

# Hannah Smidt, PhD

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## EMPLOYMENT

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- 2022-present **Assistant Professor of Political Science** with a focus on International Governance and Organisation, School of Economic & Political Science, University of St. Gallen
- 2019-2022 **Head of the research area “International Security, Peace and Conflict”** at the Department of Political Science, University of Zurich, Switzerland
- 2018-2019 **Post-doctoral Researcher** at the GIGA German Institute of Global and Area Studies, Hamburg, Germany
- 2017-2018 **Post-doctoral Research Fellow** at the Department of Politics and IR, University of Oxford, United Kingdom
- 2013-2017 **Research Assistant and Teaching Fellow** at University College London, United Kingdom
- 2012-2013 **Research Assistant and Teaching Fellow** at the University of Mannheim, Germany

## 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)
- 2009 **Institut d'études politiques (Sciences Po) Lille II, France**  
One semester abroad (six months) in BA programme at the University of Mannheim

## PUBLICATIONS

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**2022** UN peacekeeping and Democratization in Conflict-Affected Countries. *American Political Science Review Forthcoming* (with Rob **Blair** and Jessica **Di Salvatore**)

**2021** Introducing the Peacekeeping Mandates (PEMA) Dataset. *Journal of Conflict Resolution Forthcoming* (with Jessica **Di Salvatore**, Magnus **Lundgren** and Kseniya **Oksamytna**)

**2021** When Do UN Peacekeeping Operations Implement Their Mandates? *American Journal of Political Science First View* (with Rob **Blair** and Jessica **di Salvatore**).

**2021** Protecting the Vote? Peacekeeping presence and the risk of electoral violence. *British Journal of Political Science First View* (with Hanne **Fjelde**)

**2021** Keeping electoral peace? Activities of United Nations peacekeeping operations and their effects on election-related violence. *Conflict Management and Peace Science* 38(5): 580–604. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0738894220960041>

**2021** Silencing Their Critics: How Effective are Governments in Restricting Civil Society? *British Journal of Political Science* 51(3): 1270-1291 (with Dominic **Perera**, Kristin **Bakke** and Neil **Mitchell**) DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0007123419000693>

**2020** Mitigating Election Violence Locally: Election Education Campaigns of UN Peacekeepers in Côte d'Ivoire. *Journal of Peace Research* 57(1): 199-216. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0022343319884993>

**2020** United Nations Peacekeeping Locally: Enabling Conflict Resolution, Reducing Communal Violence? *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 64(2-3): 344-372. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0022002719859631>

**2019** When States Crack Down on Human Rights Defenders. *International Studies Quarterly* 64(1): 85-96 (with Kristin **Bakke** and Neil **Mitchell**). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/isq/sqz088>

**2016** From a Perpetrator's Perspective: International Election Observers and Post-Electoral Violence. *Journal of Peace Research* 53(2): 226-241. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0022343315626240>.

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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**2022** Peacekeeping and Electoral Violence. In: Han Dorussen. Handbook on Peacekeeping and International Relations. Edward Elgar Publishing Forthcoming.

**2020** Governments Around the World Are Restricting Rights, Using the Pandemic as Cover, The Washington Post's Monkey Cage (with Neil Mitchell and Kristin Bakke), May 6.

**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.

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

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

**2015** Why the 2015 Presidential Election Was Peaceful, Africa at LSE Blog, Part of the African Elections series.

## RESEARCH MONOGRAPH

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

## MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

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**2022** (UN-)protected Elections – Left for Good? Withdrawal of United Nations Peacekeeping Operations and its Effects on Violence during Electoral Periods in War-Affected Countries. (with Jana R. Kissling, University of Zurich). (R&R at International Peacekeeping)

**2022** Peacekeepers without helmets: How violence shapes local peacebuilding by civilian peacekeepers (with Allard Duursma, ETH Zurich). (Under review)

**2022** Many hurdles to take: Explaining peacekeepers' ability to implement human rights activities on the ground (with Sabine Otto, Uppsala University, and Constantin Ruhe, Goethe University Frankfurt). (Under review)

## MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

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**2022** Civil Society Under Attack: A Warning Sign of the Erosion of Democratic Institutions (with Jessica Johansson und Thomas Richter, GIGA German Institute of Global and Area Studies).

**2022** Greater than the sum of their parts: How cooperation between UN peacekeepers and local mediators leads to local conflict resolution (with Allard Duursma, ETH Zurich).

**2021** A Red Flag for Public Goods? The Correlates of Closing Civic Space (with Kristin Bakke and Neil Mitchell).

## RESEARCH EXPEDITIONS / FIELDWORK

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2015            Two months in **Côte d'Ivoire**: interviews with UN personnel and local and national politicians  
2011            Two months in **Senegal**: interviews with pro-democracy activists

## PRIZES AND AWARDS

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2017            **Award for the best published PhD paper in the Political Science Department, UCL**

2017            **Dina Zinnes Award** for the best PhD paper, Scientific Study of Int. Processes, ISA

2016            **Cedric Smith Prize** for best PhD paper, British Conflict Research Society

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

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- 2022-2023 **Folke Bernadotte Academy Grant on people-centred peacebuilding**, €26900
- 2019-2023 **Swedish Research Council Grant on the civilian dimension of peace operations**, €568149  
(with PI Dr. Sabine Otto, Uppsala University, Sweden)
- 2018 **Folke Bernadotte Academy Grant**, €3900  
(with Co-PI Dr. Rob Blair, Brown University, USA)
- 2018 **German Institute of Global and Area Studies, Innovation Fund**, €2500
- 2017 **Folke Bernadotte Academy Grant**, €14672  
(with Co-PI 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

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- 2022 **Pre-NEPS Workshop on Peace & Conflict Studies**, University of Essex
- 2021 **The Implications of COVID-19 for Civic Spaces**, GIGA German Institute of Global and Area Studies and HSK Hessische Stiftung für Friedens- und Konfliktforschung, Online workshop
- 2021 **7th Hitotsubashi Summer Institute**, Workshop on Economic Development, Tokyo University
- 2021 **Introducing the Peacekeeping Mandates Dataset**, King's College, Online Presentation
- 2020 **Pursuit of Peaceful Polling**, Folke Bernadotte Academy
- 2020 **Electoral Violence Workshop**, Online University of Amsterdam
- 2020 **ETH Conflict Research Group, Online Presentation**
- 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 **Informal Governance after War**, Global Governance Institute, University College London
- 2018 **Electoral Violence Workshop**, University of Amsterdam
- 2017 **Future Agendas in Conflict Research**, University of Oxford
- 2017 **Cracking Down on Human Rights Defenders**, University of Oxford (with Kristin Bakke)
- 2017 **Combating Electoral Violence**, King's College London

2017	<b>Shrinking Civic Space</b> , Global Governance Institute, University College London
2016	<b>Peacekeeping and Election Violence</b> , Conflict Research Society, Trinity College in Dublin
2016	<b>The Future of Peacekeeping</b> , Policy and Practice Seminar Series, University College London
2016	<b>European Network of Conflict Research (ENCoRe) Workshops</b>
2016	<b>Peacekeeping and Election Violence</b> , Folke Bernadotte Academy Working Group

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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2021	<b>52. Kolloquium der Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Friedens- und Konfliktforschung</b>
2021	<b>Midwestern Political Science Association</b> Annual Meeting
2020	<b>Deutsche Vereinigung für Politikwissenschaft (DVPW)</b> , Annual Meeting
2020	<b>Swiss Political Science Association</b> Annual Meeting
2018	<b>European Consortium of Political Science Research (ECPR)</b> Annual Meeting
2018, 2021	<b>Network of European Peace Science (NEPS)</b> Annual Meeting
2017, 2020	<b>European Political Science Association (EPSA)</b> Annual Meeting
2016, 2017, 2019, 2021	<b>American Political Science Association (APSA)</b> Annual Meeting
2015, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021	<b>International Studies Association (ISA)</b> Annual Convention
2015, 2016	<b>Peace Science Society</b> Annual Meeting, United States
2014, 2016, 2017	<b>British Conflict Research Society</b> Annual Meeting

## SUPERVISING AND MENTORING

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2020, 2021	<b>BA Seminar, The Politics of Peace</b> , University of Zurich
2020	<b>BA seminar, Politics of Human Rights</b> , University of Zurich
2020, 2021	<b>Lecture, Conflict and Security</b> , University of Zurich
2019	<b>MA seminar Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding</b> , University of Zurich
2019, 2020	<b>BA seminar Political violence</b> , University of Zurich
2013, 2014, 2016, 2017	<b>MSc seminars Terrorism</b> (seminars), UCL
2015	<b>MSc block seminar Binary cross-section, time-series analysis</b> , UCL
2013, 2014, 2015, 2016	<b>BA tutorial Introduction to int. relations and conflict studies</b> , UCL
2013, 2014, 2015, 2016	<b>BA tutorial Introduction to political economy</b> , UCL

2013	<b>MA/PhD Tutorials Modelling heterogeneity</b> , Essex Summer School
2013	<b>BA seminar Comparative methods for studying conflict</b> , University of Mannheim
2012	<b>BA seminar Introduction to peace and conflict studies</b> , University of Mannheim
2019-present	<b>7 MA theses, 24 BA theses</b>
2019-present	<b>2 PhD Mid-term evaluations</b>

## CONSULTANCY

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2017	Consultant for the <b>Development Leadership Programme</b> - Gender Equality Fund
2017	Consultant for <b>CIVICUS</b> on Tracking Civic Space

## SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

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### External PhD Defences:

09/2022 PhD Defence of Lisa-Marie Selvig, University of Bergen

### Referee:

08/2021 Deutsche Stiftung Friedensforschung (German Foundation for Peace Research)

05/2021 Heinz Eulau Award Committee Member (American Political Science Association)

### Panel Organization:

09/2021 Organisation of a session in the Colloquium of the CIS Centre for Comparative and International Studies (University of Zurich / ETH Zurich)

08/2019 New Directions in the Study of UN Peacekeeping (together with Dr. Rob Blair), 115<sup>th</sup> APSA Annual Meeting, Washington DC

08/2018 Mitigating Electoral Violence (together with Dr. Mascha Rauschenbach) *European Consortium of Political Science Research (ECPR) General Conference, Hamburg*

09/2016 Disaggregating Peacekeeping: New Data on Operation Attributes (together with Dr. Gaby Lloyds), 112<sup>th</sup> APSA Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA

**Reviewer:** American Journal of Political Science (2x), American Political Science Review (3x), Africa Spectrum (1x), British Journal of Political Science (3x), Canadian Journal of Political Science (1x), Chinese Journal of Internat. Politics (1x), Comparative Political Studies (2x), Conflict Management and Peace Science (2x), Electoral Studies (1x), European Journal of International Relations (2x), Government and Opposition (1x), International Interactions (3x), International Organization (1x), International Peacekeeping (2x), Journal of Conflict Resolution (1x), Journal of Peace Research (9x), The Journal of Politics (3x), International Studies Quarterly (2x), Party Politics (1x), Political Geography (1x), Studies in Comparative International Development (1x), Terrorism & Political Violence (1x), Zeitschrift für Friedens- und Konfliktforschung (1x)

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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**Folke Bernadotte Academy** (on invitation)

**International Studies Association** (Section: Scientific Study of International Processes)  
**Network of European Peace Scientists**

## **LANGUAGES**

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German (native), English (B2), French (B2)

## **SOFTWARE**

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Python (beginner), LaTeX (advanced), html/css (beginner), R (advanced), SPSS (beginner), STATA (advanced)