

Denise Traber

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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

Department of Social Sciences, Humboldt University Berlin Host: DYNAMICS Research Group/ Prof. Heike Klüver	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

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

Traber, Denise, Lukas F. Stoetzer, and Tanja Burri. "Group-based Public Opinion Polarization in Multi-Party Systems". *Accepted for publication: West European Politics*.

Giger, Nathalie, Denise Traber, Fabrizio Gilardi, and Sarah Bütikofer. "The Surge in Women's Representation in the 2019 Swiss Federal Elections." *Forthcoming: Swiss Political Science Review*.

Traber, Denise, Hänni, Miriam, Giger, Nathalie, and Christian Breunig. 2022. "Social Status, Political Priorities and Unequal Representation." *European Journal of Political Research: 61: 351–373*.

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

[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

“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

[Summer School for Women in Political Methodology](#) (co-organizer and instructor, with Anita Gohdes, Malu Gatto, Mariken van der Velden and Theresa Gessler), University of Zurich: 2017-2020; Online Workshop: 2021; Speaker Series: 2022.

Workshop “Political Polarization in the Digital Age”, Swiss Summer School of Democracy Studies 2019 (co-organizer and instructor, with Augusto Valeriani), University of Luzern, 24-28 June 2019.

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

Workshop “Comparative Political Economy and Conjoint Analysis” (co-organizer with Silja Häusermann, Dominik Hangartner, Julian Garritzmann and Thomas Kurer), University of Zurich, January 2017.

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

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

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Editor of a special issue on the 2019 Swiss elections (with Nathalie Giger and Anke Tresch), forthcoming in *Swiss Political Science Review*.

Representative of the working group “[Political Behaviour and Communication](#)” (with Luzia Helfer and Alexandra Feddersen), 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

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

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

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

APSA Annual Meeting: 2010, 2015, 2017, 2018
CES International Conference of Europeanists: 2015, 2016
EPSA Annual General Conference: 2012–2021
ECPR Joint Sessions: 2009; Graduate Conference: 2010; General Conference: 2011, 2016, 2018
MPSA Annual Conference: 2013, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019
Politologenetmaal (Political Science Associations of the Netherlands and Belgium): 2012
SPSA Annual Congress: 2009, 2010, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2022

FURTHER TRAINING

Project management: Project management for Successful Postdocs (2-day module), University of Zurich	2015
Teaching skills: Feedback skills; Writing skills; Presentation skills; Planning of seminars (several modules, 1/2 - 2 days), University of Zurich.	2014–2016
Methods: <i>ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research</i> University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.	2009
<i>Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis and Collection</i> University of Essex, Colchester.	2007, 2008
<i>CUSO Programme Doctoral en Science Politique</i> (several 2-day modules), Geneva, Thun, Ste Croix, Châteaux D'Oex, Morat.	2007–2008

SOFTWARE

R, Stata

LANGUAGES

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

updated April 2022