

# JUDITH SPIRIG

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Department of Political Science, University of Zurich, Affolternstrasse 56, 8050 Zurich

## Education

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2014 – 2018 **University of Zurich**

Ph.D. Political Science, *summa cum laude*

Dissertation: Like Cases Alike or Asylum Lottery? Inconsistency in Judicial Decision Making at the Swiss Federal Administrative Court

Committee: Marco Steenbergen (UZH), Benjamin Lauderdale (UCL), David Soskice (LSE), Heiko Rauhut (UZH, Sociology)

2011 – 2012 **London School of Economics and Political Science**

MSc in International Development and Humanitarian Emergencies

2006 – 2011 **University of Basel**

BA in Economics and Business (and Philosophy)

BA in Philosophy and English

## Affiliations and Appointments

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from 09/2019 **European University Institute**, Department of Political and Social Sciences, Max Weber Fellow

06/2018 – present Stanford-Zurich Immigration Policy Lab Postdoctoral Research Affiliate

06/2018 – 08/2019 **University of Zurich**, Department of Political Science, Postdoctoral Researcher

2016 – 2018 Stanford-Zurich Immigration Policy Lab Graduate Research Affiliate

2016 – 2017 **Stanford University**, Department of Political Science & Immigration Policy Lab Visiting Student Researcher (with Jens Hainmueller)

2015 – 2016 **London School of Economics and Political Science**, Government Department Visiting Research Student (with David Soskice)

## Research Interests

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Comparative political behavior, historical political economy, immigration, judicial politics

## Awards and Grants

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SIAF Award for outstanding PhD thesis, 2018

UZH Department of Political Science, Award for Best Dissertation, 2018

Swiss National Science Foundation, Mobility Grants 2015, 2016

Swiss National Science Foundation, Doc.CH Grant, 2015

Swiss Study Foundation, Travel Grant, 2014

Speiser-Bär Stiftung Basel, MSc Study Grant, 2011

Swiss Study Foundation, MSc Study Grant, 2011

## Teaching

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Instructor for *Quantitative Text Analysis*, Zurich Summer School for Women in Political Methodology, 2019 (*upcoming*)

Instructor for *Forced Migration and Its (Political) Consequences* (BA seminar). University of Zurich, Department of Political Science, Fall 2018

Programming Instructor for *Statistical Models in Political Analysis* (MA course), taught by Lukas Stoetzer. University of Zurich, Department of Political Science, Fall 2018

Co-teacher for *Capstone Course: Analyzing Human Trafficking* (MA course), taught with Marco Steenbergen. University of Zurich, Department of Political Science, Spring 2018

Teaching Assistant for *Introduction to Ethics: Practical Philosophy* (BA course) taught by Angelika Krebs. University of Basel, Philosophical Seminar, Fall 2010

## Working Papers

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- “Inferring Individual Preferences from Group Decisions: Judicial Preference Variation and Aggregation in Asylum Appeals.” (with Dominik Hangartner and Benjamin E. Lauderdale)
- “It’s in the News: The Impact of Asylum Issue Salience on Judicial Decision Making.”
- “Do Fewer Judges Reach Different Decisions? Evidence from a Procedural Change in Asylum Appeal Decision Making.”
- “‘You Don’t Enter the Media Business to Get Rich’: Does a Change in the Political Orientation of a Newspaper Affect Voting Behavior in Immigration Referendums?”

## Policy Papers

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- “Dealing with the Refugee Crisis: Policy Lessons from Economics and Political Science.” (with Dominik Hangartner and Matti Sarvimäki), *Report for Finland’s Economic Policy Council*, 2017.
- “The Political Economy of the West Bank. An Attempt to Explain the Economic Protests in September 2012.” (with Hans Heÿn), *KAS Country Report* (also in German).
- “Is Resilience a Valid Objective for Humanitarian Aid?” (with Caroline Hargreaves et al.), *Report for MSF UK*, 2012.

## Ongoing Projects

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- “Analyzing Hitler’s Speeches Using Quantitative Text Analysis.” (with Daniel Bischof)
- “Historic Anti-Semitism and Modern-Day Islamophobia.” (with Elias Dinas and Dominik Hangartner)

## Selected Talks

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- “Do Fewer Judges Reach Different Decisions? Evidence from a Procedural Change in Asylum Appeal Decision Making.”, PluriCourts Political Science Reading Group, University of Oslo, 2019 (*upcoming*), invited paper.
- “‘You Don’t Enter the Media Business to Get Rich’: Does a Change in the Political Orientation of a Newspaper Affect Voting Behavior in Immigration Referenda?”, Research Day, Zeppelin Universität, 2018, invited paper.
- “Do Fewer Judges Reach Different Decisions? Evidence from a Procedural Change in Asylum Appeal Decision Making.”, American Political Science Association, 2018, paper.
- “Do Fewer Judges Reach Different Decisions? Evidence from a Procedural Change in Asylum Appeal Decision Making.”, European Political Science Association, 2018, paper.
- “‘You Don’t Enter the Media Business to Get Rich’: Does a Change in the Political Orientation of a Newspaper Affect Voting Behavior in Immigration Referenda?”, Midwest Political Science Association, 2018, paper.
- “It’s in the News: The Impact of Asylum Issue Salience on Judicial Decision Making.”, European Political Science Association, 2017, paper.
- “It’s in the News: The Impact of Asylum Issue Salience on Judicial Decision Making.”, Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, 2016, paper.
- “Refugee Roulette Revisited: Judicial Preference Variation and Aggregation on the Swiss Federal Administrative Court 2007-2012”, Conference on Empirical Legal Studies Europe, 2016, paper.

## Skills

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- Languages:** English, German, French, Arabic (beginner)
- Computing:** R, Python & Stata (passive)

## Service to the Profession

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- Reviewer for the *British Journal for Political Science*, *West European Politics*
- Co-organizer, ETH & University of Zurich Political Economy Workshop, 2019
- Founding co-organizer of the PONY club, an informal network of women in political science, [www.pony-club.net](http://www.pony-club.net)
- Panel co-organizer, “Identifying Media Effects on Political Outcomes”, Mid-West Political Science Association, 2018