

# Denise Traber

University of Basel  
Department of Social Sciences  
Political Science  
Petersgraben 52  
4051 Basel  
Switzerland

Phone: +41 61 207 60 54  
Email: [denise.traber@unibas.ch](mailto:denise.traber@unibas.ch)  
Website: [denisetraber.net](http://denisetraber.net)  
Google Scholar: <http://bit.ly/2feA2Yr>

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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Assistant Professor of Political Sociology Department of Social Sciences, University of Basel	2020–
Senior research fellow (SNSF Ambizione) Department of Political Science, University of Luzern	2018–2019
Senior researcher and lecturer (Oberassistentin) Chair for Swiss Politics and Comparative Political Economy Department of Political Science, University of Zurich	2013–2017

## VISITING RESEARCHER

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Department of Social Sciences, Humboldt University Berlin Host: DYNAMICS Research Group	2019
Department of Political Science, University of Amsterdam Host: Prof. Gijs Schumacher	2016
Methods Institute, London School of Economics and Political Science Host: Prof. Kenneth Benoit	2011–2012

## EDUCATION

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Ph.D., University of Geneva Committee: Prof. Pascal Sciarini (Supervisor), Prof. Simon Hug, Prof. Hanspeter Kriesi and Prof. Kenneth Benoit	2013
M.A. (lic. phil.), University of Zurich Major: Political Science; Minors: Social Anthropology and History Basic studies in Computer Science	2006

### Articles in peer-reviewed journals

- Gatto, Malu A. C., Anita R. Gohdes, Denise Traber, and Mariken A. C. G. van der Velden. 2020. "Selecting In or Selecting Out? Gender Gaps and Political Methodology in Europe." *PS: Political Science & Politics* 53(1): 122–127.
- Traber, Denise, Martijn Schoonvelde, and Gijs Schumacher. 2020. "Errors have been made, others will be blamed: issue engagement and blame shifting in prime minister speeches during the economic crisis in Europe." *European Journal of Political Research* 59: 45–67
- Häusermann, Silja, Thomas Kurer, and Denise Traber. 2019. "The Politics of Trade-Offs: Studying the Dynamics of Welfare State Reform With Conjoint Experiments." *Comparative Political Studies* 52(7): 1059–1095.
- Traber, Denise, Nathalie Giger, and Silja Häusermann. 2018. "How economic crises affect political representation: declining party-voter congruence in times of constrained government." *West European Politics*. 41(5): 1100–1124.
- Häusermann, Silja, Thomas Kurer, Michael Pinggera, and Denise Traber. 2018. "Mehrheitsfähigkeit Der Altersvorsorge 2020?: Die Bewertung Der Reformelemente Durch Die Stimmbürgerinnen Und Stimmbürger Vor Der Abstimmung." *Swiss Political Science Review* 24(1): 69–78.
- Schwarz, Daniel, Denise Traber, and Kenneth Benoit. 2017. "Estimating Intra-Party Preferences: Comparing Speeches to Votes." *Political Science Research and Methods* 5(2): 379–396.
- Traber, Denise. 2015. "Disenchanted Swiss Parliament? Electoral strategies and coalition formation." *Swiss Political Science Review* 21(4): 702–723.
- Traber, Denise, Simon Hug, and Pascal Sciarini. 2014. "Party Unity in the Swiss Parliament. The Electoral Connection." *The Journal of Legislative Studies* 20(2): 193–215.
- Traber, Denise. 2013. "Does Participation in Policymaking Enhance Satisfaction with the Policy Outcome? Evidence from Switzerland." *Swiss Political Science Review* 19(1): 69–83.
- Fischer, Manuel, Pascal Sciarini, and Denise Traber. 2010. "The Silent Reform of Swiss Federalism: The New Constitutional Articles on Education." *Swiss Political Science Review* 16(4): 747–71.

### Book

- Sciarini, Pascal, Manuel Fischer and Denise Traber. 2015. *Political Decision-Making in Switzerland. The Consensus Model under Pressure*. Basingstoke: Palgrave MacMillan.

### Contributions to edited volumes

- Giger Nathalie und Denise Traber. 2016. "Die Salienz von Sachthemen im internationalen Vergleich: Zurück zu 'It's the economy, stupid' während der Krise?" In *Wahlen und Wähler. Analysen aus Anlass der Bundestagswahl 2013*, H. Schoen und B. Wessels (Hrsg.). Wiesbaden: Springer Fachmedien.

## Reports and proceedings

Häusermann, Silja, Denise Traber und Thomas Kurer. 2018/2017/2016/2015. Altersvorsorge 2020: Welche Massnahmen erhöhen bzw. senken die Wahrscheinlichkeit, dass die Reform in der Stimmbevölkerung unterstützt wird? Bericht. Zürich: Institut für Politikwissenschaft, [Juni 2018](#) / [April 2017](#) / [September 2016](#) / [August 2015](#).

Schumacher, Gijs, Schoonvelde, Martijn, Traber, Denise, Dahiya, Tanushree and Erik de Vries. 2016. "EUSpeech: a New Dataset of EU Elite Speeches". *Proceedings of PolText2016*, The International Conference on the Advances in Computational Analysis of Political Text, 14-16 July 2016, Dubrovnik, Croatia.

Kurer, Thomas, Denise Traber und Thomas Widmer. 2015. Analyse der eidgenössischen Abstimmung vom 8. März 2015. Zürich: Institut für Politikwissenschaft/Bern: gfs.bern.

Bürgisser, Reto, Thomas Kurer, Thomas Milic, Denise Traber und Thomas Widmer. 2014. Analyse der eidgenössischen Abstimmung vom 18. Mai 2014. Zürich: Institut für Politikwissenschaft/Bern: gfs.bern.

## AWARDS AND GRANTS

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[Gordon Smith and Vincent Wright Memorial Prize 2018](#), for the article "How economic crises affect political representation: declining party—voter congruence in times of constrained government", *West European Politics*, Vol. 41, No. 5, pp. 1100–1124 (with Nathalie Giger and Silja Häusermann).

Research grant (Ambizione), *The divided people: polarization of political attitudes in Europe*, funded by Swiss National Science Foundation, Grant number PZ00P1\_174067/1. 2018–2022. €457'627.

Research project grant *Crisis of democracy? Party politics and representation in times of austerity* (with Prof. Silja Häusermann), funded by Swiss National Science Foundation, Grant number 100018\_153140/1. 2014–2017. €165'336.

Fellowship for Prospective Researchers by the Swiss National Science Foundation for a research stay at the London School of Economics and Political Science, London. 2011–2012. €43'037.

Several Grants by the Swiss National Science Foundation for participation in Summer Schools (2007, 2008, 2009).

## INVITED PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

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"What rich and poor consider important and how this matters for representation"; *Politics Lecture Series*, Department of Social Sciences, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, 3 December 2019.

"What rich and poor consider important and how this matters for representation"; *Seminar Series*, School of Politics and International Relations, UCD Dublin, 16 October 2019.

"The Quantitative Analysis of Political Text"; 1.5 day workshop (including intro to R); ISPOLE, UCLouvain, 3-4 October, 2019.

“Analyzing political speeches with a ‘bag of words’ approach”; Keynote and 1-day workshop; *Automated Content Analysis Workshop / NEPOCS meeting*, NTNU Trondheim, 9 – 11 May 2019.

“Polarization or convergence? How the economy shapes party policy positions”; *Comparative Political Economy Research Workshop*, Department of Politics and Public Administration, University of Konstanz, 14 May 2018.

“Errors have been made, others will be blamed: blame avoidance and blame-shifting in Prime Minister speeches during the economic crisis in Europe”; Talk and 1/2-day workshop; MZES, University of Mannheim, 28 March 2018.

“Party positions on immigration policy in Switzerland. Text scaling with Wordfish”; *Text Analysis Lectures Series*, University of Amsterdam, 12 May 2016.

“Party Policy Positions”; *CUSO, Programme Doctoral en Science Politique*, Hôtel de la Nouvelle Couronne, Morges, 23 October 2015.

“Party positions and legislative decision-making”; *Lectures Series on parliamentary research*, Department of Political Science, University of Zurich, 5 October 2015.

## SUMMER SCHOOLS, WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCE PANELS

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Co-organizer of the [Zurich Summer School for Women in Political Methodology](#) (with Anita Gohdes, Malu Gatto and Mariken van der Velden), University of Zurich, July 2020, June/July 2019, July 2018, August 2017.

Co-organizer of the workshop “Political polarization in the digital age”, [Swiss Summer School of Democracy Studies 2019](#) (with Augusto Valeriani), University of Luzern, 24-28 June 2019.

Co-organizer of the panel “[Measuring Populism from Political Text: \(Thin\) Ideology, Rhetoric, Discourse Quality, Civility and Linguistic Style](#)” (with Julian Bernauer), ECPR General Conference, Hamburg, 22-25 August 2018.

Co-organizer of a workshop on Comparative Political Economy and Conjoint Analysis (with Silja Häusermann, Dominik Hangartner, Julian Garritzmann and Thomas Kurer), University of Zurich, January 2017.

Co-organizer of the panel “Crisis of democracy? Party politics and representation in times of austerity” (with Silja Häusermann), 22nd International Conference of Europeanists, Paris, France, 8-10 July 2015.

Co-organizer of the panel “Representation in times of austerity” (with Silja Häusermann and Simon Bornschier), 111nd APSA Annual Meeting, San Francisco, 3-6 August 2015.

## OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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Representative of the working group “[Political Behaviour and Communication](#)” (with Luzia Helfer), Swiss Political Science Association. 2019–.

[Varieties of Democracy \(V-Dem\)](#), Country Coordinator for Switzerland. 2013–.

Representative of PhD-students and postdocs in selection committee for an Assistant Professorship in International Relations, University of Zurich, 2015.

Co-organizer (with Prof. Daniel Bochsler) of a weekly research seminar on Parties, Political Behavior and Representation. Department of Political Science, University of Zurich. 2014–2015.

## REVIEWING ACTIVITIES

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Reviewer for: *Acta Politica*; *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Democratization*, *European Journal of Political Research*, *European Political Science Review*, *European Union Politics*, *Journal of Elections*, *Public Opinion and Parties*, *Journal of Politics*, *Journal of European Public Policy*, *Journal of Public Policy*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, *Party Politics*, *Policy Studies Journal*, *Political Behavior*, *Politics and Governance*, *Quality & Quantity*, *Swiss Political Science Review*.

## ACTIVE MEMBERSHIPS

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Swiss Political Science Association  
European Political Science Association  
Midwest Political Science Association  
American Political Science Association

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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APSA Annual Meeting: 2010, 2015, 2017, 2018  
CES International Conference of Europeanists: 2015, 2016  
EPSA Annual General Conference: 2012–2019  
ECPR Joint Sessions: 2009; Graduate Conference: 2010; General Conference: 2011, 2016, 2018  
MPSA Annual Conference: 2013, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019  
Politicologenetmaal (Political Science Associations of the Netherlands and Belgium): 2012  
SPSA Annual Congress: 2009, 2010, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2018, 2019

## FURTHER TRAINING

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<b>Project management:</b>	2015
Project management for Successful Postdocs (2-day module), University of Zurich	
<b>Teaching skills:</b>	2014–2016
Feedback skills; Writing skills; Presentation skills; Planning of seminars (several modules, 1/2 - 2 days), University of Zurich.	
<b>Methods:</b>	
<i>ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research</i>	2009
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.	

*Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis and Collection*  
University of Essex, Colchester.

2007, 2008

*CUSO Programme Doctoral en Science Politique*  
(several 2-day modules), Geneva, Thun, Ste Croix, Châteaux D'Oex, Morat.

2007–2008

## SOFTWARE

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R, Stata

## LANGUAGES

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German	native
English	fluent, written and spoken
French	fluent, written and spoken
Spanish	basic knowledge

*updated April 2020*