

# 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 of Philosophy, Politics, Law and Economics in the interdisciplinary DFG Graduate Program 'Collective Decision-Making'. Research areas of specialization: political philosophy, EU constitutional law, (computational) social choice. Research topic: democratic inclusion, neo-republicanism, immigration.

## 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

- 2022 **Equal or Proportional Political Power? A Neo-Republican Theory of Democratic Inclusion**, *Centre for Political Philosophy Colloquium*, Leiden University, the Netherlands.  
April 21
- 2022 **For Partially Enfranchising Denizens**, *17th Annual Doctoral Conference CEU*, Central European University, Wien, Austria.  
April 8
- 2021 **Waarom het volk niet beslist**, *Cleveringabijeenkomst Den Haag*, Wijnhaven, Leiden University, the Netherlands.  
November 26
- 2021 **The Democratic Legitimacy of Coercive Immigration Control**, *Boundary Problem Workshop*, Institute for Future Studies, Stockholm, Online.  
October 12

- 2021 May 24 **Legislative (In)Capacity to Act: A Proposal for Dual Open-Secret Voting in Legislatures**, *ECPR Joint Sessions*, Online.  
Joint presentation with Prof. D.M. Mokrsinska
- 2021 May 6 **The Democratic Legitimacy of Border Coercion**, *CPP Disputationes Quadrangulae*, Bi-Annual Workshop in political and legal philosophy by Leiden University and KU Leuven, Online.
- 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**, June 8 *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.