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Professor in Communication at the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg/Germany. I studied communication, political science and sociology at the universities of Münster and Bonn and received a doctorate from the University of Münster.

Prior to my current position in Nuremberg, I have taught at the universities of Munich, Bochum and Mainz. I was a Visiting Scholar at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis/USA (1986), a Research Fellow at the Shorenstein Center, Harvard University in Cambridge/USA (1999) and a Guest Researcher at the University of Gothenburg/Sweden (2011). I was a member of the ESF program Changing Media – Changing Europe (2000-2004). I am teaching regularly at foreign universities within the Erasmus framework.

I have served as co-chair/chair of the Political Communication Division of ICA (2000-2004) and as program chair of the APSA Political Communication Section (2006). I am a co-editor of the German communication journal *Publizistik* and a member of the editorial boards of several international journals. Among the most recent publications are *Handbook of Populism* (forthcoming, Nomos; co-edited with Reinhard Heinisch & Oscar Mazzoleni); *Election posters around the globe* (forthcoming, Springer, co-edited with Bengt Johansson); *Political advertising in the 2014 European elections* (forthcoming, Palgrave; co-edited with Edoardo Novelli & Kevin Rafter); *Political Marketing* (in Oxford Bibliographies Communication); *Twitter and elections around the world. Campaigning in 140 characters or less* (2016, Routledge, co-edited with Richard Davis & Marion Just); *Europawahlkampf 2014 [European election 2014]* (2015, VS Springer).