Zeth Isaksson

PhD Candidate
0046764157579 — zeth.isaksson@sociology.su.se
Bluesky — X — Linkedin — Personal website
Universitetsvägen 10B, 114 18, Stockholm.
Updated April 7, 2025

About

PhD candidate at Stockholm University, specializing in Historical Political Economy, Comparative Politics, Political Sociology, and Quantitative Methods. Experience from University of Linköping, Ludwig Maximilian University, and Barcelona Center for European Studies (BACES). Currently analyzing legacies of historical institutions' on contemporary political behavior in Germany and Sweden.

Education

PhD - Sociology Sep. 2021 – Expected Sep. 2025
Stockholm University - Stockholm
- Supervision by Jens Rydgren, Jan Teorell and Sirus H Dehdari

Master of Political Science Sep. 2019 – Sep. 2020
Ludwig Maximilian Universität - Munich
- Average grade 1.35
- Supervision by Martin Gross

Master of Current Democracies Sep. 2018 – Jul. 2020
Universitat Pompeu Fabra - Barcelona
- Average grade 9.11/10
- Double degree with Ludwig Maximilian Universität - Munich

Bachelor of Political Science Sep. 2014 – Jun. 2018
Uppsala University - Uppsala

Bachelor of History Sep. 2014 – Feb. 2018
Uppsala University - Uppsala
- Rewarded the Best Bachelor Thesis Award

Professional Experience

Max Weber Postdoctoral Fellow - Offered Expected Sep. 2025 – Sep. 2027
European University Institute (EUI), Florence, Italy

Visiting doctoral researcher Oct. 2024 – Nov. 2024
Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung (WZB)
- Visiting Daniel Ziblatt

Visiting doctoral researcher Jan. 2023 – Jun. 2023
European University Institute, Florence, Italy
- Visiting Hanspeter Kriesi

Visiting doctoral researcher Apr. 2022 – Jun. 2022
Stockholm University - Department of Political Science, Stockholm Sweden

Research assistant Mar. 2021 – Sep. 2021
University of Linköping, Linköping, Sweden
- Analysed local level polarization and inter-municipal cooperation at the Centre for Local Government Studies.

Research assistant Feb. 2021 – Sep. 2021
Barcelona Center for European Studies (BACES), Barcelona, Spain

Research and Data Trainee Oct. 2020 – Feb. 2021
European Union Agency for the Fundamental Rights, Vienna, Austria

Student Research Assistant May 2020 – Sep. 2020
Ludwig-Maximilian Universität, Munich, Germany

Worked in conference and event planning for organizations such as the Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (RFSU) and the Swedish Association of International Affairs, before entering academia.

Publications

Publications in Peer-Reviewed Journals

- Spirited Away: Access to Alcohol and Support for the Populist Radical Right, *Electoral Studies,* 2024
  [Covered in: Dagens PS, Dagens ETC]
- Candidate Shortages and the Electoral Consequences for Radical Right-Wing Parties: Insights from Sweden *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion & Parties,* 2024
- Behind the Wall - Did the Lack of Interaction Between East and West Contribute to the Rise of the Radical Right? *Acta Politica,* 2024 *
- Political Expectations and Electoral Responses to Wind Farm Development in Sweden [w/ Simon Gren] *Energy Policy,* 2024
  [Covered in: Extrakt]
- Political Effects of Rural School Closures – Evidence from Sweden, *Journal of Rural Studies*, 2023
  [Covered in: Altinget, Dagens Arena, Dagens Samhälle]

Work in Progress

- Repression, Party Ties, and Political Beliefs: Ideological Continuities After Socialism [R&R] *
- How Car Culture Drives Political Preferences in Rural Regions: Evidence from Sweden [R&R]
- Jumping on the Bandwagon or off the Sinking Ship: Electoral Support and Candidate Supply [Under review]
- Persistent Breeze from the Winds of Change: Political behavior among protest participants after democratic transition [Under Review] *
- Democratic Protests as a Catalyst for Long-term Electoral Participation [In preparation] *
- From Repression to Participation: When Historical Political Repression Foster Long-term Electoral Participation [In preparation] *
- Beyond Borders: Landed Elites, Rural Conflict, and Diverging Political Behavior in Transferred Regions [In preparation]
- No Smoke With(out) Fire: How Wildfires and Barbecue Bans Ignite Political Support [w/ Stefan Linde] [In preparation]
- How I Learned to Stop Tweeting and Love Bluesky [w/ Joseph Noonan] [In preparation]

Chapters & Reports

[transl.] Intermunicipal Cooperation: What are the Known Effects? A Literature Review. (2021), Kommuninvest. [w/ Gissur Erlingsson & Bo Persson]

Other Publications

- Isaksson, Zeth. (2019). "Hjärnan bakom Podemos" [The brain behind Podemos], *Ordfront Magazine*
- Isaksson, Zeth. (2017). "Åkesson hos Heimdal" [Åkesson at Heimdal], *Ordfront Magazine*
- Isaksson, Zeth. (2016). "100 nya frivilliga" [100 new volunteers], *Ordfront Magazine*

* Part of doctoral thesis

Supervision

2x Master Theses, 1x Bachelor thesis (1 ongoing)

Teaching

Globalization Spring 2024, 2025
Stockholm University, Sweden
- Seminar leader. Grading of papers.

Basic methods Spring & Fall 2022
Stockholm University, Sweden
- Supervision of undergraduate students and seminar leader. Grading of exams.

External censor Fall 2022
University of Oslo, Norway
- Assessed and graded one master thesis as an external censor

Conferences, Workshops, and Invited Presentations

Upcomming:
Contested Solidarities: Contentious Politics Between Resistance, Backlash and Change - CEU, June 2025, Vienna
EPSA, June 2025, Madrid

Invited:
Centre for Local Government Studies (CKS), Nov 2021, Norrköping.
Swedish Institute for Social Research (SOFI), Oct 2022, Stockholm.
The Anti-Racism Working Group Seminar Series - Panel on the Swedish election, Oct 2022, Stockholm
Centre for Collective Action Research (CeCAR), Oct 2022, Gothenburg
European University Institute, May 2023, Florence
Higher Seminar in Political Science - Linnaeus University, Sep 2023, Växjö
Stockholm Sessions on Migration, Oct 2023, Stockholm
East European Politics Graduate Workshop, August 2024, Online.
Lunch seminars in comparative politics, Department of Political Science, September 2024, Lund.

Workshops:
The Swedish Network for European Studies in Political Science (SNES) - PhD Workshop, Nov 2022, Malmö
Political Periodisations workshop, Nov 2022, Uppsala
Life Styles and Politics - Skåvsjöholm, June 2024, Stockholm.
Workshop on Political Behaviour in Central and Eastern Europe - EUI, June 2024, Florence.

Conferences:
SWEPSA (2021, 2022, 2023)
ECPR - General (2023)
EPSA (2024, 2025 (Planned))
NESS (2022)
ESSHC (2023)
Sociologidagarna (2024): the biannual conference of the Swedish Sociological Association

Referee Service

Comparative Political Studies (2); Political Behavior; Electoral Studies; Environmental Politics; Social Problems; Social Sciences Research

Media Appearances

Recognized expert in Swedish politics prior to the 2022 election, featured prominently in hundreds of news articles, radio and TV shows, and podcasts. Acknowledged as one of the most referenced researchers from Stockholm University in a single day, with over 500 worldwide article mentions. Regularly sought after for commentary on Swedish politics in both national and international media.

Selected Media Appearances:

International
- Swedish conservatives close to election win amid crime fears - AP (2022-09-12)
- Parties in Sweden election 'completely even' as far right surges - Al-Jazeera (2022-09-11)
- Sweden's right-wing opposition slightly ahead in election still too close to call - NBC News (2022-09-12)

Swedish
- Högervind bland unga ökar stödet för kärnkraft - Dagens Nyheter (2022-08-06)
- "Jag skäms inte att säga att jag röstar på SD" - Aftonbladet (2022-09-17)
- Kritiserad klimataktion kan påverka stödet för Miljöpartiet - Sveriges Radio (2022-08-30)
- Stora skillnader i ungas valdeltagande: "Handlar om information" - Sveriges Television (2024-05-06)

Grants and Awards

- 2024: European Consortium for Sociological Research 1750 EURO
- 2024: Helge Ax:son Johnsons stipend: 10 000 SEK
- 2024: Gustaf Björklunds memorial stipend: 21 235 SEK
- 2024: Elisabeth and Herman Rhodins stipend: 8 765 SEK
- 2017: Awarded for the best bachelor thesis in History - Uppsala University 10 000 SEK
- 2017: Henrik Gahns scholarship - 15 000 SEK

Languages

- Swedish - Native
- English - C1
- German - B1

Affiliations

Barcelona Centre of European Studies - BACES UPF

References

Prof. Jens Rydgren
Department of Sociology
Stockholm University
Universitetsvägen 10B,
114 18, Stockholm.
✉ jens.rydgren@sociology.su.se

Prof. Jan Teorell
Stockholm University
Department of Political Science
Universitetsvägen 10F,
114 18, Stockholm.
✉ jan.teorell@statsvet.su.se

Associate Prof. Sirus H Dehdari
Stockholm University
Department of Political Science
Universitetsvägen 10F,
114 18, Stockholm.
✉ sirus.dehdari@statsvet.su.se