at €102.00 per night. Single-night bookings are also possible. **The allotment will remain available until 13 April 2026**, after which any unbooked rooms will be returned to general sale. Individual reservations may be cancelled free of charge until one day before arrival; thereafter, 90% of the room rate will be charged. A valid credit card is required when booking as a guarantee. For bookings, please contact the hotel directly and refer to the booking code “AK Wahlen”: Tel. +49 6131 4980500, Email: [mood@the.niu.de](mailto:mood@the.niu.de).

## Lunch

Lunch on **Thursday** will not be organized centrally. Several lunch options are available on or near the JGU campus, including Baron (in the Alte Mensa; pizza, tarte flambée, and daily specials), the KHG canteen (Saarstraße 20, off campus near the main entrance; daily lunch specials), Pizzeria La Oliva (Am Gonsenheimer Spieß 2, off campus near the main entrance; pizza and salads), and Diwan (on campus; falafel, kebabs, and pizza). In addition, Werner’s Backstube, located at the main entrance, offers bakery items. Catered lunch, including a vegan option, will be served on **Friday** thanks to funding from the DGfW. Please let us know if you have any dietary restrictions we should be aware of.

## Dinner

Joint dinners will take place on Wednesday, 6 May, at **Eulchen Brauerei** (Kupferbergterrasse 17, 55116 Mainz; house beer and pizza) and on Thursday, 7 May, at **Baron** (located directly at Alte Mensa; pizza, tarte flambée, and daily specials), both starting at 7 p.m. Participants are asked to cover their own expenses. For planning purposes, prior registration for the dinners is required as part of the conference registration process.

## General meetings

The general meeting (in German) of the Working Group “**Wahlen und politische Einstellungen**” is open to all members of the working group. Members are all individuals who have subscribed to our mailing list. If you have not yet subscribed, you are warmly invited to do so by registering at: <https://www.listserv.dfn.de/sympa/info/ak-wahlen>.

The general meeting (in German) of the “**Deutsche Gesellschaft für Wahlforschung**” (DGfW) is open to DGfW members only. The DGfW is a self-organized body of German academic electoral researchers and a registered non-profit association dedicated to promoting electoral research in Germany. The DGfW co-governs the GLES together with GESIS and is responsible, through the GLES Coordination Group, for the study’s academic content and design. Membership is open to individuals who can demonstrate scholarly engagement with electoral research. For information on how to join, see: <https://www.dgfw.info/en/>.