

# Sophia Hunger

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## Current appointment

2020-current RESEARCH FELLOW, WZB Berlin Social Science Center

## Areas of specialization

Comparative Political Science, Political Behaviour, Computational Social Science, Political Protest, Party Competition, Political Sociology, Quantitative Methods

## Education

2017-2020 PH.D. in Social and Political Sciences, European University Institute  
Dissertation: *Is There a Populist Zeitgeist? Coming to Grips With an Elusive Phenomenon*  
Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Hanspeter Kriesi  
Committee: Prof. Dr. Ellen Immergut (EUI), Prof. Dr. Sarah de Lange (University of Amsterdam), Prof. Dr. Heike Klüver (Humboldt University)

2016-2017 M.RES. in Social and Political Sciences, European University Institute

2014-2016 M.SC. in Political Science, University of Copenhagen

2015 VISITING STUDENT, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

2011-2014 B.A. in Anthropology, Ludwig-Maximilian-University Munich

2010-2014 B.A. in Political Science (minor: Economics), Ludwig-Maximilian-University Munich

## Publications

### PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2021 Gessler, Theresa and Sophia Hunger. *How the refugee crisis and radical right parties shape party competition on immigration*. Political Science Research and Methods.  
[doi.org/10.1017/psrm.2021.64](https://doi.org/10.1017/psrm.2021.64)
- Hunger, Sophia and Fred Paxton. *What's in a Buzzword? A Systematic Review of the State of Populism Research in Political Science*, Political Science Research and Methods.  
[doi.org/10.1017/psrm.2021.44](https://doi.org/10.1017/psrm.2021.44)
- Borbáth, Endre, Sophia Hunger, Swen Hutter, and Ioana-Elena Oana. *Civic and Political Engagement during the Multifaceted COVID-19 Crisis*, Swiss Political Science Review.  
[doi.org/10.1111/spsr.12446](https://doi.org/10.1111/spsr.12446)
- Hunger, Sophia and Swen Hutter. *Fridays for Future in der Corona-Krise*. Forschungsjournal Soziale Bewegungen 34(2): 218-234.  
[doi.org/10.1515/fjsb-2021-0019](https://doi.org/10.1515/fjsb-2021-0019)
- 2018 Hunger, Sophia. *No naturalization, no participation? The influence of citizenship regimes and naturalization on immigrants' political incorporation on national and individual level*, Zeitschrift für Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft 12: 279 – 296.  
[doi.org/10.1007/s12286-017-0373-6](https://doi.org/10.1007/s12286-017-0373-6)

### CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDITED VOLUMES

- 2021 Hunger, Sophia and Julia Schulte-Cloos. *Outcomes - Government Responsiveness*. In: Bojar, Abel, Swen Hutter, Hanspeter Kriesi, and Theresa Gessler (Eds.): *Contentious episodes in the age of austerity. Studying the dynamics of government-challenger interactions*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Kriesi, Hanspeter and Sophia Hunger. *The characteristics of the episodes*. In: Bojar, Abel, Swen Hutter, Hanspeter Kriesi, and Theresa Gessler (Eds.): *Contentious episodes in the age of austerity. Studying the dynamics of government-challenger interactions*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Bojar, Abel, Swen Hutter, and Sophia Hunger. *Selecting and coding contentious episodes*. In: Bojar, Abel, Swen Hutter, Hanspeter Kriesi, and Theresa Gessler (Eds.): *Contentious episodes in the age of austerity. Studying the dynamics of government-challenger interactions*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Kriesi, Hanspeter, Swen Hutter, Abel Bojar, Argyrios Altiparmakis, Theresa Gessler, Sophia Hunger, Katia Pilati and Julia Schulte-Cloos. *Introduction: A new approach for studying political contention – contentious episode analysis*. In: Bojar, Abel, Swen Hutter, Hanspeter Kriesi, and Theresa Gessler (Eds.): *Contentious episodes in the age of austerity. Studying the dynamics of government-challenger interactions*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- 2020 Hunger, Sophia and Jasmine Lorenzini. *All quiet on the protest scene? – Action repertoires in Europe during the Great Recession*. In: Kriesi, Hanspeter, Jasmine Lorenzini, Silja Häusermann, Bruno Wueest (Eds.): *Contention in times of crises. Comparing political protest in 30 European countries, 2000-2015*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 2021 Hunger, Sophia. *Carrera reñida, largas negociaciones por delante y verdes y liberales como partidos bisagra*. [El País online](#).
- Hunger, Sophia. *Close Race, Long Negotiations ahead and Greens and Liberals as 'Kingmakers'*. [Agenda pública - Analistas de la actualidad](#)
- Hunger, Sophia, Teresa Völker, and Daniel Saldivia Gonzatti. *Der Verlust der Vielfalt. Die Corona-Proteste in Deutschland werden durch eine radikale Minderheit geprägt*. [WZB-Mitteilungen](#), (172), pp. 30-32.
- Grande, Edgar, Swen Hutter, Ruud Koopmans, Sophia Hunger, Eylem Kanol, Daniel Saldivia Gonzatti, and Teresa Völker. *Politischer Protest und Radikalisierung*. [MOTRA-Monitor 2020](#), pp. 130-147.
- Grande, Edgar, Swen Hutter, Sophia Hunger, and Eylem Kanol. *Alles Cvidioten? Politische Potenziale des Corona-Protests in Deutschland*. [WZB Discussion Paper. No. ZZ 2021-601](#).
- 2020 Hunger, Sophia and Swen Hutter. *Online Strikes with the Usual Suspects. How Fridays for Future Has Coped with the Covid-19 Pandemic*. [LSE EUROPP Blog - European Politics and Policy](#).
- Hunger, Sophia and Swen Hutter. *Protest in der Corona-Krise. Der Netzstreik fürs Klima*. [Coronavirus and Its Societal Impact - Highlights from WZB Research](#).
- Hutter, Swen, Endre Borbàth, and Sophia Hunger. *The Political Consequences of Crisis. Lessons Learned from the Great Recession*. [Coronavirus and Its Societal Impact - Highlights from WZB Research](#).
- 2019 Hunger, Sophia. *Book review: Koen Vossen, The Power of Populism: Gert Wilders and the Party For Freedom in the Netherlands*. [e-Extreme, Newsletter of the ECPR Standing Group on Extremism & Democracy](#).
- 2018 Hunger, Sophia and Theresa Gessler. *Same same but different? Germany's way to a new-old grand coalition*. [Blog Post for Party systems and governments observatory](#).

#### WORK IN PROGRESS

- R&R Williams, Christopher J. and *Sophia Hunger*. Adding fuel to the fire: How mainstream parties drive public salience of challenger party issues.
- under review Dennison, James and *Sophia Hunger*. Cleavage politics in the 21st century.
- under review Gessler, Theresa and *Sophia Hunger*. The politicization of immigration and far-right party politics in Germany.
- under review *Hunger, Sophia*, Swen Hutter, and Eylem Kanol. Ready to participate? The mobilisation potential of 'Corona protests' in Germany.

- in preparation *Hunger, Sophia*. Virtuous people and evil elites? Moralizing frames and normative distinctions in identifying populist discourse. paper draft, full draft.
- in preparation *Hunger, Sophia*. A contagious zeitgeist? The diffusion of populism in the European Parliament. paper draft, full draft.
- in preparation *Hunger, Sophia* and Jasmine Lorenzini. Renewal of democratic life in times of crises: The great recession as a critical juncture? paper draft, full draft.
- in preparation *Hunger, Sophia*, Daniel Saldivia Gonzatti, Eylem Kanol, and Swen Hutter. Breeding Grounds for Radicalization: How Past Far-Right Mobilization Shapes Radicalization in the Covid-19 Pandemic, paper draft.

#### MEDIA & PUBLIC OUTREACH

Contributions, interviews, and expert opinions for *Arte*, *Deutschlandfunk*, *Enorm Magazin*, *France 24*, *IPG Journal: Journal für Internationale Politik und Gesellschaft*, *NDR - Norddeutscher Rundfunk*, *rbb - Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg*, *WDR - Westdeutscher Rundfunk*.

#### SOFTWARE

- 2021 Hunger, Sophia, Teresa Völker, Swen Hutter, Johannes Müller, and Jan Dix. *PolDem Coding Tool, Version 1*.

### Teaching experience & training

- 2021 INSTRUCTOR, METHODS WORKSHOP FOR MEMBERS OF THE JUNGE AKADEMIE: Text-as-data-approaches and automated text analysis (1,5 days, online)  
SECOND SUPERVISOR for Master's thesis at the University of Potsdam
- 2019 INSTRUCTOR, BACHELOR SEMINAR: The study of radical right-wing and populist parties in Western Europe, University of Düsseldorf (32 hours)  
TEACHING ASSISTANT, PH.D. SEMINAR: Introduction to quantitative text analysis, EUI
- 2018 CERTIFICATE: Teaching in higher education, EUI  
INSTRUCTOR, PH.D. SEMINAR: Text as data. An introduction into quantitative text analysis with R Quanteda, EUI (2 day workshop, with Theresa Gessler)
- 2014 TEACHING ASSISTANT, BACHELOR SEMINAR: Image Discourses, Ludwig-Maximilian-University Munich

### Conference & workshop presentations

- 2021 Workshop: The rise of grassroots radicalism and its political effects, WZB  
Workshop: Recent advances in the automated gathering and analysis of protest event data, online  
Workshop: Contentious Interactions: Frontiers in Protest Research, WZB  
ECPR General Conference, online  
DVPW Convention, online
- 2020 Conference for Women in Political Methodology, online

- 2019 Workshop: Parties in the electoral cycle, online  
 Quantitative Text Analysis Workshop (QTA-DUB), Dublin  
 EPSA Annual General Conference, Belfast  
 SISP Convengo 2019, Lecce  
 Workshop “Public opinion and how it matters”, EUI
- 2018 MPSA Conference, Chicago  
 EPSA Annual General Conference, Vienna  
 ECPR General Conference, Hamburg  
 Conference “The Political Consequences of the Great Recession”, EUI
- 2017 LSE Graduate Conference “Populism: Left Right Centre”, London  
 EPSA Annual General Conference, Milan
- 2016 Author workshop for a special issue of the Zeitschrift für Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft, Leipzig
- 2014 ECPR Graduate Conference, Innsbruck

### **Invited talks**

- 2021 POLARIZATION AND VIOLENCE. Talk for the Leibniz-Kolleg at the University of Tübingen  
 FRIDAY SEMINAR SERIES, Department of Political Science in the School of Social Sciences and Philosophy at Trinity College Dublin, (online)  
 ROUNDTABLE: Still chaos or already awakening? Berlin’s future as a major city, Berliner Stadtmuseum  
 COLLOQUIUM: Sociological perspectives on the Corona crisis, organized by Jutta Allmendinger and Armin Nassehi (online)
- 2019 DEPARTMENTAL SEMINAR, Department of Social Sciences, University Düsseldorf
- 2018 NOTTE EUROPEA DEI RICERCATORI (European Researchers’ Night) – Bright 2018, Florence

### **Working experience in funded research projects**

- 2020-current RESEARCH FELLOW: Political Protest and Radicalization in Germany (MOTRA)
  - set-up of a nationwide, continuous protest monitoring for Germany
  - automatization of coding pipeline using machine learning
  - training and supervision of research assistants
- 2019 COUNTRY EXPERT, euandiz019, Voting Advice Application for the European Parliament election, EUI
- 2016-2020 DOCTORAL RESEARCHER, ERC Research Program POLCON - Political Conflict in Europe in the Shadow of the Great Recession, EUI
- 2016 RESEARCH ASSISTANT, CONSENSUS project, Ludwig-Maximilian-University Munich
- 2014-2015 RESEARCH ASSISTANT, GovLis Project, University of Copenhagen

### **Additional training**

- 2021 FALL SEMINAR IN COMPUTATIONAL SOCIAL SCIENCE: A Practical Introduction to Machine Learning in Python, GESIS.
- 2019 WORKSHOP: Item Response Theory, EUI

- 2018 Zurich Summer School for Women in Political Methodology  
WORKSHOP: Panel Data Analysis, EUI
- 2017 WORKSHOP: Weighting and Matching in Regression Analysis, EUI  
ECPR Summer School on Political Parties, University of Nottingham  
PH.D. TRAINING SCHOOL: Disentangling populism: Reception and effects of populist communication, The National School of Political Science and Public Administration, Bucharest  
WORKSHOP: Matching Methods, EUI  
WORKSHOP: Latex for Social Scientists, EUI  
WORKSHOP: Machine Learning techniques for social science texts and datasets, EUI  
WORKSHOP: Text Analysis Using R, London School of Economics and Political Science  
WORKSHOP: Survey Experiments, EUI
- 2016 WORKSHOP: Causal Inference, EUI  
ECPR Winter School on Methods and Techniques: Quantitative Text Analysis, Bamberg
- 2014 ERASMUS INTENSIVE PROGRAM: Women in Public Relations in Europe, Leeds Metropolitan University  
SPRING SCHOOL: Sustainable consumption in everyday life?, Ludwig-Maximilian-University Munich

## Scholarships & competitive grants

- 2018 Fellowship & Travel grant, Zurich Summer School for Women in Political Methodology
- 2017 Travel grant, COST Action IS1308 Populist Political Communication in Europe (€700)
- 2016-2020 Doctoral Scholarship of the DAAD (approx. €65,000)
- 2016 ECPR Grant, ECPR Winter School in Methods and Techniques (€300)
- 2014 Luitpoldiana-Foundation, travel grant (€150)
- 2012-2016 Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation, Scholarship covering living expenses (approx. 35,000)
- 2013 DAAD travel grant (€250)

## Academic & other services

- 2021- Organizer of CO:STA, the Colloquium for Statistical Analysis at the WZB  
Academic council representative for research unit, WZB  
Mentor for PhD students, WZB
- 2021 Workshop organizer for “Contentious Interactions: Frontiers in Protest Research”, 28/29th October, WZB
- 2017-2019 Organizer of the Political Behaviour Colloquium at the EUI
- 2016-2017 Researcher Representative, Department of Social and Political Science, EUI  
Member of the Executive Committee, Library Committee
- 2015 Delegate at the Young Conference on Islam, Berlin, Germany
- 2014-2016 Representative of the scholarship holders of the Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation in Scandinavia
- 2013-2016 Mentor in the project “Arbeiterkind.de”, a group empowering students with a working class background
- 2012-2014 Student Representative for Political Science at Ludwig-Maximilian-University

## Professional memberships & service

MEMBERSHIPS: European Political Science Association (EPSA), Midwestern Political Science Association (MPSA)

REVIEWER FOR: *European Journal for Political Research*, *Journal of International Migration and Integration*, *Government & Opposition*, *Representation*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *Leviathan*, *SAGE Open*, *Environmental Politics*

2020 MEMBER OF THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE: Automated Extraction of Socio-political Events from News – AESPEN Conference

2018-current PARTICIPANT: OSSC19 Crowdsourced Replication Initiative

## Additional skills

Languages German (native), English (fluent), Danish (intermediate), Italian (intermediate)

Software Stata, R, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Markdown, Python