



Annual report
Political Science
2021

2021 – introduction from the Head of Subject

During 2021, political science was subject to no less than three evaluations. The Swedish Research Council employed an international expert panel to evaluate the quality and social impact of political science in Sweden¹. The panel came to the overall conclusion that “Sweden has much to be proud of as regards the performance of its political scientists” (p. 59). To assess the quality of research the panel read and scored a random selection of publications from the different political science departments. Örebro received a mean score of 2.40 (0–4), beaten only by the University of Gothenburg (2.48) and Stockholm (2.55). The panel concluded that “size matters”, but also “as the examples of /.../ Örebro University /.../ show, it is also possible to produce *a good proportion of high-quality research outside the ‘big four’.*” (p. 39).

To evaluate the social impact we provided the panel with three cases. After reading the case descriptions, the panel gave Political Science at Örebro a mean score of 2.5 (0=No impact, 4=Excellent). Here, only the big four (Lund, Gothenburg, Stockholm, Uppsala) received higher mean scores. Örebro really exemplify one of the overall conclusions from the evaluation “that academic quality and policy impact in political science in general go hand-in-hand: departments whose research quality is high are also *successful in disseminating research to the public and to policy-making circles*” (p. 8)

In the University wide research evaluation ORU2020², political science was assessed by a panel chaired by Prof. B. Guy Peters. After reading a self-assessment and after a nice zoom-chat with representatives of the subject, they gave us a number of constructive comments to strengthen our research environment, including to be more visionary and continue to aim for quality rather than quantity. These helpful suggestions will form the basis for strategic discussions within the subject as well as with the HS Faculty and within the HUMUS during 2022. The overall conclusion, however, was that “*there are talented people in the Unit and they should work to maximize their potential contributions to the discipline and the University.*”

Finally, our educational programs and courses was evaluated by the HS Faculty. After a self-assessment that was commented by the Faculty board as “*very well conducted*” (anonymous source) and a second reporting (ALL subjects report at least twice) that was commented as “*exemplary*” (anonymous source), political science was given a green light. And that was not it, we also received the go-ahead to start a new master program in political science – starting Autumn 2022.

There is a lot to be said about evaluations; they don’t say everything, but they do say something!

Thank you all for the great work you do – in research, in teaching, in collaborating with the outside world, and in administration – and a special thanks to all of you who headed, contributed, or supported these evaluation processes!

February 25, 2021

Erik Hysing

¹ The report is available at our <https://www.oru.se/forskning/forskningsamnen/statskunskap/>

² The report is available at <https://inforum.oru.se/inforum/kvalitet-och-utveckling/oru2020/>

New research grants

Erik Amnå

"Hinder och möjligheter för intellektuellt funktionsnedsattas politiska deltagande", tre statsvetare vid Uppsala universitet och Erik Amnå, Vetenskapsrådet 2022-2024.

Ann-Catrin Kristianssen

Säkra och hållbara transporter, Grant from Trafikverket (SEK 500.000), 2021 – 2022.

Erik Hysing

Reconciling safe and circular material flows. A case study of PFAS in the lifecycle of food packaging, 2021–2023, Grant from the Swedish Research Council Formas (SEK 4 million), Project leader: Dr. Ingrid Ericson Jogsten, Örebro University.

Carolín Zorell

ACCTING (AdvanCing behavioural Change Through an INclusive Green deal), Horizon 2020 grant from the European Commission (4 000 000 kr).

Internal grants:

For inclusion of questions in Swedish SOM survey study 2021 (90 000 kr).

For research time for publication writing (20% two months in 2022; 26 000 kr).

For research assistant in fall 2021 (84 000 kr).

Joachim Åström, Martin Karlsson, Ann-Catrin Kristianssen, Erik Hysing

What make planners trust the citizens? Participation and trust building for a sustainable transport system for everyone, 2021–2025, Grant from the Swedish Research Council Formas (SEK 6.95 million).

Ongoing research projects

Erik Amnå

Ungas politiska deltagande – en forskningsöversikt, Erik Amnå och Anna Helander, Forte.

Ungas politiska utveckling, Erik Amnå och Håkan Stattin, Uppsala universitet (numera ofinansierat).

Mikael Holmgren

Att styra dagordningen i Sveriges Riksdag: partipolitiska intressekonflikter och kommittéväsendets utveckling 1971-2021. Vetenskapsrådet, 5 500 000 kr. Medverkande: Carl Dahlström (Göteborgs universitet).

Erik Hysing

Does the ecosystem service approach matter? Evaluating its political and practical implications for Swedish biodiversity governance, Formas (SEK 2.7 million).

Martin Karlsson och Joachim Åström

Concept for strengthening democratic influence, Norska forskningsrådet

Open Parliament Laboratory, HS fakulteten

Martin Karlsson, Thomas Denk och Joachim Åström

Informationssäkerhetskultur i praktiken, MSB

Ann-Catrin Kristianssen

Social jämlikhet och trafiksäkerhet – en förstudie om funktionsnedsättning och nollvisionen.

Trafikverket. Övriga medverkande: Camilla Warnicke, forskningshandledare på Universitetssjukhusets forskningscentrum.

Nollvisionen i ett lokalt perspektiv samt fortsatt samordning nätverksbyggande. Trafikverket TRV 2017/105570. Övriga medverkande: Veronica De Majo (ht-2020).

Brobyggare i ett uppdelat samhälle? – En kartläggning av framväxten av interreligiösa råd i Sverige MUCF.

Trafiksäkerhetsarbete i Latinamerika, finansierat av Trafikverket. Övriga medverkande Veronica de Majo.

Jan Olsson

Green Public Ethics, Formas (tillsammans med Monika Berg).

Carolyn Zorell

Political consumerism: Consumer motivation and action with special reference to food consumption and sustainability, Örebro Universitet (Food and Health Program), 64 990 kr.

Växtbaserade proteiner för hälsa och välmående (PAN Sverige), FORMAS, 47 942 322 kr.

Publications

Alexopoulou, Sofia (2021). 'Beneath This Mask There is More Than Flesh, Beneath This Mask There is an Idea': Anonymous as the (Super)heroes of the Internet?. *International Journal for the Semiotics of Law*, 34 (1), 237-264.

Alexopoulou, Sofia & Pavli, A. (2021). Responsible Citizens against an Irresponsible State: The Case of Greece amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic. *HAPSc Policy Briefs Series*, 2 (1), 9-16.

Amnå, Erik & Stigendal, M. (2021). *Samhällsorientering: för en hållbar integration*. Helsingborg: Bokförlaget Komlitt AB.

Boudin, J. & Olsson, Jan (2021). Sustainability in Public Pension Funds? A Longitudinal Study of the Council on Ethics of the Swedish AP Funds. *Sustainability*, 13 (1).

Dahlström, Carl & **Holmgren, Mikael** (2021). Loyal Leaders, Affluent Agencies: The Budgetary Implications of Political Appointments in the Executive Branch. *The Journal of Politics* <https://doi.org/10.1086/717756>.

Denk, Thomas & Görtz, Carl (2021). Är verkligen allt politik? I: Ulrika Andersson; Anders Carlander; Patrik Öhberg; Marie Grusell, *Ingen anledning till oro (?): SOM-undersökningen 2020* (ss. 389-400). Göteborg: SOM-institutet.

Drugge, Daniel (2021). 'I'm Outta Here': Theorizing the Role of Exit in the Ideal of Non-Domination. *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*, 24 (3), 789-801.

Elander, Ingemar (2021). Favorit i ständig repris. Planering i gränslandet mellan representativ och deltagande demokrati. Pp. 73-78 in Nazem Tahvilzadeh (Ed.) *Plan: Planering och demokrati: Föreningen för samhällsplanering*.

Elander, Ingemar, Granberg, Mikael & Montin, Stig (2021). Governance and Planning in a 'Perfect Storm': Securitising Climate Change, Migration and Covid-19 in Sweden. *Progress in Planning*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.progress.2021.100634>.

Fridolfsson, Charlotte & **Elander, Ingemar** (2021). Between Scuritization and Counter-securitization: Church of Sweden Opposing the Turn of Swedish Government Migration Policy. *Politics, Religion & Ideology*, 22 (1), 40-63. DOI: 10.1080/21567689.2021.1877671.

Görtz, Carl & Dahl, Viktor (2021) Perceptions of politics and their implications: Exploring the link between conceptualisations of politics and political participation. *European Political Science* Vol. 20(1), 297-317.

Hysing, Erik (2021). Challenges and opportunities for the Ecosystem Services approach: Evaluating experiences of implementation in Sweden, *Ecosystem Services* 52: 101372. DOI: 10.1016/j.ecoser.2021.101372.

Hysing, Erik & Lidskog, Rolf (2021). Do conceptual innovations facilitate transformative change? The case of biodiversity governance, *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution* 8: Article 612211. DOI: 10.3389/fevo.2020.612211.

Karlsson, Martin, Karlsson, Fredrik, **Åström, Joachim** & **Denk, Thomas** (2021). The effect of perceived organizational culture on employees' information security compliance. *Information & Computer Security*. Online first.

Karlsson, Martin (2021). "Digital Democracy and the European Union" in Engelbrekt, A. B., Leijon, K., Michalski, A., & Oxelheim, L. (Eds.). (2021). *The European Union and the Technology Shift*. Springer Nature, pp 237-261.

Kristianssen, Ann-Catrin & Granberg, Mikael (2021). Transforming Local Climate Adaptation Organization: Barriers and Progress in 13 Swedish Municipalities. *Climate*, 9 (4), 1-18.

Pavli, A. & **Alexopoulou, Sofia** (2021). Κοινωνική αποστασιοποίηση και ψηφιακός αναλφαριθμητισμός: Συζητώντας τις συνέπειες του Covid-19 στην ψυχική υγεία ευάλωτων ομάδων: [Social distancing and the digital divide: Discussing the effects of Covid-19 on the mental health of vulnerable groups]. *Misfit / ideas paraxenes*, 2, 85-91.

Sandström, Ulf G. & **Elander, Ingemar** (2021). Biodiversity, Road Transport and Urban Planning: A Swedish Local Authority Facing the Challenge of Establishing a Logistics Hub Adjacent to a Natura 2000 Site. *Progress in Planning*, Vol. 148.

Wanders, F. H. K. , Dijkstra, A. B. , Maslowski, R. , van der Veen, I. & **Amnå, Erik** (2021). The Role of Teachers, Parents, and Friends in Developing Adolescents' Societal Interest. *Scandinavian Journal of Educational Research*, 65 (5), 736-751.

Zorell, Carolin & **Denk, Thomas** (2021). Political Consumerism and Interpersonal Discussion Patterns. *Scandinavian Political Studies*, 44 (4), 392-415.

Åström, Joachim, **Olsson, Jan** & **Hysing, Erik** (2021). Does Policy Influence Hollow Out Public Managers' Political Neutrality? *Administration & Society*.

Conference presentations

Veronica De Majo

SWEPSA 2021 Workshop "Risk assessment, risk analysis, and crisis management", Mittuniversitetet. Presentation: Institutional conditions for building proactive flood management. Lessons from Santa Fe in Argentina. 29 september 2021.

Seminarium "Forskning om lokalt trafiksäkerhetsarbete", Örebro universitet/Vision Zero Academy (Trafikverket). Presentation: Trafiksäkerhet i Bogotá. 10 mars 2021.

Thomas Denk

PSA Annual Conference, digital konferens, Political Science Association, State formation and Democratization. 29/3 2021.

Erik Hysing

Torabi, Nooshin, Damiens, Florence L.P., **Hysing, Erik** and Coffey, B. (2021). Effectiveness of National Biodiversity Strategies. A comparative analysis of policy designs in Sweden, Australia and France, Paper presented at the 5th *International Conference on Public Policy*, Barcelona July 6 – 8 2021.

Carl Görtz

Book project on Political Awareness; Through Zoom; Nos-project organized by researcher from several Nordic countries; The relevance of Political Awareness: A literature review with meta-analysis. 2021-06-04.

Ann-Catrin Kristianssen

Municipal interreligious councils as a democratic innovation? Studying the innovative potential of hybrid organizations in a polarized society. Paper for the NOPSA conference, Reykjavik, Island, August 10-13, 2021. Workshop 2: Improving on perfection? Democratic innovations in Nordic democracies.

Carolin Zorell

Presentation at the annual conference of the Swedish Political Science Association (SWEPSA) in October 2021.

Organisation of a round table discussion at the 2021 General Conference of the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR), "Political science research on climate change: Where is the impact, how can it be enhanced?"

[National and international collaborations](#)

Erik Amnå

"Socialización Política y Educación para la Ciudadanía: El rol de la Familia y la Escuela", Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago de Chile 2018-2022, statsvetenskap och utbildningsvetenskap.

Medlem av den rådgivande gruppen för IEA:s globala studie av samhällsengagemang och samhällsundervisning 2022, ICCS 2022.

Medlem av styrgruppen för Institutet för forskning om mångreligiositet och sekularitet (IMS) vid Södertörns högskola, 2021--, samhällsvetare och religionsvetare.

Veronica De Majo

Vision Zero Network- Samverkan rörande trafiksäkerhet med forskare från Örebro universitet, Karlstad universitet, KTH, VTI och Södertörns högskolan.

Carl Görtz

Publication projects with colleagues at the University of Colorado Boulder, Political Science Department, U.S.

Mikael Holmgren

Carl Dahlström, statsvetenskap, Göteborgs universitet. Daniel Naurin, statsvetenskap, Universitetet i Oslo. Øyvind Stiansen, statsvetenskap, Universitetet i Oslo.

Martin Karlsson

Mette Sønderskov, Statsvetare, Høgskolen i Innlandet (HINN), Lillehammer, Norge.
Marius Rohde Johannessen, Informatik, Universitetet i Sørøst-Norge (USN), Vestfold, Norge.

Ann-Catrin Kristianssen

Koordinerar Vision Zero Network – en sammanslutning av forskare från Örebro universitet, VTI, KTH, Karlstad universitet, Umeå universitet, Södertörns Högskola.

Pågående samarbete med forskare på Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA.

[Phd Supervision](#)**Cecilia Arensmeier**

Carl Görtz, biträdande handledare

Agneta Blom

Sofia Alexopoulou, biträdande handledare
Fredrik Carlsson, Linköpings universitet, biträdande handledare

Thomas Denk

Carl Görtz, huvudhandledare
Owasim Akram, huvudhandledare

Björn Hammar

Alexandra Paiusco, huvudhandledare

Erik Hysing

Alessandra Paiusco, biträdande handledare

Martin Karlsson

Sofia Alexopoulou, biträdande handledare

Ann-Catrin Kristianssen

Alexandra Paiusco, biträdande handledare
Melika Erika Bouhlel, biträdande handledare

Jan Olsson

Veronica de Majo, huvudhandledare
Melika Bouhlel, huvudhandledare
Marta Cocos, biträdande handledare

Joachim Åström

Sofia Alexopoulou, huvudhandledare
Marta Cocos, huvudhandledare
Melika Erika Bouhlel, biträdande handledare

Assignments as Faculty Opponent or member of examining committees

Erik Hysing

External Member of Fredrik Envall's PhD Examining Committee, Linköping University, February 5, 2021.

Martin Karlsson

Betygsnämnd – Sebastian Svenberg, Sociologi, Örebro universitet, 22/10 2021.

Betygsnämnd – Samuel Bohman, Datorvetenskap, Stockholms universitet, 3/12 2021.

Review assignments

Erik Amnå

Provdissertation, Ersta Sköndal Högskola (Linnéa Lundgren).

Docentkompetensbedömning, Stockholms universitet (Marta Reuter).

Reviewer åt tidskrifter inom statsvetenskap, ungdomsstudier och utbildningsvetenskap, bl a European Journal of Political Research och European Sociological Review.

Thomas Denk

Docentansökan, Åbo Akademi.

Mikael Holmgren

Referensuppdrag för vetenskapliga tidskrifter: Administration and Society, European Political Science Review, Governance.

Erik Hysing

Reviewer for journals: Scandinavian Journal of Public Administration; Public Administration.

Reviewer for funding agency: Swedish Energy Agency, Research program Humans, Energy Systems and Society (MESAM).

Jan Olsson

Docentgranskning av Jon Nyhlén på uppdrag av Statsvetenskap vid Stockholms universitet

Alessandra Paiusco

Reviewer for Social Science and Medicine.

External collaboration

Erik Amnå

Föreläsningar

Föreläsningar och pod för Forum för levande historia

Utbildningsradion/Svt Forum/Bokmässan, Göteborg

Studieförbundet Vuxenskolan

Folkbildningsrådet

Region Halland

Sensus studieförbund Väst

Rörelsefolkhögskolornas Intresseorganisation

Göteborgs stads demokratidagar

Danderyds kommun

Svenska kyrkan

Vuxenutbildning

Utveckling och genomförande av utbildningen/lärplattformen "Samhällsorientering för nyanlända",

ett samarbete med Uppsala universitet, Lunds universitet, Malmö universitet och Mitthögskolan med samordning från Länsstyrelsen Skåne.

Konsultationer

Demokratifrågor, Kulturdepartementets demokratienhet.

Kulturrådet, unga medborgares engagemang inom ramen för statens kulturinstitutioner.

Martin Karlsson

P4 Örebro – regeringskrisen.

Ann-Catrin Kristianssen

Arrangör av forskningsseminarium om lokalt trafiksäkerhetsarbete den 10 mars, 2021. Digitalt arrangemang där Kristianssen var med och presenterade tre forskningsprojekt.

Road safety work in Swedish municipalities. Part of the research program *Vision Zero – from idea to implementation*. Föredrag på SAFER:s lunchseminarium den 25 mars, 2021.

The establishment and development of Vision Zero in New York City. Föredrag för New York City Vision Zero Task Force, den 16 december 2021.

Samverkansprojekt med Örebro kommun (augusti 2021-juli 2022). Agerar stöd och bollplank i utvecklingen av en nollvision för hemlöshet. 10% av heltid.

Alessandra Paiusco

Guest lecturer with Prof. Sabrina Marchetti, sociology, Ca' Foscari University of Venice, invited as a guest lecturer for a master's degree course she is currently teaching in November.

[Administrative assignments at Örebro University](#)

Erika Melika Bouhrel, arbetat med sammanställning av omvärldsrapport för arbetet och utformandet av masterprogram.

Thomas Denk, dekan för Fakulteten för humaniora och socialvetenskap.

Daniel Drugge, programansvarig för Offentlig förvaltning och ledning.

Erik Hysing, Head of Political Science (ämnesansvarig).

Ann-Catrin Kristianssen, biträdande enhetschef med ansvar för statskunskap mars-december 2021.

Jan Olsson, vice ordförande i Lärarförslagskommittén vid Örebro universitet.

Alessandra Paiusco, DokSek, president.

[Other assignments](#)

Martin Karlsson, styrelseledamot i statsvetenskapliga förbundets styrelse.

Jan Olsson, ledamot av redaktionsrådet för Stockholm Studies in Democracy, Politics, and Governance (DePoG), a peer-reviewed series of monographs and edited volumes published by Stockholm University Press.

Active PhD students in 2021

Owasim Akram

Living Longer, Living Harder: Extreme Poor Ageing in Bangladesh

Huvudhandledare: Thomas Denk

Biträdande handledare: Jan Jämte / Illaria Pitti

Sofia Alexopoulou

Please Mind the Grey Digital Divide: Sweden and Greece, Two Parallel Welfare Cases?

Huvudhandledare: Joachim Åström

Biträdande handledare: Martin Karlsson / Agneta Blom

Melika Erika Bouhlel

Political Corruption

Huvudhandledare: Jan Olsson

Biträdande handledare: Joachim Åström & Ann-Catrin Kristianssen

Marta Cocos

Institutional hybridity in research policy

Huvudhandledare: Joachim Åström

Biträdande handledare: Monika Berg

Veronica De Majo

Disaster risk reduction from global till local: Lessons for policy and practice

Huvudhandledare: Jan Olsson

Biträdande handledare: Thomas Sedelius (HDa) & Eva Hultin (HDa)

Carl Görtz

Politics in mind: mental conceptualization of politics, its variations, and significance

Huvudhandledare: Thomas Denk

Biträdande handledare: Viktor Dahl / Cecilia Arensmeier

Alessandra Paiusco

Political Dilemmas of Climate-Induced Migration and Refugees

Huvudhandledare: Björn Hammar

Biträdande handledare: Erik Hysing / Ann-Catrin Kristianssen