

Julien Vrydagh

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Employment

Postdoctoral Fellow on the ERC Research Project 'Designing Democracy on Mars and Earth', University of Stuttgart (2023-...)

Teaching Assistant & PhD candidate, Department of Political Sciences, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (2017- 2023)

Education

PhD – Joint PhD Vrije Universiteit Brussel & UCLouvain (2017-Jan. 2023)

M.A. International Relations (high distinction), University of Ghent, Belgium (2014-2016). Master Thesis: *How do democracy barometers approach the quality of democracy?*

M.A. European studies (satisfaction), University of Ghent, Belgium (2013-2015)
Master thesis: *A discourse analysis of the democracy in the European Union*

B.A. Political Sciences (satisfaction), Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium (2010-2013)

Selected Additional Training

PhD course- Statistics for PhD students, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (2018)

PhD course – Excel for junior researchers, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (2018)

Qualitative Comparative Analysis – ECPR Summer and Winter Schools (2018-2019)

PhD course – Argumentative writing in Academic English, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (2017)

Additional skills

Languages: French, (native), English (C1), Dutch (C1), German (A2), Spanish (A2)

Programming: R, MAXQDA, SPSS, Office

Research Stays

Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium (May 2023 – Dec. 2023). Academic host: Jean-Benoit Pilet

Northwestern University, U.S.A. (Sept. 2022). Academic host: Cristina Lafont

University of British Columbia, Canada (Sept. 2021). Academic host: Mark Warren

University of Canberra, Australia (Feb. 2020). Academic hosts: John Dryzek, Simon Niemeyer, and Nicole Curato

Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz, Germany – Erasmus (March-Sept. 2015)

Sichuan University, China – Summer School (July 2014)

University of Ghent, Belgium – Erasmus Belgica (Sept. 2012-June 2013)

Research funding and fellowships

Awarded

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada – Grant application for the workshop on systemic approaches to Democracy – 15.000CA\$

Fonds National de la Recherche Scientifique – Grant for the workshop on systemic approaches to Democracy – 3.500€ (2022)

Cost Action Network Grant for a Research Stay at the University of British Columbia – 3.500€ (2021)

Research Foundation Flanders Grant for a Research Stay at the University of Canberra – 3.500€ (2020)

Publications

Vrydagh, J. (2023). [The minipublic bubble: how the contributions of minipublics are conceived in Belgium \(2001–2021\)](#). *European Political Science Review*, 1-16.

Vrydagh, J. (2022). [Measuring the impact of consultative citizen participation. Reviewing the congruency approaches for assessing the uptake of citizen ideas](#). *Policy Sciences*, 55, 65-88.

Vrydagh, J., Bottin, J., Reuchamps, M., Bouhon, F., & Devillers, S. (2021). [Les commissions délibératives entre parlementaires et citoyens tirés au sort au sein des assemblées bruxelloises](#). *Courrier Hebdomadaire du CRISP*, 2492, 5-68. [2492].

Devillers, S., Vrydagh, J., Caluwaerts, D., & Reuchamps, M. (2021). [Looking in from the outside: how randomly invited - but not selected - citizens think about a mini-public.](#) *Journal of Deliberative Democracy*, 17(1), 149-159.

Vrydagh, J., & Caluwaerts, D. (2020). [How do Mini-publics Affect Public Policy? Disentangling the Influences of a Mini-public on Public Policy Using the Sequential Impact Matrix Framework.](#) *Representation*, 1-20

Curato, N., Vrydagh, J., & Bächtiger, A. (2020). [Democracy without Shortcuts: Introduction to the Special Issue.](#) *Journal of Deliberative Democracy*, 16(2), 1-9.

Vrydagh, J., Devillers, S., & Reuchamps, M. (2020). [The Integration of Deliberative Mini-publics in Collaborative Governance Through the Perspectives of Citizens and Stakeholders: The Case of the Education Reform in French-speaking Belgium.](#) *Representation*

Vrydagh, J., Devillers, S., Talukder, D., Jacquet, V., & Bottin, J. (2020). [Les mini-publics en Belgique \(2001-2018\) : expériences de panels citoyens délibératifs.](#) *Courrier Hebdomadaire du CRISP*, 32 (2477-2478), 5-72.

Matthieu, J., Vrydagh, J., Caluwaerts, D., & Erzeel, S. (2020). [The Democratic Credentials of Youth Parliaments. The Case of the Belgian Jeugd Parlement Jeunesse.](#) *Journal of Legislative Studies*, 26(2), 204-222.

Book chapters

Forthcoming

Vrydagh, J. How to detect the manipulation of consultative democratic innovations? In *The power of democratic innovations. The impact of participatory and deliberative institutions*, edited by Jacquet, V., Ryan, M. van der Does, R. ECPR Press.

Published

Knops, L., & Vrydagh, J. (2023). [Between hopes and the governance of unsustainability: an analysis of Citizen Assemblies potential on climate change.](#) In *Handbook on Citizens' Assemblies*, edited by Reuchamps M., Vrydagh J., Welp. Y. De Gruyter.

Vrydagh, J., (2023) [Citizens' Assemblies: an Introduction.](#) In *Handbook on Citizens' Assemblies*, edited by Reuchamps M., Vrydagh J., Welp. Y. De Gruyter.

Vrydagh, J., Devillers, S., Jacquet, V., Talukder, D., & Bottin, J. (2021). [Thriving in an unfriendly territory : the peculiar rise of minipublics in consociational Belgium.](#) In

Belgian Exceptionalism: Belgian Politics between Realism and Surrealism (pp. 59-78). Routledge.

Devillers, S., Vrydagh, J., Caluwaerts, D., & Reuchamps, M. (2021). [Tirés au sort, mais non retenus: Une analyse de la légitimité du panel citoyen «Make your Brussels Mobility» par le prisme de ses \(non\) participants](#). In *Les transformations de la légitimité démocratique : Idéaux, revendications et perceptions* (pp. 329-348). Academia / L'Harmattan.

Edited Volume

The Handbook of Citizens' Assemblies (2023). Edited by Reuchamps M., Vrydagh J., Welp. Y. De Gruyter.

Edited Special Issue

Democracy without shortcuts – A special Issue for the Journal of Deliberative Democracy, edited by Curato, N., Bächtiger, A., and Vrydagh J. (2020)

Contribution to the public debate

Simon, S., Vrydagh, J. (2023), [Fusing Representative and deliberative democracy : a dispatch from Brussels](#). Deliberative Democracy Digest.

Interview in De Tijd « [Bericht uit een Brussels Burgerpanel](#) » (2021)

Jacquet, V., Talukder, D., Devillers, S., Bottin, J., Vrydagh J. (2020) [Deliberative Minipublics Has Made it to Mainstream Politics : a Dispatch from Belgium](#). Deliberative Democracy Digest

Vrydagh, J. (2020) [Democracy without Shortcuts](#). A roundup for Deliberative Democracy Digest.

Media article : « *Participation Citoyenne : [Mode ou pratique vieille comme le monde ?](#) » Espace de Libertés n°490 (2020)*

Interview in the Vif l'Express : « [Le Grand Débat, une opportunité gâchée par Macron](#) » (2019)

Public lecture, « *Can the use of sortition solve the crisis of democracy?* », University of Gent (2017)

Selected Conferences and presentations

Invited presentations

Research Seminar at the Department of Political Sciences, KULeuven - Managing expectations: what can we and should we expect from the impact of minipublics on public decisions? (2022)

Public lecture on the impact and follow-up procedures for minipublics - Inter-university degree in participatory democracy, UCLouvain (2022)

Research Seminar of Political Theory at the Department of Political Science, University of British Columbia - Framing the purpose of minipublics (2021)

Research Seminar of the Centre for Deliberative Democracy and Global Governance, University of Canberra - The rise of deliberative minipublics in Belgium (2020)

International Conference Participation

European Consortium of Political Research (ECPR) Annual Conference: 2019, 2020,2021,2022

Workshop on Academic Book Writing, King's College London: 2022

Deliberative Democracy Summer School: 2020, 2022

State of the Federation Conference: 2018, 2019

Workshop of Democratic Innovations in Theory and Practice, University of Zurich: 2018

Berlin Graduate Summer School of Social Sciences, Humboldt University: 2018

Engagement with democratic innovations

Consultant for KNOCA to develop an Impact Evaluation Framework of Citizens' Assemblies on climate change (2022-present)

Consultant in citizen participation for the design and implementation of the randomly selected Neighbourhood Councils in the City of Brussels (2019-2020)

Assistance with the evaluation of the Citizens' Assembly organized by the political party Agora in the Region of Brussels (2019-2020)

International Observer for the Citizens' Convention for the Climate, Paris, France (2019)

International Observer for the Regional Citizens' Conferences of the Grand Débat National, Poitiers, France (2019)

Member of the Observatory of the Grand Débat National in France, *CEVIPOF and Paris Sciences Po*, Paris, France (2019)

Participation to the IOPD annual conference - The International Observatory on Participatory Democracy, *Barcelona (2018)*

Instructor for facilitators for the Citizen's Forum « Make My Administration », Brussels (2018)

Participation to the Summer School of the G1000.nl, *Amersfoort, Netherlands (2018)*

Observation of seven minipublics in Belgium (2017-present)

Teaching

Supervision of bachelor and master theses, Department of Political Sciences, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (2018-present)

History of International Relations, Bachelor of Social Sciences (2nd year) & Bachelor of Politieke Wetenschappen (3rd year), Vrije Universiteit Brussel (2017-present)

Introduction to Political Sciences (in Dutch), *Vrije Universiteit Brussel (2018-present)*

Belgisch Federalisme (in Dutch), *Vrije Universiteit Brussel (2018-2021)*

Academic Service

Disciplinary

Co-organization of the workshop on systemic approaches to democracy, McGill University, Montreal (Sept. 2022)

Chair of a panel at the ECPR Conference (Aug. 2022)

Co-organizer of the online public conference "The contours of participatory democracy in the 21st century". Transcription of the discussion for the Journal of Deliberative Democracy (2021)

Collaborator of Participedia (2021-present)

Associate researcher of the Centre for Deliberative Democracy and Global Governance, University of Canberra (2020-present)

Member of the COST Action Group - Deliberative democracy and constitution-making (2020-present)

Co-organizer of a workshop on the consequences of democratic innovations, UCLouvain (Sept. 2019)

Co-organizer of the Summer School on Democratic Innovations, Université de Saint Louis, Brussels (2018)

Julien Vrydagh

Reviewer for Political Studies, British Journal of Political Sciences and the Journal of Deliberative Democracy (2019-present)

Institutional

Representative of the teaching staff of the faculty of Sociale Wetenschappen and Solvay Business School (2017-2019)

Coordinator for the application of awards for the best master theses (2018-present)