

# CrisesData – Establishing Infrastructures for Rapid Responses in Societal Crises



Leibniz ScienceCampus  
**Digital Transformation  
of Research**

**Andrés Saravia**

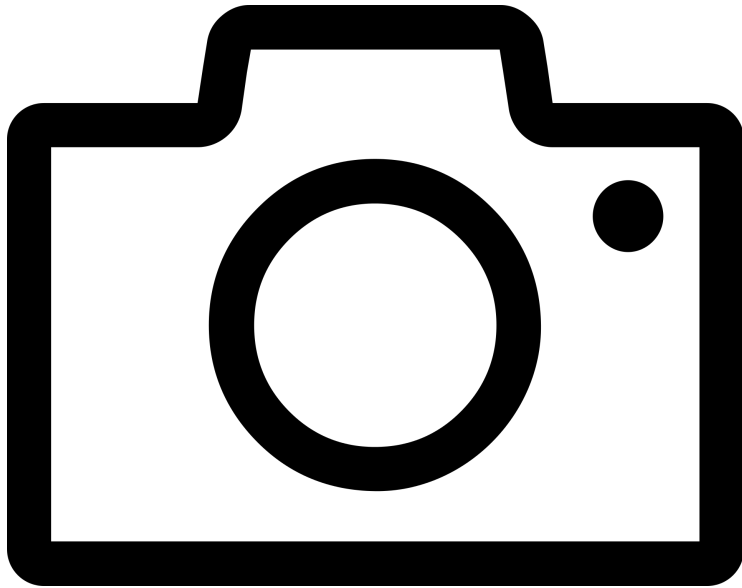
Freie Universität Berlin, Institute of Sociology + WZB Berlin Social Science Center, RatSWD Office

Moderation: Katja Keller (KIT, DiTraRe)



Interdisciplinary Colloquium on Digitalisation of Research, Zoom, 11 June 2026

# Photos and recording



*Pixabay, ste\_phania*



## CrisesData – Establishing Infrastructures for Rapid Responses in Societal Crises



Andrés Saravia

Freie Universität Berlin,  
Institute of Sociology + WZB  
Berlin Social Science Center,  
RatSWD Office



# CrisesData – Establishing Infrastructures for Rapid Responses in Societal Crises

Andrés Saravia  
Freie Universität Berlin | WZB Social Science Center

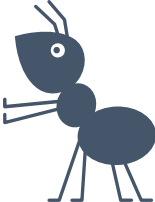
Interdisciplinary Colloquium on Digitalisation of Research | June 11, 2026

KonsortSWD   
NFDI4Society

RatSWD   
German Data Forum

 **FREIE  
UNIVERSITÄT  
BERLIN**

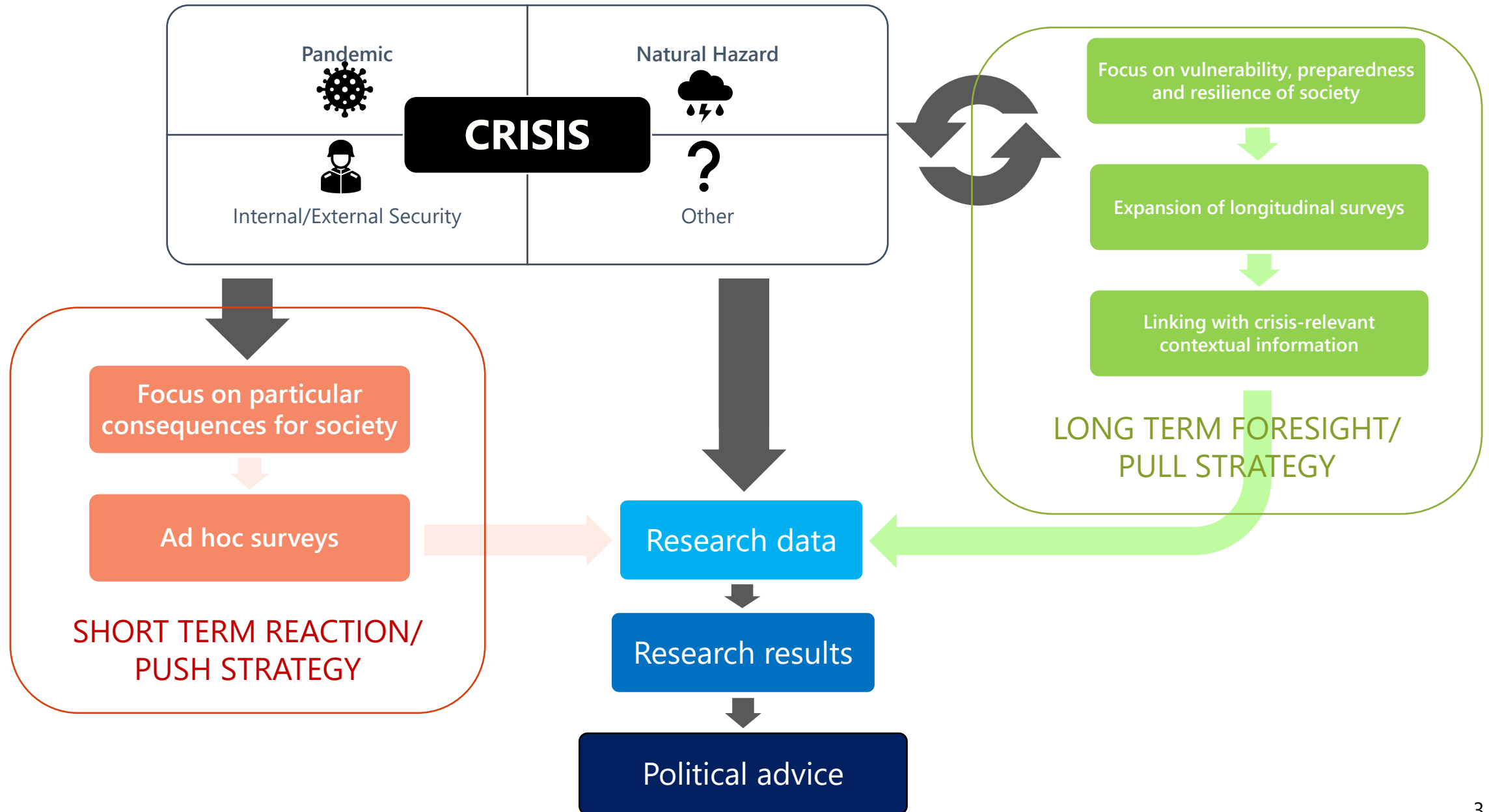
**WZB**   
Berlin Social Science Center

 **nfdi**

# Times of Crises



- Multiple overlapping crises affect society
- Need for information on society for evidence-based policy decisions
- Requires empirical data from social sciences and additional sources



# Project 'CrisesData – Establishing Infrastructures for Rapid Responses in Societal Crises'

- Funding period: December 2023 – December 2027
- Institutions involved: Freie Universität Berlin, WZB Berlin Social Science Center
- Accompanied by a working group of the German Data Forum (RatSWD) and a multidisciplinary group of external experts
  - Disaster Research Centre (KFS) of the FU Berlin
  - Federal Office for Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance (BBK)
  - Bundeswehr Centre of Military History and Social Sciences (ZMSBw)
  - Researchers from various disciplines
  - Representatives of data infrastructures and panel surveys



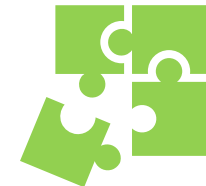
# Objectives

The project aims to

- (1) facilitate the **access to crisis-related data** from different scientific disciplines and non-academic contexts
- (2) include **crisis- and disaster-related content** in **long-term surveys**
- (3) establish a structure to **coordinate researchers, practitioners, and decision-makers** in immediate crisis and disaster situations.

# Work packages

- (1) **Online information platform** on data relevant to crises and disasters
- (2) **Analysis of long-term surveys** regarding crisis- and disaster-related content and **development of a question module** on disaster preparedness to be included in a major survey
- (3) **Network meetings** to bring stakeholders together and exchange experiences and best practices and establishment of a **coordination centre** for rapid responses in societal crises



# Online information platform

Information on

- **survey data** relevant to crises and disasters
- **contextual data** that can be used to enrich georeferenced survey data, e.g.:
  - spatial environmental and climate data
  - data on social and economic infrastructure
  - health and epidemiological data
  - data on civil protection and emergency services
  - administrative and register data
  - crime statistics and accident and insurance data
- **survey instruments** relevant to crises and disasters

Informationsplattform  
**Krisen- und  
Katastrophen****DATEN**



[www.krisendaten.de](http://www.krisendaten.de)

# Online information platform

- **Online** since March 2025
- **Target Group:**
  1. **Researchers** who deal with the individual and societal implications of societal crises, disasters and threats from a social, behavioural and economic science perspective
  2. **Practitioners** in the fields of civil protection, disaster relief and crisis management
- **Collection of resources:** information pages, data records and survey instruments
- **Guidance:** handouts and literature on related topics
- **Monitoring** of new developments regarding crisis data

Informationsplattform  
**Krisen- und  
Katastrophen****DATEN**



[www.krisendaten.de](http://www.krisendaten.de)

# Collection of resources

- **Information pages:** websites with data repositories, information portals, collections and overviews, institutions and actors, dashboards, digital maps and research projects → [example](#)
- **Data records:** data from survey studies or other individual social science data that contain findings about the population, companies and society that are relevant to crises and disasters → [example](#)
- **Survey instruments:** established instruments relevant to crises and disasters that have been or can be used in population surveys → [example](#)
- Each entry is labelled with various **filters** and **information**
- <https://krisendaten.de/en/resources/>



# Collection of resources

- References to existing **data**, but neither a separate data repository nor a literature database
- Relation to **German-speaking countries**
- **Channels for adding a resource:**
  - Input from expert discussions, exchanges etc. conducted in the project
  - References from other websites/ snowball principle
  - Targeted search for projects of individual institutions or funding programmes
  - Contribution of resources by external parties



# Online information platform



- Focus on **quality, user perspective** and **usability**
- Will be continuously **expanded** and relies on the **participation of the community**
- Will be **evaluated** based on expert interviews with different user groups and then **modified** and **improved**
- **Pilot project** that could be consolidated and automatised in the future

# Inclusion of crisis and disaster-related content in long-term surveys



- **Identification of topics** relevant for crises and disasters from a social science and practitioners' perspective
- **Analysis of the status quo:** crisis and disasters-related content in long-term surveys
- **Detection of gaps and needs** for information on the population and companies in the context of crises and disasters
- **Development of additional modules** and **placement in selected surveys**
- **Publication of a paper:**
  - Saravia, A., Liebig, S. & Nussbeck, F. W. (2026). Krisen- und katastrophenbezogene Inhalte in sozialwissenschaftlichen Bevölkerungsumfragen. (RatSWD Working Paper 290/2026). Berlin. Rat für Sozial- und Wirtschaftsdaten (RatSWD). <https://doi.org/10.17620/02671.100>

# Crisis and disaster-related content for social science surveys: identified topics



- Risk perception (in relation to crises/disasters)
- Previous experience with crises/disasters
- Acceptance of crisis management measures
- Housing situation
- Trust in institutions
- Voluntary/social commitment
- Information behaviour and needs/ media use
- Vulnerability/ vulnerable groups
- Individual Resilience
- Community Resilience
- Personal emergency preparedness

# Analysis of long-term surveys

## Criteria for surveys:

1. Micro Data
2. Probability samples
3. Longitudinal Data
4. Georeferenced data
  - Different **levels** of actors: individuals, households, companies/businesses
  - Focus on different **subpopulations** (e.g. younger and older, migrants, transfer payment recipients) and **topics** (e.g. education, family life, employment, climate and environment, health and wellbeing)



## Analysed surveys

- Microcensus
- German General Social Survey (Allgemeine Bevölkerungsumfrage der Sozialwissenschaften, ALLBUS)
- DeZIM.panel
- FReDA – The German Family Demography Panel Study
- GESIS Panel
- German Longitudinal Environmental Study (GLEN)
- German Longitudinal Election Study (GLES)
- IAB Establishment Panel (IAB Betriebspanel)
- National Education Panel Study (NEPS)
- Panel Labour Market and Social Security (Panel Arbeitsmarkt und soziale Sicherung, PASS)
- Social Cohesion Panel (SCP)
- Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP) and SOEP-LEE 2 (Survey on the resilience of companies)
- Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE)

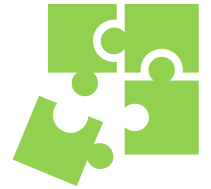
# Findings



- Almost all identified topics are **somehow covered**, albeit to **very different degrees**
- **More information** on **prolonged crises** (e.g. Corona pandemic), **less information** relating to **event-based disasters** (e.g. floods)
- In some areas (e.g. information behaviour) **only general questions** without relation to crises and disasters
- Trust in institutions and voluntary engagement: covered by many surveys, but missing items on **organisations relevant to crisis management** (such as fire department, armed forces, THW, Red Cross etc.)
- Various information on larger **vulnerable groups**, less information on more marginal subgroups
- Some (indirect) indicators for **individual and collective resilience**
- **No longitudinal information** on **personal emergency preparedness**

# Development and placement of additional modules

- **Personal preparedness for crises and disasters and crisis resilience of companies** as one of the most important needs
- **Facilitation of an exchange** between BBK and survey programmes
- Orientation on **existing single surveys**
- **Joint development of a module**, taking into account particular requirements of the surveys
- **Placement of new modules** in surveys



# Placement of new modules in surveys



## IAB Establishment Panel:

- New module on the preparedness of companies and organisations and the maintenance of business operations in the event of a power cut (2026 survey)

**K1. Für welche der folgenden Ausfälle der Infrastruktur gibt es Notfallpläne oder andere Vorbereitungen zum Schutz von Produktionsanlagen, betrieblicher Infrastruktur oder Betriebsabläufen in Ihrem Betrieb?**

Bitte jeweils das Zutreffende ankreuzen!

Es gibt Notfallpläne oder andere Vorbereitungen für den Ausfall ...

|                                                                               | Ja                       | Nein                     | Nein, aber geplant       | Trifft nicht zu          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| A. der öffentlichen Stromversorgung                                           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                          |
| B. der Wasserversorgung oder -entsorgung                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                          |
| C. der Gasversorgung                                                          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| D. der Fernwärme                                                              | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| E. der internen IT-Infrastruktur, z. B. Betriebsnetzwerk, Soft- oder Hardware | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| F. der Internetverbindung, des Mobilfunk- oder Festnetzes                     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                          |
| G. Pläne für sonstige Ausfälle                                                | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |                          |

**K2.**

**a) Ist Ihr Betrieb in der Lage, bei einem Ausfall der öffentlichen Stromversorgung die Geschäftstätigkeit für den gesamten Betrieb oder für wesentliche Bereiche aufrechtzuerhalten?**

Ja, für gesamten Betrieb ☐

Nein ☐ → weiter mit Frage K3

Ja, für wesentliche Bereiche des Betriebs ☐

Wenn ja:

**b) Wie lange können Sie bei einem Ausfall der öffentlichen Stromversorgung die Geschäftstätigkeit aufrechterhalten?**

A. Weniger als 24 Stunden ☐

B. 24 bis 48 Stunden ☐

C. Länger als 48 Stunden ☐



# Placement of new modules in surveys

## German Longitudinal Environmental Study (GLEN):

- New module on personal preparedness

### **Haben Sie folgende Dinge zu Hause?**

*Bitte geben Sie alles Zutreffende an.*

|         |                                          |
|---------|------------------------------------------|
| ewe14i1 | Lebensmittel für mindestens 10 Tage      |
| ewe14i2 | Trinkwasser für mindestens 10 Tage       |
| ewe14i3 | Batterie-, Solar oder Kurbel-Radio       |
| ewe14i4 | Dokumentenmappe mit wichtigen Dokumenten |
| ewe14i5 | Bargeld für den Notfall                  |
| ewe14i6 | Nichts davon                             |

# Networking and coordination structures

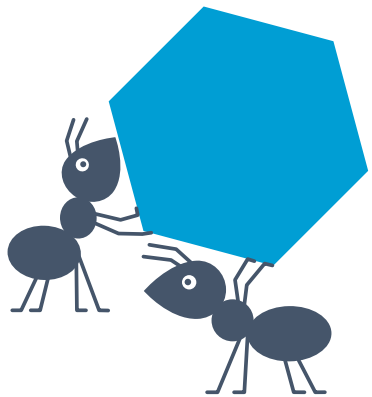


- Regular meetings of a **RatSWD working group**
- **Expert interviews** with researchers and practitioners
- **Joint exchange meetings** with representatives of research, civil protection institutions, panel studies and data infrastructures, to exchange experiences and best practices
- Formation of a '**standby group**' of relevant actors
- Establishment of a **coordination centre** for rapid responses in societal crises

# Outlook

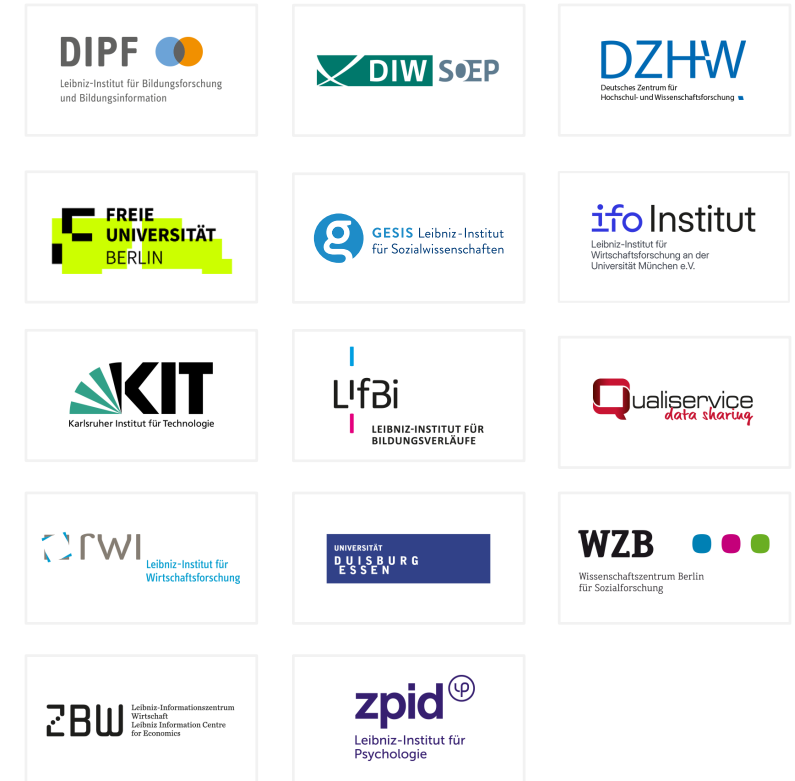
- **More and unprecedented crises** are likely to come
  - **Information on society and social science data are important** for evidence-based policy decisions
  - **Access to the data** and possibilities of **linking with other data types** must be improved
  - **Exchange and coordination** between different stakeholders must be enhanced
- 
- Continuous **monitoring of developments** in politics and research infrastructures
  - Expansion and improvement of the **information platform**
  - Possible **automation of the collection of resources** and further **integration into the NFDI**
  - Consolidation of the **network between research, data infrastructures and practice**
  - Establishment of a **coordination centre** for rapid responses in societal crises

# Thank you!



**Good  
Cooperation  
starts small**

**KonsortSWD – NFDI4Society** is funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) within the framework of the NFDI – project number: **442494171**



# Contact

**Andrés Saravia**

Freie Universität Berlin /

Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung (Gst. RatSWD)

[andres.saravia@ratswd.de](mailto:andres.saravia@ratswd.de)

+49 30 25491-822

**Publication:**

Saravia, A., Liebig, S. & Nussbeck, F. W. (2026). Krisen- und katastrophenbezogene Inhalte in sozialwissenschaftlichen Bevölkerungsumfragen. (RatSWD Working Paper 290/2026). Berlin. Rat für Sozial- und Wirtschaftsdaten (RatSWD). <https://doi.org/10.17620/02671.100>

**Website:**

<https://krisendaten.de/>

# Discussion Session

# Next Colloquium

02.07.26 | 11:00-12:00

## AI for Materials Science: From Autonomous Materials Optimization to the Generation of Novel Ideas



Pascal Friederich

Institute of Nanotechnology,  
Karlsruhe Institute of  
Technology

### Outline

- AI and ML are transforming materials science and chemistry by accelerating materials and molecular discovery
- Pascal Friederich will present research that combines self-driving labs, automated data analysis, and autonomous experimental decision-making
- Beyond that, his team uses large language models and concept graphs to predict emerging research directions in materials science

# Save the date!

## DiTraRe Interdisciplinary Symposium 2: 6-7 April 2027



Save the date for our second Interdisciplinary Symposium on Digitalisation of Research, which will take place in Karlsruhe at KIT from 6 to 7 April 2027!

# Thank you for joining!

## Stay connected

- DiTraRe
  - Website: [www.ditrare.de/en](http://www.ditrare.de/en)
  - Email: [ditrare@fiz-karlsruhe.de](mailto:ditrare@fiz-karlsruhe.de)
  - LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/ditrare](https://www.linkedin.com/company/ditrare)
  - Mastodon: [social.kit.edu/@DiTraRe](https://social.kit.edu/@DiTraRe)
  - YouTube: [www.youtube.com/@DiTraRe](https://www.youtube.com/@DiTraRe)
  - Zenodo: [zenodo.org/communities/ditrare](https://zenodo.org/communities/ditrare)
- Discussion forum: [www.ditrare.de/en/forum](http://www.ditrare.de/en/forum)
- Newsletter: [www.ditrare.de/en/newsletter](http://www.ditrare.de/en/newsletter)



[www.ditrare.de/en](http://www.ditrare.de/en)

