

# Hannah Smidt, PhD

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## EMPLOYMENT

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- 2018 **Post-doctoral Researcher / Wissenschaftliche Angestellte (TV-L 13) at the GIGA German Institute of Global and Area Studies, Hamburg, Germany**
- 2017-2018 **Post-doctoral Research Fellow at the University of Oxford, United Kingdom**  
Position in the project “The Changing Character of Conflict Platform” at the Department of Politics and IR. Responsibilities: Quantitative analysis and interactive data visualizations.
- 2013-2017 **Research Assistant and Teaching Fellow at University College London, United Kingdom**
- 2012-2013 **Research Assistant at the University of Mannheim, Germany (TV-L E13)**

## EDUCATION

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- 2013-2017 **MPhil/PhD in Political Science, University College London**  
Title: UN Peacekeeping and Electoral Violence in Conflict-Affected Countries  
Advisors: Prof. Kristin M. Bakke, Prof. Neil Mitchell, Dr. Julian Wucherpfennig (Political Science) and Dr. Jun Wang (Computer Science)
- 2010-2012 **MA Political Science, University of Mannheim, Germany**  
Graduated with distinction (1.2)
- 2010-2011 **Department of Political Science, Johns Hopkins University, USA**  
Year abroad in the MA programme at the University of Mannheim
- 2007-2010 **BA Political Science, University of Mannheim, Germany**  
Communication (minor), graduated with distinction (1.3), prize for third best BA student
- 2009 **Institut d'études politiques (Sciences Po) Lille II, France**  
One semester abroad (six months) in BA programme at the University of Mannheim

## PUBLICATION

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**Smidt, Hannah** (2016) From a Perpetrator's Perspective: International Election Observers and Post-Electoral Violence. *Journal of Peace Research* 53(2): 226-241.

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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**Smidt, Hannah.** (2018) Shrinking Civic Space in Africa: When Governments Crack Down on Civil Society. GIGA Focus Africa 4 (Nov).

**Smidt, Hannah.** (2018) Book review: Matanock, Aila M. 2017. Electing Peace. From Civil Conflict to Political Participation. Africa Spectrum 53(2): 135-138.

**Smidt, Hannah.** (2015, Nov) Why the 2015 Presidential Election Was Peaceful, Africa at LSE Blog, Part of the African Elections series.

## RESEARCH MONOGRAPH

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**Smidt, Hannah** (2017) UN Peacekeeping and Electoral Violence in Conflict-Affected Countries. PhD dissertation submitted at University College London.

## WORKING PAPERS

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**Smidt, Hannah** (2019) UN Peacekeeping Locally: Enabling Conflict Resolution, Reducing Communal Violence? *Revise and Resubmit at Journal of Conflict Resolution.*

**Smidt, Hannah** (2019) Mitigating Election Violence Locally: Election Education Campaigns of UN Peacekeepers in Côte d'Ivoire. *Revise and Resubmit at Journal of Peace Research.*

**Smidt, Hannah, Kristin Bakke and Neil Mitchell** (2019) When States Crack Down on Human Rights Defenders. *Revise and Resubmit at International Studies Quarterly.*

**Smidt, Hannah** (2017) Making Electoral Peace? The Effects of UN Peacekeeping on Election-Related Violence. Manuscript May 2017. *Winner of the International Studies Association's Dina Zinnes Award for the best PhD paper. Under review.*

**Smidt, Hannah** (2017) What Do the Peacekeepers Do, Where and How? The Determinants of UN peacebuilding Activities During Election Times. *Winner of the British Conflict Research Society's Cedric Smith Prize for the best PhD paper. Under review.*

**Smidt, Hannah, Dominic Perera, Kristin Bakke and Neil Mitchell** (2019) Silencing Their Critics: How Effective Are Governments in Restricting Civil Society? *Under review.*

**Smidt, Hannah & Hanne Fjelde** (2019) Peacekeeping and Electoral Violence at the Subnational Level.

## RESEARCH EXPEDITIONS / FIELDWORK

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| 2015 | <b>Côte d'Ivoire:</b> Peacekeeping activities during election times<br>Two months; interviews with UN personnel and local and national politicians |
| 2011 | <b>Senegal:</b> Political mobilization before elections<br>Two months; interviews with pro-democracy activists                                     |

## PRIZES AND AWARDS

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2017	<b>Award for the best published PhD paper in the Political Science Department, UCL</b> (£100)
2017	<b>Dina Zinnes Award</b> for the best PhD paper, Scientific Study of Int. Processes, ISA (\$100)
2016	<b>Cedric Smith Prize</b> for best PhD paper, British Conflict Research Society (£250)
2016-2017	<b>UCL Graduate Research Scholarship for Cross-Disciplinary Training</b> (£16,000)
2013-2016	<b>UCL Graduate Research Scholarship</b> for three years (£48,000)
2010-2011	<b>DAAD living and tuition stipend</b> , Johns Hopkins University
2009	<b>ERASMUS scholarship</b> , Institut d'études politiques (Sciences Po) Lille

## FUNDING / GRANTS

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2019	<b>Swedish Research Council Grant “The Civilian Dimension of Peace Operations”</b> , €28407 (PI: Dr. Sabine Otto, Uppsala University, Sweden; total grant: €568149)
2018	<b>Folke Bernadotte Academy Grant</b> , €3900 (with Dr. Rob Blair, Brown University, USA)
2018	<b>German Institute of Global and Area Studies, Innovation Fund</b> , €2500
2017	<b>Folke Bernadotte Academy Grant</b> , €14672 (with Dr. Rob Blair, Brown University, USA)
2017	<b>International Studies Association travel grant</b> , £500
2016	<b>American Peace Science Society travel grant</b> , £250

## INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND TALKS

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2019	<b>Restrictions on Civil Society Organizations</b> , NRW Eine Welt Landeskonzferenz
2019	<b>United Nations Peacekeeping and Inter-community Dialogue</b> , Uppsala University
2019	<b>United Nations Peacekeeping Locally</b> , Folke Bernadotte Academy, Stockholm
2018	<b>Using Force in Peacekeeping Operations</b> , Norwegian Defence University College, Oslo
2018	<b>Elections in Emerging Democracies</b> , Folke Bernadotte Academy Research-Policy Dialogue, Stockholm
2018	<b>Peacekeeping and Election Education after War</b> , Folke Bernadotte Academy Working Group, Stockholm
2018	<b>Informal Governance after War</b> , Global Governance Institute, University College London
2018	<b>Electoral Violence Workshop</b> , University of Amsterdam
2017	<b>Cracking Down on Human Rights Defenders</b> , University of Oxford (with Kristin Bakke)
2017	<b>Combating Electoral Violence</b> , King's College London
2017	<b>Shrinking Civic Space</b> , Global Governance Institute, University College London

- 2016 **Peacekeeping and Election Violence**, Conflict Research Society, Trinity College in Dublin
- 2016 **The Future of Peacekeeping**, Policy and Practice Seminar Series, University College London
- 2016 **European Network of Conflict Research (ENCoRe) Workshops**
- 2016 **Peacekeeping and Election Violence**, Folke Bernadotte Academy Working Group

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATION

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- 2018 **European Consortium of Political Science Research (ECPR) Annual Meeting**
- 2018 **Network of European Peace Science (NEPS) Annual Meeting**
- 2017 **European Political Science Association (EPSA) Annual Meeting**
- 2016, 2017, 2019 **American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting**
- 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019 **International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Convention**
- 2015, 2016 **Peace Science Society Annual Meeting**
- 2014, 2016, 2017 **British Conflict Research Society Annual Meeting**

## SUPERVISING AND MENTORING

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- 2016 **MSc dissertation supervision** in Computer Science; University College London (UCL)
- 2013, 2014, 2016, 2017 **PUBLG009 Terrorism** (seminars), UCL
- 2015 **PUBLG100 Binary cross-section, time-series analysis** (block seminar), UCL
- 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 **ESPS1001 Introduction to int. relations and conflict studies** (tutorials), UCL
- 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 **ESPS1001 Introduction to political economy** (tutorials), UCL
- 2013 **Modelling heterogeneity** (teaching assistance, lab session), Essex Summer School
- 2013 **Comparative methods for studying conflict** (seminars), University of Mannheim
- 2012 **Introduction to peace and conflict studies** (seminars), University of Mannheim

## CONSULTANCY

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- 2017 Consultant for the **Development Leadership Programme - Gender Equality Fund**
- 2017 Consultant for **CIVICUS** on Tracking Civic Space

## SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

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**Reviewer:** Chinese Journal of International Politics, Journal of Politics, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Journal of Peace Research, Conflict Management and Peace Science, International Peacekeeping, International Interactions, International Organization, International Studies Quarterly

**Panel Organization:**

- 2016 Disaggregating Peacekeeping: New Data on Operation Attributes, 112<sup>th</sup> APSA Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA
- 2019 New Directions in the Study of UN Peacekeeping, 115<sup>th</sup> APSA Annual Meeting, Washington DC

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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**International Studies Association** (Section: Scientific Study of International Processes)  
**Folke Bernadotte Academy** (on invitation)

**LANGUAGES**

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German (native), English (fluent), French (fluent)

**SOFTWARE**

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Python, LaTeX, html/css, R, SPSS, STATA, Weka