

# Dr. Joshua Cova

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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### Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies

Cologne, Germany

*Senior Researcher*

*Jul 2023 –*

- Senior Researcher in the Political Economy research group (Sep 2025-)
- Postdoctoral research associate in the Political Economy research group (Jul 2023-Aug 2025)

### 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

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### 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

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### 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

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**Cova, Joshua** (2025) 'A new database for Italian parliamentary speeches. Introducing the *ItaParlCorpus* dataset', *Italian Political Science Review/Rivista Italiana di Scienza Politica*, 55, 77-86 [[Published version](#)]

**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*, 31(3): 345-368 [[Published version](#)]

**Cova, Joshua** (2024) 'On industrial relations and inflation: a long-term perspective', *Transfer: European Review of Labour and Research*, 30(3): 277-298 [[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): 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): 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): 639-661 [[Published version](#)] [[LSE European Politics Blog](#)]

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## DATA

**Cova, Joshua** (2025), *ItaParlCorpus*, a historical, machine-readable and annotated database of all parliamentary transcripts in Italy's post-war republic history (1948-2022) [[Harvard Dataverse](#)]

**Cova, Joshua and Germani, Irene** (2025), *CommonsCorpus*, a historical, machine-readable and annotated database of all parliamentary transcripts of the UK's House of Commons (1970-2024) [[Harvard Dataverse](#)]

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## 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](#)]

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## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

**Cova, Joshua** (2023) 'Parliamentary debates on Italy's industrial policy (1948-2022)', *LUHNIP Discussion Papers on Italy's Industrial Policy* [[Published version](#)]

**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](#)]

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## 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

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## TEACHING

### University of Dusseldorf

*The Internal and External Dimensions of EU Governance* (Summer semester 2025)

### 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

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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

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EPSA (*European Political Science Association*): 2022  
SASE (*Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics*): 2022, 2024, 2025  
CES (*Council for European Studies*): 2023, 2024  
SISP (*Societa Italiana di Scienze Politiche*): 2025  
SISEC (*Societa Italiana di Sociologia Economica*): 2023, 2024, 2025

## SERVICES TO THE PROFESSION

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Reviewer: *Journal of Common Market Studies*, *Government and Opposition*, *Review of Evolutionary Political Economy*, *European Journal of Industrial Relations*, *Journal of European Public Policy*, *Comparative Politics*, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, *Social Science Computer Review*, *Historical Social Research*, *Scientific Data*

Academic positions: SASE Early Career Workshop reviewer and facilitator, Chair of the ECPR Political Economy & Welfare Standing Group

## SKILLS

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**Programming:** R, Python, Stata, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Git, Microsoft Office  
**Languages:** Italian (Native), German (Native), English (Professional), French (Intermediate)

## REFERENCES

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**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