



The Faculty of Social Sciences (Department of Government) of the University of Vienna is advertising

## Postdoc in Political Behavior (24 hours/week), especially survey experiments and scale development

### **Overview:**

The position is offered within the MULTIREP project funded by a Starting Grant from the European Research Council (September 2023 – August 2028) and led by Assoz. Prof. Christopher Wratil ([personal website](#)).

MULTIREP – “Multidimensional Representation: Enabling An Alternative Research Agenda on the Citizen-Politician Relationship” aims to expand quantitative scholars’ understanding of political representation beyond the traditional conceptions of substantive and descriptive representation. The project seeks to identify additional dimensions of representation that citizens care about, using in-depth interviews and survey-experimental techniques. For the most important dimensions, the project will develop novel survey instruments to measure citizens’ preferences on representation. Thereby, MULTIREP aims to reshape the scope and depth of quantitative empirical research on representation and enable an alternative research agenda on the citizen-politician relationship. A description of the project can be found [here](#).

The postdoc will co-lead (together with the principal investigator) the development and implementation of survey experiments that test which dimensions of representation are important to citizens as well as the development of new survey scales to measure citizens’ representation preferences. This will involve the fielding of online mass surveys in several countries.

The project is hosted by the [Department of Government](#) at the University of Vienna, a vibrant research environment with currently four European Research Council projects and several further third-party funded projects, providing for an international community of PhDs, postdocs and faculty. Key research areas of the Department include political representation, party competition, political institutions and political behavior. For many years, Vienna has consistently been ranked as the most livable city in the world in several [international rankings](#).

# Postdoc in Political Behavior

## Job description:

- Develop and conduct survey experiments and develop new attitude scales measuring citizens' representation preferences
- Publish substantive research on what citizens want from political representation, aiming for manuscript placements in leading political science outlets
- Share responsibility for data collection, data documentation and data management as well as the ethical implementation of research activities
- Starting date: 1 May 2025
- Contract length: 1 year, until 30 April 2026
- Salary: from €36,900 to €41,400 p.a. gross for 24 hours / week, depending on relevant experience ([Austrian take-home pay calculator](#))
- Benefits: paid annual leave, social insurance (incl. healthcare, pension), flexible working hours, home office arrangements, funds to attend further methods trainings and collect large amounts of research data in the framework of the project, career development support (e.g. for job talks, funding applications)

## Your profile:

- Doctorate/PhD in political science or another relevant discipline (completed or close to completion)
- Emerging research agenda in political behavior on a topic broadly connected to the themes of MULTIREP
- Substantial experience with survey research and survey experiments
- Excellent publication record (e.g. articles in leading disciplinary journals)
- Interest in political representation
- Strong communication skills, ability to organize and contribute to team work, high reliability, attention to detail, pro-active and responsible attitude, intellectual independence and originality
- Excellent command of English (knowledge of German is not necessary)

## Application

Applications should consist of:

- **Cover letter** (ca. 1/2 page)
- **Curriculum vitae** (incl. list of publications where applicable)
- Copy of **masters degree certificate**

These documents should be compiled in a single PDF file and sent via e-mail to [christopher.wratil@univie.ac.at](mailto:christopher.wratil@univie.ac.at). We will accept applications until we have filled the position with a suitable candidate.

For informal inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact the principal investigator, Christopher Wratil, via e-mail: [christopher.wratil@univie.ac.at](mailto:christopher.wratil@univie.ac.at)



**Funded by  
the European Union**

*Funded by the European Union (ERC, MULTIREP, 101076033). Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Research Council Executive Agency. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.*