

Joep van Lit

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Academic Positions

PhD Candidate in Empirical Political Science

Radboud University

10.2020 - present

Lecturer

Radboud University

10.2020 - present

Visting Researcher

Varieties of Democracy Institute

03.2023 - 06.2023

Junior Lecturer

Leiden University

09.2019 - 10.2020

Education

MPhil in Political Science and Public Administration

Research Master of Science, Cum Laude

Leiden University

09.2017 - 09.2019

BA in African Studies

Cum laude

Leiden University

09.2015 - 05.2018

BSc in Political Science



Leiden University

09.2012 - 03.2016


Publications

- 2024 **Opvattingen over democratie in Nederland** in the Dutch parliamentary election study: *De verkiezingen van 2023. Van onderstroom naar doorbraak: Onvrede en migratie* · Report chapter
📖 [Read here \(Dutch\)](#)
- 2024 **Populism and Democracy** with Saskia Ruth-Lovell, Rosa Kindt, and Marie Theuwis, in *The Sage Textbook on Populism*, edited by Robert Huber and Michael Jankowski · 📖 [Book chapter](#)
forthcoming
- 2023 **Countering Autocratization: A Roadmap for Democratic Defence**, with Carolien van Ham and Maurits J. Meijers, *Democratization*, 31(4), 765-787 · 📖 [Link \(open access\)](#) [Journal Article](#)

Currently under review

- 10.2024 **The Autocrat's Toolkit: A Typology of Autocratic Action**, with Carolien van Ham *Under review*
Submitted to *Democratization* ·  SSRN Pre-print
- 09.2024 **Defending Democracy: The Effect of Elite Democratic Defence on Citizens' Perceptions of Democracy** with Maurits Meijers *Under review*
Submitted to *Comparative Political Studies* ·  OSF Preregistration
- 08.2024 **Credible Resistance or Political Ploy? When Parliamentarians Stand Up for Democracy** with Maurits Meijers and Carolien van Ham *Under review*
Submitted to *Political Studies* ·  OSF Preregistration

Working Papers

6. **Who are effective democratic defenders? How elites shape citizen awareness of democratic recession** with Maurits Meijers and Carolien van Ham, part of a Special Issue in *Democratization* (Summer 2025) ·  OSF Preregistration *Conference paper*
5. **Deconstructing Understandings of Democracy** *Conference paper*
4. **Gambitting democracy: When civil servants do (or do not) defend democracy** *Conference paper*
3. **Where Supply Meets Demand for Democratic Transgressions** with Natasha Wunsch and Tsveta Petrova *Conference paper*
2. **Elite Justifications and Citizen Tolerance for Democratic Transgressions** with Natasha Wunsch and Tsveta Petrova *Conference paper*
1. **Autocratic Counterfactuals: Rethinking the Role of Institutions in Sustaining Democracy** *Conference paper*
- **The Boundaries of Legitimate Resistance: Citizen Responses to Democratic Defence Strategies** with Lisa Janssen
- **When push comes to shove: the normalization of political violence** with Rozemarijn van Dijk

Conferences and Workshops

(P - Paper & Presentation, D - Discussant, C - Chair)

Conferences

- APSA Annual Meeting 2024** (P.)
EPSA Annual Conference 2023 (P.), 2024 (P.)

Workshops

- 09.2024 **Resilience against Extremism** Free University of Amsterdam (P.)
- 07.2024 **Responding to Demand? Voters' grievances, PRR success, and mainstream party strategies.** University of Swansea (P.)
- 05.2024 **Democracy and its Discontents** University of Pavia (P.)
- 04.2024 **Roots of Resilience: Democratic Durability, Renovation and Re-Democratization** University of Birmingham (P.)
- 03.2024 **Sounding the Alarm: Comparing Early Signs of Democratic Recession in Established and Backsliding Democracies** ECPR Joint Sessions of Workshops ·  more info *Workshop director*
- 09.2023 **Resisting the autocratic turn: Can (and should) autocratization be prevented, stopped, and resisted?** Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB) (P.D.)
- 08.2023 **Citizens' Attitudes towards Democracy: Measurement, Causes, and Consequences** ETH Zürich (P.D.)
- 04.2023 **Judicial Resilience and Democratic Decay** ECPR Joint Sessions of Workshops (P.D.)
- 06.2022 **Turning the Tide – Autocratization and Democratic Defence during the Third Wave of Autocratization** Annual Political Science Workshops of the Low Countries *Workshop director*
- 04.2022 **Domestic responses to Democratic Backsliding: Citizens, Civil Society, and Parties** ECPR Joint Sessions of Workshops (P.D.)

Outreach and Valorisation

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| 2025 | Samen scherp op democratische erosie en inperking van maatschappelijke ruimte: op zoek naar indicatoren with Barbara van Paassen and Margit Wessel | Policy Note |
| 2025 | Duurzame democratie op het decentrale niveau with Carolien van Ham, in <i>Staat van het Bestuur</i> (State of Governance) | Policy Note |
| 12.2024 | Hoe uiterst rechts de EU van binnenuit ondermijnt interview in <i>Vrij Nederland</i> ·  read here (Dutch) | Interview |
| 2024 | Hoofdstuk 2 - Startnotitie expertmeeting democratische erosie with Carolien van Ham and Marlies Honingh, in <i>Verkenning en verdieping democratische erosie en respons in Nederland</i> ·  read here (Dutch) | Policy Note |
| 2024 | Hoofdstuk 4 - Democratische normen: normbesef en normstelling with Maurits Meijers and Carolien van Ham, in <i>Verkenning en verdieping democratische erosie en respons in Nederland</i> ·  read here (Dutch) | Policy note |
| 01.2024 | Anti-democratic Politics in Europe Radboud Reflects lecture and conversation on European and Dutch democracy ·  more info ·  recording ·  podcast | Public talk |
| 12.2023 | European Strategic Dialogue on the implications of the Polish electoral shift ·  more info | Public talk |
| 06.2023 | Roundtable with the Permanent Committee on the Interior of the Dutch Parliament on the resilience of Dutch democracy ·  more info | Policy advice |
| 11.2022 | Wat is er KROM in je rechtsstaat? talk show about the Dutch rule of law ·  more info | Public talk |
| 10.2022 | Autocratic Backsliding presentation and Q&A at the Dutch festival of democracy, Grondfest ·  more info | Public talk |

Teaching

(Evaluations available upon request)

Qualifications

2020 **University Teaching Qualification (BKO)** Leiden University

Radboud University

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| · | Comparative Politics: Democratization with Carolien van Ham guest lecturer · BSc in Political Science · undergraduate level | 2023 - present |
| · | Advanced Research Methods with Erika van Elsas course lecturer · MSc in Political Science · graduate level | 2022 - present |
| · | Academic Skills for Political Scientists <i>Academische Vaardigheden voor Politicologen</i> course coordinator and seminar tutor · BSc in Political Science · undergraduate level | 2020 - present |
| · | BSc Thesis supervision number of students supervised: 9 BSc in Political Science · undergraduate level | 2020 - present |
| · | Introduction to Data Science for Social Scientists with Michal Mochtak course lecturer · MSc in Political Science · graduate level | 2024 |
| · | Comparative Research Methods number of students supervised: 2 Research Master in Social Cultural Science · graduate level | 2024 |
| · | Internship supervision number of students supervised: 1 BSc in Political Science · undergraduate level | 2023 |
| · | Introduction to R for PhD Candidates course lecturer · IMR Graduate School · PhD level | 2022 |
| · | Explanations of Political Attitudes and Political Behavior in the Netherlands <i>Verklaringen van Politieke Houdingen en Politiek Gedrag in Nederland</i> seminar tutor · BSc in Political Science · undergraduate level | 2021 |

Leiden University

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| Statistics <i>Statistiek</i> | 2020 |
| seminar tutor · BSc in Public Administration · undergraduate level | |
| Policy, Governance, and Organisation <i>Beleid, Bestuur, en Organisatie</i> | 2020 |
| seminar tutor · BSc Public Administration · undergraduate level | |
| Public Management and Organisations <i>Publiek Management en Organisaties</i> | 2020 |
| seminar tutor · BSc Public Administration · undergraduate level | |
| Public Management <i>Publiek Management</i> | 2020 |
| course lecturer and course coordinator · Pre-Master Public Administration | |
| Organisational Theory <i>Organisatietheorie</i> | 2019 |
| seminar tutor · BSc Public Administration · undergraduate level | |
| Quantitative Methods <i>Kwantitatieve Methoden</i> | 2019 |
| seminar tutor · BSc Public Administration · undergraduate level | |
| Introduction to Social Scientific Research <i>Inleiding Sociaal Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek</i> | 2019 |
| seminar tutor · BSc Public Administration · undergraduate level | |
| Public Administration and Administrative Sciences <i>Openbaar Bestuur en Bestuurswetenschappen</i> | 2019 |
| seminar tutor · BSc Public Administration · undergraduate level | |

Skills

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| Programming | R, \LaTeX , Atlas.ti, Markdown, Qualtrics |
| Methods | Surveys, experiments, big data, quantitative text analysis, data visualisation, elite interviews |
| Office Software | MS Office, Adobe Creative Suite, Zotero, Obsidian |
| Languages | Dutch (<i>mother tongue</i>), English (<i>fluent, C2</i>) |
| Free time | Marathon running, too-bad-for-words crime novels, classical music (cello) |

Professional Development

Grants

- 2024 **Hotspot Sustainable Democracy** €1.500 for experimental research
- 2023 **Erasmus+ Research Fellowship** €5.987 for research stay
- 2022 **ECPR Early Career Scholar Grant** approx. €2.000 for conference attendance

Awards

- 2024 **PhD of the Year** Nijmegen School of Management