

Call for Papers for the Seminar
“The *Zeitenwende* in German Politics: Foreign Policy and Beyond”
Forty-Seventh Annual Conference of the German Studies Association
October 5-7, 2023, Montreal, Canada

sponsored by the German Studies Association, the International Association for the Study of German Politics and the Institute for Parliamentary Research, Berlin

convenors:

Louise Davidson-Schmich, University of Miami

Jonathan Olsen, Texas Woman's University

Danny Schindler, Institute for Parliamentary Research, Berlin

In response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine three days earlier, on February 22, 2022, Chancellor Olaf Scholz declared a “*Zeitenwende*” in German foreign policy. This seminar will examine whether it can be said that a *Zeitenwende* in German politics is occurring beyond the realm of foreign policy. For example, are the twin threats of global warming and energy dependence forcing Germany into new “green” policy areas? Is the traditional German focus on budget discipline giving way to a different conception of domestic political economy in 2023? How do the politics of the new three-party coalition affect the process of governance? Does the rise of the AfD (Alternative for Germany) herald a turning point in the ways German parties campaign, compete for votes, and build coalitions at the state and national level? What impact did the COVID pandemic have on federalism and parliamentarism? What are the consequences of the new electoral law that the Bundestag is about to pass? How did this new law, if enacted, come about? In short, using the idea of *Zeitenwende*, this seminar seeks contributions that explore potential turning points in politics and policy in Germany today, broadly considered.

At the GSA a “seminar” is a closed-door mini-conference involving a small number of participants presenting their work on a related topic over the course of three days. Participants will submit 15- to 20-page papers prior to the conference and present their results in 15-minute oral remarks at the seminar, followed by a 10-minute commentary from another participant. The seminar will foster a deeper understanding and enriching discussion to facilitate academic exchange and help establish interdisciplinary personal networks. We invite contributions from scholars at all career stages and with diverse backgrounds and methodological approaches.

The call is available [here](#). Please submit your proposal (abstract of maximum 500 words) **by March 3, 2023**: <https://www.thegsa.org/conference/current-conference>

If you have any questions about the seminar, please get in touch with the organizers: Louise Davidson-Schmich (davidson@miami.edu), Jonathan Olsen (JOlsen1@twu.edu) or Danny Schindler (schindler@iparl.de).