**Supplementary Material**

**S1**

Below we would like to offer further information to explain how and why the analyses presented in this paper differ from the pre-registration. The analyses were pre-registered as multi-level analyses, considering that respondents are nested in one of the 16 German states and using the number of foreigners in each state as a context-level predictor of intentions to vote for a populist radical right party. Second, we pre-registered analyses that included a mean score of ‘online media use’ as well as a multi-nominal measure to control for past voting behavior.

When we conducted multi-level analysis, the model could not be identified and one parameter was fixed to avoid singularity of the information matrix. The standard errors, and thus the p-values and confidence intervals, of the multi-level analysis may not be trustworthy. We therefore, decided to not present the multi-level model and opted for a regression analysis that does not take the nestedness of respondents in states into account. Moreover, we are grateful to two reviewers who pointed out that the mean score of ‘online media use’ does not reflect the theoretical argument and literature in which this study is embedded—the single-item ‘social media use’ is more suitable. In addition, the multi-nominal measure of past voting behavior could not be easily interpreted in the regression analyses, such that a dichotomous measure (having voted for the AfD or not) was introduced.

Below (Table S1), we report the pre-registered analysis. Certain result patterns were similar to the ones reported in the main analysis. Notably, the social media exposure effects show the same pattern with the exception of the effect of social media use on ‘intending to not vote rather than vote for the AfD’ which is significant in the pre-registered but not the adapted analysis.

*Table S1.* Social media exposure effects on voting intentions as pre-registered.

| Predictor | CDU/CSU vs AfD | SPD vs AfD | the Green Party vs AfD | FDP vs AfD | the Left vs AfD | NPD vs AfD | Smaller other parties vs AfD | Not voting vs AfD |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *β, p* | *β, p* | *β ,p* | *β, p* | *β, p* | *β, p* | *β, p* | *β, p* |
| Online media use  | -.08, .257 | -.15, .120 | -.17, .105 | -.46, .000- | -.16, .059 | -.59, .000 | -.72, .000 | -.33, .001 |
| Past voting behaviour | -.94, .000 | -.77, .000 | -.50, .000 | -.42, .008 | .10, .492 | .27, .023 | .25, .000 | .39, .136 |
| Traditional news use | .04, .512 | .12, .051 | .12, .137 | .14, .440 | .14, .319 | .01, .966 | .06, .000 | .07, .711 |
| Outgroup feelings | .21, .006 | .31, .002 | .28, .004 | .27, .008 | .36, .001 | .34, .013 | -.23, .000 | .42, .017 |
| Perceived threat of immigrants | -.21, .045 | -.26, .001 | -.47, .000 | -.21, .238 | -.44, .000 | -.12, .527 | .11, .000 | -.31, .025 |
| Political efficacy | .01, .912 | -.09, .322 | -.11, .314 | -.26, .146 | -.16, .169 | .12, .415 | .26, .000 | -.13, .545 |
| National identification | -.00, .988 | -.10, .291 | -.19, .044 | -.39, .005 | -.35, .001 | -.27, .099 | .01, .000 | -.34, .181 |
| Gender | -.01, .933 | -.01, .940 | .19, .085 | .08, .694 | .10, .297 | -.02, .898 | -.28, .000 | .13, .630 |
| Age | -.15, .003 | -.18, .151 | -.26, .006 | .02, .920 | .30, .001 | -.26, .019 | -.28, .000 | -.05, .831 |
| Income | .06, .355 | -.10, .131 | -.15, .037 | .20, .313 | -.21, .024 | -.38, .009 | -.10, .000 | -.20, .154 |
| Social media use daily in h | .03, .445 | -.01, .882 | .07, .333 | .25, .012 | .22, .007 | .35, .000 | -.17, .000 | .25, .080 |
| Number of foreigners\* | .00, .658 | -.00, .095 | .00, .773 | -.00, .155 | -.00, .006 | .00, .153 | -.09, .000 | -.00, .004 |

Note. \* = non-standardised coefficients