

Supervisors

Candidates who are interested in the part-time PhD programme in European Studies are invited to contact the [programme director](#) about potential supervisors and co-supervisors. You can find more information on the different supervisors and their research interests below.

Supervisors

Name Supervisor	Main topics	Comments
Dr. Johan Adriaensen	EU trade policy, international political economy, regulatory governance, EU institutions, member states	Available for supervision
Dr. Christine Arnold	Dynamics of European integration and public opinion; constitution-building process in the European Union; two-level models; joint policy-making and policy change; positioning of parties in policy space.	
Dr. Patrick Bijsmans	Media and Euroscepticism, populism and democracy, as well as issues related to active learning in the international classroom and curriculum design in European Studies, International Relations and Political Science.	
Dr. Giselle Bosse	EU Foreign Policy; EU Enlargement; European Neighbourhood Policy; the Eastern Partnership; EU relations with Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova and Armenia; Russia's war against Ukraine; EU democracy support; EU human rights policy; civil society; democratisation; critical/normative theory; geopolitics; role of women in democratic reform processes. https://www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/gi-bosse	
Dr. Iskander de Bruycker	Lobbying strategies and influence, interest group politics, EU public affairs, political communication, media & politics, social movements and protest, political representation, EU politicization.	
Prof. Dr. Thomas Conzelmann	Geo-economic policies of the EU (including inward and outward investment screening, industrial policy, CBAM,	

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	anti-coercion instrument, Global Gateway, export controls), trade policy, CFSP. International organizations and global governance. Problems of backsliding on the rule of law and democracy in the EU.	
Dr. Hylke Dijkstra	European Foreign Policy; Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP); European External Action Service; North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO); United Nations Peacekeeping.	Currently not available
Dr. Anna Herranz Surralles	Energy security, EU external energy policy, foreign energy investment, parliamentary dimension of foreign and security policies, European Neighbourhood Policy, theories and methods of discourse analysis.	
Prof. Valentina Mazzucato	Development economics (social capital, networks); Migration studies (transnationalism); anthropology (Africa).	
Prof. Christine Neuhold	Accountability in networked systems of governance, democratic resilience of EU institutions and bodies in times of crisis and transformation, democratic oversight of EU institutions, issues of accountability of interest representation in the EU, role of legislatures and committees in the EU system of governance.	
Dr. Gergana Noutcheva	EU enlargement policy; European neighbourhood policy; EU democracy promotion; democratization in Central and Eastern Europe, the Balkans and the post-Soviet countries, the EU and conflict resolution; contested statehood and EU actorness.	
Prof. Klaartje Peters	Local and regional governance, (comparative) local politics in Europe.	Currently not available for supervision
Dr. Janosch Prinz	Political and democratic theory; oligarchic threats to democracy; normative theories of democratic legitimacy; banking and democracy; monetary orders	

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Dr. Yf Reykers	European security and defence policy, ad hoc coalitions in international security, European defence cooperation, EU-NATO relations, European security architecture.	
Dr. Luana Russo	Political Behaviour, Ideological and Affective Polarization, Partisanship, Political Psychology, Democracy Norms, Political Identities.	Available for supervision
Prof. Hans Schmeets	Empirical quantitative research for the use of large scale databases.	
Dr. Aline Sierp	History of European Integration, Politics of History, Memory Studies, German and Italian post-war history	
Dr. Aneta Spendzharova	Regulatory politics; financial sector regulation; new EU industrial policy; financing the green transition; international regulatory coordination; European political economy	Available for supervision
Dr. Paul Stephenson	Financial accountability (EU budget, European Court of Auditors/OLAF, evaluation and policy performance); EU institutions (European Commission, European Parliament); EU transport policy and trans-European networks (TENs); EU regional/cohesion policy and Structural Funds.	
Prof. Sophie Vanhoonacker	Common foreign and security policy (CFSP); the EU Diplomatic System; EU Strategic Autonomy; the EU trade-security nexus	Available for supervision
Prof. Esther Versluis	Policy analysis (with a main focus on transposition, compliance and enforcement problems within the EU); governance by European agencies; risk regulation; implementation of EU legislation.	Currently not available for supervision

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Dr. Mariëlle Wijermars	Internet governance; Platform regulation; Digital autonomy/sovereignty; Political communication; Media freedom and censorship	

Co-supervisors

Name co-supervisor	Main topics	Comments
Dr. Francesca Colli	Civil society organisations and NGOs, lobbying and advocacy in the EU; climate and environmental politics; social movements	
Dr. Assem Dandashly	Economic and Monetary Union; Political Economy of Central and Eastern Europe; European Neighbourhood Policy (focus on the Southern neighbours); and Democratization in the Middle East and North Africa.	Available for co-supervision
Dr. Nele Marianne Ewers-Peters	European foreign, security and defence policy; security and defence cooperation; inter-organisational relations; NATO	
Dr. Ferenc Laczó	modern and contemporary Europe, Europe in global perspective, liberalism and democracy, political and intellectual history.	
Dr. Petar Petrov	European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP); European Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP); Governance of the ESDP in the context of crisis management and conflict prevention operations; Institutionalisation of the CFSP and ESDP; EU-led military and civil-military operations.	Currently not available for co-supervision
Dr. Eli Sapir	Comparative political behaviour, in particular the interrelationships between citizens/voters, parties/political entrepreneurs, and media; public opinion and socio-demographics; regime transformation and democratization;	

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	survey methodology, broadly defined, quantitative research methods.	
Dr. Britt van der Walle	Political organizations including political parties, think tanks and interest groups in Europe; far-right politics; social norms in politics	Available for co-supervision
Dr. Clara Weinhardt	EU trade policy, World Trade Organization, geoeconomics, North-South relations (esp. EU-Africa cooperation, rising powers), development, trade-sustainability nexus	

External co-supervisors (to be checked)

Name Supervisors	Topics	Comments
Dr. Edward Best, European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA)	European institutions and decision-making processes; comparative regional cooperation and integration.	
Prof. Phedon Nicolaidis, Faculty of Law, Maastricht University	Economic integration; competition policy (anti-trust and state aid).	
Dr. Sabina Lange, European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA)	Inter-institutional relations in the EU; EU leadership; delegated and implementing acts ('comitology'); coherence and consistency in EU external action; national and EU/European diplomacy; policy learning in the EU.	
Prof. Roberta Haar, University College Maastricht	European Foreign Policy; European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP); North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO); Transatlantic Relations and Foreign Policy Analysis	

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Prof. Michael Shackleton	Union Politics; European Parliament; European elections; EU inter-institutional relations; EU and the role of the media.	Available as a co-supervisor in the next academic year