

Dr. Joshua Cova

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies** Cologne, Germany
Postdoctoral Research Associate Jul 2023 –
- Postdoctoral research associate in the Political Economy research group. Supervisor: Prof. Lucio Baccaro
- King's College London** London, UK
Postdoctoral Research Associate Dec 2022 – Jun 2023
- Research associate in the Leverhulme Trust-funded project '[The Political Economy of Growth Models in an Age of Stagnation](#)'. Worked on a project examining the relationship between labour market institutions and export specialization in European economies. PIs: Prof. Engelbert Stockhammer, Dr. Chiara Benassi

EDUCATION

- Hertie School and Humboldt University** Berlin, Germany
DFG-funded joint PhD program [DYNAMICS](#); Grade: Summa cum laude Sep 2019 – Dec 2022
Thesis title: "The political economy of European wage formation"
Committee: Prof. Anke Hassel (Hertie School), Prof. Hanna Schwander (Humboldt University), Prof. Lucio Baccaro (Max Planck Institute)
- University of Oxford** Oxford, UK
MPhil in European Politics; Grade: Pass with Merit Sep 2014 – Jun 2016
- King's College London** London, UK
BA in History; Grade: First Class Honours Sep 2011 – Jun 2014

NON-ACADEMIC PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

- Boston Consulting Group (BCG)** Zurich, Switzerland
Analyst Dec 2017 – Jun 2019
- European Investment Bank** Luxembourg
Traineeship Feb 2017 – Jul 2017
- European Parliament (Cabinet of the President)** Brussels, Belgium
Traineeship Sep 2016 – Jan 2017

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Cova, Joshua** (2025) 'State intervention in low-wage work: Politics, social actors and increased governmental control in the setting of the minimum wage', *European Journal of Industrial Relations* [[Published version](#)]
- Cova, Joshua** (2024) 'On industrial relations and inflation: a long-term perspective', *Transfer: European Review of Labour and Research* [[Published version](#)]
- Cova, Joshua** (2023) 'Politicizing the minimum wage: A multilingual text analysis of minimum wages in European electoral manifestos', *Journal of European Social Policy*, 33(4): pp.469-483 [[Published version](#)]
- Cova, Joshua** (2023) 'Back to the basics: Applying multilingual dictionary analysis to the Comparative Manifesto Project corpus', *Computational Communication Research*, 5(2): pp.1-25 [[Published version](#)]
- Cova, Joshua** (2022) 'Reconsidering the drivers of country-specific recommendations: The Commission's ideological preferences on wage policies', *European Union Politics*, 23(4): pp. 639-661 [[Published version](#)] [[LSE European Politics Blog](#)]

DATA

Cova, Joshua (2024), *ITAPARLCORPUS*, a machine-readable database of all parliamentary transcripts in Italy's post-war republic history (1948-2022) [[Harvard Dataverse](#)]

PRE-PRINTS AND WORKING PAPERS

Cova, Joshua and Schmitz, Luuk (2024) 'A primer for the use of classifier and generative large language models in social science research', *OSF Pre-prints* [[Published version](#)]

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Cova, Joshua (2023) 'Book Review - Diminishing Returns: The New Politics of Growth and Stagnation', *Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis* [[Published version](#)]

Cova, Joshua (2022) 'The EU directive on fair and adequate minimum wages: Low-pay work, collective bargaining and the prospects for income growth', *Jacques Delors Centre* [[Published version](#)]

UNDER REVIEW

Cova, Joshua 'A new database for Italian parliamentary speeches. Introducing the ITAPARLCORPUS dataset', *Italian Political Science Review* (**Revise & Resubmit**)

Cova, Joshua and Marengo, Matteo 'Safety net or just smoke and mirrors? Party politics, labour market outsiders and the minimum wage in Germany and Italy', *European Journal of Political Research* (**under review**)

AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

SASE Early Career Workshop Awarded the SASE Early Career Workshop prize - conferences & accommodation fees at the SASE conference were waived

DFG-funded DYNAMICS PostDoc start-up funding (2022) DFG-funded DYNAMICS doctoral candidates who submitted their PhD theses within three years were eligible to apply, on a competitive basis, for PostDoc Start-up funding

Dahrendorf Forum Research Paper Competition (2020) Awarded € 2,000 for best paper

TEACHING

University of Cologne

The Political Economy of Inequality (Fall semester 2024)

Designed my own course for BA students

Median student satisfaction score: 5/5

Hertie School

Statistics I (Fall semester, 2021 & Fall Semester, 2022)

Median student satisfaction score: 10/10

University of Cologne

Guest seminars for *Politics and Instruments of Macroeconomic Governance* (Fall semester 2023)

Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies

- Co-organizer of an ongoing workshop series on the uses of [Large language models in social science research](#) for advanced graduate students
- [Introduction to Python for social scientists](#) (February 2024)

SUMMER SCHOOLS & WORKSHOPS

Time Series & Panel Data Analysis (Essex Summer School, University of Essex)
Introduction to Python for the social sciences (Humboldt University Berlin)
Beyond Counting Words: Working with Word Embeddings (Humboldt University Berlin)
Econometrics for Policy Analysis (Bocconi University)

CONFERENCES

EPSA (*European Political Science Association*): 2022
SASE (*Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics*): 2022, 2024
CES (*Council for European Studies*): 2023, 2024

SERVICES TO THE PROFESSION

Reviewer: *Journal of Common Market Studies*, *Government and Opposition*, *Review of Evolutionary Political Economy*, *European Journal of Industrial Relations*, *Journal of European Public Policy*

SKILLS

Programming: R, Python, Stata, L^AT_EX, Git, Microsoft Office
Languages: Italian (Native), German (Native), English (Professional), French (Intermediate)

REFERENCES

Prof. Lucio Baccaro, Director of the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Cologne
Prof. Chiara Benassi, University of Bologna
Prof. Anke Hassel, Hertie School, Berlin