

Germany

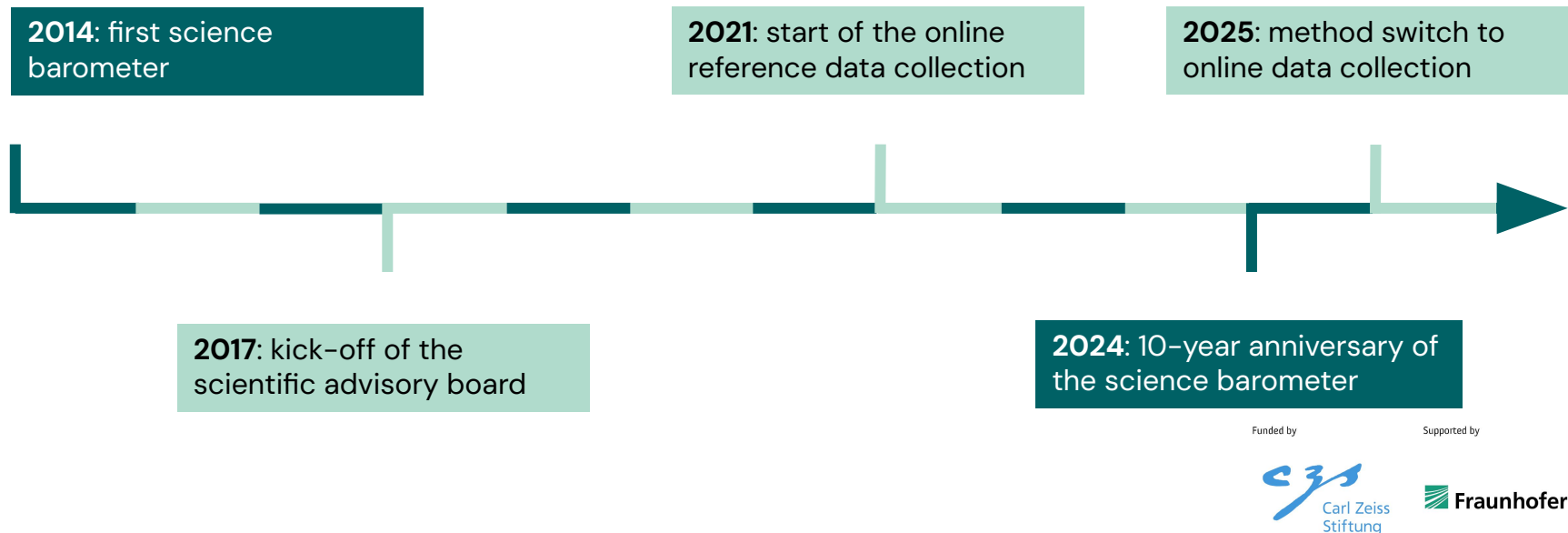
Liliann Fischer, Wissenschaft im Dialog

21st Jan 2026 / MLE in Science Communication in R&I, Topic 2 Meeting

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The German science barometer



The German science barometer

- A **yearly** representative survey of the German population on attitudes towards science and research
- **Project funding:** for three year periods with need to regularly renew funding
- **Aim:** allow an informed debate on the relationship between science and publics
- **Methodology:** until 2025: telephone interviews **landline/mobile phone**
80:20 – very low response rates (<5%) and distortions in the sample
- From 2025: online data collection through the *payback online panel* by the institute Verian (34 Mil. Population, 158.000 panelists, offline recruitment), response rate >50%
- Quota sample by age, gender, education, federal state etc., 2.011 participants in 2025

The German science barometer

- Two sections

Core section

The same items each year:

- Trust in science and research
- Interest in science and research
- Relation between science and politics
- Science communication items
- Channels for science information etc...

Focal topic

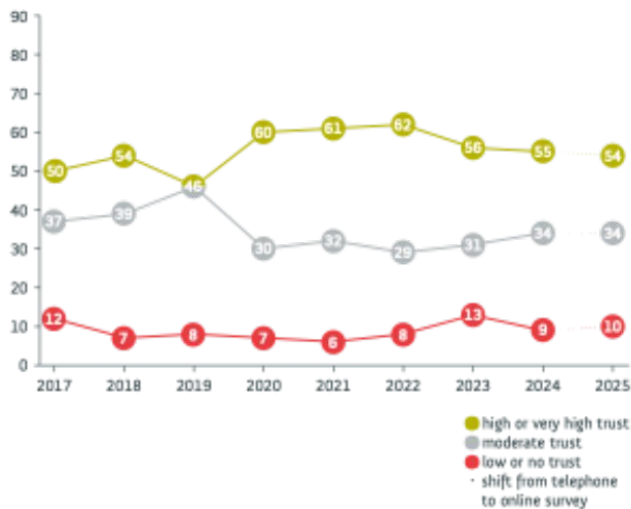
Differs each year: always current and relevant

- More items, established scales
- In-depth
- Previous topics: AI, polarisation, academic freedom

- Stakeholders: Science organisation and scicomm practitioners, science management, science policy, civil society and business, national and international researchers

Results / State of trust in science

Trust in science and research



The German science barometer

- The German science barometer is an important instrument to inform public debate about attitudes towards science and research
- Challenge: precarious project funding
- High press and media resonance
- Challenge: interpretations do not always align with the results
- Frequent citations both in scientific and policy publications