

# Sven-Oliver Proksch

Professor of Political Science  
University of Cologne  
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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Democratic political institutions, political representation, party systems, legislative behavior, coalition politics, quantitative text analysis, European Union politics, political methodology

## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

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Professor of Political Science and Chair for European and Multilevel Politics Institute of Political Science and European Affairs and Cologne Center for Comparative Politics Faculty of Management, Economics, and Social Sciences UNIVERSITY OF COLOGNE, GERMANY	Since 01/2017
Associate Professor and William Dawson Scholar Department of Political Science MCGILL UNIVERSITY, MONTREAL, CANADA	03/2016-12/2016
Assistant Professor Department of Political Science MCGILL UNIVERSITY, MONTREAL, CANADA	09/2013-02/2016
Post-Doctoral Research Fellow Research Center SFB 884 "Political Economy of Reforms" UNIVERSITY OF MANNHEIM, GERMANY	09/2008-08/2013

## EDUCATION

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Ph.D. in Political Science UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES, USA	2003-2008
Verwaltungswissenschaft (Diplom) UNIVERSITY OF KONSTANZ, GERMANY	1997-2002
M.A. in Political Science RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, NEW JERSEY, USA	2000-2001

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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Visiting Professor of Political Science, University of California San Diego	08/2023-02/2024
Director, Institute of Political Science and European Affairs, Cologne	2018-2022
Co-Director, European Union Centre of Excellence, Montreal	2015-2016
Trainee, DG Enlargement, European Commission, Brussels	2002-2003
Intern, Permanent Representation of Germany to the OECD, Paris	1999-2000

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

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1. Duell, Dominik, Lea Kaftan, Sven-Oliver Proksch, Jonathan B. Slapin, and Christopher Wratil. 2024. "The Rhyme and Reason of Rebel Support: Exploring European Voters' Attitudes Towards Dissident MPs", *Political Science Research and Methods* 12(2): 301-317
2. Müller, Stefan and Sven-Oliver Proksch. 2023. "Nostalgia in European Party Politics: A Text-Based Measurement Approach", *British Journal of Political Science*, Online First
3. Sebök, Miklós, Sven-Oliver Proksch, Christian Rauh, Péter Visnovitz, Gergő Balázs, and Jan Schwalbach. 2023. "Comparative European legislative research in the age of large-scale computational text analysis: A review article", *International Political Science Review*, Online First
4. Castanho Silva, Bruno, Lennart Schürmann, and Sven-Oliver Proksch. 2023. "Modulation of Democracy: Partisan Communication During and After Election Campaigns", *British Journal of Political Science*, Online First
5. Wratil, Christopher, Jens Wäckerle, and Sven-Oliver Proksch. 2023. "Government Rhetoric and the Representation of Public Opinion in International Negotiations", *American Political Science Review* 117(3): 1105-1122
6. Duell, Dominik, Lea Kaftan, Sven-Oliver Proksch, Jonathan B. Slapin, and Christopher Wratil. 2023. "Communicating the Rift: Voter Perceptions of Intra-Party Dissent in Parliaments", *Journal of Politics* 85(1): 76-91
7. Castanho Silva, Bruno, and Sven-Oliver Proksch. 2022. "Politicians unleashed? Political communication on Twitter and in parliament in Western Europe." *Political Science Research and Methods*, 10(4): 776-792
8. Castanho Silva, Bruno, and Sven-Oliver Proksch. 2021. "Fake It 'Til You Make It: A Natural Experiment to Identify European Politicians' Benefit from Twitter Bots", *American Political Science Review* 115(1): 316-322
9. Lindstädt, René, Sven-Oliver Proksch, and Jonathan B. 2020. "When Experts Disagree: Response Aggregation and Its Consequences in Expert Surveys", *Political Science Research and Methods* 8(3): 580-588.
10. Proksch, Sven-Oliver, Christopher Wratil, and Jens Wäckerle. 2019. "Testing the Validity of Automatic Speech Recognition for Political Text Analysis", *Political Analysis* 27(3): 339-359
11. Proksch, Sven-Oliver, Will Lowe, Jens Wäckerle, and Stuart Soroka. 2019. "Multilingual Sentiment Analysis: A New Approach to Measuring Conflict in Legislative Speeches", *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 44(1): 97-131.
12. Angelova, Mariyana, Thomas König, Sven-Oliver Proksch. 2016. "Responsibility Attribution in Coalition Governments: Evidence from Germany", *Electoral Studies* 43: 133-149.
13. James Lo, Sven-Oliver Proksch, and Jonathan B. Slapin. 2016. "Ideological Clarity in Multi-Party Competition: A New Measure and Test Using Election Manifestos" *British Journal of Political Science* 46(3), 591-610.
14. James Lo, Sven-Oliver Proksch, and Thomas Gschwend. 2014. "A Common Left-Right Scale for Voters and Parties in Europe", *Political Analysis* 22(2): 205-223.
15. David Fortunato, Thomas König, and Sven-Oliver Proksch. 2013. "Government Agenda-Setting and Bicameral Conflict Resolution", *Political Research Quarterly* 66(4): 938-951.

16. Christian B. Jensen, Sven-Oliver Proksch, and Jonathan B. Slapin. 2013. "Parliamentary Questions, Oversight, and National Opposition Status in the European Parliament", *Legislative Studies Quarterly* 38(2): 259-282.
17. Sven-Oliver Proksch and Jonathan B. Slapin. 2012. "Institutional Foundations of Legislative Speech", *American Journal of Political Science* 56(3), 520-537.
18. Sven-Oliver Proksch and James Lo. 2012. "Reflections on the European Integration Dimension", *European Union Politics* 13(2), 317-333.
19. Sven-Oliver Proksch and James Lo. 2012. "Response to Marks, Steenbergen, and Hooghe", *European Union Politics* 13(2), 340-341.
20. Sven-Oliver Proksch, Jonathan B. Slapin, and Michael Thies. 2011. "Party System Dynamics in Post-War Japan: A Quantitative Content Analysis of Electoral Pledges", *Electoral Studies* 30(1), 114-124.
21. Sven-Oliver Proksch and Jonathan B. Slapin. 2011. "Parliamentary Questions and Oversight in the European Union", *European Journal of Political Research* 50(1), 53-79.
22. Jonathan B. Slapin and Sven-Oliver Proksch. 2010. "Look Who's Talking: Parliamentary Debate in the European Union", *European Union Politics* 11(3), 333-357.
23. Sven-Oliver Proksch and Jonathan B. Slapin. 2010. "Position-Taking in European Parliament Speeches", *British Journal of Political Science* 40(3), 587-611.
24. Sven-Oliver Proksch and Jonathan B. Slapin. 2009. "How to Avoid Pitfalls in Statistical Analysis of Political Texts: The Case of Germany", *German Politics* 18(3), 323-344.
25. Jonathan B. Slapin and Sven-Oliver Proksch. 2008. "A Scaling Model for Estimating Time-Series Party Positions from Texts", *American Journal of Political Science* 52(3), 705-722.
26. George Tsebelis and Sven-Oliver Proksch. 2007. "The Art of Political Manipulation in the European Convention", *Journal of Common Market Studies* 45(1), 157-186.
27. Sven-Oliver Proksch and Jonathan B. Slapin. 2006. "Institutions and Coalition Formation: The German Election of 2005", *West European Politics* 29(3), 540-559.
28. Thomas König and Sven-Oliver Proksch. 2006. "Exchanging and Voting in the Council: Endogenizing the Spatial Model of Legislative Politics", *Journal of European Public Policy* 13(5), 647-669.

## BOOKS

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*Foundations of European Politics: A Comparative Approach*, Oxford University Press (2021), co-authored with Catherine De Vries, Sara B. Hobolt, and Jonathan B. Slapin.

*Politics of Parliamentary Debate: Parties, Rebels, and Representation*, Cambridge University Press (2015), co-authored with Jonathan Slapin.

– Winner of the 2016 Richard F. Fenno, Jr. Prize for the best book in legislative studies

– Winner of the 2016 Leon Epstein Prize for the best book on political organizations and parties

*Reforming the European Union: Realizing the Impossible*, Princeton University Press (2012), co-authored with Daniel Finke, Thomas König, and George Tsebelis.

BOOK CHAPTERS

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Slapin, Jonathan B. and Sven-Oliver Proksch. 2021. "Theories and Empirical Applications of Legislative Debate." In: Bäck, Hanna, Marc Debus and Jorge M. Fernandes (eds), *The Politics of Legislative Debates*. Oxford University Press.

Proksch, Sven-Oliver. 2018. "Computergestützte Textanalysen." In: Wagemann C., Goerres A., Siewert M. (eds), *Handbuch Methoden der Politikwissenschaft*. Springer Reference Sozialwissenschaften. Springer VS, Wiesbaden.

Slapin, Jonathan B. and Sven-Oliver Proksch. 2014. "Words as Data: Content Analysis in Legislative Studies", In S. Martin, T. Saalfeld, and K. Strom (eds), *The Oxford Handbook of Legislative Studies*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

König, Thomas, Bernd Luig, Sven-Oliver Proksch, and Jonathan B. Slapin. 2010. "Measuring Policy Positions of Veto Players in Parliamentary Democracies", In T. König, G. Tsebelis, and M. Debus (eds), *Reform Processes and Policy Change: Veto Players and Decision-Making in Modern Democracies*, Studies in Public Choice Volume 16, Springer Press, pp. 69-98.

König, Thomas and Sven-Oliver Proksch. 2006. "A Procedural Exchange Model of EU Legislative Politics", in R. Thomson, F.N. Stokman, C. Achen and T. König (eds), *The European Union Decides*, Cambridge University Press, pp. 211-238.

BOOK REVIEWS

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Proksch, Sven-Oliver. 2023. "Book Review: *The Language(s) of Politics: Multilingual Policy-Making in the European Union* by Nils Ringe, University of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor, 2022." *Redescriptions*.

Slapin, Jonathan B. and Sven-Oliver Proksch. 2017. "Party Discipline in the U.S. House of Representatives. By Pearson Kathryn . Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2015." *Perspectives on Politics*, 15(1), 201-203.

Proksch, Sven-Oliver and Jonathan B. Slapin. 2017. "Response to Kathryn Pearson's Review of *The Politics of Parliamentary Debate: Parties, Rebels and Representation*." *Perspectives on Politics*, 15(1), 200-201.

Proksch, Sven-Oliver. 2013. "Review of *Platform or Personality? The Role of Party Leaders in Elections*, by Amanda Bittner. Oxford: Oxford University Press." *Perspectives on Politics* 11(3), 967-969.

GRANTS

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Principal Investigator, ERC Consolidator Grant *MINORITYRULE: Democracy without Majorities: Political Representation under Minority Rule*, 2021-2026

Work Package Leader (with M. Sebok and C. Rauh), OPTED: Observatory for Political Texts in European Democracies - A European Research Infrastructure, *EU-funded H2020 Project*, 2020-2023

Principal Investigator, Cluster of Excellence *ECONtribute: Markets and Public Policy*, 2019-2025

Principal Investigator (with C. Wratil, J. Slapin, and D. Duell), Fritz-Thyssen Foundation, *Rebels in Representative Democracy: The Appeal and Consequences of Political Defection in Europe*, 2018-2021

Principal Investigator (with C. Kam), Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), Insight Development Grant, "*Parliamentary Opposition and Political Outcomes: How Parties out of Power Obstruct to Succeed*", 2014-2016

Principal Investigator, Fonds québécois de la recherche sur la société et la culture (FRQSC), Start-up program for new research professors, *“Opposition Politics in Times of Crisis”*, 2014-2017

Principal Investigator, European Commission Marie Curie International Re-integration Grant (IRG), *“The Institutional Foundations of Legislative Speech”*, 2009-2012

Co-Investigator (with Thomas König and Wolfgang C. Müller), DFG Research Center “Political Economy of Reforms” (SFB 884), *“Legislative Reforms and Party Competition”*, 2010-2013.

Co-Investigator (with Thomas Gschwend), DFG Research Center “Political Economy of Reforms” (SFB 884), *“Measuring a Common Space of Reform Positions”*, 2010-2013.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### *University of Cologne*

Institutional Reform of the European Union, Graduate course, 2021-2022

Governments and Parliaments: Political Representation in Europe, Graduate, 2022-2023

Analyzing EU Politics with Big Data, Graduate course, 2019-2021

Comparative Legislative Politics, Graduate course, 2018

Comparing European Democracies, Graduate course, 2017, 2018, 2020

Quantitative Text Analysis, Graduate course, 2017

Introduction to Quantitative Methods, Graduate course, 2017

Political Representation in Europe, Graduate course, 2017-2018

Political System of the European Union, Undergraduate, Summer, 2017-2023

### *McGill University*

Poli 328 Comparing European Democracies, Undergraduate course, Winter 2015, 2016

Poli 451 The European Union, Undergraduate course, Winter and Fall 2014

Poli 524 Political Representation in Comparative Perspective, Honours seminar, Fall 2015

Poli 618 Quantitative Analysis, Graduate course, Winter 2015, 2016

Poli 639 Comparative Institutional Analysis, Graduate course, Winter 2014

### *University of Mannheim*

Presidential and Parliamentary Systems, Undergraduate course, Spring 2012

Comparative Legislative Politics, Graduate course, Spring 2011

Quantitative Methods in Political Science, Graduate course, Spring and Fall 2010

Comparative Institutional Analysis, Graduate course, Fall 2009

Measuring Policy Positions of Political Parties, Graduate course, Spring 2009

### *University of California, Los Angeles*

Constitution Making in Comparative Perspective, Undergraduate course, Spring 2007

Comparative Analysis of Government Institutions, Direct Democracy in California,  
Intro to Comparative Politics, Comparative Government and Politics of Western Europe,  
Politics and Strategy, Intro to Data Analysis (as TA).

### *Summer Schools and Other Teaching*

Paul Lazarsfeld Visiting Professorship, University of Vienna, 2022

Quantitative Data Analysis with R, Essex Summer School, 2014-2015

Computer-Assisted Content Analysis (with Will Lowe), IQMR, Syracuse University, 2012-2015

Quantitative Analysis of Political Texts (with Will Lowe), EITM Europe, Mannheim, July 2011

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATIONS & INVITED TALKS

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*2023*

Political Science Brown Bag Talk, University of Duisburg-Essen, February 2023  
Political Representation and Behavior Workshop, ERC MINORITYRULE, Cologne, February 2023  
Voter Perceptions of Post-Election Outcomes Workshop, University of Vienna, May 2023  
Annual Conference of the European Political Science Association, Glasgow, June 2023  
Annual Conference of the American Political Science Association, Los Angeles, August 2023  
UCSD-Cologne Workshop, San Diego, September 2023

*2022*

Political Economy, Kings College London, May 2022  
Annual Conference of the European Political Science Association, Prague, June 2022  
Department of Political Science, University of Vienna, June 2022  
Cologne Political Science Day, University of Cologne, September 2022  
CIS Colloquium Zurich, University of Zurich, October 2022

*2020*

Party Politics Seminar, University of Gothenburg, September 2020  
Political Economy Lunch Seminar, Hertie School of Governance, October 2020

*2019*

European Studies and Political Science Series, UW-Madison, March 2019  
Ninth Annual Meeting of the European Political Science Association, Belfast, June 2019  
Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, August 2019  
Second Annual POLTEXT Conference, Tokyo, September 2019  
GESIS Political Science Roundtable, Cologne, November 2019

*2018*

Government Speaker Series, University of Essex, May 2018  
Comparative Politics Seminar, University of Lisbon, May 2018  
Eighth Annual Meeting of the European Political Science Association, Vienna, June 2018  
Political Science Seminar, University of Bamberg, July 2018  
Inaugural Lecture, University of Cologne, July 2018

*2017*

Political Science Seminar Series, University of Vienna, November 2017  
Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, August 2017  
Seventh Annual Meeting of the European Political Science Association, Milan, June 2017  
Political Science Seminar Series, University of Frankfurt, June 2017  
Political Science Brown Bag Talk, University of Duisburg-Essen, May 2017

*2016*

Sixth Annual Meeting of the European Political Science Association, Brussels, June 2016  
NYU Text-as-Data Speaker Series, New York, April 2016

*2015*

Comparative Politics Workshop, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, October 2015  
General Conference, European Consortium of Political Research, Montreal, August 2015  
Fifth Annual Meeting of the European Political Science Association, Vienna, June 2015

*2014*

Department of Political Science, Université Laval, Québec, September 2014  
Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington D.C., August 2014  
Essex Summer School Lecture, Colchester, July 2014  
Fourth Annual Meeting of the European Political Science Association, Edinburgh, June 2014  
Meeting of the European Community Studies Association Canada, Montreal, May 2014  
Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 2014

*2013*

Center for New Institutional Social Sciences, Washington University St. Louis, October 2013  
Third Annual Meeting of the European Political Science Association, Barcelona, June 2013  
Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 2013  
Department of Government, University of Essex, March 2013

*2012*

Nuffield College, University of Oxford, November 2012  
Center for Social Science Methodology, University of Oldenburg, November 2012  
Workshop, Developments in Party Manifesto Research, Mannheim, October 2012  
Workshop, Coalition Politics, Mannheim, July 2012  
Second Annual Meeting of the European Political Science Association, Berlin, June 2012  
Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 2012

*2011*

Workshop “Developments in Comparative Legislative Research”, University of Mannheim, July 2011  
First Annual Meeting of the European Political Science Association, Dublin, June 2011  
European Union Studies Association Biennial Conference, Boston, March 2011  
Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 2011

*2010*

Seminar Series, Department of Political Science, University of Houston, USA, December 2010  
Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington D.C., September 2010  
Working Group on Decision Theory, German Political Science Association, Mannheim, July 2010  
EITM Europe, Guest Lecture, University of Mannheim, June 2010  
Inaugural Conference, Collaborative Research Center SFB 884, Mannheim, May 2010

*2009*

Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Toronto, September 2009  
Veto Players Workshop, University of Mannheim, May 2009  
European Union Studies Association Biennial Conference, Los Angeles, April 2009  
Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 2009

*2008*

Seminar Series, Department of Political Science, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland, November 2008  
Workshop on Estimating Political Positions, University of Mannheim, June 2008  
Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 2008

*2007*

European Union Studies Association Biennial Conference, Montreal, May 2007  
Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 2007

2006

Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, August 2006  
Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 2006

2005

European Union Studies Association Biennial Conference, Austin, April 2005  
Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association, Oakland, March 2005

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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Managing Director and Academic Director, *Institute of Political Science and European Affairs*, University of Cologne (2018-2022)

Member, Standing Hiring Committee, ECONtribute: Markets and Public Policy (since 2019)

Co-Leader of Research Area Political Economy, ECONtribute: Markets and Public Policy (since 2019)

Editorial Board Member, *Political Science Research and Methods* (2012–), *Journal of European Public Policy* (2013–2023)

Co-Director, *European Union Centre of Excellence*, Montreal (2015-2016)

Member, *Centre for the Study of Democratic Citizenship*, Montreal (2013-2016)

Conference Division Chair: Political Representation EPSA Conference, Cologne, 2024; Representation and Electoral Systems, APSA, Washington D.C., 2014

Executive Board Member, SFB 884 Research Center “Political Economy of Reforms”, Mannheim, 2010-2013

Journal Referee for *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, *European Journal of Political Research*, *European Union Politics*, *Journal of European Public Policy*, *Journal of Public Policy*, *Journal of Legislative Studies*, *Journal of Politics*, *Journal of Theoretical Politics*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, *Party Politics*, *Political Analysis*, *Political Science Research and Methods*, *West European Politics*

Project Referee for *European Research Council*, *German Research Foundation DFG*, *Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada*, *Swiss National Science Foundation*, *The Research Foundation - Flanders (FWO)*

Member of the *American Political Science Association (APSA)*, *European Political Science Association (EPSA)*

HONORS & AWARDS

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European Research Council Consolidator Grant	2021
William Dawson Scholar, McGill University	2016
Richard F. Fenno Prize for best book in legislative studies (with J. Slapin)	2016
Leon Epstein Prize for best book on political organizations and parties (with J. Slapin)	2016
Gosnell Prize for Excellence in Political Methodology (with T. Gschwend and J. Lo)	2012
Dissertation Year Fellowship, Graduate Division, UCLA	2007-2008
Graduate Fellow, American Academy of Political and Social Science	2007
Mentored Teaching Fellowship, Department of Political Science, UCLA	2006-2007
Pre-Dissertation Fellowship, Center for European and Eurasian Studies, UCLA	2005
Teaching and Tuition Fellowship, Department of Political Science, UCLA	2004-2006
ERP Fellowship of the German National Academic Foundation for Studies in USA	2003-2004
Fellowship of the German National Academic Foundation	1999-2002
Carlo-Schmid-Fellowship for Traineeship at the EU Commission, DAAD	2002-2003
Studies Abroad Fellowship, German Academic Exchange Service, DAAD	2000-2001

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