

[Search for publications, researcher](#)[Join for free](#)[Log in](#)

Discover by subject area

Project

POLITSOLID - The Ties that Bind: Experimental Analyses of Political Solidarities in Modern European Democracies

 Achim Goerres ·  Jan Karem Höhne ·  Jakob Jonathan Kemper

Goal: This ERC Consolidator Grant project POLITSOLID investigates the micro-foundations of political solidarities in fast-changing European polities. It analyses why some ordinary citizens show a high overall willingness to shoulder costs of public redistribution to other people in a polity, while others do not; and why ordinary citizens have multiple levels of willingness to shoulder costs depending on who receives the benefit.

Relevance: Having high levels of political solidarities is important for modern democracies to deal with exogenous shocks and long-term structural changes in their societies, which create pressures on the political system. Recent exogenous shocks in Europe that brought the necessity of political solidarities to light were the financial crisis (2007/8) with its extensive transnational bail-out policies across the European Union and the large refugee intake (2015/16). Relevant long-term structural changes are population ageing, rising income inequality and mass immigration.

POLITSOLID answers the overarching research question: What drives political solidarities in modern European democracies?

Objectives

- To create a novel theoretical and empirical framework that allows simultaneous modelling of multiple political solidarities and that includes the individual as well as the macro levels to enable better predictions about how people behave.
- To test causal mechanisms with a range of mostly experimental methods to get a better understanding of causality where observational studies have so far dominated.
- To isolate effective levers that political actors can pull to create political solidarities.

Data: POLITSOLID collects and analyses new data from (1) lab experiments & online surveys, (2) a simulated artificial state 'Novaland' in which volunteers from Austria, Germany & Switzerland act as citizens in an online environment, with experimental treatments applied, (3) an international panel survey in six countries and (4) field experiments in collaboration with real political actors.

Updates

0 new 14

Recommendations

0 new 3

Followers

0 new 59

Reads ...

5 new 4477

Follow

Project log

Project log



Jan Karem Höhne
added an **update**

Nov 10, 2022

Artificial Online State NOVALAND

Yesterday, we successfully conducted the first large-scale study of

the artificial online state Novaland with more than 300 participants that were recruited via social media networks, such as Facebook and Twitter. Here are some first-hand insights into data collection.

[Share](#)

38 Reads



[Jakob Jonathan Kemper](#)
added an **update**

Aug 22, 2022

We are at the ECPR General Conference 2022

We'll present our work this week at the ECPR General Conference 2022 in Innsbruck.

First talk coming up today:

The behavioural consequences of political solidarities: Validating the solidarity game on a representative online sample with real-time interaction in oTree

Where? Building: D, Floor: G, Room: HS1

When? Monday 13:00 - 14:45 (22/08/2022)

The second talk takes place on thursday:

Piloting Experimental Tests of Macro-Micro-Level Effects in an Artificial Online State: How Income Inequalities Affect Political Solidarities

Where? Building: A, Floor: 1, Room: SR1

When? Thursday 14:00 - 15:45 (25/08/2022)

I would be very happy to meet with you if you're interested in our work.

[Share](#)

55 Reads



[Jakob Jonathan Kemper](#)
added an **update**

Jun 27, 2022

Two presentations at EPSA Annual Conference 2022

On Friday, I presented two papers at the EPSA Annual Conference in Prague. We are very grateful for the comments and questions from the discussants and the audience.

In the paper "Piloting Experimental Tests of Macro-Micro-Level Effects in an Artificial Online State: How Income Inequalities Affect Political Solidarities" I presented first results from the experiments in our artificial state Novaland.

In the paper "The behavioural consequences of political solidarities: Validating the solidarity game on a representative online sample with real-time interaction in oTree" I presented our online implementation of the solidarity game by Selten and Ockenfels (1998) and the plans we have to use this measurement instrument.

[Share](#)

51 Reads



[Jakob Jonathan Kemper](#)

added an **update**

Jun 11, 2022

Economic games in political science: Testing the Usability of Solidarity Game Experiments using the open-source platform oTree

I presented first results from a pilot study we conducted together with Markus Tepe at the Annual Conference of the Section Methods of Political Science (DVPW), 10 June 2022.

Economic games in political science: Testing the Usability of Solidarity Game Experiments using the open-source platform oTree

Authors: Jakob Kemper, Achim Goerres, Jan Höhne, Markus Tepe

Political psychology and sociology frequently aim to measure the multi-dimensional concept of political solidarity using survey measures. This is done in major surveys, such as the World Values Surveys (WVS). However, political scientists point to methodological shortcomings of survey measures and argue for the use of (experimental) behavioural measures that are collected via behavioural games, such as the solidarity game. The main reason is that political scientists are usually not primarily interested in the attitudes per se, but in the behaviour these elicit. Most frequently, games are conducted in lab rather than in field settings reducing

external validity. Solidarity-based behaviour is difficult to measure in the field, but measuring it could help to better understand contributions to a political community. The open-source platform eTree allows researchers to conduct browser-based, interactive

[Share](#)

42 Reads



[Achim Goerres](#)
added an **update**

May 31, 2022

First results of artificial online state experience presented in Munich
Living in Novaland: Can we Simulate the Experience of States and Public

Policies in an Artificial Online State?

[Jan Karem Höhne](#)[Jakob Jonathan Kemper](#) and programmer Raphael Hürler

invited by Christoph Knill, LM University of Munich, 31 May 2022

What if we could experimentally manipulate all characteristics of states and

public policies and estimate their effects on citizens? This presentation

puts forward the first evidence from a pilot of Novaland. Novaland is an

artificial liberal democracy that only exists online and that has

characteristics realistically drawn from German, Romanian and US contexts.

[... Read more](#)

The pilot consists of an experimental online platform based on text, images

[Share](#)

40 Reads



[Achim Goerres](#)
added an **update**

Apr 28, 2022

Workshop Politsolid in Duisburg

[Jan Karem Höhne](#) [Jakob Jonathan Kemper](#) and I are organising the first workshop in Duisburg 28-30 April. We have guests from Norway, the UK, Austria and Germany who are coming to Germany.

a whole workshop on the politics of solidarities

[Share](#)

66 Reads



[Achim Goerres](#)

Feb 21, 2022

added an **update**

We R learning O-tree and programming new behavioural instruments

We have started working with [Markus S. Tepe](#) to develop new measures of solidarities for the online framework Otree.

[Jakob Jonathan Kemper](#) is taking the technical lead on Otree and will present first results on 10-11 March at the 24h Political Psychology Network meeting in Chemnitz.

[Share](#)

104 Reads



[Achim Goerres](#)

Jan 22, 2022

added an **update**

Neuer PhD student and project officer Jakob Kemper, two new working papers, one new presentation

[Jakob Jonathan Kemper](#) joined the POLITSOLID project in November 2021 or 3 years as project officer and PhD student.

[Jan Karem Höhne](#) and I have a new paper under review about how to optimally measure political solidarities in survey

Mark Vail and I have a new paper under review about public responses towards the Covid crisis in the US and DE, using the concept of national models of solidarity.

I gave a presentation at the Research Institute for Social Cohesion Germany. Materials can be found here

www.achimgoerres.de/politsolid

Jan, Jakob and I submitted the first-year deliverables to the ERC as to data protection, data management and ethics management.

Prof Peter John of King's College London is our ethics advisor for the rest of the project.

Objectives for 2022

1. get rich and famous

[Share](#)

1 Recommendation · 98 Reads



[Achim Goerres](#)
added an **update**

Jun 25, 2021

Recruiting Predoc ERC-CoG project POLITSOLID

We are recruiting a predoc for three years for th ERC-project POLITSOLID.

1700 € net salary after taxes and health insurance in Duisburg

The ideal candidate should care about why individuals behave politically as they do and in cutting-edge experimental and survey methods.

Deadline is 14 July 2021

Start

http://bit.ly/politsolid_doc_EN

http://bit.ly/politsolid_doc_DE

[Share](#)

220 Reads



[Achim Goerres](#)
added an **update**

Jun 16, 2021

First POLITSOLID paper: Achim Goerres and Mark I. Vail

As part of the theory development, I have co-authored a paper with Mark Vail from Wake Forest @MarkVail about the ways in which the United States and Germany reacted to the Covid-19 pandemic and what we can learn from that about political solidarities.

Solidarities, Fairness, and Economic Governance in Advanced Capitalism:

The Cases of COVID-19 Responses in Germany and the United States

This paper addresses the theoretical question of how competing models of social and economic solidarity shape patterns of economic governance in periods of economic crisis. Using the COVID-19 pandemic as a signal case, we seek to understand how changes in public opinion in response to similar social and economic shocks are informed by deeper ideational structures among citizens relating to their capacity for empathy, mutual support, and willingness to support and trust public policy interventions. Drawing on scholarly literatures related to moral economies and the social embeddedness of economic relationships, we undertake an empirical study of how the COVID-19 pandemic has shaped patterns of support for social and economic policies. We focus on Germany and the United States.

[Share](#)

169 Reads



[Achim Goerres](#)
added an **update**

Feb 24, 2021

We R live: Research Agenda online

[Jan Karem Höhne](#) and I started working on POLITSOLID.

Find the Research Agenda for five years here as an online paper

<http://ssrn.com/abstract=3792243>

[Share](#)

216 Reads



Achim Goerres
added an **update**

Nov 27, 2020

Presentation at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies
Cologne

On 27 November 2020, I am giving a presentation in German More
with one another and more against one another? Political Solidarities
during the Corona Pandemic.

find a pre-recorded presentation here

<https://vimeo.com/484330436>

and the slides below

 [Goerres_MPIfG_Institutstag_20201127.pdf](#) · 118.97 KB

[Share](#)

2 Comments · 2 Recommendations · 247 Reads



Achim Goerres
added an **update**

Nov 16, 2020

Postdoc recruited

I am happy to report that I could recruit Dr Jan Höhne as the leading
postdoc for POLITSOLID. [Jan Karem Höhne](#) is currently working in the
research cluster The Political Economy of Reform at the University of
Mannheim. He will start in Duisburg in January 2021.

[Share](#)

1 Comment · 205 Reads



Achim Goerres
added an **update**

Sep 7, 2020

I am recruiting a postdoc to start 01 January 2021

please apply by 14 September

https://bit.ly/politsolid_postdoc_en

Please share widely.

[Share](#)

287 Reads



[Achim Goerres](#)

added a **project goal**

Dec 4, 2019

This ERC Consolidator Grant project POLITSOLID investigates the micro-foundations of political solidarities in fast-changing European polities. It analyses why some ordinary citizens show a high overall willingness to shoulder costs of public redistribution to other people in a polity, while others do not; and why ordinary citizens have multiple levels of willingness to shoulder costs depending on who receives the benefit.

Relevance: Having high levels of political solidarities is important for modern democracies to deal with exogenous shocks and long-term structural changes in their societies, which create pressures on the political system. Recent exogenous shocks in Europe that brought the necessity of political solidarities to light were the financial crisis (2007/8) with its extensive transnational bail-out policies across the European Union and the large refugee intake (2015/16). Relevant long-term structural changes are population ageing, rising income inequality and mass immigration.

POLITSOLID answers the overarching research question: What drives political solidarities in modern European democracies?

Objectives

- To create a novel theoretical and empirical framework that allows simultaneous modelling of multiple political solidarities and that includes the individual as well as the macro levels to enable better predictions about how people behave.
- To test causal mechanisms with a range of mostly experimental methods to get a better understanding of causality where observational studies have so far dominated.
- To isolate effective levers that political actors can pull to create political solidarities.

Data: POLITSOLID collects and analyses new data from (1) lab experiments & online surveys, (2) a simulated artificial state 'Novaland' in which volunteers from Austria, Germany & Switzerland act as citizens in an online environment, with experimental treatments applied, (3) an international panel survey in six countries and (4) field experiments in collaboration with real political actors.

[Share](#)

4 Comments · 1 Recommendation · 770 Reads



Company

[About us](#)[News](#)[Careers](#)

Support

[Help Center](#)

Business solutions

[Advertising](#)[Recruiting](#)

© 2008-2023 ResearchGate GmbH. All rights reserved. [Terms](#) · [Privacy](#) · [Copyright](#) · [Imprint](#)