

CHRIS SCHMITZ

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EDUCATION

Centre for Digital Governance, Hertie School

Berlin, Germany

Doctorate in Governance

09/2024 – Current

- Dissertation: “Statecraft in an Age of Intelligent Systems”, supervised by Prof. Dr. Gerhard Hammerschmid
- As Research Assistant, coordinating a [course](#) on AI for public administrators, and teaching a three-day practical module
- Co-founded and secured funding for the [Digital State Forum](#), a joint research group with the Oxford Internet Institute

Frankfurt School of Finance and Management

Frankfurt, Germany

MSc in Applied Data Science (GPA: 1.4, German Scale)

09/2019 – 11/2021

- Dissertation: Evaluating Progress in Explainable AI Methods against Philosophical Models of Explanation, supervised by Profs. Gregory Wheeler and Sebastian Köhler

University of Glasgow / UCLA

Glasgow, UK / Los Angeles, USA

MA (Scotland) in Mathematics and Politics (Honors of the First Class)

09/2014 – 06/2018

- Dissertation: Quantitative Comparison of Turnout Prediction Models in the 2016 US Presidential Election

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (SELECTED)

QuantumBlack, AI by McKinsey

Berlin, Germany

Analytics Fellow (On Leave)

09/2022 – Current

- Co-founded the firm’s AI regulation service line:
 - * Initiated and led a [survey of 150 organizations](#) on the governance and financial impact of the AI Act
 - * Wrote a chapter of the firm’s first document on global AI regulation; contributed to a related [article](#)
- Worked on international digital governance projects in both developing and strategic capacities:
 - * Lead developer on a GenAI product for citizen communication, the firm’s first in the German public sector
 - * Handled product management in the founding and scaling of a ministry’s data innovation unit
 - * Implemented from-scratch data protection compliance at a tax authority
- Contributed to several other AI projects, incl. heading a 6-person team building a TB-scale marketing analytics pipeline

Tech4Germany, German Chancellery

Berlin, Germany

Engineering Fellow

08/2021 – 11/2021

- Wrote Python backend, documentation, and tests for a resource allocation tool used in the Bundestag (e.g., to distribute speaking time among factions) and across all 16 regional governments, available at azur.bundestag.de.
- Drafted and advocated for a unified Open Data offering to Bundestag IT leadership, based on a systematic review of GovData offerings and a survey of external developers and journalists.

PricewaterhouseCoopers

Frankfurt, Germany

Advisory Intern: Responsible AI

05/2021 – 08/2021

- Developed an AI explainability scoring "engine": derived a scoring schema from XAI literature, implemented it in Python as a service backend, and authored documentation and marketing materials.
- Conducted a survey of 30 C-level executives on the state of responsible AI in the German finance sector.

PUBLICATIONS

- Schmitz, C., Rystrom, J., & Batzner, J. (2025). [Oversight structures for Agentic AI in Public-Sector Organizations](#). *To appear in proceedings of REALM @ACL2025*.
- Schmitz, C., Rystrom, J., Batzner, J., & Hammerschmid, G. (2025). Surveying the Readiness of Public-Sector Organizations to Govern Agentic AI. *Accepted for presentation at EGPA 2025*.
- Rystrom, J., Schmitz, C., Korgul, K. & Batzner, J., (2025). Towards a Benchmark for LLM-based Agents in Public-Sector Organizations. *Accepted for presentation at EGPA 2025*.
- Schmitz, C. and Joanna Bryson (2025). A Moral Agency Framework for Legitimate Integration of AI in Bureaucracies. *Under Review at AIES2025*.
- Bean, A. et al. (2025). Measuring what Matters: Construct Validity in Large Language Model Benchmarks. *Under Review at NeurIPS2025 Datasets & Benchmarks Track*.