



Research Assistant position within the MULTIREP project (10 hours/week, 6-month contract)

We are looking for current *MA/MSc students with experience and interest in public opinion surveys*.

Project overview:

The position is offered within the MULTIREP project led by Assoz. Prof. Christopher Wrtil ([personal website](#)).

“Multidimensional Representation: Enabling An Alternative Research Agenda on the Citizen-Politician Relationship” is a five-year research project funded by a Starting Grant from the European Research Council (September 2023 – August 2028). The project aims to expand quantitative scholars’ understanding of political representation beyond the traditional conceptions of substantive and descriptive representation. It 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 quantitative survey and text-analytical tools to measure citizens’ preferences and politicians’ behavior, and it will also advance normative standards to assess the quality of 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. Ultimately, the project seeks to address declining trust in democratic politics by providing a more complete picture of what it means for citizens to feel represented. A description of the project can be found [here](#).

Currently, we are testing theories about citizens’ fundamental motivations for political representation. The research assistant (RA) will help design and implement a conjoint experiment on representative traits and behaviors. Later, you will contribute to developing survey scales that map people’s motivations and representation preferences using cross-sectional data fielded across multiple countries.

The project is hosted by the [Department of Government](#) at the University of Vienna, a vibrant research environment, providing for a large community of research assistants working on different projects.

Job description:

- Work closely with a team of researchers in the MULTIREP project (e.g. other research assistants, postdocs, principal and co-investigators)
- Support the **organization and implementation of large-scale survey studies** of citizens in several countries: designing and programming survey questionnaires, managing project

workflows (questionnaire translation and programing, data documentation, survey fielding, reporting), handling data management, and running diagnoses and preliminary analyses

- Perform **literature reviews and searches** for the research team
- **Starting date:** Between December 2025 and February 2026 (earlier starting dates are preferred, please state your preferred starting date in the application)
- **Contract:** 6 months, 10 hours/week
- **Salary:** approx. €787,27 per month on a 10 hour basis, inclusive of special payments ([Austrian take-home pay calculator](#))
- **Benefits:** paid annual leave, flexible working hours, home office arrangements

Your profile:

- **Enrolled in an MA in political science or a related social science discipline**, with interest and experience in quantitative methods
- Interest in political representation, political attitudes of citizens, or politicians' communication activities
- Some initial **knowledge of survey methodology**; prior use of a survey software, especially QuestionPro or Qualtrics, is a plus; willingness to learn QuestionPro
- Basic understanding of survey experiments
- Familiarity with statistical software is a plus (preferably R); ideally you can write basic scripts (descriptives, regression, visualization)
- Very good command of English (knowledge of German is not necessary); additional languages are an advantage: French, Danish, Dutch, Hungarian, or German
- Ability to integrate in and contribute to teamwork, high reliability, attention to detail, eagerness to learn, pro-active attitude

Application:

Applications should consist of:

- **Cover letter** (statement of motivation and discussion of experience), *max. 1 page*
- **Curriculum vitae**, *max. 2 pages*
- **Full set of transcripts of record** from your bachelor and (where applicable) masters studies

These documents should be compiled in a **single PDF file** and sent via e-mail to multirep.staatswissenschaft@univie.ac.at by **10 November 2025, 11:59 pm CET**. Please use the **e-mail title "Application MULTIREP Research Assistant"**. Interviews with short-listed candidates will be held in the second half of November.

For informal inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact Bence Hamrak via e-mail: bence.hamrak@univie.ac.at



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