

# JUDITH SPIRIG

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European University Institute, Max Weber Programme, Via dei Roccettini 9, 50014 San Domenico di Fiesole, Italy

## 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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- 09/2019 – present **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 behaviour, historical political economy, exclusionary attitudes and behaviour, 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 II: An Applied Introduction to Topic Models* (half-day course), Zurich Summer School for Women in Political Methodology, Summer 2019
- 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)
- “Bad News for Asylum Seekers: The Impact of 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.

## 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, invited paper.
- “Bad News for Asylum Seekers: The Impact of Issue Salience on Judicial Decision Making.”, Conference on Forced Displacement, Asylum Seekers and Refugees: Economics Aspects and Policy Issues, 2019, 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?”, 4th Economics of Media Bias Workshop, 2019, 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”, MPSA, 2018