Annual Report ZDA 2014

Directorate ZDA, mid-February 2015
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Foreword

Six years have passed since the Centre for Democracy Aarau moved into the Villa Blumenhalde. The villa is a place where we now come and go on a daily basis. We have conducted dozens of events and seminars in the Blumenhalde. We have received guests from all over the world who have shown an interest in Swiss Democracy. Among these have been delegations from Mongolia, from our neighbouring states including Germany, Austria and France, from Bulgaria, Uruguay and Argentina. A television team from the Ukraine even came to film a documentary about Switzerland, conducting interviews with some of us in the garden in the springtime. And we have of course worked here on our research projects: analysed and interpreted data, discussed results, gained new insights, and recorded and prepared these for publication. Within these walls we have experienced countless light-bulb moments or better ‘Eureka!’ experiences, such as when after extensive thinking about a question or intensive calculations of a dataset the realisation sets in that one has just discovered something new. These are moments that give great satisfaction and which motivate us as researchers.

One can think of no better place than the Villa Blumenhalde for this. It offers spaces for stimulating discussions. It offers spaces for events. It offers spaces to pause and reflect. And it offers the necessary quiet to work productively; so productively in fact that during the last years we have seen a significant increase in the number of externally financed research projects. With this the number of employees has grown, as has the demand for space. Already in 1848 Heinrich Zschokke, who built the villa, wrote in a letter to a friend after a gathering of his large family: ‘The house was almost too small!’ It was becoming too small for us as well. We had to resort to double or triple occupancy of working spaces and setting up extra workspaces in the rather dark foyers. Thanks to the well-designed extension of the Villa Blumenhalde, constructed in the second half of 2014, these space issues have now been solved. With this we now have twelve additional workspaces, as well as new windows and a much improved acoustics in the seminar room. We are very grateful to the owner of the building, the Ortsbürgergemeinde Aarau (the citizens of the municipality of Aarau) for having made this extension possible. Work in the Villa Blumenhalde will be even more enjoyable now!

The inauguration of the extension in conjunction with an open day of the ZDA was without a doubt a highlight of 2014. More than 140 guests from the whole region took part in the celebration, listened to speeches – the guest speaker was former federal councillor Moritz Leuenberger – and to the presentations of research projects by the employees of the ZDA. The interest shown was considerable and once again showed how well-established the ZDA is within the local community. Both of the traditional annual ZDA events also met with a lively interest from the public. In March, the Aarau Democracy Days took place for the sixth time and were devoted to the topic ‘Democracy in the Community’. In addition to the interested locals, this time there were also a conspicuously large number of municipal authorities who came from more distant cantons – even from Zurich! The late summer event of the Friends of the ZDA Association at the beginning of September also met with a great deal of interest: prominent guests from politics and administration discussed the opportunities and risks of electronic voting with ZDA researcher Uwe Serdült.

Scholarly research on the subject of Democracy is and will continue to be the main mission of the ZDA: this year the list of completed research projects and published results is very long. Of particular note, however, was the completion of the project financed by the Commission for Technology and Innovation (KTI), Play Swiss Lex, in the summer. Within the framework of this project the ZDA developed a role-play game about the process of law making at a federal level. In July, this innovative teaching material was tested, initially as a smaller pilot
project at the *Neue Kantonsschule Aarau* (equivalent to a British grammar school). Then, in August it was implemented for the first time in the *Alte Kantonsschule Aarau*. A total of 250 students took on the role of parliamentarians and simulated true to detail the debates of the National Council and the Council of States on formulating the hooligan law. With the launch of the game the research work on this project has been concluded. With the support of the technology transfer centre of the University of Zurich, the ZDA established a spin-off company, which has now taken on the distribution of the new teaching material (www.politik-macht-gesetz.ch). Not only was the collaboration of both of the ZDA departments ADF and PBGD decisive, but also the support of the cantonal schools of Aarau. The project is, thus, a successful example for how the ZDA, with its combination of expert knowledge in different disciplines and connections to the local community, can use opportunities for scientifically innovative research and development work.

Aarau, late January 2015

Daniel Kübler
I. ZDA-internal

1. Organisation

a. Partners

With regard to the partnerships of the ZDA with the city of Aarau, Canton Aargau, University of Zurich (UZH) and the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland, there have been no changes during the reporting year.

b. Board of Partners

The Board of Partners is composed of two delegates each per partner:

- Regierungsrat Alex Hürzeler (Chairman, BKS, Representative Canton Aargau)
- Dr. Katja Gentinetta (Representative Canton of Aargau)
- Jolanda Urech (Mayor of Aarau, Representative City of Aarau)
- Prof. Dr. Thomas Bernauer (Representative City of Aarau)
- Prof. Dr. Otfried Jarren (Prorector Humanities and Social Sciences, Representative UZH)
- Prof. Dr. Thomas Gächter (Institute of Law, Representative UZH)
- Prof. Dr. Crispino Bergamaschi (President of the Board, Representative FHNW)
- Prof. Dr. Hermann Forneck (Director College of Education, Representative FHNW)

On 1 January 2014, three new members of the board of partners took up their positions. Jolanda Urech replaces Mayor Marcel Guignard who resigned at the end of 2013. Prorector Otfried Jarren now represents the UZH, replacing the former rector Andreas Fischer. Katja Gentinetta will be representing Canton Aargau, replacing Thomas Pfisterer.

At the meeting on 17 March 2014 the Annual Report and Annual Accounts of 2013 were approved in the new reporting format. In connection with this the board and partners discussed the definition of the targets with regard to the third-party quota. The GM approvingly took note of the planned and implemented measures to sustainably establish the research agenda of NCCR Democracy at the ZDA. Within the framework of strategy development, the board was mandated to formulate a personnel strategy. In addition, a dialogue between the mother institutes was initiated concerning doctorate conferrals of staff in the PBGD/FHNW departments at the UZH.

The second regular meeting of 03 November 2014 was held in the Aarau City Hall due to ongoing construction work in the Blumenhalde. The partners approved the 2015 budget of the ZDA and passed formal codes of practice for new elections/succession procedures of board members of the ZDA. The personnel strategy presented by the board was discussed and approved. Councillor A. Hürzeler was unanimously elected as chairman of the partners’ meeting for the 2015–16 term. The attendees unanimously elected D. Kübler for a further term (2015–16) as chairman of the ZDA board.

Subsection 1.2.

The second regular meeting of 03 November 2014 was held in the Aarau City Hall due to ongoing construction work in the Blumenhalde. The partners approved the 2015 budget of the ZDA and passed formal codes of practice for new elections/succession procedures of board members of the ZDA. The personnel strategy presented by the board was discussed and approved. Councillor A. Hürzeler was unanimously elected as chairman of the partners’ meeting for the 2015–16 term. The attendees unanimously elected D. Kübler for a further term (2015–16) as chairman of the ZDA board.

c. Directorate

The directorate is the operative management body of the ZDA and is composed of the heads of the three departments who are at the same time professors at the UZH and/or the FHNW. The chairmanship is held for two years by a member selected by the GM. In the reporting year, the configuration was as follows:
In 2014 the directorate convened at eight formal meetings; informal discussions took place on a regular basis. The key issues with which the directorate was concerned, were realising the 2014–2017 development plan with regard to research, but also external communication (website/brochure), various public events (6th Aarau Democracy Days in March, the inauguration of the building extension in December) and the management of measures in connection with the construction of the extension (infrastructure renewal UKV and IT), as well as administrative modifications (implementation of the new personnel regulations of the UZH and the development of a personnel strategy).

d. Scientific Advisory Board

The configuration of the Scientific Advisory Board remains unchanged in the reporting year. The members are:

- Prof. Dr. Giovanni Biaggini, Chair in Constitutional, Administrative and European Law, University of Zurich;
- Prof. Dr. Dirk Lange, Professorship for the Didactics of Civic Education, Institute for Political Science, Leibnitz Universität Hannover;
- Prof. Dr. Yannis Papadopoulos, Professeur de politique suisse et de politiques publiques, Institut d'études politiques et internationales, Université de Lausanne;
- Prof. Peter Seixas, Director of the Centre for the Study of Historical Consciousness, Professor and Canada Research Chair in Education, Department of Curriculum and Pedagogy, Faculty of Education, University of British Columbia, Vancouver;
- Prof. Dr. Dietlind Stolle, Political Science, McGill University, Montréal, Québec;
- Prof. Dr. Bernhard Waldmann, Director of the National Centre, Institute for Federalism, the Faculty of Jurisprudence, University of Freiburg.

On 8 September 2014, the ZDA advisory board met for its annual meeting at the UZH in Zurich-Irchel. Present were: Prof. Giovanni Biaggini as well as the members of the ZDA directorship. Connected via videoconference were Professors Dietlind Stolle (Montreal/Berlin) and Yannis Papadopoulos (Lausanne). Those members not present in person communicated their input and comments in writing. The topics of discussion were the activities and developments of the ZDA in the reporting year (research output/publications, cross-departmental collaboration, public relations, change of management PBGD and personnel strategy). The opinions and discussions were summarised in a report for the attention of the annual general meeting. In general, the advisory board members issued the ZDA with a very good testimonial, in particular with reference to the research output productivity of the staff, but also for its presence in the research community and in the public sphere.
2. Staff

At the ZDA there were 58 staff members in the reporting year (as of 31.12.2014: 43) with a total of 2,522 full-time equivalents.

The staff statistics, according to function and departments are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function **</th>
<th>ADF</th>
<th>c2d</th>
<th>PBGD</th>
<th>Pool</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interns</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>41.66</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistants without degrees</td>
<td>128.73</td>
<td>50.83</td>
<td>1.60</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistants with BA</td>
<td>16.67</td>
<td>13.33</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistants with MA/licentiate</td>
<td>54.58</td>
<td>24.17</td>
<td>481.97</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD students</td>
<td>355.00</td>
<td>180.00</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Docs</td>
<td>233.95</td>
<td>552.50</td>
<td>138.33</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative/technical staff</td>
<td>8.33</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>120.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total positions (in %)</strong></td>
<td>797.26</td>
<td>820.83</td>
<td>783.56</td>
<td>120.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of staff 2014</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of staff on 31.12.2014</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* excl. directors and assistant professors democratisation
** according to UZH terminology

As planned, both in the ADF and c2d departments the share of academic qualifying positions increased (PhD students). In the PBGD department, 2014 was characterised by numerous personnel fluctuations due to maternity leave, substitutes, and the high volume of projects.

Figure 1: Staff number development at the ZDA 2010–2014 by departments
Figure 2: Full-time equivalents development at the ZDA 2010–2014 according to functions

General Democracy Research (ADF):
Prof. Dr. Daniel Kübler, Prof. Dr. Daniel Bochsler
Dr. Oliver Dlabac, Dr. Birte Gundelach, Dr. Philippe Koch, Dr. Saskia Ruth, Dr. Nenad Stojanovic, Dr. Rebecca Welge

Completed qualifying papers:
D. Bochsler, Competition and cooperation within and across cleavages, Habil. Phil. Fak. UZH.
K. Hasler, Accountability in the metropolis. A media content analysis across European city regions, Diss. Phil. Fak. UZH.

Ongoing qualifying papers:
K. Bousbah, Equal participation of young citizens in established democratic systems. Putting the articulation of young citizens’ demands into context, Diss. Phil. Fak. UZH.
P. Buser, School Governance und der Wandel der Laienpartizipation in der Schweiz, Diss. Phil. Fak. UZH.
Z. Burkadze, Hybrid regimes and political transition, Diss. Phil. Fak. UZH
M. Hänni, Political Representation of Ethnic Minorities: Causes and Consequences of Descriptive and Substantive Representation, Diss. Phil. Fak. UZH.
L. Heyne, Critical, satisfied or alienated citizens? Conceptualizing and understanding democratic (dis)satisfaction, Diss. Phil. Fak. UZH
M. Strebel, A politicized metropolis? Citizen's political attitudes and behavior in European city-regions, Diss. Phil. Fak. UZH.
M. Surber, Power in the Swiss metropolis, Diss. Phil. Fak. UZH.
A. El-Wakil, How democratic is the Swiss model of democracy? Approaching the direct democratic institutions from a normative political theory perspective, Diss. Phil. Fak. UZH.

R. Zwicky, Diversität und Intersektionalität in der eidgenössischen Bundesverwaltung: zur passiven Repräsentation nach Geschlecht, Sprache und Nationalität, MA Phil. Fak. UZH.

Centre for Research on Direct Democracy (c2d):

Prof. Dr. Andreas Glaser
Dr. Corsin Bisaz, Dr. Magdalena Forowicz, Dr. Lorenz Langer, Dr. Fernando Mendez, Dr. Uwe Serdült, Dr. Yanina Welp, Dr. Jonathan Wheatley
Nicolas Aubert, Flurin Conradin, Micha Germann, Maja Harris, Alicia Portenier, Evren Somer, Christoph Wellig

Completed qualifying papers:


Ongoing qualifying papers:

N. Aubert, Démocratie directe dans le Canton de Vaud, Dissertation Jur. Fak. UZH.

C. Bisaz, Rechtfertigung direktdemokratischer Entscheidung in der Schweiz. Eine Annäherung an die Schweizer Konzeption direkter Demokratie und die Absicherung ihrer inmanenten Legitimationsbedingungen, Habil, Jur. Fak. UZH.

M. Forowicz, Explaining Specificity in a Hybrid EU Legal Order, Habil, Jur. Fak. UZH.

M. Germann, Dangerous Direct Democracy: Referendums on Self-Determination and Ethnic Conflict, Diss, D-GESS, ETHZ.

L. Langer, Richterwahlen, Habil, Jur. Fak. UZH.

E. Somer, Kantonale Volksinitiativen im Vergleich, Diss, Jur. Fak. UZH.

A. Tornic, The Popular Complaint as Access Right of Individuals to the Constitutional Courts in the Successor States of the Former Yugoslavia, Diss, Jur. Fak. UZH.

Y. Welp, Democratic innovation in Latin America: the culture of citizen participation, Habil, School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS-HSG), Universität St. Gallen.

Civic and History Education (PBGD):

Prof. Dr. Béatrice Ziegler
Dr. Philipp Marti, Dr. Monika Waldis
Kushtrim Adili, Raffael Fischer, Maja Freiermuth, Franziska Hedinger, Maya Ketterer, Roxane Kübler, Alexander Lötscher, Sára Mézáros, Martin Nitsche, Ruth Probst, Bernhard Schär, Claudia Schneider, Janine Sobernheim, Vera Sperisen, Nicole Wälti, Patrik Zamora

Ongoing qualifying papers:

E. Maienfisch, Differenzierungsprozesse im (Berufs-)Bildungssystem und soziale Mobilität am Beispiel der ausseruniversitären Hochschulentwicklung in der Schweiz im Bereich Wirtschaft ab 1950, Diss. Phil. Fak. UZH.

M. Nitsche, Beliefs von Geschichtslehrpersonen, Diss. Phil.-Hist. Unibas.

J. Sobernheim, Analyse- und Urteilskompetenz in der Politischen Bildung, Diss. Phil. Fak. UZH.


P. Zamora, Messung von Wissen in Politischer Bildung bei Sek II-SchülerInnen, Diss. Phil. Fak. UZH.
ZDA Pool:
Eliane Widmer (administration & finances), Adrian Ritter (public relations)

Every year guest researchers join the ZDA team for a few weeks or months. In the reporting year these were:

**Zarina Burkadze**: ADF/NCCR, September 2014 until August 2017, Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship as Ph.D. student at UZH;

**Pedro Capra**: c2d, September 2014 until September 2015, Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship for Foreign Scholars, Brazil;

**Damir Kapidžić**: ADF, May 2014, University of Sarajevo;

**Dr. Laszlo Komaromi**: c2d, September 2013 until August 2014, Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship for Foreign Scholars, Hungary;

**Prof. Mitsuhiko Okamoto**: c2d, September 2014 until September 2015, visiting professor Tokai University (sabbatical), Japan;

**Davor Petrić**: ADF, February 2014 until June 2014, University of Sarajevo;

**Julieta Rey**: c2d, July/August 2014, research residency, Universidad de Buenos Aires and Universidad de Avellaneda, Argentina.

3. **Team seminars**

In addition to regular internal departmental coordination and strategy meetings, at ZDA team seminars, research projects selected from the three departments are presented and discussed for the advancement of interdisciplinary collaboration.

The first team seminar took place on 17 January 2014. Claudia Schneider reported on "die (Nicht-)Integration von Politischer Bildung in den LP21", Céline Antonini and Nenad Stojanovic presented their findings from the research and consultancy project (supported by the DEZA) under the title "Hope is the last to die: the Swiss (and ZDA) contribution to constitutional reform in Bosnia and Herzegovina". This was followed by Yanina Welp’s presentation of research results on the question "Recall – political weapon for bad losers or instrument of accountability?"

All staff then met for the annual end of year dinner.

At the second team seminar of 13 June 2014, Monika Waldis provided first insights into the research project "VisuHist – Ausprägung und Genese professioneller Kompetenz von Geschichtslehrpersonen". This was followed by a presentation by Corsin Bisaz and Nenad Stojanovic of their respective Ambizione project submissions "Bedingungen direct-demokratischer Legitimation" and "Are voters morally allowed to discriminate against minority candidates and, if so, how should we measure electoral discrimination?"

4. **Cross-departmental Collaborations**

As mentioned in the foreword, the project Play Swiss Lex, financed by the Commission for Technology and Innovation (KTI), was completed in summer 2014. Within this framework, in an interdisciplinary collaboration of ADF and PBGD, a role play exercise on the federal level legislative process was developed. In July this innovative teaching tool was tested at the Neue Kantonsschule Aarau. It was then implemented at the Alte Kantonsschule Aarau in August. Altogether 250 students took on the role of parliamentarians for one day and simulated true to detail the debates of the National Council and Council of States in formulating the law on hooliganism. After the launch of the game, the scholarly works on this project have now been completed. With the support of the Technology Transfer Centre of the University of Zurich,
former members of staff of the ZDA and members of the ‘Friends of the ZDA’ association founded a spin-off venture, which has now taken on the distribution of the new teaching tool (www.politik-macht-gesetz.ch).

Furthermore another cross-departmental project was initiated: ADF and c2d staff members are currently working on a ‘work package’ within the framework of the EU FP7 project bEUcitizen. The topic of the project involves different questions on the dynamics and effects of the European citizens’ initiative. This project will be completed in spring 2016.

5. Facilities

The extension of the Villa Blumenhalde took place in the second half of the year. This was completed on schedule in November. The ZDA now has at its disposal four new offices with twelve workplaces. The extension was inaugurated with an open day celebration on 6 December.

Parallel to the work on the extension, the renewal of the IT infrastructure was undertaken. This had become necessary with the move of the Pädagogischen Hochschule (College of Education) to the Brugg/Windisch camus. This work has since been completed.

6. The Friends of the ZDA

The "Friends of the ZDA" association in existence since April 2009 promotes the development of the ZDA and strengthens its position among the citizens, in politics and business. At the end of 2014 the association had almost 300 members. Uwe Serdült is a member of the association board and functions both as a representative and link to the ZDA. 3–4 board meetings take place per year in the Blumenhalde.

The annual late summer event for the members of the association took place in the auditorium of the Alte Kantonsschule Aarau this year due to the ongoing construction work in the Villa Blumenhalde. Uwe Serdült spoke on the subject of "E-Voting: Funktioniert die Demokratie auch elektronisch?" This was followed by a podium discussion with Balthasar Glättli (National Councillor of the Greens Party), Dr. Peter Grünenfelder (Staatsschreiber [administrative head of state chancellery] Kanton Aargau) and the speaker moderated by Dr. Katja Gentinetta. After the event, the members of the association were invited to the traditional risotto dinner.
II. Research

Research Focus 1: Direct Democracy

The Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF) has approved the research project "Die Umsetzung erfolgreicher Volksinitiativen in Rechtsetzung, Rechtsanwendung und Rechtsprechung" with a grant of CHF 387,504 for a three year period. This will provide funding for two doctoral candidate positions (60 percent each) and an assistant (20 percent).

Since 2004 no fewer than nine popular initiatives were successful at federal level. Almost all adopted initiatives resulted in legal difficulties in their implementation. In the foreground are conflicts with requirements concerning international law and principles of constitutional law as well as a lack of clarity in how the text has been formulated. The research project studies the specific legal problems and develops approaches for solutions in order to improve the realisation of initiatives.

Current projects

The people's constituent power: referendums on sovereignty issues (c2d): SNF-research project on the role of direct democracy in the case of territorial reshaping or conflicts in the age of growing globalisation (Fernando Mendez). Duration: 09/2011–08/2014, extended to 06/2015.

Completed projects

Recall – political weapon for bad losers or instrument of accountability? (c2d): Research project on the increase of recall voting in Latin America, especially at local levels in Peru and Ecuador (Yanina Welp, Uwe Serdült, Avina Stiftung). Duration: 2011–2014.

New approved projects


Unapproved projects

Direct Democracy at a Critical Juncture: The Central and Eastern European Experience from a Historical Perspective (c2d): SNF project funding application (Magdalena Forowicz). Possible resubmission after a revision.

Bedingungen direktdemokratischer Legitimation: Das geltende Recht im Lichte normativer Begründungsansätze direktdemokratischer Autorität (c2d): SNF Ambizione project (Corsin Bisaz).
Research Focus 2: Democratic Institutions in Comparison

Entzauberte Schweizer Demokratie – die politische Schweiz im 21. Jahrhundert

In the post-war era, the Swiss model of democracy was defined by three foundational pillars: by consociationalism, a pronounced federalism and liberal corporatism, that is, by a close collaboration of the state with organisations. Is Swiss democracy still the same in the 21st century?

The ZDA launched a scholarly ‘challenge to the myth’ of Swiss democracy in the reporting year and in January 2014, together with the University of Zurich and NCCR Democracy, organised a conference with 17 scholarly contributions. The ZDA team’s focus was above all on the development in the consociationalism of government and the increased collaboration of the cantons. The research was reflected in public appearances, a round table with extensive public participation and media coverage. In addition, we are preparing a special edition of the Schweizerischen Zeitschrift für Politikwissenschaft, which is due to appear in autumn 2015. The editors will be Daniel Bochsler, Silja Häusermann and Regula Hänggli.

Current projects

Enhancing the use of modern direct democracy tools at local level through Bulgarian-Swiss cooperation (c2d): Partnership projects within the framework of the Bulgarian-Swiss Cooperation, European Institute Foundation, Sofia, Bulgaria (Uwe Serdült, Corsin Bisaz). Duration: 10/2013–09/2015.

Strengthening Direct Democracy Legal Instruments through Bulgarian-Swiss partnership (c2d): Bulgarian-Swiss programme towards the implementation of direct democracy in Bulgaria, Partnership Fund (Magdalena Forowicz). Duration: 06/2014–05/2016.

Wahlen und Abstimmungen Schweiz (ADF): commission by the Census Bureau to create a statistic of the cantonal elections, city elections and voting in Switzerland (Daniel Bochsler & Karima Bousbah). Duration: 03/2012–12/2015.


Completed projects


Bundesverwaltung und Vertretung der Sprachgemeinschaften: Analyse der Personalrekrutierungsprozesse und -strategien (ADF). Research cooperation with the Institute of Multilingualism at Fribourg University (Daniel Kübler). Duration: 01/2012–04/2014.
Ethnic quotas and representation of minorities in local politics in Bosnia and Herzegovina (ADF): Supplementary credit "Valorisation Grant" from SNF on the SCOPES research project on the modalities and quality of the representation of minorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina. (Nenad Stojanovic). Duration: 01/2013–06/2014.

The Swiss Contribution to Constitutional Reform in Bosnia and Herzegovina 2 (ADF): Research and advisory services project financed by the DEZA (Nenad Stojanovic). Duration: 08/2012–09/2013, extended until 01/2014.

Research Focus 3: Democracy and its Citizens

Commissioned by the Department of Economic and Internal Affairs of Canton Aargau and the Association of Municipal Mayors, the ZDA carried out a study entitled Milizorganisation der Gemeindeexekutiven. Based on an evaluation of the records of communal elections since 1970, as well as a survey on the ZDA's own account of local governments, the problems concerning recruitment for political functions in the municipalities of Aargau were studied and recommendations for change made. It became evident that overall the recruitment problems had increased, mainly in the smaller, more rural municipalities. Today, three quarters of all municipal elections are non-controversial, that is, the number of candidates corresponds with the number of available seats. This tendency is worrying: elections without a choice are poison for democracy. In order to counteract this trend, we recommend a well-grounded discussion on the adequate remuneration for milizämter (official positions taken on by ‘laypersons’), more flexible remuneration models and improving the perception of the personal opportunities offered by such offices. But also the political parties have a duty to contribute to a solution for the recruitment problems.

Current projects


Preference Matcher (c2d): Independent e-democracy subproject, creation and running of an online election software (Voting Advice Application) (Fernando Mendez and Jonathan Wheatley).

The Role of Emotional Interactions in the Polarization of Opinions in Participation Media (c2d): SNF CoRe research project Prof. Frank Schweitzer, ETHZ and Uwe Serdült, ZDA. Runtime: 04/2013–03/2016.

Completed projects


Milizorganisation der Gemeindeexekutiven (ADF): Research project financed by the Department of Economic and Internal Affairs of Canton Aargau. (Daniel Kübler and Oliver Dlabac). Duration: 12/2013-10/2014.


New approved projects


Unapproved projects

Democratizing Urban Planning in Post-Soviet Ukraine (ADF): Application for a joint research project SCOPES to SNF (Oliver Dlabac and André Bächtiger, University Luzern). Duration: 36 months.

Participatory Urban Planning in Different European Contexts (ADF): Application for a joint research project SCOPES to SNF (Oliver Dlabac). Duration: 24 months.


Research Focus 4: Democracy and historical-political education

Politische Bildung goes to school! In addition to the already mentioned game "Politik.Macht.Gesetz", further games on political education were developed in 2014, so that with the upcoming launch of www.politischebildung.ch it will be possible to inform about several games and tools of varying playing times and content. Precisely because political education is so inadequately represented in schools, it is important to facilitate a targeted and selective implementation in lessons. The learning tool "Politikzyklus" will thus be offered for the first time. "Ja – nein – vielleicht" a game where one can practice arguing on topics relevant to democracy, augmented by images from the Visual Reader Democracy, as well as a role play where one competes for votes, to take part in the Federal Council, and for the governing topics from the perspective of political parties, will continue to be offered. The new developments will be made public in 2015 and be made available to the schools for implementation.

Current projects

Arbeitswelten (PBGD). "Aushändeln" (deal-making), a game, will be developed as an iPad app for vocational schools and upper schools (secondary level I and II). The game simulates opportunities to participate in direct democracy and institutional advancement of consociation corresponding to the political system of Switzerland as a federal state. Players take on the opinions of political parties and gain knowledge about the political institutions and actors in Switzerland. (Alexander Lötscher, Raffael Fischer, Béatrice Ziegler). Duration: 09/2013–12/2014.
Colonisation and Decolonisation in National History Cultures and Memory Politics in European Perspectives-CoDec (PBGD). The aim of the project is to study colonial pasts and decolonisation processes in different European states from a comparative perspective together with partners from Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Great Britain, Austria, Poland and Switzerland in order to evaluate the meaning of the colonial past for national cultures of history and politics of remembrance in the context of history lessons. (Béatrice Ziegler, Philipp Marti, Bernhard Schär, Nicole Wälti). Duration: 10/2013–09/2015.

Deliberation im Klassenrat (PBGD). An empirical study on learning through discourse in the Klassenrat (class council). Discourses are deliberations on the concerns of teachers or students that require a collective decision. In "Deliberation in the Klassenrat" three questions are dealt with: (1) How are discourses carried out in the Klassenrat (class council)? (2) Can patterns be recognised in the discourse processes? (3) According to which principles are decisions made? (Alexander Lötscher, Vera Sperisen) SNF project. Duration: 09/2014–08/2015.

Demokratie bewegt The game "Herausforderung Demokratie" (working title) is based on the visual reader "Herausforderung Demokratie". The reader deals with the term and concept of democracy and visualises the texts with relevant picture series. The game brings images into focus that illustrate or represent an important issue for the concept of democracy. The choice of issues is based on the model of the democracy barometer, which facilitates the system and the references these in relation to each other. The game is being developed for the secondary school level I, and, with the implementation of a tablet, encourages group discussion by students who take on different roles. (Béatrice Ziegler, Janine Sobernheim, Patrik Zamora). SNF – NCCR Democracy. Duration: 01/2013–12/2014.

Demokratie und Gleichheit (PBGD). As project partner of the Stadtmuseum Aarau and for its reopening exhibition, the Centre is preparing the topic «Demokratie! Von der Guillotine zum Like-Button» for political learning and in the form of three subprojects. The edition of the magazine for political education ‘POLIS’, which will be published at the same time, will be dedicated to this theme. Further education for teachers in the city museum will reflect the implementation of the subject in schools. In addition, the e-learning tool developed at the Centre, politikzyklus.ch, will integrate the subject ‘Gleiches Recht für alle’ (equal rights for everyone) into the exhibition. (Claudia Schneider, Janine Sobernheim, Vera Sperisen, Béatrice Ziegler). Duration: 04/2013–4/2015.

EuroSoc (PBGD): Commissioned by the European Parliament, EuroSoc GmbH is carrying out political simulations on EU asylum and migration politics at general education and vocational schools in Germany. In addition, commissioned by the German Federal Press Office, information events on the financial and economic crisis will be held for young persons. The PBGD will question the participants of both events to then evaluate the effectiveness and acceptance of the events. (Beatrice Ziegler, Patrik Zamora). Duration: 06/2013–06/2015.

Hitch (PBGD): A German-Austrian-Swiss partnership is developing a test for the large scale assessment of historical competencies under the project management of Prof. Dr. Ulrich Trautwein, Tübingen. (Béatrice Ziegler, Jan Hodel, Monika Waldis). Duration: 06/2012–03/2015.

Teaching material "Geschichte und Politik" (working title) (PBGD): The teaching material aims to enhance and support history and politics lessons at secondary school level 1, taking the guidelines of "Lehrplan 21" into consideration. (Béatrice Ziegler). Duration: 09/2013–03/2016.

Completed projects

Deutschschweizer Lehrplan BNE+ (PBGD): The contract on the integration of "Bildung für Nachhaltige Entwicklung im Deutschschweizer Lehrplan (BNE+)" is meant to ensure that subjects like health, global learning, political education and environmental studies are included in actual school subjects. The Centre is responsible for conceptualising political education in the syllabus (Béatrice Ziegler). Duration: 01/2009–12/2013.

Guter Geschichtsunterricht an Luzerner Gymnasien (PBGD): The aim of the trial study with Gymnasiellehrpersonen (Brit. grammar school teachers) in Luzern was to further the historical proficiency of students. Within the scope of further training for teachers, the possibilities of designing the didactics of history tuition were discussed and new examination formats developed. The accompanying scholarly study checks the changes in the knowledge of the teachers. In addition, trials are made of test assignments to assess student proficiency (Béatrice Ziegler). Duration: 08/2011–12/2013.

Initial Training (PBGD): Within the European-wide comparative project, the Centre collected data on Swiss teacher training in ‘political education’, ‘social studies’ and ‘history’ with an in depth focus on the content of interdisciplinarity in teacher training (Béatrice Ziegler). Duration: 01/2010–12/2013.

Klassenrat BKS (development) (PBGD): Based on the SNF-financed research project ‘Klassenrat empirisch’ teaching aids on the subject of Klassenräte (class councils), the role of teachers and goals set for the theoretical background of the ritual are prepared for teachers. This will result in the development of an instrument for the education and further training of teachers, which also works with video sequences on the reflection of decision making with regard to designing and carrying out the Klassenrat (Béatrice Ziegler). Duration: 02/2013–12/2013.

mBook 1. Weltkrieg (PBGD): A chapter of an mBook school book on World War I will be developed which will be used in Swiss-German school classes. The chapter aims to promote competencies and includes the historical-cultural approach to the historical subject of Switzerland and the First World War (Béatrice Ziegler). Duration: 10/2012–12/2014.

narratio (PBGD): The project studies the historical narrative competence in students’ texts, which, based on sets of materials are written either about a subject unrelated to a school subject or a school-related subject. (Cooperation with University Osnabrück and the Pädagogischen Hochschule Freiburg i. Br.) (Béatrice Ziegler, Jan Hodel, Monika Waldis). Duration: 01/2012–12/2013.

Politik.Macht.Gesetz (PlaySwissLex) – Angeleitetes Planspiel zur Schweizer Gesetzgebung zum Einsatz in Schulen (PBGD & ADF): Development project of the Commision for the Advancement of Technology and Innovation to develop a simulation game on the Swiss legislative process on a federal level for students at the secondary school levels I and II (Daniel Küblier, Béatrice Ziegler). Duration: 05/2013–07/2014.
Teacher Beliefs BKS (PBGD): Based on knowledge gained from the SNF-financed research project ‘Teacher-Beliefs’ and on the foundation of the previous year’s commissioned project ‘Kompetenzraster BKS’, six interdisciplinary and competence-based tuition units for school lessons in political education at secondary level I were developed, which are compatible with the Lehrplan 21. These will be made available from February on www.politischebildung.ch (Beatrice Ziegler, Patrik Zamora). Duration: 01/2013–12/2013.

Videosurvey (PBGD): The development of a video survey to record the subject-specific and general didactic knowledge of students of the social sciences at the College of Education, FHNW (Monika Waldis). Duration: 05/2012–12/2013.

New submitted projects

Schülerinnen und Schüler schreiben Geschichte (PBGD): SNF project funding submission. 3 years. (Monika Waldis).

Politische Bildung im fächerübergreifenden Unterricht mit Geografie und Geschichte auf der Sekundarstufe I (PBGD): SNF project funding. 2 years. (Monika Waldis).
III. Teaching

Lectures and seminars at Universities:

Bochsler, Daniel: Autumn semester 2014: UZH: BA seminar "Democratisation: Political transition and consolidation of democracies".

Bochsler, Daniel and Hänni, Miriam: Autumn semester 2014: UZH: MA seminar "Ethnic conflicts, peace-building and democratization".

Bochsler, Daniel: Schmitter, Philippe and Ruth, Saskia P.: Spring semester 2014: UZH and University of Luzern: PhD workshop "Democratisation and its enemies".

Bochsler, Daniel: Steenberg, Marco and Traber, Denise: Spring and autumn semesters 2014: UZH: PhD research colloquium "Representation and political behaviour".

Bousbah, Karima and Lea Heyne: Spring semester 2014: UZH: BA elective "Einführung in die empirische Demokratieforschung".

Dlabac, Oliver: Autumn semester 2014: UZH: BA elective "Local Democracy and Social Justice".


Glaser, Andreas; Langer, Lorenz: Autumn semester 2014: UZH: seminar: Direkte Demokratie - grenzenlos oder beschränkt?

Glaser, Andreas: Section on Federalism and direct democracy; Corsin Bisaz: Section on history and challenges of Swiss direct democracy; Lorenz Langer: Section on direct democracy in the EU, Summer School Human Rights, Minorities and Diversity Management, European Academy of Bozen/Bolzano (EURAC), University of Graz, University of Middlesex, Convivenza, St. Moritz, 30 June/1 July 2014, St. Moritz

Kübler, Daniel: Spring semester 2014: UZH: BA elective "Politik und Demokratie in der Stadt".


Kübler, Daniel: Autumn semester 2014: ETH and UZH: MA seminar "Democracy".


Ruth, Saskia: Spring semester 2014: UZH: BA elective "Präsidialismus und Demokratie in Lateinamerika".

Serdült, Uwe: Winter 2013/2014: Guest lecturer at PU Krakau, Poland, Institute for Political Science: Masters programme "Direct and Electronic Democracy in Switzerland".

Serdült, Uwe: Guest lecture on the c2d database, seminar "Democratie directe comparée", 22 October 2014, University of Geneva.

Stojanovic, Nenad: Spring semester 2014: UZH/ETH Zurich: MA seminar "Demokratie in multikulturellen Gesellschaften".

Stojanovic, Nenad: Autumn semester 2014: University of Lausanne: BA seminar and course "Science politique: concepts et théories A".

Stojanovic, Nenad: Autumn semester 2014: University of Geneva: BA course "Politique comparée I".


Waldis, Monika: Lernen mit Unterrichtsvideos im Schulpraktikum. One-day further education for teachers of practical experience at the "Innovation und Weiterbildung" Institute at PH FHNW, 28 October 2014.


Welp, Yanina: Seminar "Gobierno Abierto, TIC y ciudadanía en la política latinoamericana". Programa de Estudios Abiertos (PEA), Instituto de Iberoamérica, University of Salamanca. Spain, 31 March-4 April 2014.

Wheatley, Jonathan: Lectures, spring semester 2014: UZH, Institute for Political Science, MA seminar "Nations and Nationalism in the post-Soviet space".

Wheatley, Jonathan: Guest lecture on data analysis with VAA data, 14 November 2014, PU Krakau, Poland, Institute for Political Science.

Ziegler, Béatrice: Seminar Sit-Ins, Staatsbesuche und Paraden: Zugänge zu Ritualen als einem neuen kulturgeschichtlichen Feld (together with Konrad J. Kuhn). UZH, spring semester 2014.


Ziegler, Béatrice: Doktorandenkolloquium Historisches Seminar. UZH, autumn semester 2014.
IV. Databases

www.c2d.ch

Work on updating the international online database on national and regional referendums in all the countries of the world—since 1791—was continued in the year under review. Gaps in the content on voting data in the Swiss Cantons are continuously being filled.

E-voting in Switzerland

The e-voting database documents Swiss e-voting attempts within the framework of the e-democracy project. The database contains (almost) all referendums and elections for which electronic voting option has been available (2003–2013), data on the implementation of the electronic channel, on voter participation as well as some context variables. The database encompasses data on more than 2,500 e-voting attempts from 13 cantons and is continuously being updated.

Swiss Elections and Referendums (ZDA-BFS)

Data processing of subnational elections and referendums as commissioned by the Swiss Federal Statistical Office. (Daniel Bochsler). Duration: 03/2012–12/2015.

www.demokratiebarometer.com

Database to measure the quality of democracy in 30 countries.

www.politischebildung.ch

Provides comprehensive information on civic education in Switzerland.

www.politiklernen.ch

The new website offers teaching and learning material for teachers at secondary school level. I. Politiklernen.ch is a transfer project of NCCR Democracy.
V. **Events**

1. **Public events in and around Aarau**

   - **6th Aarau Democracy Days "Demokratie in der Gemeinde"**, 27–28 March 2014, Kultur & Kongresshaus Aarau:
     - *Keynote and panel discussion* on the topic "Demokratie in Schweizer Gemeinden", 27 March 2014
     - *Conference*, 28 March 2014
       - Panel 1: Demokratieprobleme in Schweizer Gemeinden
       - Panel 2: Gemeindezusammenschlüsse – Chance oder Gefahr für die "Urzelle der Demokratie"?
       - Panel 3: Demokratie in der Schule
       - Presentations by ZDA staff: Patricia Buser, Oliver Dlabac, Magdalena Forowicz, Daniel Kübler, Alexander Lötscher, Andreas Rohner
     - *Cultural Program* Filmvorführung "Wählt mich!" (China 2007), 28 March 2014

   - **Late Summer Event of Friends of the ZDA** on "E-Voting: Funktioniert die Demokratie auch elektronisch?", 2 September 2014, Aula Alte Kantonsschule Aarau:
     - Presentation by Uwe Serdült "E-Voting: Funktioniert die Demokratie auch elektronisch?" and panel discussion with Balthasar Glättli (National councillor of the Greens) and Dr. Peter Grünenfelder (Head of the Cantonal Administration, Aargau) moderated by Dr. Katja Gentinetta.

   - **Inauguration of the extension and the open day at the ZDA**
     - An event by the ZDA and Ortsbürgergemeinde Aarau (citizens of the municipality of Aarau), 6 December 2014: Speeches, performances by the Theater Tuchlaube and presentation by guest speaker former federal councillor Moritz Leuenberger; project presentations of ZDA research projects.

2. **Conferences**

   The following conferences and meetings were organized or co-organized by departments or members of the ZDA:

   - Conference "**Disenchanted Swiss democracy**", (organised with IPZ/NCCR Democracy UZH), 23–24 January 2014 (Daniel Bochsler, ADF).


   - Round table "**Das Wahlrecht in der Schweiz im Umbruch**" as part of the SVPW Annual Conference 2014, 30 January 2014 (Daniel Bochsler, ADF).

   - Section "**Representation and political behaviour**", SVPW Annual Conference, Bern, 30–31 January 2014 (Daniel Bochsler, ADF).
• Three Panels on "Local and Urban Politics in Multilevel Systems", co-organised with the work group Federalism and Territorial Politics (Oscar Mazzoleni and Sean Müller), SVPW Annual Conference, Bern, 30–31 January 2014 (Oliver Dlabac, ADF).

• Conference "Culture, Economy, Participation and Governance in Latin American Cities", Kultur- und Kongresshaus Aarau, 21–22 February 2014 (Yanina Welp, Uwe Serdült, c2d).


• Conference "Rätoromanische Sprache und direkte Demokratie" – Herausforderungen und Perspektiven der Rumantschia, GKB-Auditorium Chur, 11 April 2014 (Corsin Bisaz und Andreas Glaser, c2d).

• Demokratiekonferenz mit dem Bundesland Rheinland-Pfalz, Grossratsgebäude Aarau, 05 June 2014 (c2d together with the Deutsche Universität für Verwaltungswissenschaft Speyer, Canton Aargau and Bundesland Rheinland-Pfalz).

• Section "Representation in ethnically divided polities", CEEISA Annual Conference, Cluj-Kolozsvár, 12–14 June 2014 (Daniel Bochsler, ADF).

• Special session "The Democratic Foundations of the Just City", Conference City Futures III, Paris, 18–20 June 2014 (Oliver Dlabac, ADF).

• Workshop "Direct Democracy in the EU: A People's Europe", School of Law, Queen Mary University of London, 04 July 2014 (Fernando Mendez, c2d).

• 4th Swiss E-Voting Workshop 2014, in collaboration with the Federal Chancellery and the Swiss Competence Centre, Grossratsgebäude Aarau, 05 September 2014 (Uwe Serdült, c2d).

• Conference "Demokratie verstehen, fordern und stützen. Politische Bildung empirisch 2014", PH FHNW Brugg-Windisch, 05 September 2014 (Béatrice Ziegler, Roxane Kübler, Franziska Hedinger, PBGD).

• Workshop "Reseaching citizenship and democracy in Europe", NCCR, Zurich, 19–20 September 2014 (Karima S. Bousbah, ADF).

• Workshop "The politics of identity adoption and change", IBEI, Barcelona, 10–13 October 2014 (Daniel Bochsler, ADF).


• Panel "Computational Issues in Voting Advice Applications", SMAP, 9th International Workshop on Social Media Adaptation and Personalization, Corfu, Greece, 06-07 November 2014 (Fernando Mendez, c2d).

• Conference "New experiments of direct democracy: Consequences for governability and development", RedGob Annual Conference, Aarau, 12–13 December 2014 (Yanina Welp, Pedro Capra und Uwe Serdült, c2d).
3. Lectures/Workshops

In 2014 ZDA staff have conducted a total of 137 lectures/presentations at scholarly events and conferences in Switzerland and abroad (details upon request).

VI. Public Relations

In order to make the ZDA and its research activities known to the political and private institutions of the region, numerous delegations and guests were received at the Villa Blumenhalde. In addition, staff members presented the ZDA and its projects at numerous external events.

With regard to the media, the public relations advisor of the ZDA (20 FTE), together with the individual departments, evaluates which subjects and research results are of interest to the general public or specific target groups. Public relations work is carried out in close cooperation with the public relations advisors of the funding institutions and with the utilisation of the FHNW und UZH publications.

In addition to media communications, the public relations advisor also conducts individual interviews with journalists on ZDA projects, and brings to their attention members of staff who can provide information on current topics (see list of experts for media contacts at www.zdaaarau.ch).

The ZDA also presents its activities on Facebook (www.facebook.com/zdaaarau).

Presentations of the ZDA

Presentation of the ZDA by Uwe Serdült during the visit of the Schweizerischen Studentenvereins [Swiss Student Association], Aarau Regional Association, 23 February 2014.

Visit by a delegation from Mongolia (State Chancellery Canton AG), Presentation of the ZDA and of the Swiss political system by Andreas Glaser and Uwe Serdült on 17 March 2014 in the Parliament of Canton Aargau, as well as by Corsin Bisaz on 27 October 2014 in the Aarau Town Hall.

Visit by a delegation from Georgia (EDA study trip), presentation of the ZDA and of the Swiss political system by Uwe Serdült, 24 March 2014.

Visit by a delegation of the Verein Mehr Demokratie Sachsen, presentation of the ZDA and lecture on the Gemeindeversammlung (assemblies at municipal level) in Switzerland and e-voting by Uwe Serdült, 04 May 2014.

Visit to the ZDA and the Secretary General of the Department of Construction, Transport and Environment, Canton Aargau, by Ulrich Arndt, Staatsministerium Baden-Württemberg concerning direct democracy in government planning/zoning, 27 May 2014 (Andreas Glaser, Oliver Dlabac, Uwe Serdült).

Visit by the German Ambassador Dr. Otto Lampe and the President of the Board of Directors of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom, Dr. Wolfgang Gerhardt, 01 July 2014 (Andreas Glaser, Uwe Serdült).


Further education event of the Handelsschule KV Aarau, Detailhandelsabteilung and SAB "Passepartout 2014": "Das Zentrum für Demokratie Aarau: Tätigkeit und Angebote". Presentation of the ZDA and PBGD as well as of the role-play game on arguing about politics "Ja – nein – vielleicht" by Janine Sobernheim with topical input Völkerrecht und Landesrecht by Andreas Glaser, ZDA Aarau, 16 December 2014.
Topical presentations

Guest lecture by Uwe Serdült on "The role and place of local referendums in Swiss direct democracy", 15 January 2014, Presidential Palace, Warsaw, Poland.

Presentation by Oliver Dlabac at the public event organised by the G9808.ch, "Politische Teilnahme in der Gemeinde: Wie und Wieviel?", Zurich, 1 February 2014.

Guest lecture by Uwe Serdült on "Bürgerbeteiligung und direkte Demokratie in der Schweiz", 28 March 2014, Hochrheinkommission-Bildungsrat, Höchenschwand, Germany.

Lecture by Daniel Kübler at a meeting with President J. Gauck: "Wie informiert sind Stimmbürger in der direkten Demokratie?", Bern, 2 April 2014.


Guest lecture by Uwe Serdült for the work group 'Vote électronique' organised by the Swiss Federal Chancellery "Forschungsstand im Bereich E-Voting am c2d", 4 April 2014, Eidgenössisches Personalamt, Bern.

Lecture by Yanina Welp titled "La politica en la red: ciudadanía y democracia en la era de la información", Programa de Formación en Políticas Públicas, Concejo Deliberante de Gualeguaychú, 22 April 2014, Gualeguaychú, Argentina.


Lecture by Oliver Dlabac at the Visite der äthiopischen Delegation organisiert durch Helvetas/ETH: "Subnational democracy in Switzerland", 7 May 2014, Zurich.


Guest lecture by Uwe Serdült on "Direkte Demokratie, intersektorale Politiknetzwerke und Regionalentwicklung in der Schweiz", 27 June 2014, Rzeszow, Poland.


Guest lecture by Uwe Serdült titled "E-Voting – funktioniert die Demokratie auch elektronisch?", 2 September 2014, late summer event of the Friends of the ZDA, Alte Kantonsschule Aarau.


Several Workshop lectures by Corsin Bisaz and Uwe Serdült "Swiss Direct Democracy in Practice", Bulgarian-Swiss Cooperation Programme – Partnership Fund, 9–12 September 2014, Koprivshtiza, Elena und Tryavna, 23–26 September 2014, Chepelare and Burgas, Bulgaria.

Laudatio for the prize winner of the GEI-Jurypreises by Béatrice Ziegler. Georg Eckert Institut Braunschweig. 28 October 2014.


Lecture by Daniel Bochsler: "Elections: rules, goals, and tools" as part of the project "Democracy is a process", study trip by Bulgarian journalists to Switzerland, 2 December 2014, Zurich.

Guest lecture by Andreas Glaser on "Völkerrecht gegen Volksrechte: Demokratie in Gefahr?", 4 December 2014, Zürcherischer Juristenverein.


Media presence

ZDA staff members provide information to local, national, and international media on an almost daily basis. A large selection of this media input can be found on the ZDA’s Facebook site (www.facebook.com/zdaarau).

The highpoints from 2014 included statements on the following topics: democracy in the community, 'yes' to the mass immigration initiative, 100 years since World War I, crisis in the Ukraine (sovereignty referendum) and political education (Lehrplan 21/new ZDA teaching material "Politik.Macht.Gesetz").

(Guest) contributions written by ZDA staff for media can be found in the chapter publications (news articles).

Contributions on the ZDA as an institution

Open day at the ZDA, Aargauer Zeitung, 7 December 2014

Contributions on ZDA research

Reports on the 6th Aarau Democracy Days (Demokratie in der Gemeinde)

Article by Daniel Kübler, NZZ, 27 March 2014
"Gemeinden – bedrohte Schulen der Demokratie", UZH News, 1 April 2014
Various articles in Tessiner Medien on a study of the fusion of municipalities
Commentary from Thomas Röthlin, Aargauer Zeitung, 29 March 2014

Study "Milizorganisation der Gemeindeexekutiven": Reports in Schweiz aktuell and Regionaljournal of SRF in December 2014

Research results on the topic of e-voting, Uwe Serdült, Aargauer Zeitung, 19 May 2014

New teaching material "Politik.Macht.Gesetz"
"Pascale Bruderer wird erneut Nationalratspräsidentin – für einen Tag", Aargauer Zeitung, 18 August 2014
Report on Tele M1

Project Participation in school: school governance and layperson participation

SNF media release on the research of Patricia Buser "Fast jeder zweite Schulleiter findet Schulkommissionen überflüssig", 27 March 2014.
Newsletter Fachstelle Elternmitwirkung: Brigitte Wladis-Kottman on the study of parental engagement in Switzerland by Patricia Buser, 17 August 2014.

Press conference in Sofia, Bulgaria, marking the start of the Bulgarian project with Magda Forowicz, 25 September 2014.

Statements by ZDA staff

Media contributions on the mass immigration initiative
- Interviews with Karima S. Bousbah, Aargauer Zeitung, 28 January and 15 February 2014
- Interview with Daniel Bochsler, Zeit online, 11 February 2014
- Statement of Andreas Glaser, 10 vor 10, 13 February 2014
- Interview with Daniel Kübler, Aargauer Zeitung, 9 February 2014

"Kaum umsetzbare Volksinitiativen": Guest commentary by Daniel Bochsler, NZZ am Sonntag, 2 March 2014

Sovereignty referendums/Ukraine
- Guest article by Corsin Bisaz and Uwe Serdült, Schweiz am Sonntag, 29 March 2014
- Guest article by Nicolas Aubert, Le Temps, 6 May 2014
- "Independence referendums around the world", BBC-Video, 16 September 2014

Political education/Lehrplan 21
- "So soll das Politinteresse der Jugendlichen geweckt werden", Tages Anzeiger, 11 April 2014
- "Ungenügende Note für die politische Bildung", NZZ, 15 September 2014

The Rhaeto-Romanic language and direct democracy (Conference)
- Schweizer Radio SRF, 11 April 2014
- Various articles in the Bündner Tagblatt and Rhaeto-Romanic newspapers

100 years World War I
- Interview with Béatrice Ziegler, UZH News, 14 May 2014
- Book review on "Der vergessene Krieg" (hrsg. von Konrad J. Kuhn, Béatrice Ziegler), NZZ, 15 July 2014
- "Die Schweiz und der Erste Weltkrieg: Der vergessene Krieg?" Appearance by Béatrice Ziegler, Radio SRF, 30 August 2014

"Chronik eines angekündigten Protests": Guest commentary by Lorenz Langer in Hongkong, NZZ, 7 October 2014

Guest commentary on the Sprachenstreit (language dispute), Nenad Stojanovic, NZZ, 26 September 2014


Interviews by Yanina Welp in Latin American newspapers
- "La participación ciudadana en la era de las redes sociales", interview, El Argentino, 18 April 2014.
- "Las formas de la democracia participativa" interview, La Nación, 4 May 2014.
- "El personalismo no sirve, hay que empoderar al ciudadano", interview, El día, 27 April 2014.

Media relations
10 January 2014: Media production on "Roma, Sinti und Jenische in Schule und Öffentlichkeit: Tagung im Rahmen des schweizerischen Holocaust-Gedenktages" (Distribution: Pädagogische Hochschule der FHNW)

18 February 2014: Media production on Ausgabe 2014 des Magazins für Politische Bildung "POLIS" (Theme: youth and fashion)

11 March 2014: Media invitation to attend 6th Aarau Democracy Days on "Demokratie in der Gemeinde"

28 March 2014: Media release in German and Italian: Tiefere Wahlbeteiligung nach Gemeindefusionen im Tessin

18 August 2014: Media release on "Politik.Macht.Gesetz": Politiksimulation an der Alten Kantonsschule Aarau erstmals im Einsatz

27 August 2014: Media invitation to attend 4th Swiss E-Voting Workshop

25 August 2014: Media invitation to attend 3rd Tagung "Politische Bildung empirisch: Demokratie verstehen, fordern und stützen"

24 October 2014: Media production on the meeting on "Europäische Integration - mit wieviel Partizipation? Erfahrungen in Österreich und der Schweiz"

27 November 2014: Media invitation to the inauguration of the extension and open day at the ZDA (Distribution: Communications department of City of Aarau)
VII. Publications

ZDA publications

Schriften zur Demokratieforschung: in this series by Schulthess, edited by A. Auer, publications by the ZDA and its departments appear on a regular basis. The following text was published in 2014:

Volume 9: Demokratie in der Europäischen Union / Democracy in the European Union
Ein Schweizer Beitrag zur Debatte / A Contribution from the Swiss Perspective
Daniel Kübler / Nenad Stojanovic (Hrsg.)
Schulthess Juristische Medien AG (Zürich), February 2014
ISBN: 978-3-7255-6998-4 (202 pages, paperback)

C2D Working Paper Series: online publication registered with the Swiss National Library, ISSN 1662-8152. Published by c2d; 3 papers were published in 2014.

POLIS. Das Magazin für Politische Bildung: published by PBGD, this publication features current questions on political education and is intended for teachers and interested persons and experts.

POLIS No 7 on the topic "Verstrickt und zugenäht: politische Perspektiven auf die Modewelt" was published in early 2014. Editors: Vera Sperisen, Claudia Schneider.

ZDA research reports (online publication):

"Regenerating Urban Neighbourhoods in Europe"
Eight case Studies in six European Countries
Céline Widmer / Daniel Kübler, May 2014

"Die Milizorganisation der Gemeindeexekutiven im Kanton Aargau":
Rekrutierungsprobleme und Reformvorschläge
Oliver Dlabac, Andreas Rohner, Thomas Zenger, Daniel Kübler, Oktober 2014
ZDA Studienbericht Nr. 4, ISBN-Nr. 978-3-9524228-3-0

Monographs

Editorship


Welp, Yanina & Serdült, Uwe (eds.): La dosis hace el veneno: Análisis de la revocatoria del mandato en Suiza, Estados Unidos y América Latina, Ciencia y Democracy, Instituto para la Democracia del CNE 2014.

Authorship


Journal Articles

Peer-reviewed journals


Ferla, Paula, Alejandra Marzuca Perera, Uwe Serdült & Yanina Welp: Corriendo de atrás: Análisis de los Concejos Vecinales de Montevideo, Iconos, FLACSO Ecuador 18 (48), 2014, 121-137.


Non-peer-reviewed journals


Sperisen, Vera: Die dunklen Seiten des "weissen Goldes". Über die Risiken und Nebenwirkungen der Baumwollproduktion, POLIS. Magazin für Politische Bildung, 8, S. 14-16.

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Bousbah, Karima S. To vote or to protest? Young Citizens' Unequal Participation and Descriptive Representation. ECPR General Conference, Glasgow, 3–6 September 2014.


Glaser, Andreas. Finanzwirksamkeit direktdemokratischer Entscheide, presented at a meeting on democracy with Bundesland Rheinland-Pfalz, Aarau, 5 June 2014.


Hänni, Miriam. *Analysing the specific support of ethnic minorities – The effect of perceived policy responsiveness on the specific support of ethnic minority groups in 11 countries.* CEEISA Annual Conference, Cluj, 12–14 June 2014.


Prizes and honours

**Varia 2014**


**Forowicz, Magdalena**: Briefliche Abstimmung versus e-Voting - Anforderungen bezüglich Transparenz und Verfahren. Centre for Democracy Aarau (ZDA) at the UZH.


**Okamoto, Mitsuhiko; Ganz, Nils; Serdült, Uwe**: Direct Democracy in Japan, C2D Working Paper Series, 47, 2014.

**Portenier, Alicia; Germann, Micha & Serdült, Uwe**: Sozio-ökonomische Zusammensetzung der e-Voter. Centre for Democracy Aarau (ZDA) at the UZH.


**Serdült, Uwe**: Überraschend hohe Beteiligung (Interview), – md magazine Nr. 99, Doppelheft, April 2014, 24-25.


**Newspaper articles 2014**

**Aubert, Nicolas**: La voie référendaire, une solution pour l’Ukraine, mais sous conditions (title of online version) / Un référendum dans l’est du pays, d’accord, mais pas unilatéral (title of print version), Le Temps, 6 May 2014, 12.

**Bisaz, Corsin**: Tgi po trair decisiums democraticas davart il rumantsch?, *La Quotidiana*, 20 August 2014, 18:159, 2.

**Bisaz, Corsin & Uwe Serdült**: Grenzverschiebung per Volksabstimmung, 30 March 2014, Schweiz am Sonntag, Nr. 13, S. 15


**Bochsler, Daniel**: Das Schweizer Initiativrecht ist eine Fehlkonstruktion, *NZZ am Sonntag*, 2 March 2014.

Bochsler, Daniel: Drei Gründe für eine grosse Territorialreform, Neue Zürcher Zeitung, 30 October 2014, 23.


Glaser, Andreas: Wenn die Demokratie Sprachen bedroht, Schweiz am Sonntag, 16 March 2014.


Kübler, Daniel: Das wird kein Sonntagsspaziergang für die Linke in der Agglo, Neue Zürcher Zeitung am Sonntag, 6 July 2014.

Kübler, Daniel: Ver(vor)städterung des Politischen, Stadtblick, Nr. 30: 18-20.


Serdült, Uwe: E-Voting: Chancen und Gefahren für die Schweizer Demokratie, Aargauer Zeitung, 16 October 2014, 25.

Stojanović, Nenad: Quotidiano: due pesi e due misure, laRegione, 14 March 2014, 1, 34.


Stojanović, Nenad: Das Stimmvolk soll den Sprachenstreit klären, Neue Zürcher Zeitung, 26 September 2014, 21.

Stojanović, Nenad: Asilo, Il Caffé, 28 September 2014, 35.

VIII. Expert Reports/Evaluations

Andreas Auer and Corsin Bisaz. Comments on the draft National Program on "Fiscal Decentralization through Direct Democracy and Civic Engagement". Legal opinion of 14 July 2014 (requested by the Government of Mongolia; on behalf of DEZA).


Corsin Bisaz and Andreas Glaser. Assessment of the Law of Mongolia on deciding petitions and complaints filed by citizens to state bodies and officials. Legal opinion of 2 May 2014 (requested by the President of the Parliamentary Petitions Commission of Mongolia; on behalf of DEZA).


Micha Germann. Discussant at the ECPR Graduate Student Conference, Innsbruck, 3–5 July 2014.

Magdalena Forowicz. A book review for Cambridge University Press (June) and Intersentia (October) respectively.

Uwe Serdült. Article reviews for *Policy & Internet* journal; programme committee member and reviewer of two articles for IICST conference; programme committee member and reviewer of three articles for CeDem 2014 conference; programme committee member and reviewer of three articles for EVOTE14 conference; evaluator of one research application at Pontifica Universidad Católica del Peru.

Uwe Serdült. Advisor for ScoopIt 2.0 Project – an interdisciplinary project for the promotion of youth political participation, HTW Chur and the Federation of Swiss Youth Parliaments.


Jonathan Wheatley. Member of the scientific advisory council for Academic Swiss Caucasus Net (ASCN), University of Fribourg. Appraisal of project proposals from Georgia and Armenia on 2 July 2014.

**IX. International Collaboration**

**Europe:**
- Institut für Europarecht und Völkerrecht, Institut für Öffentliches Recht, Staats- und Verwaltungslehre, Leopold-Franzens-Universität Innsbruck (Prof. Werner Schroeder, Prof. Karl Weber, Prof. Andreas Th. Müller)
- Karl-Franzens-Universität Graz, Österreich (Prof. Klaus Poier)
- Leibniz Institut für Wissensmedien Tübingen (Prof. Dr. Stefan Schwan)
- Leibniz Universität Hannover, Institut für Politische Wissenschaft (Prof. Dr. Dirk Lange)
- Pädagogische Hochschule Karlsruhe (Prof. Dr. Georg Weiseno)
- Pädagogische Hochschule Salzburg (Prof. Dr. Christoph Küberger)
- Universität Augsburg (Prof. Dr. Susanne Popp)
- Universität Eichstätt, Professur für Theorie und Didaktik der Geschichte (Prof. Dr. Waltraud Schreiber)
- Universität Göttingen (Prof. Dr. Monika Oberle)
- Universität Hamburg, Professur für Erziehungswissenschaften (Prof. Andreas Körber)
- Universität Köln (Prof. Dr. Holger Thünemann)
- Universität Osnabrück (Prof. Dr. Meik Zülsdorf-Kersting)
- Universität Siegen (Prof. Dr. Bärbel Kuhn)
- Universität Tübingen (Prof. Dr. Ulrich Trautwein)
- Universität Wien, Fachdidaktikzentrum Geschichte, Sozialkunde und Politische Bildung
- Universität zu Köln, Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Hasberg, Historisches Institut, Abt. für Didaktik der Geschichte und Geschichte der Europäischen Integration
- Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin, Prof Dr. Wolfgang Merkel, PD Dr. Bernhard Wessels, Heiko Giebler, Dag Tanneberg
- Cyprus University of Technology (Prof. Nicolas Tsapatsoulis)
- Glasgow Caledonian University (Dr. S. Karly Kehoe)
- University of Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona
- University of Twente, Netherlands (Dr. Kostas Gemenis)
- Warwick University, Prof. Dr. Tina Freyburg
- Analitika Sarajevo, Dr. Edin Hodžić
- Babeș-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Prof. Dr. Gabriel Badescu, George Jiglau, et al.
- Central European University, Prof. Dr. Carsten Schneider, Prof. Dr. Zsolt Enyedi
- Institute of Political Science, Pedagogical University of Krakow, Poland (Prof. Andrzej Piatecki and Dr. Dominika Kasprowicz)
- Spoleczna Akademia Nauk Lodz (Joanna Szczezecinska MA)
- Universität Sarajevo, Dr. Damir Kapidžić
- University of Tartu, Prof. Dr. Rein Taagepera, Anu Raudsepp PhD
North America:
- University of British Columbia, Centre for the Study of Historical Consciousness/Dept. of Curriculum and Pedagogy, Prof. Peter Seixas
- University of California, Irvine, Center for the Study of Democracies, Prof. Dr. Bernard Grofman

South America:
- Avina Latinoamerica
- Euro-Latin American Network about Governability for Development (RedGob)
- Instituto para el Desarrollo Local (IDEL), Universidad Católica del Uruguay
- Pontifica Universidad Católica del Perú (PUCP)

Asia:
- Ritsumeikan University, Japan (Prof. Victor Kryssanov)
- Tokai University, Japan (Prof. Mitsuhiko Okamoto)

Africa:
- Université de Ouagadougou, Burkina Fasò (Prof. Augustin Loada)
X. Finance Report/Finance Plan

Financial Statement 2014

The financial reporting for the attention of the partners encompasses the detailed annual statement per cost centre/department, with budget adjustments and various analysis reports. Since 2013 the total sum of all expenses are reported, independent of the method of financing. In the gross personnel costs, the share of different sources of financing will be reported separately (own resources and third-party funds). As requested by the GM, the third-party funds will now also be itemised.

The most important key data of the annual statement are summarized in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ZDA TOTAL ACTUAL AMOUNT 2014 by departments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carryover balance 01.01.2013 (incl. earmarked funds)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXPENSES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>third-party funded staff costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>financed by basic funding (contribution partners)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Material costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTERNAL APPORTIONMENT: ADMINISTRATION COSTS (POOL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL EXPENSES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REVENUES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Own resources (basic provisions)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution Canton AG (incl. administration costs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribution City of Aarau (incl. administration costs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding FHNW to the administration costs (Pool)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding UZH: assistant position professorship Kübler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding UZH: project contributions NCCR Democracy + Graduate Campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allowance director ZDA (2/3 UZH and 1/3 PH FHNW)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL DISPOSABLE FUNDS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third-party funds (outside financing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue SNF projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue other third-party projects (incl. overhead)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue other (services, donations...)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue third-party projects professorship IPZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL REVENUES FROM THIRD-PARTY FUNDING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third-party funds quota (competitive projects)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>third-party funds quota (commissioned projects)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL REVENUES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BALANCE on 31.12.2013 (incl. earmarked funds)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earmarked reserves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opening balance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulation for additional costs extension Blumenhalde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulation for stipends PhD position 'Democracy Research’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invoices/Commitment for the modernization infrastructure UKV (universal communications cabling)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Break-down for...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing balance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The quota of third-party funds shows the share of the cost financed by third-party funds. New is a differentiation between the shares of research funds gained competitively and commissioned research. The third-party funds acquired in the reporting year (averaging
35%) can, in terms of the social sciences and legal academic sectors, be considered to be very high. Remarkable is also the share of competitively secured third-party funds with a quota of 23% of the total expenditure.

- The administrative overhead expenses (cost centre "pool") were lower than budgeted (approx. CHF 400,000) due to reduced business at the ZDA during construction work for the extension from May to November 2014. For the financing of the modernisation of the obsolete universal communications cabling (UKV) in the old building, funds set aside in 2013 were used.

From 2015, the rent will increase by approx. CHF 45,000 per year, mainly due to the completion of the additional office space created by the extension. Investments in furnishings and replacement investments for antiquated installations/equipment (locking system, office machines and additional capacities) as well as the correspondingly higher operating costs (cleaning, electricity) are likewise further costs. For this there are still reserves amounting to CHF 115,000. In addition, the post of public relations advisor ZDA will be institutionalised and charged to the ‘pool’. The administrative cost contribution of the departments/partners will thus likely slightly exceed the cost ceiling of CHF 150,000. The relevant budget was approved by the ZDA GM on 3 November 2014.

- C2d was able to realise its ambitious budget of 40% third-party funding. Non-approved competitive project applications were compensated through the acquisition of several research projects from public and private institutions. The research projects on e-democracy (service level agreement with Canton Aargau and other cantonal and national partners, duration: 2012–2016) as well as research on the development of democracy in Latin America (Avina Foundation; 4-year extension 2014-17) remain important key areas. In addition, numerous new project applications were submitted; a 3-year SNF project by Andreas Glaser has already been approved (see section II).

Due to the high level of third-party funding and the efficiency of the long-standing research staff, personnel costs were lower than budgeted; it was possible to build up financial reserves, which will be helpful in the upcoming restructuring of human resources according to the new personnel regulations/strategy.

- ADF has also financed numerous projects and placements for qualifying positions (doctoral candidates, assistants) this year, in part using reserves from the start-up period 2008–2010. The third-party funding share was 30% in the reporting year (including the third-party funded professorship Kübler IPZ), and while lower than in the previous year, is still remarkable.

The department still has financial reserves at its disposal. However a large portion is earmarked to finance the PhD position "Demokratieforschung" (stipend 2014–2017) and institutionalise the democracy barometer at the ZDA. There are also reserves for the infrastructure of additional workplaces in the building’s extension.

- PBGD has attained a third-party funding quota of 40%. Although this is lower than budgeted, it is significantly higher than in previous years. The quota was attained mainly with a number of development projects which could be realised this year.

Additional third-party funds would have resulted in an increase of employment. The lack of these funds was therefore directly compensated for by abandoning plans to add personnel.
**Financial planning**

Basic funding by the four partners (based on the articles of the partnership, in CHF):

- City of Aarau 785,000.– ADF
- Canton AG 800,000.– c2d
- UZH 300,000.– Assistant Professorship D. Kübler IPZ/UZH as well as internally generated project assets (NCCR Democracy)
- FHNW 450,000.– Administrative cost contributions 150,000 and internally generated project assets

**Total** 2,335,000.–

In addition, according to targets set in the financial plan, project-related third-party funds are to be generated for research projects and services:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>in CHF</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expected third-party funds. Total for all departments</td>
<td>1,200,000 (Budget: 1,615,680)</td>
<td>1,200,000</td>
<td>1,200,000</td>
<td>1,200,000</td>
<td>1,200,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Remark:**
Budgeting of the expected third-party funds from public institutions (in particular SNF, federal authorities and the cantonal administration) as well as private organisations (foundations, NGOs, private companies and associations) is based on planned or pending project applications and/or expected commissions. The actual effected project approvals/commissions are very much dependent on external factors (e.g. economic situation, political developments) and are difficult to assess.