

Hannah Smidt, PhD

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EMPLOYMENT

- 2019 **Head of the research area “International security, peace and conflict”, Department of Political Science, University of Zurich.**
- 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

- 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

PUBLICATIONS

Smidt, Hannah, Dominic **Perera**, Kristin **Bakke** and Neil **Mitchell** (2020) Silencing Their Critics: How Effective are Governments in Restricting Civil Society? *British Journal of Political Science*.

Smidt, Hannah (2020) Mitigating Election Violence Locally: Election Education Campaigns of UN Peacekeepers in Côte d'Ivoire. *Journal of Peace Research*.

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

Smidt, Hannah (2019) United Nations Peacekeeping Locally: Enabling Conflict Resolution, Reducing Communal Violence? *Journal of Conflict Resolution Accepted*.

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

Smidt, Hannah (2019) From disaggregated findings to „bigger picture“ and spatial modeling implications in peacekeeping research. Reply to „Violence reduction or relocation“ by Laura Peitz and Gregor Reisch.

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

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

WORKING PAPERS

Smidt, Hannah; Jessica **Johansson** & Thomas **Richter** (2020) Restrictions on Civil Society: A Warning Signal for the Decline of Democracy.

Duursma, Allard and Hannah **Smidt** (2020) Local peacebuilding in the Central African Republic. Where, when and with whom?

Blair, Rob; Jessica **di Salvatore** and Hannah **Smidt** (2020) When Do UN Peacekeeping Operations Implement Their Mandates?

Fjelde, Hanne & Hannah Smidt (2019) Protecting the Vote? Peacekeeping presence and the risk of electoral violence

Smidt, Hannah (2020) Making electoral Peace? The Effects of UN Peacekeeping on Election-related Violence.

Smidt, Hannah (2019) Shaping Beliefs and Behaviour: Micro-level Mechanisms of Peacekeeping During Elections in Côte d'Ivoire.

Smidt, Hannah (2017) What Do the Peacekeepers Do, Where and How? The Determinants of UN Peacebuilding Activities During Election Times.

RESEARCH EXPEDITIONS / FIELDWORK

2015 **Côte d'Ivoire:** Peacekeeping activities during election times
Two months; interviews with UN personnel and local and national politicians

2011 **Senegal:** Political mobilization before elections
Two months; interviews with pro-democracy activists

PRIZES AND AWARDS

2017 **Award for the best published PhD paper in the Political Science Department, UCL** (£100)

2017 **Dina Zinnes Award** for the best PhD paper, Scientific Study of Int. Processes, ISA (\$100)

2016 **Cedric Smith Prize** for best PhD paper, British Conflict Research Society (£250)

2016-2017 **UCL Graduate Research Scholarship for Cross-Disciplinary Training** (£16,000)

2013-2016 **UCL Graduate Research Scholarship** for three years (£48,000)

2010-2011 **DAAD living and tuition stipend**, Johns Hopkins University

2009 **ERASMUS scholarship**, Institut d'études politiques (Sciences Po) Lille

FUNDING / GRANTS

2019 **Swedish Research Council Grant "The Civilian Dimension of Peace Operations"**, €28407
(PI: Dr. Sabine Otto, Uppsala University, Sweden; total grant: €568149)

2018 **Folke Bernadotte Academy Grant**, €3900 (with Dr. Rob Blair, Brown University, USA)

2018 **German Institute of Global and Area Studies, Innovation Fund**, €2500

2017 **Folke Bernadotte Academy Grant**, €14672 (with Dr. Rob Blair, Brown University, USA)

2017 **International Studies Association travel grant**, £500

2016 **American Peace Science Society travel grant**, £250

INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND TALKS

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

- 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

- 2020 **BA seminar, Politics of Human Rights, University of Zurich**
- 2020 **Lecture, Conflict and Security, University of Zurich**

- 2019 **MA seminar Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding**, University of Zurich
- 2019 **BA seminar Political violence**, University of Zurich
- 2016 **MSc dissertation supervision** in Computer Science; University College London (UCL)
- 2013, 2014, 2016, 2017 **Msc seminars Terrorism** (seminars), UCL
- 2015 **MSc block seminar Binary cross-section, time-series analysis**, UCL
- 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 **BA tutorial Introduction to int. relations and conflict studies**, UCL
- 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 **BA tutorial Introduction to political economy**, UCL
- 2013 **MA/MSc/PhD Tutorials / lab sessions Modelling heterogeneity**, Essex Summer School
- 2013 **BA seminar Comparative methods for studying conflict**, University of Mannheim
- 2012 **BA seminar Introduction to peace and conflict studies**, University of Mannheim
- 2020 **2 MA thesis**

CONSULTANCY

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

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Reviewer: American Political Science Review, British Journal of Political Science, Chinese Journal of International Politics, Conflict Management and Peace Science, European Journal of International Relations, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Politics, International Interactions, International Organization, International Peacekeeping, International Studies Quarterly, Party Politics, Political Geography, Zeitschrift für Friedens- und Konfliktforschung

Panel Organization:

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

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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

LANGUAGES

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

SOFTWARE

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