Azat Rakhmanberdiev

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Education

Heidelberg University Oct. 2026–Present

M.A. in Political Science · Heidelberg, Germany

University of Marburg Oct. 2022–Mar. 2026

B.A. in Political Science · Marburg, Germany · Final grade: 1.7

Research Interests

Substantive: American Politics, Political Polarization, Political Psychology, Extreme Attitudes

Methodological: Survey Methodology, Respondent Psychology, Quantitative Methods, Measurement and Construct Validity

Manuscripts

Rakhmanberdiev, A. (2026). *Violent Political Behavior in the United States: Measurement, Ideological Composition, and Dynamics.* SSRN. Under review at *Political Studies.* https://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.7626358

Rakhmanberdiev, A. (2026). *Religiosity or Religious Identity? Measuring Muslim Identity in the Study of Anti-Americanism.* SocArXiv. https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/ym9qd_v2

Research Appointments

GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences Nov. 2026–Present
Research Assistant with the European Social Survey (ESS) Team
Department of Research and Data on Society (DRS)
B6, 4-5, 68159 Mannheim, Germany

- Conducted methodological and substantive research on European Social Survey data.
- Developed original research proposals and analytical strategies.
- Conducted methodological literature reviews, developed statistical analysis code, and prepared research presentations.
- Collaborated with researchers on project development.
- Contributed to ESS research infrastructure through data quality assurance and documentation.

Marburg City Administration Fall 2025
Department of Community Health (Fachdienst 42)
Applied Research Intern for the project Nette Toilette
Leopold-Lucas-Straße 46b, 35037 Marburg

- Conducted an evaluation of the nation-wide public toilet accessibility program *Nette Toilette*.
- Independently designed two surveys targeting staff and management of participating establishments.
- Conducted over 50 structured interviews across 20 establishments.
- Integrated quantitative usage data and qualitative interview evidence to develop a four-cluster typology of participating establishments.
- Presented research findings and evidence-based policy recommendations to the city administration.
- Served on the project committee guiding implementation decisions.

Conference Presentations

Rakhmanberdiev, A. (2027). *Violent Political Behavior in the United States: Measurement, Ideological Composition, and Dynamics.* Political Studies Association Annual International Conference, University of Hull, Hull, UK, March 22–24, 2027. (Accepted)

Rakhmanberdiev, A. (2027). *Religiosity or Religious Identity? Measuring Muslim Identity in the Study of Anti-Americanism.* Political Studies Association Annual International Conference, University of Hull, Hull, UK, March 22–24, 2027. (Accepted)

Awards and Honors

Deutschlandstipendium (Germany Scholarship) — 2026–2027
Heidelberg University · Rotary Club Heidelberg (private sponsor)

- Competitive merit-based scholarship (€3,600).
- Awarded to 60 of 1,027 applicants (5.8% selection rate).

Work in Progress

Rakhmanberdiev, A., et al. *Don't Judge Too Soon: How Reliable Are Observational Strategies for Estimating Survey Mode Effects? Evidence from Multiple Randomized Survey Experiments.* Project with the European Social Survey Team (ESS).

Rakhmanberdiev, A., et al. *Saving Face in Political Surveys: Normative Expectations and Political Attitude Reporting in a Randomized Survey Mode Experiment.* Project with the European Social Survey Team (ESS).

Selected Research Contributions

Don't Judge Too Soon — 2026–Present

Collaborative Research Project, European Social Survey (ESS) Team

A.R. formulated the research question and developed the initial research proposal and comparative research design. The proposed design benchmarks observational estimators of survey mode effects against randomized survey-mode contrasts across multiple survey programs. A.R. conducted a methodological review of alternative estimation strategies, including structural time-series intervention models, multivariate state-space models, historical forecasting, and synthetic correction procedures, with particular attention to their identifying assumptions and applicability to repeated cross-sectional surveys.

Violent Political Behavior in the United States — 2026

Sole Author

A.R. conceptualized and operationalized the measure of violent political behavior, developed the codebook and coordinated the classification of 2,221 ACLED events. A.R. recruited, trained, and supervised two external research assistants and constructed a separate dataset of nationally salient political developments. A.R. developed the recurrent-event temporal exposure design, performed all statistical analyses, including time-series regression, Poisson pseudo-maximum likelihood estimation, and Monte Carlo power simulations, and prepared the manuscript, analysis code, and supplementary documentation.

Religiosity or Religious Identity? — 2025–2026

Sole Author

A.R. formulated the research problem, developed the theoretical argument, and designed the empirical analysis addressing the conceptual and statistical limitations of existing measures of religious identity. A.R. merged two waves of Arab Barometer data for Iraq (N = 2,336) and conducted all statistical analyses, including survey-weighted partial proportional-odds models, interaction models, and governorate fixed-effects specifications. A.R. examined the sensitivity of substantive conclusions to alternative operationalizations and sample restrictions, developed the replication code, and authored the manuscript.

Other Presentations and Talks

Rakhmanberdiev, A. (2025). *Nette Toilette: Program Evaluation.* Department of Community Health, Marburg City Administration, Marburg, Germany, October 13, 2025.

Rakhmanberdiev, A. (2025). *Weaponized Identity: The Tradition of Gun Ownership in NRA Social Media Posts.* Arbeitskreis Identitätspolitik, Portal Ideengeschichte, Philipps University Marburg, Marburg, Germany, July 24, 2025.

Methods and Software

Survey Methods: Questionnaire Design, Survey Measurement and Construct Validity, Complex Survey Data Analysis, Survey Mode Effects and Adjustment Methods.

Quantitative Methods: Linear and Generalized Linear Models, Ordinal Regression, Time-Series Analysis, Finite Mixture Models, Simulation and Resampling Methods.

Research Design: Survey Experiments, Event-Study Designs, Statistical Power Analysis.

Computational Methods: Supervised Text Classification, Systematic Content Analysis, Spatial Data Matching.

Statistical Software: Stata, R, SPSS, Python, LaTeX, Qualtrics.

Data Collection: Prolific, Amazon Mechanical Turk (MTurk), Bilendi.

Languages

Russian (Native), English (Fluent), German (Fluent).