Workshop

Quantitative and Qualitative Approaches to Legal Texts, Legal Practices and Parliamentary Work

In this workshop, we want to look into different quantitative and qualitative methods for the analysis of legal texts, legal practices and parliamentary work. We are very glad to have Dr. Michael Koß (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München), Svenja Krauss (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin) and PD Dr. Matthias Lemke (Hochschule des Bundes für öffentliche Verwaltung) to discuss their methods with us on the basis of a variety of empirical material.

Matthias Lemke will discuss the methodology of Text Mining (TM), a method that overcomes the dichotomy between qualitative and quantitative social scientific research. Different available tools enable researchers to explore extensive datasets and ensure high degrees of efficiency and reliability.

Michael Koß will present his analysis of procedural reforms in parliaments with reference to parliamentary documents such as committee reports and plenary proceedings. The ultimate goal of his qualitative approach is to devise a causal mechanism explaining why legislators in some contexts privilege majorities while others establish (proportional access to) committees.

Svenja Krauss will discuss the methodology of Quantitative Text Analysis (QTA). It can be used to systematically extract information from political texts by treating words as data. Svenja Krauss will exemplify the use of QTA with the case of coalition agreements.

Place: Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Jakob-und-Wilhelm-Grimm-Zentrum, Auditorium, Geschwister-Scholl-Straße 1-3, 10117 Berlin

Date: Monday, 19th of March, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Organized by the Research Lab: Constitutional Politics in Turkey II, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

The workshop is open to participants working on related topics and/or methodologies. For more information and registration (no later than February 9th, 2018), please contact Urszula Woźniak: u.wozniak@hu-berlin.de
Preliminary Program

11:00 - 12:15  Presentation by Matthias Lemke + Discussion
12:15 - 13:00  Lunch Break
13:00 - 14:15  Presentation by Svenja Krauss + Discussion
14:15 - 14:30  Coffee Break
14:30 - 15:45  Presentation Michael Koß + Discussion