



SCRIPTS Newsletter  
November 2023



## FROM THE DIRECTOR



SCRIPTS is privileged to bring together major universities and research institutions in the Berlin area and beyond. The Cluster also contributes to what the Berlin University Alliance (BUA) calls the open science laboratory via its many excellent and outstanding researchers on all career levels. This will be showcased in the Science Laboratory at the BUA Conference [“Crossing Boundaries” on November 22<sup>nd</sup>](#).

On October 27<sup>th</sup>, SCRIPTS had the pleasure to welcome Dr. Ina Czyborra, Senator for Higher Education and Research, Health and Long-Term Care, to Freie Universität Berlin together with the other FU Cluster “Temporal Communities”. This visit was part of a tour d’excellence the Senator has embarked upon to gain insight into the workings and research agendas of all [Clusters of Excellence in Berlin](#).

The fruitful and productive exchange about research and transfer projects among other things, demonstrated the diversity of perspectives, projects and people within the different Cluster formats and the outstanding research that is being conducted in Berlin.

One of these excellent researchers Berlin is fortunate to have is Michael Zürn, Director of the Research Unit Global Governance at the Berlin Social Science Center, and, until October 2023, Co-Director of the Cluster of Excellence SCRIPTS. I would like to personally thank Michael for his outstanding work done for SCRIPTS as Co-Director over the past four and a half years. We are deeply grateful for the time and energy Michael invested

in making our Cluster a success. We are happy to keep you involved in SCRIPTS, dear Michael, not only as PI but as director of our Knowledge Exchange Lab!

Current events demonstrate once again how important it is to study contestations of the liberal script in a global, comparative and historical perspective. The Cluster's annual conference will draw on its research findings so far to discuss why contestations of the liberal script have been deepening, albeit to a differing extent. We hope to explore the consequences of the deepening of contestations for the future of the liberal script in our second funding period, for which we will apply next year.

On behalf of the entire SCRIPTS Team, I thank you for your interest in SCRIPTS – and wish you the very best in these troubled times!

Tanja A. Börzel

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## **NEWS**

### **Excellence for Berlin - Dr. Ina Czyborra, Senator for Higher Education and Research, Health, and Long-Term Care, visited Berlin Clusters of Excellence**

The Berlin University Alliance (BUA) invited Dr. Ina Czyborra, Berlin's Senator for Higher Education and Research, Health, and Long-Term Care, to visit all seven Clusters of Excellence. The Excellence Strategy is a permanent programme to facilitate and support outstanding research. In Berlin this strategy is highlighted by the seven Clusters: [Matters of Activity](#), [Math+](#), [NeuroCure](#), [Science of Intelligence](#), [SCRIPTS](#), [Temporal Communities](#), and [UniSysCat](#). . [More about the visit](#) ↓

### **Anette Fasang and Co-Author win Rosabeth Moss Kanter Award**

SCRIPTS Principal Investigator [Anette Fasang](#), together with her co-author Silke Aisenbrey, wins this year's Rosabeth Moss Kanter Award for Excellence in Family Research. Awarded by the Boston College Center for Work & Family, the award is without external nominations, and instead every article

published in a large number of scientific journals is scrutinised by a large committee of scholars who generate a list of award candidates. In their paper, "[Uncovering Social Stratification: Intersectional Inequalities in Work and Family](#)", Fasang and Aisenbrey approach the topic of advantages and disadvantages in work and family life from an intersectional and quantitative life course perspective.

[More about the award](#) ↓

### **Marlene Ritter, Doctoral Researcher at SCRIPTS and Freie Universität Berlin, was awarded the Postgraduate Vibeke Sørensen Grant of the European University Institute**

Marlene is one of ten scholars selected to receive the grant, which supports research and the consultation of primary sources at the Historical Archives of the European Union in Florence. She will focus on the history of building Europe as a story, about the branding of Europe in the post-war period, and investigating the "European idea".

At SCRIPTS, she is supervised by Prof. Dr. Jessica Gienow-Hecht. Her topic is "Branding a Liberal, United Europe: Western European Image Politics in the Post-War Era, 1948-1967".

[More about the award](#) ↓

### **Europaeum Scholarship Keith Prushankin**

SCRIPTS Doctoral Researcher [Keith Prushankin](#) is part of the 2022/23 programme of [Europaeum Scholars](#). The Europaeum is a network of 19 leading European universities connecting students across disciplines, cultures, and countries. The third cohort of the Europaeum Scholar Programme embarked on its journey in March 2022. This year's focus has been the improvement of digital participation tools within the EU to enhance citizen engagement and accessibility.

[More about the scholarship](#) ↓

### **Steffen Mau wins this years Demokratiepreis**

Principal Investigator at SCRIPTS and professor of sociology at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin [Steffen Mau](#) is the recipient of this years *Demokratiepreis*. The association "Gegen Vergessen - Für Demokratie e.V." [Against Forgetting - For Democracy] is honouring the sociologist for his work on social polarization and his widely discussed publications on the German reunification process. Andreas Voßkuhle, chairman of the association says: "Steffen Maus' work provides important evidence that politics, the media and civil society should focus more on less visible groups in the middle of society if they want to strengthen cohesion".

The award ceremony will take place on November 25, 2023 at the Historisches Kaufhaus in Freiburg im Breisgau.

[More about the award](#) ↓

### **2023 Lecture of the Journal of Common Market Studies (JCMS) Annual Review - with Tanja A. Börzel**

SCRIPTS Director and professor of political science Tanja A. Börzel gave this year's lecture of the JCMS Annual Review at Sciences Po. Under the title „European Integration and the War in Ukraine: Just Another Crisis?“ Tanja A. Börzel discussed the war against Ukraine and how the EU actually has coped with its first military security crisis. The relevant paper can be accessed

[here](#). The full video, including the discussion with Jan Ronny (CEE) and Christian Lequesne (CERI), chaired by Florence Faucher (Director of the CEE), is available via the link below.

[Watch the video here ↓](#)



© Science Po

## STAFF NEWS

[Meet a few new members and learn about their research. A complete and up-to-date list of members can be found on the website ↓](#)

## PRE- AND POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER

We are happy to announce that **Lunting Wu**, a former Doctoral Researcher at SCRIPTS, joins us as a Postdoctoral Researcher. In his dissertation, he previously worked on competing foreign normative powers in Latin America.

[Profile and Contact ↓](#)

SCRIPTS welcomes **Brenda Otufowora** as a Project Doctoral Researcher. Brenda is part of the cluster professorship “Islam in Europe”. She focuses on Islam discourses, intersectionality, and de- and postcolonial research perspectives.

[Profile and Contact ↓](#)

## VISITING SENIOR FELLOWS

From October until November we are joined by **Janne Mende**, a political scientist who specialises in International Relations. She is currently at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law. Likewise, from October until the end of November, Professor **Li Wei** from the School of International Studies, Renmin University of China, will join SCRIPTS as a Senior Fellow. **Stephanie Anderson** from the University of Wyoming School of Politics, Public Affairs & International Studies joined us in August this year and will be a Senior Fellow until January 2024. We also welcome **Sofia Näsström** from Uppsala University and **Tamirace Fakhouri** from Aalborg University, who are with the Cluster until the end of December 2023. Lastly, we are joined by **Ezra Elif Nartok** from Karadeniz Technical University.

A warm welcome to all the new faces at SCRIPTS!

[Profiles and Contacts](#) ↓

## EVENTS, CONFERENCES, AND WORKSHOPS

### **SCRIPTS LECTURE SERIES "KRITIK UND ZUKUNFT DES LIBERALEN SKRIPTS" GOES INTO THE SECOND ROUND | RINGVORLESUNG**

Every Monday from 6:15 PM to 7:45 PM | Hörsaal 1B  
Habelschwerdter Allee 45 (Rostlaube), Freie  
Universität Berlin

The lecture series "Kritik und Zukunft des liberalen Skripts. Zu den Ursachen der Auseinandersetzung über und in liberalen Ordnungen" goes into its second semester. This year's lectures discuss firstly the concept of contestations and then move on to discuss possible causes. In the last part, researchers from the Cluster discuss the timely and spatial variance of contestations. An overview of the upcoming lectures can be found on our website. Last year's lectures are all available on YouTube, which can be accessed [here](#). The first couple of lectures from this year are also available on the SCRIPTS YouTube channel [here](#).

[Link to the event](#) ↓

### **GUEST LECTURE SERIES AT THE JFKI: RACE, MULTILATERAL INSTITUTIONS, AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | LECTURE SERIES**

Every Wednesday from 4 PM to 6 PM | John F.  
Kennedy Insitute, Room R430, Lansstraße 7-9

The SCRIPTS Research Project "Race and Multilateralism: The Anatomy of a Complex Relationship (RAM)" invites everyone to this semester's guest lecture series. The series will host a variety of guest speakers across disciplines, including international law, international organisations, political economy, security studies, and US foreign policy. Organised by SCRIPTS Principal Investigator [Lora Anne Viola](#), the series is hosted by the John F. Kennedy Institute of FU Berlin. An overview of the upcoming talks can be found via the link below.

[Link to the event](#) ↓

### **EUROPE IN A CHANGING WORLD | DAHRENDORF PANEL AT THE WZB**

23 NOV, 07:00 PM to 09:00 PM | WZB Berlin Social  
Science Center, Reichpietschufer 50

As part of the Dahrendorf Programme project "Europe in a Changing World", WZB Director and SCRIPTS Principal Investigator [Michael Zürn](#) is welcoming international scholars and guests to the Dahrendorf Panel. The programme investigated the mutual perceptions and relations of China, India, Russia, Turkey, and the U.S. with Europe. The WZB and SCRIPTS have been collaboration partners in the project for the past two years, and the panel will be the first opportunity for scholars actively involved in the network to discuss some findings and possible conclusions. The streaming link for the event and more information can be found on our website.

[Link to the event](#) ↓

### **"ÖKOLOGIE & FREIHEIT. WIE LASSEN SICH DIE PRINZIPIEN VON FREIHEITLICHER DEMOKRATIE**

## **UND KLIMASCHUTZ VEREINBAREN?" | CONFERENCE BY THE ZENTRUM LIBERALE MODERNE**

29 NOV, 09:00 AM to 06:00 PM | Allianz Forum, Pariser Platz 6

Climate change is one of the biggest future challenges. The climate crisis also poses a threat to the liberal democratic order – so how will those problems be solved? The conference hosted by the Zentrum Liberale Moderne (LibMod) puts those questions at its core. SCRIPTS Principal Investigators [Tanja A. Börzel](#), [Michael Zürn](#), and [Philipp Lepenies](#), together with Patrizia Nanz and Ralf Fücks, will kick off the conference with a panel titled “Gehen Liberalismus und Ökologie zusammen”. The discussion “Ziviler Ungehorsam in der Klimakrise - liberal und legitim?” convened by [Christian Volk](#) and [Gülay Çağlar](#) is another SCRIPTS contribution. The event is held in German.

[Link to the event](#) ↓

## **BERLIN GRADUATE SCHOOL FOR GLOBAL AND TRANSREGIONAL STUDIES (BGTS) ALUMNI EVENT | MEET-UP**

8 DEC, 07:00 PM | In the Kabus 46 (Schöneberg)

The Berlin Graduate School for Global and Transregional Studies (BGTS) as part of the SCRIPTS Cluster of Excellence will hold its second BGTS Alumni event in December of this year. Four years after its foundation in 2019, the graduate school wants to celebrate the achievements of SCRIPTS-alumni, update the community on the development of SCRIPTS, and facilitate networking.

More will be announced soon.

## **PAST (SELECTED)**

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### **CROSSING BOUNDARIES | A NETWORK CONFERENCE OF THE BERLIN UNIVERSITY ALLIANCE (BUA)**

22 NOV, 3:00 PM | Palais of the Kulturbrauerei,  
Schönhauser Allee 36

SCRIPTS was present at the “Crossing Boundaries” conference to engage with other personalities and actors from Berlin's field of science, business, and civil society. The networking event was intended for envisioning and discussing mutual points of connection and common interests to support Berlin as an integrated science space.

[Link to the event](#) ↓

### **FUTURING THE LIBERAL SCRIPT #8: RUSSLAND UND DER WESTEN | DISCUSSION**

NOV 15, 07:00-09:00 PM | Silent Green, Berlin

Russia's relationship with the "West" can be described as a tense and constant interplay between attraction and repulsion. [Katharina Bluhm](#), SCRIPTS Principal Investigator and Professor of Sociology at the Institute for East European Studies at FU Berlin, was in conversation with political scientist Sabine Fischer from the Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP) about her new book “Russland und der Westen. Ideologie, Ökonomie und Politik seit dem Ende der Sowjetunion“. The event was moderated by journalist Volker Wieprecht.

[More information ↓](#)



## **EROSION OF DEMOCRACY? ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND RIGHT-WING POLITICS IN EUROPE | DISCUSSION**

[NOV 03, 02:00 PM - 03:00 PM | Berlin Science Week campus](#)

SCRIPTS Postdoctoral Researcher [Kriszta Kovács](#), together with Tarik Abou-Chadi and Matthias Koch, discussed the state of academic freedom and democracy in Europe. Kriszta's research at SCRIPTS focuses on [academic freedom contestation](#). The event was part of Berlin Science Week and can be watched in full length [here](#).

## **IN FUTURE #1 WEALTH AND IN.EQUALITY WITH MARTYNA B. LINARTAS AT THE BERLIN SCIENCE WEEK | SHORT TALK**

[NOV 03, 06:15 PM - 07:15 PM | Collaborative field @ Naturkundemuseum](#)

What should be done about wealth inequality in liberal democracies that are inheritance societies rather than meritocracies? Journalist Adrian Schulz interviewed SCRIPTS junior researcher [Martyna B. Linartas](#) on the political and social challenges of rising and extreme inequality. Is unequal wealth history or a story that will still need to be told in future?



## **SCIENCE SLAM | BERLIN CLUSTERS OF EXCELLENCE @ BERLIN SCIENCE WEEK**

[NOV 02, 07:30 PM | Säälichen at Holzmarkt, Berlin](#)

Slammin' like there's no tomorrow - the Berlin Clusters of Excellence again organised a science slam for this year's Berlin Science Week. Subjects including mathematics, neuroscience, and active material were represented, and the audience voted on their favourite slammers. SCRIPTS was represented by [Johannes Heß](#) and [Tobias Klee](#). They claimed the stage with an intriguing presentation on Catalan nationalism and its potential for queering the future. The performance video will soon be on the SCRIPTS website.



## **FALL ACADEMY "CHALLENGING INEQUALITY (II)" AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KONSTANZ | COLLABORATIVE EVENT**

**OCT 4 to 6 | University of Konstanz**

SCRIPTS was part of the Fall Academy “Challenging Inequality (II)”. The academy was jointly organized with the University of Konstanz, the PhD Programme “The Political Economy of Inequality” at the University of Duisburg-Essen, the URPP Equal Opportunities at the University of Zurich, the Amsterdam Center for Inequality Studies (AMCIS), and the Platform for Inequality Research (PIREAU) at Aarhus University. The event had a diverse range of participants and included 11 panel discussions. You can find a picture and more details [here](#).



© University of Konstanz

## **BGTS WELCOMES NEW COHORT | SCRIPTS CLUSTER OF EXCELLENCE**

The Berlin Graduate School for Global and Transregional Studies (BGTS) welcomed its newest cohort with a welcome event hosted by the four SCRIPTS institutions: The Freie Universität Berlin, Hertie School Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, and the Berlin Social Science Center (WZB). This year, the BGTS cohort is all female, and we are happy to welcome Sphoorti as a former participant of the Academic Accelerator Fellowship.

A warm welcome to the new faces, and good luck with your upcoming research.





## "DIVERSITY" TURN IN GERMAN RESEARCH POLICY | SCRIPTS ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION OCT 17 | Freie Universität Berlin

On October 17th, SCRIPTS discussed the challenges of balancing diversity with excellence and merit in German research policy. The need for institutional changes in academic settings for sustainable transformation was emphasised. Despite positive strides, such as the implementation of diversity standards set by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), navigating the complexities of promoting diversity in the global academic landscape remains challenging. At SCRIPTS, we will continue to engage with the topic, promoting a shared vision of inclusive excellence and a non-discriminatory and supportive research environment for all. The panel consisted of **Prof. Dr Andrea Bührmann**, founding director at the Göttingen Diversity Research Institute; **Prof. Dr. Gülay Çağlar**, director of the research unit Gender & Diversity at the Otto-Suhr-Institute for Political Science and PI at SCRIPTS; **Prof. Dr. Julian Hammann**, Department of Education Studies at the Humboldt-University Berlin; and **Prof. Kathrin Zippel**, PhD, Einstein Strategic Professor of Sociology with Focus on Gender Studies at the Freie Universität Berlin. The event was moderated by Melanie Bittner.

### PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

A selection of monographs, journal articles and books (chapters) by our researchers, published within the framework of SCRIPTS or in connection to its research themes.

### JOURNAL ARTICLES

#### **Deepening the divide: Does globalisation increase the polarisation between winners and losers of globalisation?**

Rasmus Ollroge (SCRIPTS & Freie Universität Berlin)  
*The British Journal of Sociology*, October 2023

Does globalisation increase polarisation in attitudes toward international trade, immigration, and international organisations? SCRIPTS Doctoral Researcher Rasmus Ollroge examines in his new paper whether globalisation increases the attitudinal divide between education groups. By using data from

the National Identity Module of the International Social Survey Programme (ISSP), he analyses between- and within-country interactions. Take a look at his paper.

[Online access](#) ↓

### **Fit for 35? Reforming the Politics of Institutions of the EU for an Enlarged Union**

Frank Schimmelfenning, Yes Mény, Sonja Riekmann Puntscher, Tanja A. Börzel, Sergio Fabbrini, Göran von Sydow, and Valentin Kreilinger

*SIEPS (Swedish Institute for Policy Studies),  
September 2023*

SCRIPTS Director Tanja A. Börzel, together with colleagues, discusses how an enlarged European Union could function and work. In the near future, the EU could have as many as 35 members – but how should the Union prepare for that? Read about the recommendations by some of the leading experts on European integration.

[Online access](#) ↓

### **Youth and Democracy: Digital Opportunities for the Future of Participation**

Alessandro Ambrosino, Simon Cecchin Birk, Carlotta Mingardi, Georgios Nikolou, Lukas Spielberger, Elodie Thevenin, and Alice Trinkle

*Participatory and Digital Democracy at the Local Level - European Discourses and Practices, February 2023*

Originating from their work as Europeum scholars, SCRIPTS Doctoral Researcher Alice Trinkle and her colleagues analysed youth's attitudes toward democracy and the possibilities of e-democracy to strengthen democratic participation. They reviewed successful e-participation platforms and identified best practices in the field. Their research shows that young people are eager to get involved politically when they are provided with the right tools. Read more about their findings and recommendations in their paper.

[Online access](#) ↓

## **OTHER WRITTEN OUTPUT**

### **SCRIPTS THINKPIECES & BLOG**

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#### **Russia and Hamas? Narrating Contestations of the Liberal Script in Eastern Europe and the Middle East**

Alexander Libman

SCRIPTS Blog Post No. 69

How do politicians, academics, and intellectuals in the West talk about major international crises and contestations of the liberal script? In this new blog post, SCRIPTS Principal Investigator and professor of Russian and East European Politics at Freie Universität Berlin Alexander Libman writes about the labelling of the war in Ukraine in contrast to the current war in Gaza. The discussion which Libman focuses on emerged in early 2022 and centered around the question of whether the war should be labelled as "Putin's war" or if it would be more appropriate to

refer to it as Russia's war.

[Online access ↓](#)

## **Global Gateway: An Alternative to the Belt and Road Initiative?**

Lunting Wu

[SCRIPTS Blog Post No. 68](#)

The Global Gateway Forum (GGF) took place in Brussels a week after the 3rd Belt and Road Forum (BRF) in Beijing. Launched almost two years ago, the Global Gateway (GG) is based on six principles: democratic values and high standards, good governance and transparency, equal partnerships, green and clean, security-focused, and catalysing private sector investment. It is the EU's biggest global investment programme to date, aiming to fund projects in six sectors: climate and energy, digital, transport, health, and education and research. Lunting Wu, Researcher at the Centre for East European and International Studies (ZOiS) and Associate at SCRIPTS, discusses the meaning and implication of the Global Gateway and how it might react amidst possible contestations.

[Online access ↓](#)

## **Israel's "9/11" and Its Consequences**

Assaf Moghadam and Thomas Risse

[SCRIPTS Blog Post No. 67](#)

The brutal Hamas attacks on Israel constituted a traumatic event for the country and its citizens – just when the Jewish state was going through the most dramatic constitutional crisis in its history. What are possible scenarios for Israel's response to its "9/11" and what are the consequences for Israeli politics? SCRIPTS Principal Investigator Thomas Risse, together with Assaf Moghadam, professor of political science and dean of the Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy, and Strategy at Reichman University, Herzliya, Israel, discuss possible scenarios in their new blog post.

[Online access ↓](#)

## **Crash Landing on the Liberal Script Or What K-Drama & Memory Tell us about Contestations in Korea**

Jessica Gienow-Hecht

[SCRIPTS Blog Post No. 66](#)

This summer marks the 70th anniversary of the Panmunjom armistice agreement, which ended the Korean war and sealed the nation's division into two separate states. SCRIPTS Principal Investigator and professor of History Jessica Gienow-Hecht reflects on the occasion in the context of recent cultural and political developments, pondering the question of how external contestations of the liberal script may obfuscate internal challenges, notably when there is a common denominator.

[Online access ↓](#)

## **SCRIPTS ARGUMENTS**

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### **What is the Relation of Inequality and the Liberal Script?**

Anette Fasang

*Arguments on Inequality*

SCRIPTS Principal Investigator and professor of microsociology Anette Fasang discusses the myth of individual empowerment and the structural inequalities that exist in her new Arguments paper. Fasang writes that the liberal script legitimates inequality of outcomes through equality of opportunity and the meritocracy myth. This view focuses on individuals and their life chances and ignores opportunity structures. How can this trigger contestations of the liberal script? Take a look at the paper via the link below.

[Online access](#) ↓

## **What is the Relationship of Digitalisation, Social Media, and the Liberal Script?**

Ewa Dąbrowska

### *Arguments on Digitalisation*

In her new SCRIPTS Arguments paper, Postdoctoral Researcher Ewa Dąbrowska discusses the redefinition of internet governance. Liberal principles have governed the internet since its inception. The multistakeholder model of governance, in which companies, academics, experts, NGOs, and citizens are involved in consultations on internet regulations, is a version of the liberal script. With deepening digitalisation, this script, on which Big Tech companies have a big influence, is increasingly under pressure. A wave of worldwide data and social media regulation directed against the perceived privatisation of the internet and data governance is leading to its redefinition.

[Online access](#) ↓

## **What is the Relation of Inequality and the Liberal Script?**

Florian Waldow

### *Arguments on Inequality*

Florian Waldow, professor of comparative and international education and Principal Investigator at SCRIPTS, writes in his new Arguments paper about the entanglement of inequality and the liberal script and what role education plays in this phenomenon. The notion of “equality” constitutes a central plank of all versions of the liberal script (albeit in different forms and interpretations). Therefore, the existence and reproduction of social inequality in liberal societies need to be legitimated. The liberal script contains clear instructions for how this should be achieved, centring on the idea of allocating life chances on the basis of individual “merit” under the conditions of “equality of opportunity”. Education plays a crucial role here since merit is often socially operationalised as the successful acquisition of educational certificates.

[Online access](#) ↓

## **SCRIPTS WORKING PAPERS**

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The SCRIPTS Working Paper Series serves to disseminate the research results of work in progress prior to publication. The series was set up to encourage the exchange of ideas and academic debate between the SCRIPTS Cluster of Excellence and a broader public on the contemporary controversies about the liberal script from a historical, global, and comparative perspective. For SCRIPTS researchers, fellows, visiting fellows and guest fellows it offers a vehicle to disseminate their research. For readers, the Working Paper

Series reflects what and how research is carried out at the Cluster. Manuscripts can be submitted by all SCRIPTS researchers and are reviewed in a single blind review procedure by a SCRIPTS researcher.

## **The Nature of Beliefs. An Exploration of Cognitive Science and Sociological Approaches to the Crisis of Democracy**

Steven Livingston

Working Paper No. 31

With this new working paper, SCRIPTS Senior Fellow Steven Livingston introduces the final phase of a three-phase project that investigates democratic backsliding in the United States and elsewhere. With this last phase, the paper reviews the adoption of cognitive science research methods and concepts, followed by a second approach rooted in the sociology of religion research literature.

[Online access](#) ↓

## **Delegitimizing International Institutions. How Global Populism Challenges the Liberal International Order**

Daniel Wajner

Working Paper No. 30

SCRIPTS Alumni Daniel Wajner discusses in this new working paper how the recent rise of populist leaders worldwide influences the institutional dynamics of the liberal international order. His study explores how populists delegitimise the liberal international order and analyses the resulting impact on the system.

[Online access](#) ↓

## **Inhibiting or Contributing? How Global Liberal Forces Impact Climate Change Scepticism**

Jessica Kim, Yasemin Nuhoglu Soysal, Héctor Cebolla-Boado, and Laura Schimmöller

Working Paper No. 29

A portion of the global population is sceptical about climate change – but what are the actual determinants and deterrents of this scepticism? In their working paper, SCRIPTS Postdoctoral Researcher Jessica Kim and Principal Investigator Yasemin Nuhoglu Soysal, together with Héctor Cebolla-Boado, Senior Scientist at the National Research Council, Demography and Geography (Madrid, Spain) and SCRIPTS Doctoral Researcher Laura Schimmöller, consider this question.

[Online access](#) ↓

## **The Liberal Script on State Sovereignty and the Admission of Immigrants. Do Citizens Distinguish between Voluntary and Forced Immigrants?**

Jürgen Gerhards, Lukas Antoine, and Rasmus Ollroge

Working Paper No. 28

In this working paper, SCRIPTS Principal Investigator Jürgen Gerhards and Doctoral Researchers Lukas Antoine and Rasmus Ollroge look at which groups take which position when it comes to voluntary or forced immigrants. By using a comparative

survey conducted in 26 countries, they show which group is the strongest and which one is the weakest.

[Online access](#) ↓

## **Contesting Unequal Group Representation. Can Deliberative Participatory Fora Cure Representation Gaps in the Legislature?**

Agnes Blome and Miriam Hartlapp

Working Paper No. 27

The French and German national parliaments are dominated by highly educated and elderly (mostly) male politicians. In their new working paper, former SCRIPTS Postdoctoral Fellow Agnes Blome and BGTS Faculty Member Miriam Hartlapp seek to inform this debate by conceptualising and measuring representation gaps in France and Germany.

[Online access](#) ↓

### **OPEN CALLS**

#### **Call for Papers: Workshop on Race and Multilateralism in the International Order**

The research project “Race and Multilateralism: The Anatomy of a Complex Relationship” (RAM) based at the Freie Universität Berlin and funded by SCRIPTS is organising a workshop on 23rd-24th May 2024 on the relationship between race and multilateralism in the international order. The workshop aims to bring together both junior and senior scholars from a range of related disciplines, such as political science, history, and international law. The deadline to submit a proposal is 5 January, 2024. Find out more about the workshop at the link below.

[Call for Papers](#) ↓

### **ABOUT SCRIPTS**

The Cluster of Excellence “Contestations of the Liberal Script (SCRIPTS)” is a research consortium that analyses why the liberal model of order has fallen into crisis despite its political, economic, and social achievements. Interdisciplinary research teams investigate why alternative concepts of social order are on rise, how these contestations differ from earlier contestation, and what the consequences are for the global challenges of our time. In operation since 2019, SCRIPTS is hosted by the Freie Universität Berlin and unites eight major Berlin-based research institutions.

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