

LEON GAWENDA

Ph.D. Candidate and Research Associate
Bielefeld University (Faculty of Sociology)

🌐 l-gawenda.github.io | ✉️ leon.gawenda@uni-bielefeld.de

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

My current PhD research investigates ‘politics of place’ and their history. I study spatial patterns of political participation and geographical representation. I rely on electoral data, survey data, and parliamentary speech data using quantitative methods.

EDUCATION

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| Bielefeld University | since Sep 2024 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ PhD candidate in Sociology, supervisors: Prof. Martin Kroh & Prof. Lukas Haffert◦ Research associate at the Leibniz Science Campus, SOEP RegioHub | |
| Tübingen University | 2021 – 2024 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ M.A. Public Policy & Social Change◦ Stay abroad at Sciences Po, Aix-en-Provence (FR)◦ Thesis: Environmental issue salience and policy support | |
| Passau University | 2017 – 2021 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ B.A. Governance & Public Policy | |

CURRENT PROJECTS

Explaining continuity in Germany’s electoral geography across 130 years

Working paper

Electoral and social-structural data of Imperial Germany

Data set

Who speaks for the left-behind? Framing of spatial inequalities in parliamentary speeches

Working paper with Chen Zeng and Konstantin Wandel

Environmental issue salience and policy support

Working paper

CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

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| EPSS 2026 , Belfast | Jun 2026 |
| Conference on the Political Dimensions of Urban and Rural Lives , LSE | Apr 2026 |
| AK Wahlen Jahrestagung* , Free University Berlin | Sep 2025 |
| EPOP Annual Conference 2025 , Exeter University | Sep 2025 |
| Workshop on Political Behaviour in Central and Eastern Europe , EUI Florence | Jun 2025 |

* only attendance

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Tübingen University

- Tutorial for "Methods of policy evaluation: panel analysis and quasi-experiments" (Graduate)
- Tutorial for "Introduction to quantitative analysis" (Undergraduate)

SKILLS

Statistical analysis R (advanced), Stata (basics), LaTeX (basics)

Languages German, English (fluent), Spanish (advanced), French (basic)