

Dr. Tobias Rommel

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Academic Positions

Senior Research Fellow and Lecturer, Hochschule für Politik München
Since 04/2018, Chair for International Relations (permanent position since 04/2024)

Research Associate, Technical University of Munich
Since 01/2020, affiliated with the TUM School of Management

Research and Teaching Fellow, University of Zurich
11/2013 – 03/2018, Chair for International Relations and Political Economy

Visiting Research Fellow, University of Aarhus
10/2016 – 12/2016, Department of Political Science

Research, Teaching, and Administrative Assistant, University of Heidelberg
02/2012 – 10/2013, Administrative Assistant at the Department of Political Science
09/2011 – 03/2012, Chair for Comparative Politics
04/2010 – 08/2011, Professorship for International Political Economy
09/2009 – 03/2010, Professorship for Analytical Political Economy

Education

PhD in Political Science, University of Zurich
– 03/2014 – 03/2018
– Dissertation: Foreign Direct Investment and the Politics of Autocratic Survival
– Committee: Stefanie Walter, Svend-Erik Skaaning, Marco Steenbergen

Master of Arts, University of Heidelberg
– 09/2011 – 02/2014
– Political Science (major) and Economics (minor)
– Supervisors: Stefanie Walter, Reimut Zohlnhöfer

Bachelor of Arts, University of Heidelberg
– 09/2008 – 08/2011
– Political Science (major) and Economics (minor)
– Supervisor: Manfred G. Schmidt

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

1. The Electoral Consequences of Offshoring. How the Globalization of Production Shapes Party Preferences (with Stefanie Walter), *Comparative Political Studies*, 2018, 51 (5), 621–658.

2. First Impressions: How Leader Changes Affect Bilateral Aid (with Paul Schaudt), *Journal of Public Economics*, 2020, 185 (5), 1–12.
3. International Trade and Public Protest: Evidence from Russian Regions (with Tabea Palmtag, Stefanie Walter), *International Studies Quarterly*, 2020, 64 (4), 939–955.
4. Misremembering Weimar: Hyperinflation, the Great Depression, and German Collective Economic Memory (with Lukas Haffert, Nils Redeker), *Economics & Politics*, 2021, 33 (3), 664–686.
5. Foreign Direct Investment and Political Preferences in Non-Democratic Regimes, *Comparative Political Studies*, 2024, 57 (8), 1076–1309.
6. Even in the Best of Both Worlds, You Can't Have It All: How German Voters Navigate the Trilemma of Mixed-member Proportionality (with Lukas Haffert, Pascal Langenbach), *Electoral Studies*, 2024, 90 (4), 1–11.
7. Beyond Economic Development? Foreign Direct Investment and Pre-Election Violence (with Tabea Palmtag, Katrin Paula), *Journal of Peace Research*, 2025, 62 (2), 246–261.
8. Local Economic Consequences of Foreign Direct Investment in Democracies and Autocracies (with Tabea Palmtag, Luca Messerschmidt), *International Studies Quarterly*, 2025, 69 (2), 1–13.

Book

1. *Foreign Direct Investment and the Politics of Autocratic Survival*, 2018, PhD Dissertation, University of Zurich

Policy Papers

1. Misremembering Weimar: Unpacking the Historical Roots of Germany's Monetary Policy Discourse (with Lukas Haffert, Nils Redeker), *Jacques Delors Institute Policy Paper Series*, 2019, November 1.
2. Angst vor der Inflation? Über die politische Macht trügerischer Erinnerungen (with Lukas Haffert, Nils Redeker), *ifo Schnelldienst*, 2021, 74 (9), 23–26.
3. Government Ideology and Social Policy: Evidence from New Global Data (with Bastian Herre), *Social Policy Worldwide*, 2023, September 8.

Manuscripts

1. Electoral Costs of Reforming Political Institutions (with Lukas Haffert, Amy Pond).
2. Ideologues and Redistribution: Social Service Provision in Democracies and Dictatorships (with Bastian Herre).
3. Partisanship and Support for Delegating Government Decisions to Autonomous Algorithms (with Matthew DiGiuseppe, Andreas Kern, Katrin Paula).
4. 'Nothing' is Not a Control Group: On the Need for Placebo Comparisons in Political Science Survey Experiments (with Lukas Haffert, Raphael Reinke).

Teaching

Thesis Supervision – Master 'Politics & Technology': 17 – Bachelor 'Political Science': 52

Technical University of Munich

1. Advanced International Relations – International Political Economy, BA lecture
 - Winter 2024/2025, in English and in German (+ tutorials)
 - Winter 2023/2024, in English and in German (+ tutorials), with Tim Büthe
 - Winter 2019/2020, in English and in German (+ tutorials)
 - Winter 2018/2019, in English and in German (+ tutorials)

2. Advanced Topics in Comparative and International Political Economy, MA seminar
 - Summer 2025, in English
 - Summer 2024, in English
 - Summer 2022, in English
 - Summer 2021, in English
 - Summer 2019, in English
3. Advanced Topics in International Political Economy, BA seminar
 - Summer 2023, in English
 - Summer 2018, in German
4. Political Regimes and the Economy, MA seminar
 - Summer 2024, in English
 - Winter 2022/2023, in English
 - Winter 2021/2022, in English
 - Winter 2020/2021, in English
5. Research Design in International Relations/Democracy Research, BA seminar
 - Summer 2025, in German
 - Summer 2024, in German
 - Summer 2023, in German
 - Summer 2022, in German
 - Summer 2021, in German
 - Summer 2020, in German
 - Summer 2019, in German

University of Zurich

1. Advanced International Relations, BA lecture
 - Fall 2017, in German, with Stefanie Walter
 - Fall 2016/Spring 2017, in German, with Thomas Malang, Stefanie Walter
 - Fall 2014/Spring 2015, in German, with Stefanie Walter
2. Autocracies in International Relations, BA seminar
 - Fall 2015, in German
3. Bilateral Relations between Switzerland and the EU, BA thesis seminar
 - Fall 2015/Spring 2016, in German, with Ruth Beckmann, Nils Redeker, Stefanie Walter
4. Globalization, BA thesis seminar
 - Fall 2013/Spring 2014, in German, with Ruth Beckmann, Stefanie Walter
5. Regionalism and Global Politics, BA thesis seminar
 - Spring 2017, in German, with Manuela Spindler

Research Grants

Research Grant for Collective Memory project (with Lukas Haffert, Johannes Gerschewski)
10,000 EUR, Volkswagen Stiftung, 2024

Research Grant for AI Delegation project
7,000 EUR, Hochschule für Politik München Postdoctoral Seed Fund, 2024

Research Grant for Misremembering Weimar project (with Lukas Haffert, Nils Redeker)
6,500 CHF, Department of Political Science, University of Zurich, 2019

Research Grant for fdimarkets data access (with Tabea Palmtag)
11,000 CHF, Department of Political Science, University of Zurich, 2018

Research Grant for Placebo Control project (with Lukas Haffert, Raphael Reinke)
10,000 CHF, Department of Political Science, University of Zurich, 2017

Peer Mentoring Grant (with Nathalie Faoro, Bernhard Reinsberg)
6,150 CHF, Graduate Campus, University of Zurich, 2016

Conference Presentations

Conferences (P = presentation; Co = presentation by co-author; D = discussant)

- American Political Science Association – 2014 (Co), 2025 (P,Co)
- European Consortium for Political Research – 2014 (P)
- European Political Science Association – 2015 (Co), 2016 (P), 2017 (P,Co), 2018 (P), 2019 (Co)
- Joint 3-country IPE conference – 2022 (P)
- Midwest Political Science Association – 2016 (P,P), 2017 (P,Co), 2019 (P,P)
- Political Economy of International Organizations – 2016 (Co)
- Section Comparative Politics, German Political Science Association – 2017 (P)
- Section Development Economics, German Economics Association – 2016 (Co)
- Section Political Economy, German Political Science Association – 2013 (P), 2025 (P)
- Swiss Political Science Association – 2013 (P), 2016 (P,P), 2017 (P,Co), 2018 (P,D), 2019 (P,Co,D), 2021 (Co), 2023 (P,Co,D)

Workshops

- DEDERE workshop ‘Correlates of Regime Change’, University of Aarhus, 2016.
- Executive Education Program ‘European Perspectives on Industrial and Competition Law and Policy’, Technical University of Munich, 2018.
- Mini-Conference on ‘The Politics of Finance’, Technical University of Munich, 2023.
- NCCR Democracy workshop ‘Democracy – Concepts and Measurement’, University of Zurich, 2015.
- Workshop ‘Authoritarian Stability and Breakdown in Russia and its Neighbor Countries’, University of Aarhus, 2016.
- Workshop ‘Comparative Authoritarianism’, Technical University of Munich, 2019.

Methods Training

Multi-Method Social Science, taught by Jason Seawright
Spring 2014, Doctoral Program in Political Science, University of Zurich

Causal Inference in the Social Sciences, taught by Dominik Hangartner
Fall 2014, Doctoral Program in Political Science, University of Zurich

Modern Statistical Inference, taught by Marco Steenbergen
Fall 2014, Doctoral Program in Political Science, University of Zurich

Respondent-Driven Sampling, taught by Lisa Johnston
02/2015, ECPR Winter School, University of Bamberg

Introduction to Programming with R, taught by Thorsten Schnapp
02/2015, ECPR Winter School, University of Bamberg

Event History and Survival Analysis, taught by Janez Stare
08/2015, ECPR Summer School, University of Ljubljana

Democracy – Concepts and Measurement, taught by Gerardo Munck
11/2015, NCCR Democracy, University of Zurich

Essentials of Interview-Based Qualitative Research, taught by Liz Spencer
Fall 2015, Doctoral Program in Political Science, University of Zurich

Field Experiments, taught by Donald Green
Spring 2016, Doctoral Program in Political Science, University of Zurich

Service to the Profession

- Reviewer for scientific journals: *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*; *American Journal of Political Science*; *American Political Science Review*; *British Journal of Political Science*; *Comparative Political Studies*; *European Political Science Review*; *Economics & Politics*; *Government and Opposition*; *International Interactions*; *International Theory*; *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion & Parties*; *Journal of Politics*; *Party Politics*; *Review of International Organizations*; *Swiss Political Science Review*; *World Politics*.
- Reviewer for funding agencies: TUM ForTe
- Elected member of the Senate and the Hochschulbeirat of the Hochschule für Politik München, 2022-2024.
- Member of a search committee for 10 professorships in the Social Sciences, School of Social Sciences and Technology, Technical University of Munich, 2022.
- Co-organizer of the first Joint International Political Economy Conference of the Austrian, German, and Swiss Political Science Associations at the Technical University of Munich, June 2022 (with Timm Betz, Tim Bütke, and Amy Pond).
- Elected member and (vice-)president of the Staff Council (Personalrat) at the Hochschule für Politik, Technical University of Munich, 2019-2021.
- Head of the PhD peer mentoring group of the ETH and University of Zurich, 2016, and organizer of the pre-PhD colloquium, Department of Political Science, University of Zurich, 2015 and 2017.

Additional Skills

Didactics: Teaching Skills Program, University of Zurich

- Introduction to University-level Teaching
- Advising Students Writing BA and MA theses
- Improving Exams – Theory and Practice
- Designing Multiple Choice Exams
- Motivating and Activating Students in Large Lectures

Skills

- Languages: German (native), English (fluent)
- Text processing: Latex, Microsoft Office
- Data analysis software: Stata, R