

Andreas T. Schmidt

Contact

Address: Faculty of Philosophy, Oude Boteringestraat 52, 9712 GL Groningen, Netherlands
Email: a.t.schmidt [at] rug [dot] nl
Website: www.andreastschmidt.com

Area of Specialisation

Moral and Political Philosophy, Public Health Ethics, Philosophy of Public Policy

Area of Competence

History of Moral and Political Philosophy, Metaethics, Early Modern Philosophy (particularly David Hume), Introductory Logic, Introduction to Philosophy

Employment

01/2021 – present Associate Professor in Political Philosophy
University of Groningen, Netherlands, Faculty of Philosophy
08/2016 – 12/2020 Assistant Professor in Political Philosophy
University of Groningen, Netherlands, Faculty of Philosophy
09/2014 – 08/2016 Postdoctoral Research Associate in Values and Public Policy
Princeton University, University Center for Human Values and Princeton School of Public and International Affairs
10/2013 – 08/2014 Fixed-term Assistant Professor
University of Göttingen, Germany, Department of Philosophy

Education

10/2010 – 04/2014 University of Oxford, DPhil Philosophy
Thesis: 'Freedom and its distribution', Pass without corrections
Supervisors: David Miller and John Broome
10/2008 – 10/2010 University of Oxford, BPhil Philosophy (Master)
Distinction
10/2004 – 04/2008 University of Bayreuth, BA in Philosophy and Economics

Publications

Journal articles (peer-reviewed)

2021

‘Tobacco Control and Freedom of Choice’, *Bioethics*, forthcoming

‘From relational equality to personal responsibility’, *Philosophical Studies*, online first; [link](#)

2020

‘Does Collective Unfreedom Matter? Individualism, Power and Proletarian Unfreedom’, *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy*, online first (2020), [link](#)

‘The ethics of nudging: An overview’, with Bart Engelen, *Philosophy Compass*, online first (2020), [link](#)

‘Should We Extend Voluntary Euthanasia to Non-Medical Cases? Solidarity and the Social Context of Elderly Suffering.’ *Journal of Moral Philosophy* 17 (2) (2020): 129–62. [link](#)

2019

‘Getting Real on Rationality—Behavioral Science, Nudging, and Public Policy,’ *Ethics* 129, no. 4 (June 11, 2019): 511–43, [link](#)

See [peasoup discussion](#) and [this article](#) in *Ethics* for responses

‘Withdrawing and Withholding Treatment: What Do Medical Professionals Owe Their Patients?’ *The American Journal of Bioethics* 19, no. 3 (March 4, 2019): 31-33, [link](#)

2018

‘Domination without Inequality? Republicanism, Mutual Domination and Gun Control’, *Philosophy & Public Affairs* 46, no. 2 (2018): 175–206, [link](#)

‘Property or persons – freedom and the legal status of animals’, *Journal of Moral Philosophy* 15, no. 1 (January 25, 2018): 20–45, [link](#)

2017

‘The Power to Nudge’, *American Political Science Review* 111, no. 2 (May 2017): 404-17, [link](#)

‘An unresolved problem: freedom across lifetimes’, *Philosophical Studies* 174, no. 6 (June 1, 2017): 1413–38, [link](#)

‘Being Good by Doing Good - Goodness and the Evaluation of Persons’, *Utilitas* 29, no. 1 (March 2017): 3–26., [link](#)

2016

‘Abilities and the Sources of Unfreedom’, *Ethics* 127, no. 1 (September 21, 2016): 179–207, [link](#)

‘Withdrawing Versus Withholding Freedoms: Nudging and the Case of Tobacco Control’, *American Journal of Bioethics* 16, no. 7 (July 2, 2016): 3–14; [link](#)

Six response papers written by Luc Bovens, Sarah Conly, and others; [link](#)

‘Response to Open Peer Commentaries on ‘Withdrawing Versus Withholding Freedoms: Nudging and the Case of Tobacco Control.’” *The American Journal of Bioethics* 16 (11) (2016): W1–3., [link](#)

‘The Ethics and Politics of Mindfulness-Based Interventions’, *Journal of Medical Ethics* 42, no. 7 (July 1, 2016): 450–54, [link](#)

2015

‘Why Animals Have an Interest in Freedom’, *Historical Social Research*, 40.4 (2015), 92–109, [link](#)

Book Chapters

‘Is there a human right to tobacco control?’, in: *Human Rights and Tobacco Control*, Gispen, Marie Elske; Toebes, Brigit (eds), 2020, Edward Elgar Publishing; [link](#)

‘The Ethics of Mindfulness-Based Interventions: A Population-Level Perspective’ with Lovro Savic, in: *The Oxford Handbook of Psychotherapy Ethics*, Trachsel, Manuel; Tekin, Serife; Biller-Adorno, Nikola; Gaab, Jens; Sadler, John (eds), 2020, Oxford University Press

‘Die moralische Pflicht, durch Tierschutz Gutes zu Tun’, in: *Wenn ich mir etwas wünschen dürfte - Intellektuelle zur Bundestagswahl 2017*, Helfer, Joachim; Meyer, Marco; Wettig, Klaus (eds); (2017), Steidl

In progress (selection)

‘Freedom’, overview article commissioned for *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics* (OUP)

‘Consequentialism and the Practice-Dependence Debate in Political Philosophy’, under review

‘Egalitarianism across generations’, under review

‘Economic inequality and the long-term future’ with Daan Juijn, under review (also a [GPI working paper](#))

‘Consequentialism and the Ethics of Blame’, under review

‘Consequentialism, Collective Action, and Blame’, under review

‘Consequentialism and the Ideal vs Non-Ideal Theory Debate’, under review

In progress:

‘Do we have too much choice?’

‘Can Social Structures Dominate?’ with Frank Hindriks

‘From Moral Uncertainty to Public Justification?’ with Jacob Barrett

‘The ethics of yoga interventions in (mental) healthcare’ with Nina K. Vollbehr (first author), Agna A. Bartels-Velthuis, Brian D. Ostafin and H.J. Rogier Hoenders

‘Future people and the boundaries of republican democracy’, with Andreas Bengtson

Roles

06/2016 – present Programme director of the Master’s in Philosophy, Politics and Economics in Groningen (now joint role with Lisa Herzog)

05/2017 – present	Head of admissions for PPE Master Groningen (now joint role with Lisa Herzog)
11/2016 – present	Member of the governing board of the PPE Centre Groningen
11/2018 – 03/201	Member hiring committees Assistant professor in normative/applied ethics (2020); assistant/associate professorship in PPE (2019); two assistant professorships in Ethics/Political Philosophy (2019); assistant professorship in PPE (2018); two post-doc positions at the PPE Centre (2017 and 2018); assistant professorship in theoretical philosophy (2017/18)
11/2014 – 07/2016	Scientific Coordinator for the International Panel on Social Progress (www.ipsp.org), a global, interdisciplinary report on social progress

Teaching

Supervision

01/2018 onwards	Supervising PhD students: Kritika Maheshwari on the ethics of risk (with Sven Nyholm and Bart Streumer) Suzanne Jacobi on methodology in bioethics (with Pauline Kleingeld) Frauke Schmode on work and distributive justice (with Lisa Herzog and Anca Gheaus) Jakob Moggia on risk and distributive justice (with Lisa Herzog)
08/2016 – present	Supervision of Master (around 30 Master students as first or second supervisor) and Bachelor theses

Classes taught

09/2016 – present	Assistant/Associate Professor, University of Groningen 'Ethics of Future Generations', 'Consequentialism' (graduate), 'Global justice: a PPE perspective' (undergraduate), 'Equality and global justice' (undergraduate), 'Introduction to Political Philosophy' (undergraduate), 'Topics in PPE' (undergraduate), 'PPE policy seminar' (graduate)
10/2013 – 10/2014	Fixed-term Assistant Professor at the University of Göttingen 'Global Justice' (postgraduate course), 'Ethics and Health Policy' (graduate and undergraduate), 'Rawls, A Theory of Justice' (two undergraduate classes), 'Equality and Distributive Justice' (graduate and undergraduate), 'Freedom and Liberalism' (two first-year undergraduate classes), 'David Hume: Selected Writings' (undergraduate)
10/2011 – 04/2013	Graduate tutor at the University of Oxford

Ethics (Finals course) at Oriel College and at St Catherine's College (2012/13), 'John Stuart Mill, Utilitarianism' at Oriel College, 'Introductory Logic' at Christ Church

07/2010 – 08/2010 Visiting fellow at the University of Bayreuth, teaching 'David Hume on Human Understanding and the Principles of Morals'

Conferences and talks

Organisation

2020 PPE Winter School, Groningen: *Climate Change and the Long-Term Future*

2018 – 2021 Coordinator of the PPE Effective Altruism lecture series, together with the Effective Altruism organisation in Groningen (both research and outreach events)

09/2017 PPE Centre Inaugural Conference Groningen: member organising committee

01/2017 PPE winter school on in Groningen: *Rationality, justice, and democracy: A PPE perspective*

06/2015 Global IPSP conference in Istanbul: member organising team

09/2014 Two-day workshop 'Freedom and its Measurement' at the MANCEPT Workshops: organised together with Ronen Shnayderman

10/2010 – 11/2011 Oxford Graduate Philosophy Conference: member organising committee

Presentations (selection)

Forthcoming:

TBC Talk at the Ethics and Public Policy Working Group of the American PPE Society (topic TBC) [invited]

TBC 'Silicon Valley Government: Power, Autonomy and the Attention Economy', *Ethics and Technology Workshops*, University of Macerata and Tufts University [invited]

TBC Work in progress seminar, Hoover Chair, University of Louvain, 'topic TBC', [invited]

09/2021 Panellist for MKAI public debate 'The ethics and imperative of digital nudging' [invited]

Past

- 09/2021 'Republicanism, the boundary problem, and future generations', MANCEPT, Manchester, workshop on republicanism [invited]
- 08/2021 'Do we have too much choice? On the (dis)value of freedom', European Consortium of Political Research annual conference, panel on freedom [invited]
- 06/2021 Panellist for public interest debate: [„Kleine Stupser, große Wirkung: Mit Nudging zu mehr Nachhaltigkeit?“](#), panel debate organised by *Wissenschaft im Dialog*
- 03/2021 'But what about future freedom? Future generations and long-term liberalism', Global Priorities Institute Oxford, workshop on longtermism [invited]
- 08/2020 'From Relational Equality to Personal Responsibility', European Conference on Analytical Philosophy (ECAP); [moved to online]
- 08/2020 'Can Social Structures Dominate?', European-Australian Workshop on Republicanism [invited; online]
- 06/2020 Global Priorities Institute Oxford, work-in-progress seminar series; 'Economic inequality and the long-term future', with Daan Juijn [invited; moved to online]
- 06/2020 Commentary at RANT workshop, OSZW [invited; moved to online]
- 03/2020 Global Priorities Institute Oxford, conference on longtermism and institutions; keynote talk 'Political Philosophy and Longtermism: A Framework' [invited; moved to online]
- 02/2020 OSZW Winter School 'Freedom and Inequality', Rotterdam; keynote speaker: 'Freedom, equality and responsibility: a web of relational values' [invited]
- 12/2019 'Egalitarianism across generations'; invited talk at Normative Philosophy Workshop; Department of Philosophy, University of Hamburg [invited]
- 11/2019 'Egalitarianism across generations'; colloquium talk at Ethics Centre University of Zurich, Switzerland [invited]
- 10/2019 'Geluk is maakbaar?! Ja, nee, misschien...'; joint lecture to city government and general public with Agnes Schilder at Healthy Ageing Week Groningen [invited]
- 10/2019 'The Ethics of Mindfulness-Based Interventions', one of three *keynote* speakers at National Mindfulness Symposium, University of Nijmegen, Netherlands [invited]
- 09/2019 Talk at OSZW book workshop on Nicholas Vrousalis, *Exploitation as Domination: A Theory of Inequality and Power*, University of Leiden [invited]
- 08/2019 'Consequentialism and the Methods of Political Philosophy' Groningen Summer on Social Ontology and Public Philosophy, University of Groningen, Netherlands [invited]

- 07/2018 'Should consequentialists be egalitarians?', International Society for Utilitarian Studies, Karlsruhe [invited]
- 05/2018 'Tobacco Control, Freedom and E-Cigarettes', Brocher Summer Academy in the Ethics of Global Population Health, hosted by the Brocher Foundation, Geneva and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health [invited]
- 04/2018 'Domination without inequality', Ethics colloquium, Tilburg [invited]
- 12/2017 'Domination without inequality', political philosophy conference of the Dutch Research School of Philosophy (OSZW), Leiden [invited]
- 12/2017 'Getting real on rationality: behavioural science, nudging and public policy', invited speaker, conference in honour of Luc Bovens, London School of Economics [invited]
- 11/2017 'How to make a difference together: effective altruism and collective action', Public lecture, Effective Altruism group Netherlands, Groningen [invited]
- 06/2017 'Nudging and transparency' at 'WINK – the Nudge Conference', Utrecht [invited]
- 04/2017 'The Ethics of a Completed Life: Euthanasia in the Netherlands', public lecture and debate at University Medical Centre Groningen [invited]
- 03/2017 'The Ethics of Mindfulness', Nacht van de filosofie, Groningen (public lecture) [invited]
- 11/2016 'Should the Government Manipulate People for their Own Good? - Nudging, Rationality, and Behavioural Science', public lecture at Ted Rogers School of Management, Ryerson University, Toronto [invited]
- 08/2016 'Obesity and the Ethics of Behavioural Policies', Wellcome Trust workshop on diversity and food policy, Cardiff University [invited]
- 02/2016 'Abilities and the Sources of Unfreedom', at the Center for Health and Wellbeing, Princeton University
- 09/2015 'Nudging and the Quality of Social Relations' at MANCEPT Workshops in Political Theory, Manchester
- 09/2015 'Consequentialism and Demandingness' at MANCEPT Workshops in Political Theory, Manchester
- 04/2015 'Status quo bias, freedom and tobacco control' at the Center for Health and Wellbeing, Princeton University
- 11/2014 'Consequentialism and the ethics of blame' at the LSR seminar at Princeton University
- 07/2014 'Coercion and global distributive justice', at the *Philosophie Kolloquium* Göttingen
- 03/2014 'A defence of animal liberation' at the *Animal Politics* conference at the University of Hamburg [invited]

02/2014	‘Freedom and paternalistic health policies’ at the Philosophy Faculty, University of Cologne
02/2014	‘Option Freedom or Freedom as Status?’ at the <i>Philosophie Kolloquium</i> Göttingen
11/2013	‘Consequentialism and the ethics of blame’ at the <i>Reflektorium</i> at the University of Göttingen
09/2013	‘Freedom, power and distributive justice – conflation or different distribuenda?’ at MANCEPT Workshops in Political Theory, Manchester
05/2013	‘The evaluation of persons: consequences not virtues’ at the Graduate Philosophy Conference at the University of Toronto
06/2012	‘Paternalism and Overall Freedom’ at the Association for Legal and Social Philosophy Annual Conference at Queen’s University Belfast
05/2012	‘Abilities and the Sources of Unfreedom’ at the Nuffield Political Theory Workshop, University of Oxford
09/2011	‘Mill’s Slave Case: Free to be a Slave?’ at the Political Theory Conference at the University of Pavia, Italy
01 – 03/2011	‘Against Republican Liberty’ at the Graduate Philosophy Conference at the University of Toronto and at the Nuffield Political Theory Workshop, University of Oxford

Outreach and other services

Consulting and positions

2021 – present	Consulting <i>Existential Risk Observatory</i> , an outreach organisation on existential risk (www.existentialriskobservatory.org)
2019	Consulting the city government Groningen on happiness interventions and healthy ageing
2017	Consulting medical practitioners and researchers on bioethical questions for a project on chronic kidney disease at UMCG, Groningen
11/2014–07/2016	Scientific Coordinator and Advisor for the International Panel on Social Progress (www.ipsp.org), a global, interdisciplinary report on social progress
2017 – present	Co-organiser of Effective Altruism events in Groningen
2017 – present	Non-academic publishing (selection): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How parties should select leaders (Groningen PPE blog) ▪ Nudging and democracy (Democratic Audit) ▪ Digital nudging and nudging and transparency with Bart Engelen (<i>The Habtic Standard</i>) ▪ ‘Interview met ethicus Andreas Schmidt over de coronacrisis’ (Kennislink)
Review work:	Reviewing for <i>Philosophers’ Imprint</i> , <i>Australasian Journal of Philosophy</i> , <i>Philosophical Studies</i> , <i>American Political Science Review</i> , <i>American Political Science Journal</i> , <i>British</i>

Journal of Political Science, Political Studies, Ethical Theory and Moral Practice, Journal of Medical Ethics (3x), American Journal of Bioethics (2x), Public Health Ethics, Global Policy, The Journal of Ethics, The Monist, European Journal of Political Theory, and others

Awards

05/2021	Nominated by University of Groningen for membership in <i>De Jonge Akademie</i> of the <i>Koninklijke Nederlandse Academie van Wetenschappen</i> [in review]
05/2021	Submitted NWO vidi project 'Political Philosophy and the Long-Term Future'
06/2012 – 2013	Doctoral scholarship awarded by <i>Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes</i> ,
10/2010 – 10/2011	Doctoral scholarship awarded by DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service)
10/2010 – 10/2013	Doctoral scholarship awarded by the Oxford Philosophy Faculty and Christ Church, Oxford
10/2008 – 10/2009	Study abroad scholarship awarded by the Hölderlin foundation
03/2005 – 10/2010	Scholarship awarded by <i>Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes</i> ; full funding for both undergraduate and Master's degree

Languages

English:	native (proficiency level)
German:	native
Dutch:	fluent
Spanish:	fluent
Italian:	basic
French:	basic