

Dr. Simon Rittershaus

Data Scientist | Political Economist



Contact

Languages

German Native
English ● ● ● ● ● C2
Spanish ● ● ● ● ● B2
French ● ● ● ● ● A2

Programming

R / Rmd Expert
Python Advanced
LaTeX Advanced
Git Intermediate
SQL Basic

Expertise

Methods & Analytics
• Descriptive & Multivariate Statistics
• Time-Series & Panel Econometrics
• Exploratory Data Analysis
• Quantitative & Qualitative Content Analysis

Data Science & AI
• Machine Learning & NLP
• GenAI / LLM Pipelines
• Prompt Engineering & Validation

Data Governance
• Relational Database Design
• Automated Data Pipelines & API Integration
• Data Quality Management
• Advanced Data Visualization

Domain Knowledge
• Comparative Political Economy (CPE)
• Comparative Public Policy; Subsidy & Regulation Policymaking
• Climate Policy & Inequality
• Party Ideology & Partisanship

Professional Development

Certificate: Leadership, Management & Communication
University of Konstanz (60+ hrs)

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PROFILE

PhD-trained Political Economist and Data Scientist specializing in quantitative methods, data governance, NLP/LLM pipelines, and climate policy analysis. Proven track record in managing multi-year research projects, building automated data infrastructures, and developing validated GenAI/LLM pipelines to classify unstructured data at scale. Expert in translating complex policy and economic dynamics into structured analyses, clear visualizations, and sound evidence for decision-making.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE: DATA & PROJECT MANAGEMENT

09/2021–03/2026

Data Governance: AI Data Pipeline Development

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF CLIMATE POLICY INSTRUMENTS (PhD) ·

- **Project management:** Independently led a multi-year data analysis project from conception to completion.
- **Data pipelines:** Built a database of 3,500 unstructured policy documents; developed, prompt-engineered, and validated a GPT-4 classification pipeline (Python) to automate manual coding; released as the open-access dataset ClimateGen (Git, GESIS); statistical time-series analysis (R).
- **Reporting & publication:** Prepared and visualized analytical results for technical and non-technical audiences; authored a cumulative dissertation and co-authored a peer-reviewed article.

10/2020–08/2025

Relational Large-N Database Development

"VARIETIES OF EGALITARIANISM" – RESEARCH ASSISTANT (2020–21), THEN RESEARCH ASSOCIATE / DATA & PROJECT MANAGER ·

- **Database design & data quality:** Engineered and maintained a relational large-N database; governed and monitored data collection processes and implemented data quality management protocols.
- **Coordination:** Designed and coordinated scalable content analyses and workflows; supervised junior project staff.

EDUCATION & TEACHING

09/2021–03/2026

PhD (*Dr. rer. pol.*) in Political Economy Research Associate

DEPT. OF POLITICS & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION / CLUSTER OF EXCELLENCE "THE POLITICS OF INEQUALITY" · University of Konstanz

Dissertation: *Targeting Distributive Politics and the Expansion of Climate Policymaking* (23 countries, 30 years). **Focus:** Comparative political economy, policy design, computational text analysis (LLMs), research data management.

10/2014–02/2021

Teaching Assistant

UNIVERSITY OF KONSTANZ ·

Instruction in empirical political science; course design and student mentoring.

10/2013–07/2020

B.A. & M.A. Politics & Public Administration

· University of Konstanz

Specialization: Comparative politics, policy analysis, empirical research methods.
Semester abroad: Granada, Spain (B.A.).

PUBLICATIONS

Rittershaus, S. (2026). ClimateGen (Version 1.0.0) [Data set]. Exzellenzcluster "The Politics of Inequality".

DATA

Rittershaus, S. (2025). *Targeting distributive politics and the expansion of climate policymaking* [Dissertation]. Konstanz: Universität Konstanz. Thesis

Horn, A., Klüser, J., Rittershaus, S., & Haselmayer, M. (2025). Unequal German Democracy and the Rise of the 'Lifestyle-Left'. *German Politics*, 35(1), 29–52. DOI

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

15th Annual EPSA Conference, Madrid (2025) – *Talk: Automating the Mapping of Climate Policy Adoptions: Introducing the DCCSR Dataset.*

29th Congress of the DVPW, Göttingen (2024) – *Talk: Climate subsidies for the middle class.*

14th Annual EPSA Conference, Cologne (2024) – *Talk: Does policymaking explain the struggle to mitigate climate justice in rich countries?*

13th Annual EPSA Conference, Glasgow (2023) – *Talk: Predistribution, Redistribution and Social Investment in 16 OECD Countries.*

References

Available upon request.