

Project

Philosophy of Political Science.

Limits and possibilities of political science research: axiological, epistemic, methodological and ontological foundations of political science

The subdiscipline "philosophy of political science" (not to be confused with the subdiscipline "political philosophy") is, in my opinion, the subdiscipline within which the axiological, epistemic, methodological and ontological foundations or the scientific nature of political science can be discussed appropriately.

Philosophy of political science is not only probably the most neglected subdiscipline of political science, it is also just emerging. It is therefore a highly original project with its finger on the pulse of research. The reliability of the results achieved should be ensured by a multilingual approach. Below you will find the goals and reasons of the project:

1. Philosophy of political science.
2. The central significance of multilingualism.
3. My research focus.
4. Objectives of the project: Contributions to the establishment of the subdiscipline "Philosophy of Political Science".

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Publications on the topic:

[Methodology and political science: the discipline needs three fundamentally different methodological traditions](#). In: Springer Nature Social Science, 2021, 1, 43.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s43545-020-00034-0>.

[Relationship between politics and science: a complementary model of political consulting](#). In: [The European](#), 2021.

[„Methodenstreit“ und Politikwissenschaft](#).

[Der methodologische Glaubenskrieg am Beginn des 21. Jahrhunderts zwischen szientistischem Establishment und phronetischen Perestroikans](#), 2017.

The monograph is currently only available in German, exceptions: Abstract, Introduction and Charts are in English (59 pages):

[„Methodenstreit“ and Political Science](#).

[Methodological Science War at the Beginning of the 21st Century between the scientific Establishment and phronetic Perestroikans](#), 2018.



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1 Philosophy of Political Science Limits and possibilities of political science research: axiological, epistemic, methodological and ontological foundations of political science

There is an extremely well-developed general philosophy of science within philosophy itself, especially since the 20th century. Furthermore, there are philosophical subdisciplines such as the philosophy of physics, biology, economics, psychology, sociology etc. in the most important scientific disciplines. For details on the state of research see here:

Lohse, Simon/Reydon, Thomas, (Hg.), 2017: Grundriss Wissenschaftsphilosophie. Die Philosophien der Einzelwissenschaften. Hamburg: Felix Meiner.

McIntyre, Lee/Rosenberg, Alex, (eds.), 2017: The Routledge Companion to Philosophy of Social Science. London, New York: Routledge.

Verbeek/McIntyre (2017), in their survey article "Why is there no philosophy of political science?" note that there is no special discipline "philosophy of political science" with a corresponding institutional anchoring in the system of science, e.g., curricula, chairs, or journals.

Second, however as Verbeek/McIntyre rightly point out, there are a variety of contributions that deal with the limits and possibilities of political science research as well as its scientific theoretical foundations and thus with fundamental questions of the discipline.

The central question of the philosophy of political science is, in my opinion: How can scientificity in political science be guaranteed? Due to the necessary specialization, the empirical orientation as well as the concentration on empirical theories, important philosophical prerequisites get out of sight. In order to adequately discuss the axiological, epistemic, methodological and ontological foundations of political science, the subdiscipline "philosophy of political science" is necessary. Its central questions therefore relate to the foundations as well as to the limits and possibilities of political science research.

The project is described in this paper published on in Academia Letters, Article 2379, <https://doi.org/10.20935/AL2379>. Here you can find the link to the PDF-version on my homepage: [Philosophy of political science. Prolegomena of a neglected subdiscipline.](#)

2 The central importance of multilingualism demonstrated using a problem from the philosophy of knowledge

Language and math are the most important tools for scientists. If one considers language alone as an instrument of science, then two peculiarities stand out: First, there are umpteen languages and second, scientists all over the world are moving to publish only in English, today's lingua franca.

There are several arguments in favor of the need for a multilingual approach. Multilingualism firstly increases the efficiency of language as an instrument of science and secondly contributes to the reliability of scientific results because the results are simultaneously reproduced in another language. Third, multilingualism is the most basic requirement for multiculturalism. Therefore, it is worthwhile for every scientist to publish in at least one more language besides English. Publication in English is indisputably indispensable today.

The central importance of multilingualism was discussed in the following article, which appeared in Academia Letters, Article Article 3937, <https://doi.org/10.20935/AL3937>. Here you can find the link to the PDF-version on my website:

[Multilingualism or publication exclusively in English? The central importance of multilingualism for science, the example of the philosophy of knowledge.](#)

3 My Focal Point of Research

My research focus within the subdiscipline "Philosophy of Political Science" has so far concentrated in particular on the methodology of political science. I worked out that the discipline needs three fundamentally different methodological traditions or types of science:

- **Descriptive tradition:** empirical-descriptive methodology or types of science.
- **Explanatory-prognostic tradition:** empirical-explanatory and empirical-prognostic methodology or types of science.
- **Practical tradition:** practical (normative, pragmatic and technical) methodology or types of science (see [Table 1 Three traditions and ten levels of political methodology](#)).

The focus here is on the development of a practical (normative, pragmatic and technical) methodology that complements the empirical (descriptive, explanatory and prognostic) methodology. In my view, practical (normative, pragmatic, and technical) knowledge can also be rationally justified. Here is an article published by **Springer Nature Social Science**, 2021, 1, 43.

[Methodology and political science: the discipline needs three fundamentally different methodological traditions](#) or <https://doi.org/10.1007/s43545-020-00034-0>.

I have two other publications on this topic, one of which is an article in **The European** also 2021: [A complementary model of political consulting](#). Here is the link to the PDF version on my website: [Relationship between politics and science: a complementary model of political consulting](#).

Furthermore, I have published 2017 a monograph which is completely on the Internet (in two versions HTML and PDF):

[„Methodenstreit“ und Politikwissenschaft](#).

[Der methodologische Glaubenskrieg am Beginn des 21. Jahrhunderts zwischen scientistischem Establishment und phronetischen Perestroikans](#).

The monograph is currently only available in German, exceptions: Abstract, introduction and charts are in English (59 pages):

[„Methodenstreit“ and Political Science](#).

[Methodological Science War at the Beginning of the 21st Century between the scientistic Establishment and phronetic Perestroikans](#).

4 Objectives of the project: Contributions to the establishment of the subdiscipline "Philosophy of Political Science".

The main goal of the project is to contribute to the establishment of the subdiscipline "Philosophy of Political Science" through research and teaching. I am looking for collaboration with a university. I could research, publish and teach in a subdiscipline of political science that is not yet systematically taught anywhere in the world. This would certainly be the first major advantage for any political science department.

The European Union (EU) promotes multiculturalism. Multilingualism is the most important foundation on which multiculturalism is based. This is the second advantage for your department.

Here you can find a PDF version of this project in German and in Romanian:

- [Philosophie der Politikwissenschaft. Grenzen und Möglichkeiten politikwissenschaftlicher Forschung: Axiologische, epistemische, methodologische und ontologische Grundlagen der Politikwissenschaft](#).
- [Filosofia științelor politice. Limitele și posibilitățile ale cercetării în științele politice: fundamentele axiologice, epistemice, metodologice și ontologice ale științelor politice](#).