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Type: **Paper Abstract (Closed Panels)**

## **Contesting 'Zeitenwende': Political Contestation and Partisan Entrapment**

The rise of political polarization and partisan contestation over foreign and security policy has challenged traditional notions of bipartisanship and cross-party consensus in democratic countries. While partisan contestation seems to be prevalent, there are instances where cross-party consensus emerges. This paper theorizes a novel causal mechanism of partisan entrapment through which cross-party consensus can emerge in parliamentary democracies. The paper tests this novel mechanism by examining the partisan contestation over Germany's military aid to Ukraine in the wake of the 2022 Russian invasion. This paper contributes to the growing literature on the party-political contestation of foreign and security policy and the scholarship on foreign policy consensus.

### **What discipline or branch of humanities or social sciences do you identify yourself with?**

International Relations

### **If you are submitting an Open Panel proposal, have you included all four abstracts in attachment?**

No, I am submitting a Closed Panel abstract

### **Are you a PhD student or early-career researcher?**

Yes

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**Session Classification:** Military Interventions

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