

# Dr. Seraphine F. Maerz

V-Dem Institute  
Department of Political Science  
University of Gothenburg  
[seraphine.maerz@v-dem.net](mailto:seraphine.maerz@v-dem.net) or  
[seraphine.maerz@gu.se](mailto:seraphine.maerz@gu.se)  
[Personal Homepage](#)

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## Academic Positions

- Since Oct. 2019 **Assistant Professor**, *University of Gothenburg, Department of Political Science, Varieties of Democracy Institute*, research focus on the project ‘Endangered Democracies: Sequences of Autocratization’.
- Sept. 2018 **Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow**, *Bard College Berlin, Germany*, Instructor  
-July 2019 for courses on statistics, research design and authoritarianism.
- Oct. 2017 **Postdoctoral Research Associate, Guest Lecturer**, *University of*  
- Sept. 2018 *Freiburg, Germany, Department of Political Science*, Instructor for courses on authoritarianism and qualitative methods, Erasmus coordinator.

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## Research and Teaching Interests

Comparative politics, political communication, democratization, authoritarianism, Internet politics, Central Asia and Russia, qualitative and quantitative methods, computational methods.

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## Education

- Sept. 2014 **PhD in Political Science** (‘*summa cum laude*’), *Comparative Politics*  
-Dec. 2017 *Track, Minor in Methods, Doctoral School, CEU Budapest, Hungary*, dissertation: ‘The Many Faces of Authoritarian Persistence’, supervised by Carsten Q. Schneider.
- 2011-2014 **MA in Central Asian Studies**, *Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany*, final grade: 1,2 (excellent), master’s thesis on ideology in Uzbekistan, ethnographic field research in Central Asia.
- 2008-2011 **MA in European Studies, Political Science**, *European University Viadrina, Frankfurt/Oder, Germany*, final grade: 1,5 (very good), trilingual in German, English, French, master’s thesis on French European politics by using qualitative text analysis.
- 2004-2007 **BA in International Communication, Translation**, *University of Hildesheim, Germany*, visiting student at Université 7, Paris, France.
- Non-Degree:
- June 2018 **Summer Institute in Computational Social Science (SICSS)**, *Satellite event of the SICSS at Duke University, supported by Aalto University, University of Helsinki, HIIT and Rajapinta, Helsinki, Finland*.
- March 2017 **Training in Quantitative Text Analysis, Web Scraping with R**, *ECPR Winter School, University of Bamberg, Germany*.
- June 2016 **Certificate ‘Excellence in Teaching in Higher Education’**, *Center for Teaching and Learning, CEU Budapest, Hungary*.

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## Peer-Reviewed Publications

Seraphine F. Maerz. The Many Faces of Authoritarian Persistence: A Set-Theory Perspective on the Survival Strategies of Authoritarian Regimes. *Government and Opposition*, 55(1):64–87, 2020.

Seraphine F. Maerz and Carsten Q. Schneider. Comparing Public Communication in Democracies and Autocracies - Automated Text Analyses of Speeches by Heads of Government. *Quality and Quantity, Online First*. <http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11135-019-00885-7>.

Seraphine F. Maerz. Simulating Pluralism: The Language of Democracy in Hegemonic Authoritarianism. *Open Access in Political Research Exchange*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/2474736X.2019.1605834>, 2019.

Seraphine F. Maerz. Ma'naviyat in Uzbekistan: An Ideological Extrication from its Soviet Past? *Journal of Political Ideologies*, 23(2):205–222, 2018.

Carsten Q. Schneider and Seraphine F. Maerz. Legitimation, cooptation, and repression and the survival of electoral autocracies. *Zeitschrift für Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft*, 11(2):213–235, 2017.

Seraphine F. Maerz. The electronic face of authoritarianism: E-government as a tool for gaining legitimacy in competitive and non-competitive regimes. *Government Information Quarterly*, 33(4):727–735, 2016.

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## Other Publications

Seraphine F. Maerz, Anna Lührmann, Sebastian Hellmeier, Sandra Grahn, and Staffan I. Lindberg. State of the world 2019: Autocratization Surges - Resistance Grows. *Democratization, Online First*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/13510347.2020.1758670>, 2020.

Seraphine F. Maerz, Amanda B. Edgell, Joshua Krusell, Laura Maxwell, Sebastian Hellmeier, and Nina Ilchenko. Vdemdata - an R package to load, explore and work with the most recent V-Dem (Varieties of Democracy) dataset. *Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) Project*. <https://github.com/vdeminsitute/vdemdata>, 2020.

Anna Lührmann, Seraphine F. Maerz, Sandra Grahn, Nazifa Alizada, Lisa Gastaldi, Sebastian Hellmeier, Garry Hindle, and Staffan I. Lindberg. Autocratization Surges - Resistance Grows, Democracy Report 2020. *V-Dem Institute*, <https://www.v-dem.net/en/>, 2020.

Anna Lührmann, Amanda B. Edgell, and Seraphine F. Maerz. Pandemic Backsliding: Does Covid-19 Put Democracy at Risk? *Policy Brief 23, V-Dem Institute*, <https://www.v-dem.net/en/>, 2020.

Amanda B. Edgell, Sandra Grahn, Jean Lachapelle, Anna Lührmann, and Seraphine F. Maerz. An Update on Pandemic Backsliding: Democracy Four Months After the Beginning of the Covid-19 Pandemic. *Policy Brief 24, V-Dem Institute*, <https://www.v-dem.net/en/>, 2020.

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## Book Chapters and Reviews

Seraphine F. Maerz and Cornelius Puschmann. Automated Content Analysis for Conflict Research: A Literature Survey. In: *Deutschmann E., Lorenz J.*,

*Nardin L., Natalini D., Wilhelm A. (eds) Computational Conflict Research. Computational Social Sciences. Springer, Cham. Open Access, download here: [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-29333-8\\_3](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-29333-8_3) , 2020.*

Seraphine F. Maerz. Book review: Rollberg, Peter Laruelle, Marlene (eds.), *Mass Media in the Post-Soviet World. Market Forces, State Actors, and Political Manipulation in the Informational Environment after Communism.* Stuttgart: Ibidem-Verlag, 2018. *Europe-Asia Studies* 71(5): 863-865, 2019.

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## Teaching Experience

- Spring 2020 **MA course**, *V-Dem Institute, Dept. of Political Science, University of Gothenburg, Sweden*, ‘Varieties of Democracy and Democratization’, Instructor.
- Spring 2019 **BA course**, *Bard College Berlin, Germany*, ‘Measuring Democracy and Autocracy’ (plus Intro to R), Advanced Quantitative Methods Module, Instructor.
- Spring 2019, **BA course**, *Bard College Berlin, Germany*, ‘Introduction to Statistics’,  
Fall 2018 Politics and Economics Foundational Module, Instructor.
- Fall 2018 **BA course**, *Bard College Berlin, Germany*, ‘Senior Research Colloquium’, research design and methods, final thesis consultations, Instructor.
- Summer 2018 **MA course**, *Department of Political Science, University of Freiburg, Germany*, ‘Qualitative Methods in Political Science’, Instructor.
- Winter 2017/2018 **BA/MA course**, *Department of Political Science, University of Freiburg, Germany*, ‘Democratization, Authoritarianism, and the Role of Regional Organizations’, Instructor.
- Nov. 2017 **PhD workshop**, *guest lecture in Prof. Erin K. Jenne’s Research and Methods class, CEU Budapest, Hungary*, ‘Introduction to Set Methods and QCA’, Instructor.
- Oct.-Dec. 2016 **Research Workshops**, *CEU Budapest, Hungary*, weekly classes on research methods and techniques for visiting fellows from Myanmar, Instructor.
- Winter 2015/2016 **MA course**, *CEU Budapest, Hungary*, ‘Studies in Comparative Politics’, Prof. Zsolt Enyedi, Teaching Assistant.
- Fall 2015 **MA course**, *CEU Budapest, Hungary*, ‘Central Asia: Local Politics, Regional Dynamics, and the Geopolitics of Energy’, Prof. Matteo Fumagalli, Teaching Assistant.

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## Fellowships and Awards

- Aug./Sept. 2017 **Visiting Researcher at UC Berkeley, California**, *Department of Political Science, Professor M. Steven Fish.*
- 2014-2017 **Doctoral Fellowship**, *CEU Budapest, Hungary, 3-year full stipend awarded for pursuing PhD studies (ca. 70,000 Euro including tuition fee).*
- 2014/15 **Academic Achievement Award**, *for First-Year Doctoral Students, CEU Budapest, for outstanding course work and performance during the comprehensive exam.*

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## Third-Party Funding, Grants

- Sept.-Dec. 2017 **Write-up grant, monthly stipend to complete dissertation**, *CEU Budapest Foundation, Hungary, ca. 2,100 Euro.*
- Aug./Sept. 2017 **Doctoral Research Support Grant (DRSG)**, *full stipend for research trip to UC Berkeley, CEU Budapest Foundation, Hungary, ca. 4,000 Euro.*
- March 2017 **Grant for ECPR Winter School in Bamberg**, *CEU Budapest Foundation, Hungary, ca. 800 Euro.*
- March 2017 **Travel grant for DVPW Comparative Politics Conference in Tübingen**, *CEU Budapest Foundation, Hungary.*
- September 2016 **Travel grant for ECPR General Conference in Prague**, *CEU Budapest Foundation, Hungary.*
- April 2016 **Travel grant for ECPR Joint Sessions in Pisa**, *CEU Budapest Foundation, Hungary.*
- March 2016 **Scholarship for Nawruz Postgraduate Workshop on Central Asia**, *University of Exeter, Great Britain.*
- Aug. 2014 **Scholarship for CEFR Workshop 'Extrications from Authoritarian Socialism'**, *RGASPI, Moscow, Russia.*
- Aug. 2013 **DAAD scholarship, Russian language course**, *Volgograd, Russia.*
- Aug. 2012 **DAAD scholarship, Kazakh language course**, *Taraz, Kazakhstan.*
- June 2012 **DAAD scholarship, summer university on Central Asian studies**, *Bishkek, Cholpon Ata, Kyrgyzstan.*
- Jan.-March 2010 **DAAD scholarship, German Embassy**, *Kathmandu, Nepal.*
- Fall 2006/07 **ERASMUS grant**, *Paris, France, student exchange program.*

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## Academic Service

- Ongoing **Reviewing**, *Political Studies, Political Research Quarterly, Political Studies Review, European Journal of Political Research, Politics and Religion, Government Information Quarterly, Polish Political Science Yearbook, Democracy and Security, Journal of Information Technology and Politics.* See also here: [Publons Profile](#).
- Jan.-Sept. 2018 **Coordinator, ERASMUS exchange programs**, *Department of Political Science, University of Freiburg, Germany.*
- Jan.-April 2016 **Member of the organizing committee for the 8th Graduate Network Conference**, *CEU Budapest, Hungary.*
- April 2016 **Chair of the 'Comparative Politics' section at the Annual Doctoral Conference**, *CEU Budapest, Hungary.*
- April 2013 **Student representative in a doctoral examination procedure**, *IAAW, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany.*

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## Work Experience (Predoc)

- April-May 2015 **Research Assistant**, *CEU Budapest, Hungary, project 'Osh 2010: Uzbek Perspectives', Prof. Matteo Fumagalli.*
- April-Dec. 2012 **Student Assistant**, *International Office of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany, organization of the enrollment for international students.*

- Feb.-Oct. 2011 **Project Management**, *Heinrich Böll Foundation, Berlin, Germany*, coordination of projects related to Afghanistan, Pakistan and India, organization and moderation of conferences and expert talks.
- June/July 2010 **Internship at German Federal Parliament**, *Berlin, Germany*, office of Bärbel Höhn, Bündnis 90/Die Grünen.
- Jan.-March 2010 **Internship at German Embassy**, *Kathmandu, Nepal*, reporting on topics related to international politics, research on human rights issues.

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## Conference Presentations and Workshops

- August 2020 **ECPR General Conference**, *Virtual*, Co-Chair of Panel ‘How Autocrats Communicate Bad News’ and Paper on ‘Pandemic Backsliding: Public Communication and Autocratization during Crises’, Co-authored with Amanda B. Edgell, Sandra Grahn, Jean Lachapelle, Anna Lührmann.
- April 2019 **ECPR Joint Sessions**, *Mons, Belgium*, Paper on ‘Democracy in Crisis - Bringing Public Discourse (Back) In’, Co-authored with Carsten Q. Schneider.
- September 2018 **DVPW General Conference**, *Frankfurt, Germany*, Paper on ‘Out of Democratic Bounds? An Automated Text Analysis of Speeches by European Heads of Government’, Co-authored with Carsten Q. Schneider.
- September 2018 **CAIS**, *Center for Advanced Internet Studies, Bochum, Germany*, Workshop and Network Meeting ‘Computational Social Science’.
- August 2018 **ECPR General Conference**, *Hamburg, Germany*, Paper on ‘Putting the Money Where Your Mouth Is? Comparing the Discourses of (Illiberal) Democrats and Autocrats Using Automated Text Analysis’, Co-authored with Carsten Q. Schneider.
- August 2017 **APSA Annual Meeting 2017**, *San Francisco, California*, paper on ‘Simulating Pluralism: The Language of Democracy in Hegemonic Authoritarianism’.
- April 2017 **Annual Doctoral Conference**, *CEU Budapest, Hungary*, paper on ‘Pathways of Authoritarian Persistence’.
- March 2017 **DVPW Comparative Politics Conference**, *Tübingen, Germany*, Paper on ‘The Conditions of Authoritarian Persistence: Classifying Autocratic Regimes by Applying Fuzzy-Set Qualitative Comparative Analysis’.
- September 2016 **ECPR General Conference**, *Prague, Czech Republic*, Paper on ‘Legitimation, Cooptation, and Repression and the Survival of Electoral Autocracies’, Co-authored with Carsten Q. Schneider.
- April 2016 **ECPR Joint Sessions**, *Pisa, Italy*, workshop on ‘Legitimation in Non-Democracies’, paper on e-government in autocracies.
- March 2016 **Nawruz Postgraduate Workshop on Central Asia**, *University of Exeter, Great Britain*, paper on ideology in Uzbekistan.
- April 2015 **Annual Doctoral Conference**, *CEU Budapest, Hungary*, paper on ‘The Many Worlds of Autocracies’.
- Aug. 2014 **CEFR workshop ‘Extrication from Authoritarian Socialism**, *RGASPI, Moscow, Russia*, paper on Ma’naviyat in Uzbekistan.
- July 2014 **ECPR Graduate Student Conference**, *University of Innsbruck, Austria*, paper on autocratic persistence in Uzbekistan.