

Dr. Sebastian Stier

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Areas of specialization

Political Communication • Computational Social Science • Political Behavior • Social Media • Comparative Politics • Populism • Data Mining • Text Analysis

Academic career

- 1/2016-present *Senior Researcher*
GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, Cologne
- 4/2018-3/2019 *Substitute Professor (Professurvertretung)*
University of Duisburg-Essen, Institute of Political Science, NRW School of Governance
- 4/2017-11/2017 *Team Leader*
GESIS, Team Social Analytics & Services
- 4/2017-9/2017 *Lecturer*
Institute of Political Science, Heidelberg University (IPW HD)
- 8/2017 *Visiting Fellow*
Center for Advanced Internet Studies (CAIS) Bochum
- 2/2012-12/2015 *PhD Student*
Graduate School “Policy performance of autocratic and democratic regimes”, IPW HD

Education

- 2/2012-3/2016 PhD in Political Science, Heidelberg University (*summa cum laude*)
- 9/2005-7/2011 M.A. (MAGISTER) in Political Science, History and Law, Heidelberg University (*summa cum laude*)

Publications

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2019
forthcoming Jungherr, Andreas, Ralph Schroeder, and Sebastian Stier. “Digital Media and the Surge of Political Challengers: Explaining the Political Success of Outsiders in the US, Germany and China”. *Social Media + Society*.*

- 2019
forthcoming Keller, Franziska B., David Schoch, Sebastian Stier, and JungHwan Yang. “Political Astroturfing on Twitter: How to Coordinate a Disinformation Campaign”. *Political Communication*.*
- 2019
forthcoming Rau, Jan Philipp, and Sebastian Stier. “Die Echokammer-Hypothese: Fragmentierung der Öffentlichkeit und politische Polarisierung durch digitale Medien? (The Echo Chamber hypothesis: Do digital media lead to a fragmentation of the public sphere and to political polarization?)”. *Zeitschrift für Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft*.
- 2019 Stier, Sebastian, Johannes Breuer, Pascal Siegers, and Kjerstin Thorson. “Integrating Survey Data and Digital Trace Data: Key issues in developing an emerging field”. *Social Science Computer Review*.*
- 2018 Stier, Sebastian, Arnim Bleier, Haiko Lietz, and Markus Strohmaier. “Election Campaigning on Social Media: Politicians, Audiences and the Mediation of Political Communication on Facebook and Twitter”. *Political Communication* 35 (1): 50–74.*
Reprinted in *Studying Politics Across Media*, edited by Leticia Bode, and Emily K. Vraga. London: Routledge (2019).
- 2018 Stier, Sebastian, Wolf J. Schünemann, and Stefan Steiger. “Of Activists and Gatekeepers: Temporal and Structural Properties of Policy Networks on Twitter”. *New Media & Society* 20 (5): 1910–1930.*
- 2017 Stier, Sebastian, Lisa Posch, Arnim Bleier, and Markus Strohmaier. “When populists become popular: Comparing Facebook use by the right-wing movement Pegida and German political parties”. *Information, Communication & Society* 20 (9): 1365–1388.*
- 2017 Stier, Sebastian. “Internet Diffusion and Regime Type: Temporal Patterns in Technology Adoption”. *Telecommunications Policy* 41 (1): 25–34.*
- 2016 Schünemann, Wolf J., Stefan Steiger, and Sebastian Stier. “Transnationalisierung politischer Öffentlichkeit über Soziale Medien – ein Politikfeldvergleich” (Is There a Transnationalization of Public Spheres? A Comparison of Two Global Political Issues). *Zeitschrift für Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft* (Suppl) 10: 233–257.*
- 2015 Schünemann, Wolf J., Stefan Steiger, and Sebastian Stier. “The Net Neutrality Debate on Twitter”. *Internet Policy Review* 4 (4).
- 2015 Stier, Sebastian. “Political Determinants of E-Government Performance Revisited: Comparing Democracies and Autocracies”. *Government Information Quarterly* 32 (3), 132–148.*
- 2015 Stier, Sebastian. “Democracy, Autocracy, and the News: The Impact of Regime Type on Media Freedom”. *Democratization* 22 (7), 1273–1295.*

*Double blind peer-reviewed

BOOKS

- 2017 Stier, Sebastian. “Internet und Regimotyp – Netzpolitik und politische Online-Kommunikation in Autokratien und Demokratien” (Internet and Regime Type – Internet Policy and Online Political Communication in Autocracies and Democracies). Wiesbaden: VS Verlag für Sozialwissenschaften.
Reviewed in *Zeitschrift für Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft*.
- 2012 Stier, Sebastian. “Die Bedeutung des Internets als Medium der politischen Kommunikation in Deutschland und den USA – eine vergleichende Fallstudie” (The Impact of the Internet on Political Communication – Germany and the U.S. in Comparison). Münster: Lit Verlag.

EDITORSHIP

- 2019 Stier, Sebastian, Johannes Breuer, Pascal Siegers, Kjerstin Thorson. “Integrating Survey Data and Digital Trace Data”. Special Issue in *Social Science Computer Review*.

ARTICLES IN REFEREED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- 2017 Keller, Franziska B., David Schoch, Sebastian Stier, and Junhwang Yang. “How to Manipulate Social Media: Analyzing Political Astroturfing Using Ground Truth Data from South Korea”. In *Proceedings of the 11th International Conference on Weblogs and Social Media*, 564–567.*
- 2016 Stier, Sebastian. “Partisan Framing of Political Debates on Twitter”. In *Proceedings of the 8th ACM Conference on Web Science*, 365–366.**
- 2016 Stier, Sebastian. “Studying the Role of Elites in U.S. Political Twitter Debates”. In *Proceedings of the 6th Microposts Workshop @WWW 2016*, 43–45.**

*Double blind peer-reviewed; **Single blind peer-reviewed

ARTICLES IN EDITED VOLUMES

- 2019 Stier, Sebastian, Jürgen Maier, and Corinna Oschatz. “Die Nutzung sozialer Medien durch Kandidaten im Bundestagswahlkampf 2017”. In *Wahlen und Wähler – Analysen aus Anlass der Bundestagswahl 2017*, edited by Harald Schoen, and Bernhard Weßels. forthcoming
- 2019 Stier, Sebastian, and Andreas Jungherr. “Digitale Verhaltensdaten und Computational Social Science in der politischen Kommunikationsforschung”. In *Politik in der digitalen Gesellschaft*, edited by Jeanette Hofmann, Norbert Kersting, Claudia Ritzi and Wolf Schünemann. forthcoming
- 2019 Stier, Sebastian. “Internetfreiheit in Europa” (Internet Freedom in Europe). In *E-Government und Netzpolitik im europäischen Vergleich*, edited by Wolf J. Schünemann, and Marianne Kneuer, 301–320. Baden-Baden: Nomos.
- 2019 Stegmeier, Jörn, Wolf J. Schünemann, Marcus Müller, Maria Becker, Stefan Steiger, and Sebastian Stier. “Multi-Method Discourse Analysis of Twitter Communication”. In *Quantifying Approaches to Discourse for Social Scientists*, edited by Ronny Scholz, 285–314. London: Palgrave Macmillan.
- 2017 Stier, Sebastian. “Political Determinants of Media Freedom”. In *Routledge Companion to Media and Human Rights*, edited by Howard Tumber, and Silvio Waisbord, 149–157. London: Routledge.
- 2015 Stier, Sebastian. “Strukturbedingungen im Online-Wahlkampf: USA und Deutschland im Vergleich” (Structural Conditions in Online Campaigns: Comparing the U.S. and Germany). In *Die US-Präsidentenwahl 2012, Analysen der Politik- und Kommunikationswissenschaft*, edited by Christoph Bieber, and Klaus Kamps, 363–382. Wiesbaden: VS Verlag für Sozialwissenschaften.

OTHER

- 2018 Stier, Sebastian, Arnim Bleier, Malte Bonart, Fabian Mörsheim, Mahdi Bohlouli, Margarita Nizhegorodov, Lisa Posch, Jürgen Maier, Tobias Rothmund and Steffen Staab. “Systematically Monitoring Social Media: The Case of the German Federal Election 2017”. *GESIS Papers 2018/04*.
- 2018 Stier, Sebastian, Arnim Bleier, Malte Bonart, Fabian Mörsheim, Mahdi Bohlouli, Margarita Nizhegorodov, Lisa Posch, Jürgen Maier, Tobias Rothmund and Steffen Staab. “Social Media Monitoring for the German Federal Election 2017”. *GESIS Data Archive, Cologne. ZA6926 Data file*.
- 2016 Stier, Sebastian. “Elite Actors in the U.S. Political Twittersphere”. *GESIS Datorium*.

Grants

- 2019 Social Science One grant on “SHARENEWS: Predicting the shareworthiness of ‘real’ and ‘fake’ news in Europe”. With Juhi Kulshrestha (GESIS), Judith Möller, Damian Trilling, Claes de Vreese (University of Amsterdam), Cristian Vaccari (Loughborough University) and Cornelius Puschman (Bredow Institute). (Total volume 50.000€, 6.000€ for GESIS and access to original Facebook data)
- 2018 “What Do ‘the People’ Want? Analysing Online Populist Challenges to Europe”, Project funded by the VolkswagenStiftung (7 of 138 applications accepted). Main applicant, with Ralph Schroeder (University of Oxford) and Caterina Froio (Sciences Po, Paris). (Total volume 705,700€, 349,200€ awarded for my project part)
- 2018 Expert symposium on “Integrating and Analyzing Data From Surveys and Social Media” at CAIS. With Johannes Breuer, Pascal Siegers (15,000€)
- 2017 Project on “Monitoring Topic Saliences in Social Media”. GESIS project funding (competitive). With Fabian Flöck, Arnim Bleier (54,000€)
- 2017 Project on “Integrating Survey Data and Digital Behavioral Data”. GESIS project funding (competitive). With Johannes Breuer, Tobias Gummer, Pascal Siegers (45,000€)
- 2017 Project on “Monitoring Social Media and Mass Media during the ALLBUS”. GESIS project funding (competitive). With Michael Blohm, Oshrat Hochmann (15,500€)
- 2012-2019 Various travel grants for conferences
- 2012-2015 PhD Scholarship by Landesgraduiertenförderung Baden-Württemberg (41,070€)

Awards and list positions

- 2019 ICA Computational Methods Interest Group Best Paper Award (with JungHwan Yang, Franziska Keller und David Schoch)
- 2016 Number 2 on list for Junior Professorship “Internet and Politics” at University of Hildesheim

Other professional activities

MEMBERSHIPS

- DVPW and DGPuK Section “Political Communication”
- DVPW: Section “Comparative Politics”, Standing Group “Politics and Communication”, Working Group “Politics and Internet”
- German Society for Electoral Studies (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Wahlforschung)
- ECPR Standing Groups on “Internet and Politics”, “Comparative Political Institutions”, “Extremism and Democracy”, “Political Communication”
- International Political Science Association (IPSA)
- German Society for Online Research (DGOF)

REFEREE

Analyse & Kritik, Communication Methods and Measures, Contemporary Politics, Democratization, European Policy Analysis, Government Information Quarterly, IC2S2, ICA, ICWSM, Information, Communication & Society, International Journal of Communication, Journal of Communication,

Journal of Information Technology & Politics, New Media & Society, PLOS ONE, Policy & Internet, Political Behavior, Political Communication, Public Opinion Quarterly, Schweizerischer Nationalfonds (SNF), Sustainability, The International Journal of Press/Politics, Zeitschrift für Politikwissenschaft, Zeitschrift für Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft

Teaching

Winter Semester 2018/19

- MA lecture “Medien und Politik” at IPW DUE.
- MA seminar “Anwendung politikwissenschaftlicher Methoden in R” at IPW DUE.
- BA seminar “Populismus – Konzeptualisierung, Entstehungsfaktoren und Effekte” at IPW DUE.
- MA seminar (Lehramt) “Politikwissenschaft an einem aktuellen Themenfeld” at IPW DUE.

Summer Semester 2018

- BA seminar “Einführung in das politische System der BRD” at University of Duisburg-Essen, Institute of Political Science (IPW DUE).
- BA seminar “Vergleich politischer Systeme” at IPW DUE.
- BA lecture (Lehramt) “Einführung in die Politikwissenschaft” at IPW DUE.
- MA seminar (Lehramt) “Politikwissenschaft an einem aktuellen Themenfeld” at IPW DUE.

Summer Semester 2017

- MA seminar “Die politischen Effekte des Internets in Demokratien und Autokratien” at IPW HD.

Last updated: August 21, 2019