

Suzanne Andrea Bloks

PhD Candidate, Hamburg University

Philosopher, Lawyer & Mathematician

Current Employment

- 2021–present **PhD Candidate**, *Hamburg University*, Hamburg, Germany.
PhD candidate, working at the intersections Philosophy, Politics, Law and Economics in the interdisciplinary DFG Graduate Program 'Collective Decision-Making'. Research areas of specialization: political philosophy, constitutional and EU law, (computational) social choice. Research topic: the democratic boundary problem and the design of parliamentary constituencies.

Education

- 2018–2020 **MA Philosophy**, *Leiden University*, Leiden, the Netherlands, *summa cum laude*.
Specialization: Philosophical Perspectives on Politics and the Economy. Average grade: 9.2/10. Dissertation on constituencies in electoral design, a response to and an extension of *The Concept of Constituency* by Rehfeld, mark: 9.5/10, awarded the LUF Dissertation Prize 2021 for best Master's dissertation of Leiden University.
- 2018–2019, 2016–2017 **LL.M. Legal Research**, *Utrecht University*, Utrecht, the Netherlands, *cum laude*.
2-year research degree. Courses on: Constitutional law, EU law, research methodology. Average grade: 8.5/10. Dissertation about referendums in representative democracy, mark: 9.0/10, awarded the Bright Minds Award 2017 for innovative interdisciplinary research.
- 2017–2018 **MSc Applicable Mathematics**, *London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)*, London, UK, *cum laude*.
Courses on: (Algorithmic) game theory, (computational) social choice, mechanism design. Obtained distinction in every course. Dissertation about Condorcet winning sets in computational social choice, mark: 84/100.
- 2012–2016 **BA Philosophy, BSc Mathematics, LLB. Law**, *Utrecht University*, Utrecht, the Netherlands, BA and LLB. with *cum laude*.
Theses formed an interdisciplinary trilogy about legitimacy and representation in the EU. BA conceptual framework, mark: 8.5/10. BSc case-study about power relations in the European Council, mark: 8.5/10. LLB. case-study about the EU accession procedure, mark: 9.5/10.

Publications

- 2021 Bloks, S.A. and A. van den Brink. The Impact on National Sovereignty of Mutual Recognition in the AFSJ. Case-Study of the European Arrest Warrant. *German Law Journal*, 22(1):45–64.
- 2019 Bloks, S.A. Are Referendums and Parliamentary Elections Reconcilable? The Implications of Three Voting Paradoxes. *Moral Philosophy and Politics*, 6(2):281–311. Towards Foolproof Democracy. Advancing Public Debate and Political Decision-Making [Special Issue].
- 2019 Bloks, S.A. The Regulation of Trans Fats in Food Products in the US and the EU. *Utrecht Law Review*, 15(3):57–77. Unhealthy, (un)lawful? [Special Issue].
- 2018 Bloks, S.A. De regulering van transvetten in levensmiddelen. Vergelijkend onderzoek tussen de VS en de EU. In A.L.M Keirse, R.S.B. Kool and R. Ortlep, editor, *Ongezond en (on)geoorloofd? Publiek- en privaatrecht & legale maar gezondheidsbedreigende producten en diensten*, pages 337–368. The Hague: Boom Juridische Uitgevers.

- 2018 Bloks, S.A. The Impact on Sovereignty. Assessing an Essentially Contested Concept. In S. Hardt, A.W. Heringa and A. Waltermann, editor, *Bevrijdende en Begrenzende Soevereiniteit*, pages 51–72. The Hague: Boom Juridische Uitgevers.
- 2018 Bloks, S.A. De Wet raadgevend referendum afschaffen of verbeteren? *Nederlands juristenblad*, 2:85–91.

Experience

Vocational

- 2018–2019 **Embassy Intern**, *Embassy of the Netherlands in Serbia and Montenegro - Department of Politics, Rule of Law and Public Diplomacy*, Belgrade, Serbia.
6 month internship. Member of a team monitoring rule of law reformations in the context of the EU accession procedure by organising public diplomatic events, attending meetings with governmental and other partners, and writing policy briefings.
- 2017 **Student-assistent**, *Utrecht University - Willem Pompe Institute*, Utrecht, the Netherlands.
Research project Hercule III for EU Anti-Fraud Office OLAF. Organisation of two conferences and contribution to the final report.

Research & Teaching

- 2020–2021 **Lecturer**, *Utrecht University - Institute of Jurisprudence, Constitutional and Administrative Law*, Utrecht, the Netherlands.
Lecturer for seminars in the undergraduate courses: *Foundations of Law* and *Administrative Law*. Involved in designing and teaching the new Master's course *Technology and the Rule of Law*. Active as a first-years' tutor.
- 2019–2020 **Research and Teaching Assistant**, *University of Amsterdam - Institute for Logic, Language and Computation*, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
Researcher in the Computational Social Choice Group (funding: NWO Vici Project on Collective Information). Lecturer in two graduate courses: *Game Theory* and *Computational Social Choice*.
- 2017 **Student-assistent**, *Utrecht University*, Utrecht, the Netherlands.
Teacher of tutorials for the undergraduate *Game Theory* course.
- 2014–2016 **Exam Trainer**, *Leiden University - Stichting Studiebegeleiding Leiden (SSL)*, Leiden, the Netherlands.
Teacher in mathematics for high school students preparing for their final examinations.
- 2012–2017 **Tutor**, *StudentsPlus*, Utrecht, the Netherlands.
Tutor in mathematics for high school students.

Miscellaneous

- 2015 **Delegate**, *Netherlands Asia Honours Summer School*, Hong Kong.
Publication in volume 3, 2015, of *Het Financieele Dagblad* (Dutch equivalent of *the Financial Times*). Courses in Chinese Culture and Chinese Philosophy.

Presentations

- 2021 **Waarom het volk niet beslist**, *Cleveringabijeenkomst Den Haag*, Wijnhaven, Leiden University.
November 26
- 2021 **The Democratic Legitimacy of Coercive Immigration Control**, *Boundary Problem Workshop*, Institute for Future Studies, Stockholm, Online.
October 12
- 2021 **Legislative (In)Capacity to Act: A Proposal for Dual Open-Secret Voting in Legislatures**, *ECPR Joint Sessions*, Online.
May 24
Joint presentation with Prof. D.M. Mokrsinska
- 2021 **The Democratic Legitimacy of Border Coercion**, *CPP Disputationes Quadrangulae*, Bi-Annual Workshop in political and legal philosophy by Leiden University and KU Leuven, Online.
May 6

- 2020 **The (Un)Bounded Demos: A logical consequence of procedural democratic principles?**, *Annual Conference of the Dutch Research School of Philosophy (OZSW)*, Tilburg University, Online.
- 2019 **De gekozen burgemeester via instemmingsverkiezingen [Electing the mayor with approval voting]**, *Young Researchers Event of the Dutch Association of Constitutional Law*, Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, the Hague, the Netherlands.
- 2019 **Minimum-sized Condorcet Winning Sets in Preference Profiles**, *Computational Social Choice Seminar*, ILLC, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
- 2017 **National Sovereignty: Conceptualising an Essentially Contested Concept**, *Dutch Constitutional Law Conference on Globalization as a Challenge to National Sovereignty*, Maastricht University, Maastricht, the Netherlands.
- 2017 **Referendums in Representative Democracy: Learning from Social Choice Theory**, *Dare to Cross Over!*, Utrecht University, Utrecht, the Netherlands.
Awarded the Bright Minds Award 2017 for interdisciplinary research.

Awards

LUF Dissertation Prize 2021.

Award for the best Master's dissertation of Leiden University written in 2019/2020. Awarded by Fonds Minerva Reünisten 1957/1961/1965 and Leids Universitair Fonds (LUF) for the MA Philosophy dissertation 'Constituencies in Electoral Design. A Response to and an Extension of The Concept of Constituency by Rehfeld', supervised by dr. T. Fossen.

Bright Minds Award 2017.

Award for interdisciplinary research and innovation by Dare to Cross Over! of Utrecht University. Received for research on referendums, combining constitutional law and social choice.