

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 *Populism: An Introduction*, edited by Robert Huber and Michael Jankowski · [📖 Link](#) · Book chapter
- 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

- 02.2025 **The Autocrat's Toolkit: A Typology of Autocratic Action** with Carolien van Ham *Under review*
Submitted to *European Political Science Review* ·  SSRN Pre-print
- 02.2025 **Credible Resistance or Political Ploy? When Parliamentarians Stand Up for Democracy** with Maurits Meijers and Carolien van Ham *Under review*
Submitted to *Journal of European Public Policy* ·  OSF Preregistration
- 01.2025 **Gambitting democracy: When civil servants do (or do not) defend democracy** *Under review*
Submitted to *European Journal of Political Research*
- 09.2024 **Defending Democracy: The Effect of Elite Democratic Defence on Citizens' Perceptions of Democracy** with Maurits Meijers *Under review*
Submitted to *West European Politics* ·  OSF Preregistration ·  SSRN Pre-print

Working Papers

6. **When push comes to shove: the normalization of political violence** with Rozemarijn van Dijk ·  OSF Preregistration
5. **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*
4. **Deconstructing Understandings of 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

Conferences and Workshops

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

Conferences

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

Workshops

06.2025	Is Dutch Democracy in Decline? Annual Political Science Workshops of the Low Countries	Workshop director
05.2022	Citizens' democratic commitment in times of affective polarisation ECPR Joint Sessions of Workshops	(P.D.)
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

02.2025	Trump, Musk, and DOGE Radboud Reflects lecture, more info	Public talk
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

- **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** *Academische Vaardigheden voor Politicologen*
course coordinator and seminar tutor · 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 - present
- **BSc Thesis supervision** number of students supervised: 9
BSc in Political Science · undergraduate level 2020 - 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**
Verklaringen van Politieke Houdingen en Politiek Gedrag in Nederland
seminar tutor · BSc in Political Science · undergraduate level 2021

Leiden University

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

Skills

- **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 (*mother tongue*), English (*fluent, C2*)
- **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