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## Research interests

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Political parties and party systems, party competition, party organisation, party change, populism, democracy

## Employment

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<b>Aarhus University</b> Post-doc in the <a href="#">YOUTHPOL</a> project, Department of Political Science	Aarhus, Denmark Oct 2024 – present
<b>University of Vienna</b> Pre-doctoral researcher, Department of Government	Vienna, Austria Oct 2020 – Sep 2024

## Publications

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### Peer-reviewed journals

- Forthcom. **Public perceptions of populist radical parties in government: inclusion without moderation?** Accepted at *European Political Science Review*.
- 2025 **Do more inclusive parties change less? Intraparty democracy and programmatic change.** *West European Politics*, 48(2), 270–296. Accessible [here](#).
- 2025 **Italy's Democratic Quality and the Role of Political Parties: Comparative Empirical Patterns.** *Italian Political Science Review*, 55(2) 138-155. – with Panzano G. Accessible [here](#).
- 2025 **Twenty Thousand Leagues below the Po: Career Patterns and Party Institutionalisation in the Lega (Nord).** *Regional & Federal Studies* – with Piccolino G. Accessible [here](#).
- 2023 **Right-wing victory in the 2022 Italian parliamentary election: territorial patterns and systemic implications.** *Italian Journal of Electoral Studies*, 86(1), 29-50. – with Piccolino G. Accessible [here](#).

### Chapters in edited volumes

- 2024 **Populist parties and party competition.** In Huber, R.A. & Jankowski, M. (Eds.). *Populism: An Introduction*. SAGE Publications – with Wagner M. Accessible [here](#).

### Others

- 2023 **Fratelli d'Italia nei consigli regionali.** *Il Mulino*, 72(2), 179-186. – with Piccolino G.
- 2022 **The Scale of Trust: Local, Regional, National and European Politics in Perspective.** *GEG Working Paper*. – with Arrighi JS., Battestini JT., Coatleven L., Hublet F., and Queudet V. Accessible [here](#).
- 2020 **Institutions and foreign interferences.** *Study for the AFCO Committee of the European Parliament*. – with Bressanelli E., di Palma A., Inglese G., and Repetto E. Accessible [here](#).
- 2019 **Il Partito Verde Europeo e le sfide dell'europeizzazione.** In Giusti, S. (Ed.) *Idee per l'Europa. Quaderni del Circolo Rosselli*, XXXIX(135).

### Public outreach

- 2025 **Regional elections in Liguria, Emilia-Romagna and Umbria, Autumn 2024.** *BLUE*, 5, online first.
- 2024 **Regional election in Latium, 12-13 February 2023.** *BLUE*, 4, online first. – with Hublet F.
- 2023 **Parliamentary election in Italy, 25 September 2022.** *BLUE*, 3, 109-113. – with Plescia C.
- 2022 **Italian municipal elections (Rome and Milan), October 2021.** *BLUE*, 2, 158-162.

## Working papers

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### Submitted articles

“How are political parties’ youth wings organized?”, with Bech Seeberg H. (R&R)

“Voters’ evaluations of party policy shifts”, with Lingier L. Luypaert J. and Wagner M. (R&R)

“Radical right populism: perceptions of threat and affect”, with Heinz E., Hjermitsev I., and Wagner M. (under review)

### Ongoing research

“Issue representation of the youth in parliament”, with Borghetto E., Carammia M., and Bech Seeberg H.

“The causal effect of parliamentary breakthrough on party supporters’ ideology and attitudes”

“The diffusion of illiberalism across political parties”, with Panzano G.

“Youth wings at party congress” with Kaltenegger M., Ceron A., and Bech Seeberg H.

## Education

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**University of Vienna** - Doctoral degree in Political Science Vienna, Austria  
Supervisors: Professors Markus Wagner and Carolina Plescia. *Graduated with honours* 2020 – 2024  
Cumulative dissertation: “Party Policy Shifts: Causes, consequences, and perceptions”

**University of Florence** - Master’s degree in European Studies Florence, Italy  
Supervisor: Dott.ssa Sorina Soare. *110/110 cum laude* 2018 – 2020  
Dissertation title: “The Battle for EU Values: EPP’s stances on post-accession democratic conditionality”

**Scuola Normale Superiore, Scuola Sant’Anna** - Honour MA Diploma in Political Science Florence, Italy  
Supervisor: Dott. Edoardo Bressanelli. *100/100 cum laude* 2018 – 2021  
Dissertation title: “The Rule of Law Debate in the EU: MEPs’ positions on democratic backsliding”

**Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna** - Honour BA Diploma in Political Science Pisa, Italy  
Full scholarship for both BA and MA studies. *100/100* 2015 – 2019

**University of Pisa** - Bachelor’s degree in Political Science Pisa, Italy  
Supervisor: Dott. Enrico Calossi. *110/110 cum laude* 2015 – 2018  
Dissertation title: “Niche Parties Reframed. Concepts and Empirical Analysis in Italy, France and Spain”

## Teaching

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Aarhus University, MA-level seminar. Course development, instruction, and assessment.  
**Populist Parties, Party Competition, and Contemporary Democracy** 2026

Aarhus University, BA-level seminars. Instruction.  
**Political Institutions: Western countries, EU and foreign policy** 2025

University of Vienna, BA-level seminars. Course development, instruction, and assessment.  
**Comparative Politics** 2024, 2022, 2021  
**Quantitative Methods of Empirical Social Research** 2023, 2022, 2021

## Conferences and workshops

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**DPSA Conference** (*Chair, Presenter, Discussant*) Nov 2025

**SISP Conference** (*Chair, Presenter, Discussant*) Sep 2025, 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021

**EPSA Conference** (*Chair, Presenter, Discussant*) Jun 2025, 2024, 2023

**ECPR General Conference** (*Presenter*) Sep 2023, 2022

**APSA Annual Meeting** (*Presenter*) Aug 2023

**ITANES Young Scholars’ Workshop** (*Poster presenter*) Jul 2023

**CES International Conference** (*Presenter*) Jun 2023

**MPSA Conference** (*Presenter - online*) Apr 2023

**AuPSA Conference** (*Presenter*) Nov 2022, 2021

## Training (selection)

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Pedagogical Programme (Aarhus University)	2025	Publication strategies in academia	2021
An introduction to GIS with R	2023	Data management for doctoral candidates	2021
Panel data analysis	2022	Causal inference for observational data	2021
Advanced quantitative text analysis	2022	Field experiments	2021
Quantitative text analysis of political speech	2022	Hertie School Data science summer school	2021
Regression models for categorical data	2021	ECPR Summer school on political parties	2019

## Research stays

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**University of Amsterdam** Amsterdam, Netherlands  
Visiting PhD student, c/o Professor Sarah de Lange *April – May 2023*

**Ghent University** Ghent, Belgium  
Visiting PhD student, c/o Professors Bram Wauters and Anna Kern *February – March 2023*

## Research experience

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**Part-time collaboration** *April – June 2020*  
Collaboration with Dr. E. Bressanelli (Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna) and other contributors for the study “Institutions and foreign interferences” requested by the AFCO Committee of the European Parliament.

**External collaboration** *June – July 2018, Nov – Dec 2018*  
Collaboration with Dr. D. Morisi (Collegio Carlo Alberto) and Prof. D. Gambetta (European University Institute) collecting data on foreigners resident in Italy from 2002 to 2018.

**Traineeship** *September – December 2019*  
Traineeship as programme assistant at the European Policy Centre in Brussels, under the supervision of Dr. C. Stratulat. Tasks included: organisation and management of policy-oriented events, preparation of research briefings and reports, assistance with policy analysis publications and funding applications.

**Traineeship** *February – April 2018*  
Traineeship as student assistant at the Department of Government of the University of Vienna. Tasks included: bibliographic research, proofreading, survey pre-testing and panel documentation, database creation on Excel.

## Grants and scholarships

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Short-term grant abroad (KWA) from the University of Vienna. *2023*  
Covering research and living expenses for the research stays at Ghent University and University of Amsterdam.

Honours programme at the Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna. *2015-2020*  
Full scholarship covering living expenses, summer schools and international travel.

## Service to the discipline

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Reviewer for *Party Politics*, *Political Behavior*, *West European Politics*, *European Journal of Political Research*, and *Journal of European Public Policy*. Verified peer reviews listed on [Web of Science](#).

## Software and language skills

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STATA (advanced), R, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Office  
Italian (native), English (IELTS 8), French (DALF C1), German (B2)

## Other experiences

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Editor of the Electoral Bulletin of the European Union ([BLUE](#))  
Editor and contributor of the UNIFI RISE student blog during the MA