

CURRICULUM VITAE
Dr. Leandra Bias

University of Basel, swisspeace
Department of Political Science

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Academic Experience

05/2021 – today	Senior Researcher, swisspeace, Department of Political Science, <i>University of Basel</i>
Sept – Dec 2021	Lecturer, Department of Political Science, <i>University of Basel</i>
Jan – Sept 2020	Visiting Researcher, Interdisciplinary Centre for Gender Studies, <i>University of Bern</i>
Feb – March 2019	Visiting Fellow, Institute for Political Science, <i>University of Vienna</i>
Dec 2018	Visiting Fellow, Albert Hirschman Centre of Democracy, <i>Geneva Graduate Institute</i>
Sept – Dec 2018	Teaching Assistant, Department of International Development, <i>University of Oxford</i>
Oct – Nov 2017	Visiting Researcher, Faculty of International Relations and Comparative Politics, <i>Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration, St. Petersburg</i>
Sept 2017	Visiting Researcher, Institute of Philosophy and Social Theory, <i>University of Belgrade</i>
2016-2018	Tutor, various colleges, <i>University of Oxford</i>
Jan – June 2016	Research Assistant in Comparative Politics, Nuffield College, <i>University of Oxford</i>

Education

2015 – 2020	DPhil in Politics, University of Oxford 4-months fieldwork in Russia and Serbia, 70 interviews and archival research Supervisors: Gwendolyn Sasse & Elizabeth Frazer Examiners: Catherine Baker & Nicolette Makovicky
2013 – 2015	Mphil (with Distinction) in Russian and East European Studies, University of Oxford
2009 – 2012	B.A. in International Relations (Major: Political Science), University of Geneva

Awards

2021 Brigitte Schnegg Prize Honorary Mention for best dissertation (years 2019 and 2020) awarded by Swiss Association for Gender Studies. Jury: Janine Dahinden, Nathalie Amstutz, Lilian Fankhauser, Andrea Maihofer, Katharina Pelzelmayer, Doris Wastl-Walter. [Link](#)

2015 Lincoln College prize for receiving a distinction in MPhil thesis

Publications

Peer-reviewed

Bias, Leandra, “NGOisation and generational divide in Serbia's feminist movement”, *Women's International Studies Forum*, Volume 77, October, 2019. ([link](#))

Monograph-based dissertation

Bias, Leandra, *The (Im)Possibility of Feminist Critique in Authoritarianism – Revisiting Western Knowledge-Transfer in Russia and Serbia*, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford, published February 2021. ([link](#))

Book manuscript

Feminist critique and authoritarian backlash: re-interpreting Western knowledge-transfer, *in discussion with Bristol University Press Series Gender, Sexuality and Global Politics*

Work in Progress

Risky resonance: Transnational feminism in times of authoritarian “Othering back”, *to be submitted in June 2022 for Cynthia Enloe Prize*, *International Feminist Journal Politics*.

Blog posts

“The Fight Against Domestic Violence in Belarus in Times of Protest”, *Spotlight*, ZOiS Centre for international and East European Studies, 2. June 2021. ([link](#))

“Rückwärtsgewandt nach vorne! Der Angriff auf die Istanbul-Konvention” [Going forward facing backwards! The attack on the Istanbul Convention], *décodage*, SAGW Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences, 20. May 2021. ([link](#))

Grants & Funds

2019 Departmental writing up award, University of Oxford, 2'600CHF

2019 Austrian Exchange Service (OEAD), Ernst Mach worldwide, 2'385CHF

2018 Europaeum Oxford-Geneva Bursary, 1'400CHF

2016 Swiss National Science Foundation, doc.mobility, 81'000CHF

2016 Bursary for method school, European Consortium for Political Research, 592CHF

2016 Vivian Green student assistant fund for Serbian language training, Lincoln College, 460CHF
2016 Graduate Student research fund for fieldwork, Lincoln College, 592CHF
2014 Centre for East European Language Based Area Studies for fieldwork, 1'655CHF
2013 The Berrow Foundation Scholarship, 45'600CHF

International collaboration

2021 Horizon Europe

- Found consortium for call HORIZON-CL2-2021-DEMOCRACY-01: Feminism for a New Age of Democracy
 - PI Prof. Antonia Ruiz, University Pablo de Olavide (Spain)
 - Gave input on proposal UNTWIST: Policy recommendations to regain feminist losers as mainstream voters
 - Identified and added partner institution from Hungary
 - was appointed Lead in two Working Packages
- proposal got 13 / 15 points and made it to first place on reserve list

Invited Talks

Feminist salon Basel talk on militarism and disarmament, *Kaserne Basel*, 25. October 2022.

Lecture on anti-feminist backlash in Eastern Europe, *feminist faculty of Switzerland*, 26. Aug 2022 (contract signed).

Podium discussion on the war in Ukraine, Kosmopolitics organized by WOZ – die Wochenzeitung, *Kosmos*, 7. March 2022.

Lecture on feminist peacebuilding in “Clinic Gender and Human Rights”, Master in Social Sciences, *University of Lausanne*, invited by Prof. Eléonore Lépinard, 8. Dec 2021.

Thesis presentation, *feminist faculty of Switzerland*, 28. April 2021.

Keynote on 50 years women suffrage, *University of Comenius*, invited by the Swiss Embassy and Institut Français in Slovakia, 3. March 2021.

Thesis presentation, *Swiss Friends of Oxford University Association*, 17. February 2021.

“Why is the study of gender important in academia today?”, Lincoln College, *University of Oxford*, 28. January 2021.

“Feminist Critique-Ability in Authoritarian Times”, Thesis presentation, Gender Centre, *Geneva Graduate Institute*, 12. November 2020.

Teaching Experience

Postgraduate

Autumn 2021

MA Seminar “Authoritarianism in post-communist Europe”,
Department of Political Science, University of Basel

Autumn 2018 Research seminar in Qualitative Methods (MA-level), Department of International Development, University of Oxford

Undergraduate

Autumn 2018 Tutor in International Security & Conflict, various colleges, BA in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE), University of Oxford

Spring 2017 Tutor in International Relations, Lincoln College, University of Oxford

Spring 2016 Tutor in Politics of Russia and the Former Soviet Union, Worcester College, University of Oxford

Further Education

Since 2020 Lead Faculty in Masculinities, Marginalisation and Militarism course (6 days) for 20+ peacebuilding practitioners, swisspeace

Since 2021 Lead Faculty in Gender, Conflict and Peacebuilding course (6 days) for 20+ peacebuilding practitioners, swisspeace

Service to the Profession

Coordination experience

Co-founded Working Group “Gender and Political Science” within Swiss Association of Gender Studies (with Dr. Elizabeth Mesok), workshop to be held in autumn 2022
Convenor of academic lunch debate, “Gendered violence against civil society actors in times of conflict”, invited Dr. Anne-Kathrin Kreft to swisspeace, 23. March 2022.

Organization of panels

Co-convenor of the panel “How to be Critical in Critical Times?”, General Conference of the British International Studies Association (BISA), London, 12-14 June
Discussant on panel “Private Lives, Public Participation”, European Conference on Politics and Gender, 8 – 10 June, University of Lausanne, Switzerland

Editor

Co-editor of swisspeace Working Papers since 2020

Reviewer

Social Politics

Project reviewer

Deutsche Stiftung für Friedensforschung [German Foundation for Peace Research]

Supervision

2021 - Supervisor to student in Master of Advanced Studies (MAS) in Civilian Peacebuilding, swisspeace, University of Basel

2018 - Advisor for methodological choices for MSc theses in Global Governance and Diplomacy, Department of International Development, University of Oxford

Mental Health Support

2014 – 2015 - acted as a mental health peer supporter in Lincoln College, University of Oxford

Conference & Workshop Presentations

International Studies Association 2022

British International Studies Association (BISA) 2018, 2019

British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies, 2018

Swiss Political Science Association, 2018

European Conference on Politics and Gender, 2018

BISA Working Group on Interpretivism, workshop in St. Petersburg, 2017

BISA Working Group on South-Eastern Europe, workshop in Belgrade and in London, 2017

Science Communication

Initiated and conceptualized academic podcast “Conflicts of Interest” at swisspeace, (co-hosted with Dr. Dana Landau), quarterly discussion with author of newly published monograph since 2021 ([link](#))

Booth on gender, democracy and peacebuilding, public dialogue with scientists on gender in research, organised by Reatch, Science et Cité and akademien der wissenschaften schweiz, 27. Aug 2021, Bern ([link](#))

Outreach event to encourage Year 10 students to choose Politics for their A Levels and apply to Oxford, Twyford School, London, 2017

Media (selection)

Articles

“Hello. My name is Vladimir (he/him)”, *The Security Times*, February 2022 ([link](#))

“Russkaja”, *Republik*, 21 May 2021 ([link](#))

“Angriff auf die Gender-Forschung: Kreml geht gegen Feministinnen vor”, *Frankfurter Rundschau*, 1 March 2021 ([link](#))

“Why the current anti-terror debate is flawed”, *swissinfo*, 24 November 2020 ([link](#))

“Tödliche Klischees [Deadly clichés]”, *Republik*, 13 August 2020 ([link](#))

Interviews

"Interview mit der Friedensforscherin Leandra Bias [Interview with peace researcher Leandra Bias]", *Bayern 2 Zündfunk*, 18. März 2022 ([link](#))

"Krieg in der Ukraine: Einordnung mit Leandra Bias [War in Ukraine, Leandra Bias analyses]", *SRF Impact*, 9. March 2022 ([link](#))

"Putin erstickt Widerrede mit Gewalt: ‘Das ist nicht russisch, das ist patriarchalisch’ [Putin represses any opposition with violence: ‘that’s not typically Russian, but patriarchal]”, *Tagblatt*, 9. März 2022 ([link](#))

"Haben es Frauen im Ukraine-Krieg ‘besser’? [Have it women ‘better’ in the war in Ukraine?]", *SRF 4 NewsPlus*, 8. March 2022 ([link](#))

"Welche Rolle spielen Frauen im Krieg in der Ukraine? [What role do women play in the war in Ukraine?]", *WDR 5 Morgenecho*, 8. March 2022 ([link](#))

"Warum Frauen wichtig sind für den Frieden [Why women are important for peace]", *Tages-Anzeiger*, 8. March 2022 ([link](#))

"Welche Rolle kommt ukrainischen Soldatinnen zu? [What role do Ukrainian female soldiers play?]", *SRF 4x4 Podcast*, 7. March 2022 ([link](#))

"Putin stellt die Ukraine als eine Art Frau dar [Putin frames Ukraine as a sort of woman]", *der Bund*, 7. March 2022 ([link](#))

"In Putins patriarchalem Weltbild müssen Untergeordnete folgen: von der Frau bis zur Ukraine [In Putin's patriarchal worldview all subordinates must follow: from women to Ukraine]", *elleXX*, 28. February 2022 ([link](#))

"Morgengast von 07:17 Uhr", *SRF1*, 28. February 2022 ([link](#))

"E' guerra (1./2)". *RSI Rete Uno* (from minute 44:20), 24. February 2022 ([link](#))

"Feministische Aussenpolitik: 'Wir stehen am Anfang' [Feminist Foreign Policy: 'We are at the beginning']", *die Wochenzeitung*, 13 January 2022 ([link](#))

"Wahlen in Russland [Elections in Russia]", *SRF 4 Tagesgespräch*, 16. September 2021 ([link](#))

"Belarus: 'Women protesters experience less violence than men'", *swissinfo*, 21 October 2020 ([link](#))

Quoted in media

"Geschlecht und Aggression: Gäbe es ohne Männer keinen Krieg? [Gender and Aggression: Would there be war without men?]", *SonntagsBlick*, 20. März 2022 ([link](#))

"Ukraine-Krise: Die Schweiz wartet mit Sanktionen ab [Ukraine crisis: Switzerland waits with sanctions]", *swissinfo*, 23 February 2022 ([link](#))

"Will Switzerland be able to bring its ideals to the UN Security Council?", *swissinfo*, 21. February 2022 ([link](#))

"The Belarusian protests: feminized, but feminist?", *Conversationalist*, 6 November 2020 ([link](#))

"What is feminist foreign policy?", *swissinfo*, 17 September 2020 ([link](#))

Professional Training

2017 (1 week)	"Working with Concepts in the Social Sciences: from positive reconstruction to interpretive elucidation", ECPR Winter Methods School, University of Bamberg
2016 (1 week)	"Introduction to Qualitative Interpretive Methods", ECPR Winter Methods School, University of Bamberg
2016 (1 day)	"Preparation for Learning and Teaching", Department of Politics, University of Oxford
2014 (30 hours)	Mental Health Support training with University of Oxford's Counselling service

Other Professional Experience

- Since Feb 2021 Gender Advisor, practice and research institute swisspeace
- Conceptualise and implement 2-year project on women's participation in peace processes, including: leading four team members, gathering data among civil society organisations, developing recommendations and advocacy strategy
 - Acquire and conduct applied research projects for international organisations, foreign ministries and NGOs
- Dec 2013 – Aug 2014 Online-Editor, Neue Zürcher Zeitung, (parallel to studies)
- Summer 2012, 2013 Journalism internships, Glattaler; Tages-Anzeiger & NZZ
- Sept 2012 – Jan 2013 Graduate internship at the Swiss Embassy Bratislava, Slovakia

Memberships

British International Studies Association
Swiss Political Science Association
Swiss Association for Gender Studies

Software Skills

Coding for discourse analysis with MaxQDA and Nvivo

Language Skills

German & Greek: bilingual
English, French: C2
Italian, Russian: C1
Serbo-Croat: B2 (sufficient for research)