

Andreas T. Schmidt

Contact

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Area of Specialisation

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

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*, online first; [link](#)

‘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* 15 (4) (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](#)
- See [here](#) and [here](#) for response papers
- Second-prize winner for best paper in Ethics and Public Policy awarded by The Elizabeth D. Rockwell Center on Ethics and Leadership the University of Houston

‘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](#)

- See [here](#) for a response paper

‘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

‘Freedom in Political Philosophy’, overview article commissioned for *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics* (Oxford University Press), 2022, [link](#)

‘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; [link](#)

Working Papers

‘Moral Uncertainty and public justification’, with Jacob Barrett; GPI Working Paper No. 15-2021, [link](#)

‘Economic Equality and the Long-Term Future’, with Daan Juijn; GPI Working Paper No. 4-2021, [link](#)

Under review

‘Egalitarianism across generations’

‘Economic inequality and the long-term future’ with Daan Juijn

‘Moral Uncertainty and Public Justification’ with Jacob Barrett

‘Do we have too much choice?’

‘Can Social Structures Dominate?’ with Frank Hindriks

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

‘Consequentialism, Collective Action, and Blame’

‘Consequentialism and the Ideal vs Non-Ideal Theory Debate’

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

Work in progress (selection)

Political Philosophy and the Long-Term Future of Humanity, book project (early stages)

‘Long-term liberalism and the freedom of future people’

‘Longtermist political philosophy’ (with Jacob Barrett, for an OUP book on longtermism)

‘Moral uncertainty as a new methodological framework for bioethics?’, with Jacob Barrett and Sarah Raskoff

‘Consequentialism and the Ethics of Blame’

‘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

Roles

06/2016 – present	Programme coordinator of the Master’s in Philosophy, Politics and Economics in Groningen
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

- 2022 Non-consequentialism and longtermism; conference held at Global Priorities Institute Oxford (organised with Andreas Mogensen)
- 2022 PPE Winter School, Groningen: *Climate Change and the Long-Term Future*
- 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 Ethics Institute's 4th annual moral and political philosophy workshop, Ethics Institute, Dartmouth College (title TBC) [invited]

TBC	Ethics and Technology Workshops, University of Macerata and Tufts University [invited] (title TBC) [invited]
TBC	Work in progress seminar, Hoover Chair, University of Louvain, (title TBC), [invited]
09/2022	'Long-term liberalism and the freedom of future people', Groningen-Wharton Workshop hosted by the Centre for PPE Groningen and the Wharton Business School at Penn
<i>Past</i>	
03/2022	'Moral uncertainty as a new methodological framework for bioethics', Global Priorities Institute workshop, Oxford [invited]
02/2022	'Economic inequality and the long-term future', talk/workshop at Center for Population-Level Bioethics, Rutgers University [invited]
01/2022	'Digital nudging and sustainability: an introduction', consulting roundtable with MKAI for United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) [invited]
11/2021	'Do we have too much choice?', talk at the Ethics and Public Policy Working Group of the American PPE Society [invited]
11/2021	'Moral Uncertainty and Public Justification', presentation at Global Priorities Institute (with Jacob Barrett)
11/2021	'Catastrophic Risks and the Long-Term Future', talk at the Disaster Resilience Network (Sustainable Society Groningen) [invited]
10/2021	'Moral Uncertainty and Public Justification', with Jacob Barrett; Centre for the Study of Social Justice, University of Oxford [invited]
09/2021	Panellist for MKAI public debate "The ethics and imperative of digital nudging" [invited]
09/2021	'Future people and the boundaries of republican democracy', 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	Commentator at Working as Equals Workshop (UPenn and St Mary's College; online) [invited]
06/2021	Panellist for public interest debate: „Kleine Stupser, große Wirkung: Mit Nudging zu mehr Nachhaltigkeit?“, panel debate organised by Wissenschaft im Dialog [invited]
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 Philosophie Kolloquium Göttingen
- 11/2013 'Consequentialism and the ethics of blame' at the Reflektorium 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

- 2022 Speaker at consulting meeting with United Nations Framework for Convention on Climate Change (topic: digital nudging)
- 2021 Roundtable member at advisory meeting for *Raad voor het openbaar bestuur* (Dutch government advisory bureau)
- 2021 – present Consulting *Existential Risk Observatory*, 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 Involvement with Effective Altruism and mentoring students who wish to do the most good through their studies and career
- 2017 – present Non-academic publishing (selection):
- [‘Existentiële risico’s moeten prioriteit zijn voor het nieuwe kabinet’](#) (Bij Nader Inzien), with Mark Brakel, Kritika Maheshwari, and Otto Barten
 - [How parties should select leaders](#) (Groningen PPE blog)
 - [Nudging and democracy](#) (Democratic Audit)
 - [Digital nudging](#) and [nudging and transparency](#) with Bart Engelen (*The Habtic Standard*)
 - [‘Interview met ethicus Andreas Schmidt over de coronacrisis’](#) (Kennislink)
 - [‘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
- Review work: Reviewing for *Philosophers’ Imprint*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, *Philosophical Studies*, *American Political Science Review*, *American Political Science Journal*, *British 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

11/2021	Second prize for best 2021 published article on ethics, leadership, and public policy awarded by The Elizabeth D. Rockwell Center on Ethics and Leadership the University of Houston (\$3,000 award), for ‘Getting Real on Rationality—Behavioral Science, Nudging, and Public Policy,’ <i>Ethics</i>
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