GUDLAUG OLAFSDOTTIR

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EDUCATION

2019-2024	Doctor of Philosophy, Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University, Sweden. Defense: November 22, 2024.*
2015-2017	Master of Social Science, Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University, Sweden*
2011-2015	Bachelor of Social Science, Political Science, Uppsala University, Sweden*
	Exchange semester: Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain, Madrid. Language: Spanish.*

* Attested copies available upon request.

ACADEMIC PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2025-current	Postdoctoral researcher, the Stockholm Center on Global Governance, Department of Political Science, Stockholm University. 70% of full-time, of which 80% research.
2025-current	Researcher, *Opting out? Explaining the effectiveness of election boycotts*, Uppsala University. 30% of full-time, of which 100% research.
2024-2025	Researcher, *Universities at Risk*, Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University.
2019-2024	PhD Candidate, the Electoral Violence, *A threat to Democratic Transition and Consolidation*, Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University.
2017-2018	Research assistant, *ViEWS*, Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University.
2017-2018	Research assistant, *The Institutional Roots of Electoral Violence*, Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University.
2016	Research assistant, *Ethnic One-Sided Violence*, Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University.

POLICY-RELATED PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2026-current	Advisory board member, Polaris Electoral Observatory.
2019-current	Election observer/statistician in election observation roster, The Folke Bernadotte Academy.
2025	Research consultant, International IDEA. Wrote chapter on trends in electoral violence in 2024.
2023	Short term election observer, OSCE/The Folke Bernadotte Academy. Seconded to Turkey. 2 EOMs.

2022–2023	Research consultant, The Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation. Aim: build a database on funding streams to youth-led peacebuilding and project impacts and outcomes.
2018-2022	Election worker in Swedish elections. Co-chair of my district in the 2022 election. Stockholm, SWE.
2019	Short term election observer, OSCE/The Folke Bernadotte Academy. Seconded to Uzbekistan. 1 EOM.
2014-2015	Intern/Research Assistant, Democracy and Development team, International IDEA.

PUBLICATIONS

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Olafsdottir, G. (2025) Constitutional constraints: The conditions for reducing electoral violence through reform. *Journal of Peace Research, 62*(7), 2273–2289.

Fjelde, H., **Olafsdottir, G.**, (2024) Viewing violence through a partisan lens: How electoral violence shapes citizens' support for democracy. *Government and Opposition, 60*(2), 313–334.

Petrova, K., **Olafsdottir, G.**, Hegre, H., Gilmore, E. (2023) The 'conflict trap' reduces economic growth in the shared socioeconomic pathways. *Environmental Research Letters*, *18*(2), 24-28.

Hegre, H., Allansson, M., Basedau, M., Colaresi, M., Croicu, M., Fjelde, H., Hoyles, F., Hultman, L., Högbladh, S., Jansen, R., Mouhleb, N., Muhammad, S. A., Nilsson, D., Mokleiv Nygård, H., **Olafsdottir, G.**, Petrova, K., Randahl, D., Geelmuyden Rød, E., Schneider, G., von Uexkull, N., & Vestby, J. (2019) ViEWS: A political violence early-warning system. *Journal of Peace Research*, *56*(2), 155-174.

DISSERTATION

Olafsdottir, G. (2024) Precarious paths to democracy: Electoral violence and the struggle for democratization. PhD dissertation. Uppsala University, Uppsala.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Olafsdottir, G. (2025) Precarious paths to democracy: Electoral violence and the struggle for democratization. The Expert Group for Aid Studies. *Development Dissertation Brief Series No 3, 2025*.

Olafsdottir, G. (2025) Election-related violence. In: *Review of the 2024 super cycle year of elections: Trends, challenges and opportunities*. International IDEA.

Olafsdottir, G. & Kalin, I. (2025) The peace process and constitutional reforms in Turkey. *SUITS Policy Brief Series No. 2, 2025,* May 2025. Stockholm University Institute for Turkish Studies.

Olafsdottir, G. (2024) My PhD Journey. *Duwan Magazine*. U-Pad. December, 2024, 30-33.

Hegre, H., Petrova, K., **Olafsdottir, G.**, Gilmore, E. (2023) Bias in economic models ignores the impact of war in poor nations. PRIO Blogs, February 3, 2023.

Fjelde, H., Höglund, K., **Olafsdottir, G.,** Renvall, T. (2021) The deadly electoral violence dataset – codebook. Annex to Fjelde, H., & Höglund, K. (2022). Introducing the deadly electoral conflict dataset (DECO). *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *66*(1), 162-185.

Olafsdottir, G. (2020) Promoting women's rights: Creating conditions for post-conflict peace? 1325 Essay contest – honorable mention. *WIIS Policy brief*. Women in International Security. July 7, 2020.

WORK IN PROGRESS (ARTICLE-LENGTH DRAFTS)

Olafsdottir, G. (2026). Deceptive delegations: Autocratic contributions to liberal election monitoring missions.

Van Baalen, S., Bjarnesen, J., & **Olafsdottir, G.** (2026) Why election boycotts may not be a bad idea (working paper)

Van Baalen, S., Bjarnesen, J., **Olafsdottir, G.**, Gustafsson, T., Franz, A. (2026) Opposition by omission: The functions of election boycotts in electoral authoritarian regimes (under review at Perspectives on Politics)

Schmid, J., Tallberg, J., Koliev, F. & **Olafsdottir, G.** (2026) The autocrat in the room: Effects of autocratic involvement in human rights IOs (pre-analysis plan for survey experiment)

Themnér, A., Fjelde, H., **Olafsdottir, G.** & Holm, A. (2026) Universities at risk: Organized student violence at African universities (Under review at Journal of Peace Research)

Duque Salazar, J.D. & **Olafsdottir, G.** (2026) Striking fear in voters' hearts: Poverty and the costs of abstention in Nigeria (under review at Electoral Studies)

Olafsdottir, G. (2024) The impact of violent elections: A caveat to the democratization-by-elections thesis (unpublished dissertation paper)

Olafsdottir, G. (2024) Constitution-making in the midst of violence: The failure of interparty negotiations in Turkey (unpublished dissertation paper)

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

RESEARCH GRANTS

2024	*Opting out? Explaining the effectiveness of election boycotts.* 5,089,000 SEK granted by the Swedish Research Council on 29 October 2024. Written and obtained with project leader Sebastian van Baalen and co-applicant Jesper Bjarnesen.

SCHOLARSHIPS

2022	Forskraftstiftelsen Theodor Adelswärds minnesfond, travel grant for field work in Turkey.
2022	Anna Maria Lundin Minnesfond, travel grant for field work in Turkey.
2021	Anna Maria Lundin Minnesfond, travel grant for summer school in USA.
2021	Anna Maria Lundin Minnesfond, travel grant for conference in USA.
2020	Anna Maria Lundin Minnesfond, travel grant for summer school in UK (moved online due to Covid).
2019	Anna Maria Lundin Minnesfond, travel grant for conference in USA (cancelled due to Covid).
2019	The Ryoichi Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund (Sylff), Internationalization grant for international research stay.
2016	Olof Palme Stipendiet, for field research in Uganda.
2016	Sida, Minor Field Study stipend, for field research in Uganda.

TEACHING

2025-current Department of Political Science, Stockholm University

18 teaching hours completed, 121 planned 2026.

Seminars: Perspectives on Politics (7.5 units, BA level)

T*hesis supervision*: 3 master theses.

Course convener: Global and Regional Governance (7.5 units, MA level).

2019-2025 Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University. 1,593 teaching hours.

Course convener:
Introduction to Peace and Conflict Research (7.5 units, BA level): 2019-2023. Approx. 120 students. Sole convener 2019-2020, co-convener 2021-2023. Conversion to online 2020 and hybrid 2021.
Causes of Armed Conflict (7.5 units, BA level): Co-convener, 2025. 36 students.

Lectures, seminars, and examination:
Analyzing Arguments (7.5 units, BA level, lecture only),
Introduction to Peace and Conflict Research (7.5 units, BA level),
Conflict Analysis (7.5 units, BA level),
Causes of Armed Conflict (7.5 units, BA level),
Introduction to Peace and Conflict Studies I (7.5 units, online, BA level),
War and Development (7.5 units, MA level),
Introduction to PhD Research (7.5 units, PhD level, seminar only).

Supervision and examination of theses:
Independent Research Thesis (15 units, BA level): Supervised 17 BA theses, 2021-2025. Examined 3, 2025.

GUEST LECTURER

2024 Comparative Political Behavior (honors), Australian National University, School of Politics and International relations, Canberra, AUS.

PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

2021 Academic Teacher Training Course, Uppsala University (5 weeks, 7,5 ECTS).

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

2025-2026 Parental leave November 2025-August 2026.

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

DEPARTMENTAL DUTIES

2019-2021 Internal translator, Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University.

2019-2021 PhD representative, Recruitment Committee for Lecturers, Faculty of Social Sciences, Uppsala University.

2018-2021 Chairperson, the DPCR Alumni Association, Department of Peace and Conflict

REFEREE ASSIGNMENTS

2017-current	Contributed reviews for the *Journal of Peace Research*, *Government & Opposition, Nature Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*, *Democratization*, the *Journal of International Development, Governance Review,* & the *Pax et Bellum Journal.*

OTHER DUTIES

2022	Organiser of the biannual Development Research Seminar, Uppsala University.
2020	Organiser of the pre-conference workshop on Elections and Violence, Peace Science Society International Annual Convention, online.

EXTERNAL COURSES AND TRAINING

2022	Causal Inference for the Social Sciences & Panel Data and Longitudinal Analysis, University of Michigan (ICPSR), USA.
2020	Spatial Econometrics, University of Essex (SSSSDA), (online) UK.
2020	Non-violent conflict and democratization, Peace Research Institute Oslo, NO.
2019	Longitudinal Survey Design, GESIS, Cologne, GE.
2019	Machine learning, Big Data and Policy, ReSPoS, Milan, IT.
2019	Impact and Research Communication Skills Workshop, SWE.
2017	Preparation course for field research, Sida–Swedish Int. Dev. Coop. Agency, SWE.
2016	Gender, War and Peace, Peace Research Institute Oslo, NO.
2015	Introduction to econometrics, Copenhagen Business School (ISUP), DK.

FIELD RESEARCH

2023	Turkey, November. Conducted 5 semi-structured interviews and several informal meetings over the course of two weeks in Istanbul and Ankara. Employed 2 research assistants.
2023	Turkey, March. Conducted 15 semi-structured interviews over the course of three weeks in Istanbul and Ankara. Followed by 5 interviews over zoom. Employed 1 research assistant.
2017	Uganda, April-May. Conducted semi-structured interviews (19) and focus group discussions (12 groups, 66 participants) over the course of two months in Gulu and Kampala. Collaborated with local partner, employed 2 collaborators for translation.

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE AND AFFILIATIONS

2024	Visiting doctoral researcher, Australian National University, Canberra, AUS.
2023	Visiting doctoral researcher, Center for Foreign Policy and Peace Research, Bilkent University, Ankara, TK.
2020	Visiting doctoral researcher, University of California Berkeley, Berkeley, USA. Cut short due to Covid.

2017	Field Researcher, The Justice and Reconciliation Project, Gulu, UG.
2013	Volunteer, Minadores de sueños, Quito, EC.
2011	Volunteer, Moyo kwa moyo, Matanana, TZ.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED ACADEMIC TALKS

2026	American Political Science Association, Annual convention, Bost, MA, USA.
2026	European Consortium for Political Research, Annual convention, Krakow, PL.
2025	European Political Science Association, Annual convention, Madrid, Spain.
2025	Network of European Peace Scientists, Annual convention, Barcelona, Spain.
2024	Invited talk, Research seminar, the Swedish Institute for International Affairs, Stockholm, SWE.
2024	The Conflict Research Society, Annual convention, Edinburgh, UK.
2024	Demscore, Annual convention, Gothenburg, SWE.
2024	Invited talk, Research Seminar, ANU School of Politics and International Relations Seminar, Canberra, AUS.
2024	Australian Political Science Association, Political Organizations and Participation workshop, Melbourne, AUS.
2023	European Political Science Association, Annual convention, Glasgow, UK.
2022	Network of European Peace Scientists, Annual convention, London, UK.
2022	International Studies Association, Annual convention, Nashville, TS, USA.
2020	Peace Science Society International. Organized and attended online workshop.
2020	Peace Research in Sweden, Bi-annual convention, online.
2020	Oxford & Mannheim Universities. Online workshop for junior scholars.
2020	European Political Science Association, Annual convention, online.
2020	DPCR/ Peace Research Institute Oslo, collaborative workshop, online.
2019	Peace Science Society International, Annual convention, Manhattan, KS, USA.
2019	Peace Research In Sweden, PhD Conference, Gothenburg, SWE.
2019	International Studies Association, Annual convention, Toronto, CA.
2018	Invited talk, Research Seminar, Peace Research Institute Oslo, Oslo, NO.

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

2025	Presentation in seminar "Conflict, Democracy, and Peace: Exploring What Works" organized by the Expert Group for Aid Studies. Stockholm, SWE.
2024	Invited talk, Internal workshop for Electoral Processes team, International IDEA, Stockholm, SWE.
2024	Invited talk for a visiting delegation from the Swedish MFA, Uppsala, SWE.

2022	Mentor in Klara, Färdiga, Kvinna project, Nya kompisbyrån, Stockholm, SWE.
2020	Invited panelist for "1325 And Beyond - New Perspectives for the next Decade", Women In International Security & Heinrich Boll Stiftung, online.
2019	Invited talk for high school students at Lundellska gymnasiet, Uppsala, SWE.
2016	Methods mentor, Pax et Bellum & Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala, SWE.
2015-2016	Vice-chairperson, Pax et Bellum, Uppsala, SWE.
2011-2012	Board member and Chair of Events Committee, Uppsala Politicesstuderande, Uppsala, SWE.

SOFTWARE SKILLS

Programs	Stata, R, LaTeX, Python, QualCoder, Nvivo

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Native	English, Swedish
Advanced	Spanish, Icelandic
Intermediate	German
Beginner	French