QoG

THE QUALITY OF
GOVERNMENT INSTITUTE

UNIVERSITY OF
GOTHENBURG

2023

**THE QUALITY OF
GOVERNMENT
INSTITUTE
ANNUAL REPORT
2023**

Photos from the QoG Policy Day 2023 on Corruption and Quality in the Welfare State: Opportunities and Challenges of the Swedish System, March 2023.

CONTENT

ABOUT US

THE QUALITY OF GOVERNMENT INSTITUTE

The Quality of Government (QoG) Institute was founded in 2004 by Professor Bo Rothstein and Professor Sören Holmberg. It is an independent research institute within the Department of Political Science at the University of Gothenburg. We are about 30 researchers who conduct and promote research on the causes, consequences and nature of Good Governance and the Quality of Government (QoG) - that is, trustworthy, reliable, impartial, uncorrupted and competent government institutions.

While Quality of Government is our common intellectual focal point, we apply a variety of theoretical and methodological perspectives. The main objective of our research is to address the theoretical and empirical problem of how political institutions of high quality can be created and maintained. A second objective is to study the effects of Quality of Government on a number of policy areas, such as health, the environment, social policy, and poverty. We approach these problems from a variety of different theoretical and methodological angles. We investigate and generate knowledge on corruption and the quality of government in dialogue with a variety of societal actors, in both the public and the private sector. Our ambition is to close the gap between broader audiences and the research of QoG.

THE QOG DATA

As a key resource for researchers and practitioners, QoG Data offers ten datasets, several data visualization tools, as well as tips and advice on how to use our data. Our goal is to enable researchers, academics, and students to access high quality information about the quality of government and related areas. Our datasets are presented as both cross-sectional and time-series and in the most common data file formats.

OUR DATABASES

→ **Compilation datasets**
Standard Dataset
Basic Dataset
OECD Dataset
EU Regional Dataset
QoG Environmental Indicators Dataset

→ **Original datasets**
QoG Expert Survey
European Quality of Government Index
Swedish Agency Database
Swedish Municipalities Dataset
PERCEIVE Survey data

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

2023 has been a year of important changes and of intense activities. Marina Nistotskaya finished her successful directorship of the QoG Institute and passed me the torch on July 1st. Five young affiliates to QoG successfully defended their theses: Jana Schwenk, Adea Gafuri, Felicia Robertson, Dragana Davidovic, and Gefjon Off.

In terms of academic output, this has been a very productive year. An outstanding number of peer-review articles have been published by members of the Institute, in top journals within the social sciences (e.g. American Journal of Political Science, The Journal of Politics, British Journal of Political Science, Journal of European Public Policy) as well as in other disciplines (Nature Climate Change, The American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry). In addition, 19 working papers were published within the QoG Working Papers series and made available on our website. Members of the QoG Institute have participated in numerous academic conferences and workshops during the year, including 10 paper presentations at the Annual Meeting for the American Political Science Association (APSA).

In economic terms, we keep a diversification of funding sources. Our funding agencies include Carl Bennet AB, The Swedish Research Council (Vetenskapsrådet, VR), Riksbankens Jubileumsfond (RJ), European Commission, European Research council (ERC), Swedish Research Council for Health, and Working Life and Welfare (FORTE). And, during this year, the Institute has received several new funds. Among them, we should underline the 8.1 million SEK major grant from Riksbankens Jubileumsfond for creating the Local Quality of Government (Lo-QoG) dataset, with Aksel Sundström as the PI. The ambitious goal of Lo-QoG is to become the leading worldwide platform on indicators of both local governance and its societal correlates. Aksel Sundström was also awarded one of Europe's most prestigious research grants, the ERC Starting Grant.

Last but not least, we have also hosted 5 ambitious and motivated interns for a period of 10–20 weeks: Alva Ohlsson, Anna Maria Kovalicka, Hampus Hallin, Jiuyang Li, Paula Nilsson, and Rasha Khoury. We wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

> "In terms of academic output, this has been a very productive year."

And this 2024, the QoG Institute turns 20. We celebrate the anniversary with an international conference on May 20–22 to both take stock of the accumulated knowledge as well as to discuss the avenues for further research. Over 50 scholars interested in quality of government have expressed their interest to take part in this conference and to present a wide range of papers involving both highly theoretical and highly empirical questions related to the quality of government and employing a diverse panoply of methodological approaches.

Victor Lapuente
Professor and Director of the
Quality of Government Institute

Agerberg, Mattias
Associate Professor

Alexander, Amy
Associate Professor

Alvarado, Natalia
Data manager
QoG Data

Axelsson, Sofia
Deputy chief analyst

Bauhr, Monika
Professor

Boräng, Frida
Associate Professor

Broms, Rasmus
Associate Professor

Bågenholm, Andreas
Program Manager
and researcher

Carelli, Daniel
Doctoral Student

Charron, Nicholas
Professor

Cornell, Agnes
Associate professor

Gren, Simon
Doctoral Student

Dahlström, Carl
Professor

Dalli, Cem Mert
Data manager QoG Data

Davidovic, Dragana
Doctoral student

Dawson, Stephen
Postdoctor

Pfeiffer, Fredrik
Doctoral Student

Grimes, Marcia
Professor

Harring, Niklas
Associate professor

Holmberg, Sören
Senior professor, co-
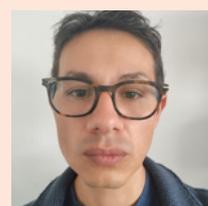founder of the QoG Institute

Johansson, Alice
Program coordinator

Lapuente Gine, Victor
Professor, Head of the
Institute

Leuschner, Elena
Doctoral Student

Lopez Valverde, Rafael
Data manager QoG Data

Niklasson, Birgitta
Associate professor

Nistotskaya, Marina
Professor

Off, Gefjon
Doctoral student

Persson, Anna
Associate professor

Povitkina, Marina
Researcher

Rothstein, Bo
Professor, co-founder of
the QoG Institute

Schwenk, Jana
Doctoral student

Sorak, Nicholas
Doctoral student

Sundell, Anders
Associate professor
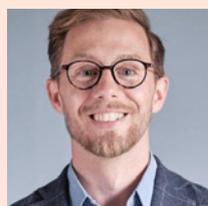
Sundström, Aksel
Associate professor,
Principle investigator
QoG Data

Varraich, Aiysha
Doctoral student

Wängnerud, Lena
Professor

Xezonakis, Georgios
Associate professor

Åsblad, Magnus
Doctoral Student

→ **The QoG team and organization.**
More than 30 researchers and administrative
staff are currently engaged in different projects
organized or funded by the QoG Institute.

SOME NEWS IN 2023

NEW DIRECTOR

In July, our Director for the last two years, Marina Nistotskaya, handed over the directorship to Victor Lapuente who will serve as the QoG Director for the coming three years. W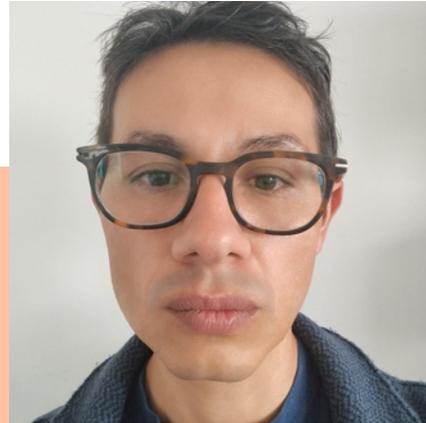e want to thank Marina for her great efforts in leading the QoG Institute during these years and welcome Victor to his new role.

NEW STAFF

A warm welcome to Rafael Lopez Valverde who joined the QoG Institute, and more particularly the QoG Data team, in September this year. Rafael is a political scientist, data analyst and full stack developer. In the intersections of these three areas, he has worked with public, private, and academic institutions as well as with political campaigns. At the QoG Institute, Rafael works as data manager, mainly with compiling our open-source datasets, making this information visually available, and assist researchers with data processing challenges.

NEW RESEARCH PROJECTS IN 2023

- Misconduct and Whistle-Blowing in Political Parties
- Sustaining State Capacity in A Modern State: Citizen-State Relations and Voluntary Compliance In Sweden
- Does Advancing Women's Empowerment Lead to Perceptions of Threat? Research On Who Is Threatened by Women's Empowerment, Under What Conditions and Why
- Female Leadership and Effects from African Droughts (Fem-Lead)
- Fight Against Large-Scale Corruption and Organised Crime Networks (Falcon)
- Respond – Rescuing Democracy from Political Corruption in Digital Societies
- Measuring The Quality of Government at The Subnational Level and Comparing Results With Previous Studies – Rounds 5 And 6
- Consultancy, Technical Assistance and Support In The Field Of Fight Against And Prevention Of Corruption

Read more about these grants further down in this report.

COOPERATION WITH THE LANCET COMMISSION ON PEACEFUL SOCIETIES THROUGH HEALTH EQUITY AND GENDER EQUALITY

In 2023, the QoG Institute initiated a cooperation with the Lancet Commission on Peaceful Societies through Health Equity and Gender Equality. The Lancet Commission is an independent and interdisciplinary initiative of 20 Commissioners and other collaborators, originally set up in 2019 to explore the untapped intersections between Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3 for health and well-being, SDG 5 on gender equality, and SDG 16 for peace, justice, and strong institutions.

PUBLI-CATIONS

2023 was a very productive year in terms of peer-reviewed publications. QoG researchers published 29 peer-reviewed articles in several renowned journals and 19 working papers were published within the QoG Working Papers series and made available on our website. In addition, one edited book and several book chapters, reports and briefs were published.

PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

Alexander, A., Charron, N., & Justesen, M. K. (2023). Female representation and electoral clientelism: New insights from South African municipal elections. Electoral Studies.

Andersen D., Cornell A., Voting for bureaucracy? Contestation, suffrage and meritocracy, European Journal of Political Research.

Bauhr M., Carlitz R., Kovacikova L., Beyond Buildings: Social Bargaining and Effective Access to Public Services, Public Organization Review.

Bauhr M., Charron N., 'It's the quality of government stupid' explaining patterns in support for far right in the 2022 French presidential election, Electoral Studies.

Bauhr M., Charron N., All hands on deck' or separate lifeboats? Public support for European economic solidarity during the Covid-19 pandemic, Journal of European Public Policy.

Bauhr M., Charron N., Europe around the corner? How border proximity and quality of government explains European identity, European Union Politics.

Boräng F., Naurin D., Polk J., Making space: citizens, parties and interest groups in two ideological dimensions, Journal of European Public Policy.

Broms R., Dahlström C., Najar J., Nistotskaya M., Predictors of COVID-19 outcomes among residents of Swedish long-term care facilities – a nationwide study of the year 2020, The American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry.

Broms R., Dahlström C., Nistotskaya M., Provider Ownership and Indicators of Service Quality: Evidence from Swedish Residential Care Homes, Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory.

Charron N., Lapuente V., Rodriguez-Pose A., Uncooperative Society, Uncooperative Politics or Both? Trust, Polarisation, Populism and COVID-19 Deaths across European regions, European Journal of Political Research.

Charron N., Schwenk J., Inclusive candidate selection and corruption: evidence from Spanish regions, West European Politics.

Coffe, H., Fraile, M., Alexander, A., Fortin-Rittberger, J., & Banducci, S. (2023). Masculinity, sexism and populist radical right support. Frontiers in Political Science.

Coleman E., Harring N., Jagers S., Policy attributes shape climate policy support, Policy Studies Journal.

Cornell A., Grimes M., Brokering Bureaucrats: How Bureaucrats and Civil Society Facilitate Clientelism Where Parties are Weak, Comparative Political Studies.

Cornell A., Svensson T., Colonial origins of modern bureaucracy? India and the professionalization of the British civil service, Governance: An International Journal of Policy, Administration and Institutions.

Dahlström C., Holmgren M., Loyal Leaders, Affluent Agencies: The Budgetary Implications of Political Appointments in the Executive Branch, Journal of Politics.

Dawson S., Charron N., Justesen M., Electoral competition, political parties and clientelism: evidence from local elections in South Africa, Democratization.

Dawson, S., Perceptions of opinion poll credibility: The role of partisan bias, Party Politics.

Eckhard, Steffen, Vytautas Jankauskas, Elena Leuschner, Ian Burton, Tilman Kerl, Rita Sevastjanova. (2023). "The Performance of International Organizations: A New Measure and Dataset Based on Computational Text Analysis of Evaluation Reports.'' The Review of International Organizations.

Eckhard, Steffen, Vytautas Jankauskas, and Elena Leuschner. (2023). "Institutional Design and Biases in Evaluation Reports by International Organizations." Public Administration Review.

Kreft, A., & Agerberg, M. (2023). Imperfect Victims? Civilian Men, Vulnerability, and Policy Preferences. American Political Science Review.

Larsson F., Grimes M., Societal Accountability and Grand Corruption: How Institutions Shape Citizens' Efforts to Shape Institutions, Political Studies.

Leuschner, Elena, & Hellmeier, Sebastian. (2024). State Concessions and Protest Mobilization in Authoritarian Regimes. Comparative Political Studies.

Persson, Mikael, and Anders Sundell. "The Rich Have a Slight Edge: Evidence from Comparative Data on Income-Based Inequality in Policy Congruence." British Journal of Political Science (2023).

Persson, Mikael, Wouter Schakel, and Anders Sundell. "A Man's World? The Policy Representation of Women and Men in a Comparative Perspective." Perspectives on Politics.

Schwenk J., The effect of primaries on voters' evaluation of candidates' quality–experimental evidence, Party Politics.

Stockemer D., Sundström A., Age Inequalities in Political Representation: A Review Article, Government and Opposition.

Stockemer D., Sundström A., The gender gap in voter turnout: An artefact of men's overreporting in survey research? British Journal of Politics & International Relations.

Stockemer D., Thompson H., Sundström A., Young adults' under-representation in elections to the U.S. House of Representatives, Electoral Studies.

WORKING PAPERS

Andreas P. Kyriacou: Pre-suffrage impartiality, democratic experience and clientelism: How sequencing matters (QoG working paper series 2023:1).

Monika Bauhr, Ruth Cartliz & Lucia Kovacikova: Who gains access to public services? Social Bargaining, Corruption and Street-level Service Provision (QoG working paper series 2023:2).

Oleksandra Keudel, Marcia Grimes & Oksana Huss: Political Will for Anti-Corruption Reform: Communicative pathways to collective action in Ukraine (QoG working paper series 2023:3).

Carl Dahlström & Mikael Holmgren: Executive Appointments under Legislative Oversight (QoG working paper series 2023:4).

Helene Ahlborg, Frida Boräng & Marcia Grimes: Logics of Action: How state institutions may undergird or undermine participatory development (QoG working paper series 2023:5).

Pelle Ahlerup, Aksel Sundström, Sverker C. Jagers & Martin Sjöstedt: Drought and Political Trust (QoG working paper series 2023:6).

Emanuel Wittberg: The intergenerational transfer of public sector jobs: Nepotism or social reproduction? (QoG working paper series 2023:7).

Dragana Davidovic: Corruption, Trust, and Attitudes Towards Carbon Taxes: Survey experimental evidence from Mexico and Sweden (QoG working paper series 2023:8).

Federica Bianchi: The Impact of Organized Crime on Decent Jobs for Youth. Evidence from Italy (QoG working paper series 2023:9).

Monika Bauhr & Mogens K. Justesen: Electoral Clientelism and Redistribution: How Vote Buying Undermines Citizen Demand for Public Services ading (QoG working paper series 2023:10).

Jonathan Stavnskær Doucette: What Can We Know about the Effects of Democracy Using Cross-National Data? (QoG working paper series 2023:11).

Birgitta Niklasson, Andreas Bågenholm, Stephen Dawson & Jenny de Fine Licht: Accountability in Swedish Political Parties? Survey evidence of misconduct and whistleblowing (QoG working paper series 2023:12).

Elena Leuschner & Peter Luca Versteegen: The Dynamics of Emotions in Protests (QoG working paper series 2023:13).

David Delfs Erbo Andersen, Carl Henrik Knutsen & Svend-Erik Skaaning: Dimensions of State Capacity and Modes of Democratic Breakdown (QoG working paper series 2023:14).

Pozsgai-Alvarez & Varraich: Are different types of corruption tolerated differently? (QoG working paper series 2023:15).

Taiwo Ahmed: Buying Quiescence: The Influence of Resource Reliance on Citizens' Demand for Democracy (QoG working paper series 2023:16).

Erik Ulla and Marina Povitkina: Political Headwind: How wind power development influences political trust (QoG working paper series 2023:17).

Andrei Yakovlev, Alexander Kalgin and Matvey Bakshuk: Factors of carrier promotion for regional and local officials in Russia: evidences from large-scale list experiment (QoG working paper series 2023:18).

Andrei Yakovlev, Lev Freinkman, Nina Ershova, Albert Ahalian: What helps improve outcomes of industrial policy? Evidence from Russia (QoG working paper series 2023:19).

BOOKS AND BOOK CHAPTERS

Cornell, Agnes, Jørgen Møller and Svend-Erik Skaaning (2023). "Political Regimes" in Andrew Denning and Heidi J.S. Tworek (eds.) The Interwar World. London: Routledge.

Dahlström, Carl (ed.) (2023). Politik som organisation. Seventh edition. Lund: Studentlitteratur.

Grimes, Marcia. 2023. "Transparency" in the Dictionary on Corruption. Robert Barrington, Elizabeth David-Barrett, and Rebecca Dobson Phillips (eds). New York, NY: Columbia University Press.

Grimes, Marcia and Oleksandra Keudel. 2023. "Political Corruption" in Elgar Encyclopedia of Political Sociology. Maria Grasso and Marco Giugni (eds). Edward Elgar Publishing.

Nistotskaya, Marina and Palina Kolvani. 2023. "Bureaucracy". In Maria Grasso and Marco Giugni (eds.). Elgar Encyclopedia of Political Sociology. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar, pp. 26-29.

Persson, Anna & Martin Sjöstedt. 2023. "Den svaga staten: Demokrati och förvaltning i utvecklingsländer," kapitel i Politik som organisation. Seventh edition. Red. Carl Dahlström, Lund: Studentlitteratur.

MEDIA APPEARANCE

Politiska dinosaurier – ett demokratiproblem?, by Aksel Sundström. **Svenska Dagbladet**, 2023-01-23.

"För många gamlingar i politiken är ett demokratiproblem", **Sveriges Radio**, 2023-10-27.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Bågenholm, Andreas och Sören Holmberg. Svenska folket bedömer graden av korruption i Sverige

Grimes, Marcia and Oksana Huss, Oleksandra Keudel. The Necessity of Talking the Talk: The functions of Communication for Anti-Corruption Political Will and Policy Development in Ukrainian Local Government. ICLD Policy brief.

Harring, Niklas, Erik Jönsson, Gabriela Mundaca, Simon Matti & Sverker C. Jagers. Public Acceptance of Fossil Fuel Subsidy Removal and Carbon Tax Implementation. Green Fiscal Policy Network, September 28, 2023.

Percival, Valerie et al. 2023. The Lancet Commission on peaceful societies through health equity and gender equality. Vol: 402, Issue: 10413, Page: 1661-1722.

THE QOG PODCAST

In 2022, the QoG Institute launched The QoG Podcast: Making sense of politics and governments all over the world. In 2023, we continued to produce and make public new episodes. In the podcast, Professor Victor Lapuente, who is QoG affiliated and currently acting Head of the Institute, discusses issues of political science in conversations with well-known experts to try to make sense of politics and governments all over the world.

Episodes in 2023
Episode #9: Simon Hix: The political system of the European Union.
Episode #10: Jennifer L. Selin: The US public policy debate.
Episode #11: Matthias vom Hau: Ethnic diversity in politics.
Episode # 12: Akshay Mangla: Making bureaucracy work in rural India.

Link to the podcast:
https://shows.acast.com/the-qog-podcast

DISSER- TATIONS

In 2023, no less than five QoG-affiliated PhD candidates successfully defended their dissertations. We want to extend a big congratulations to Dragana Davidovic, Adea Gafuri, Gefjon Off, Felicia Robertson, and Jana Schwenk for their great contributions to our research field.

DISSERTATIONS

Davidovic, Dragana
Public Attitudes Towards Environmental Taxation:
The Interplay Between Values, Trust, and Quality of Government

Environmental problems are commonly understood to be rooted in collective action dilemmas where the rational course of action for individuals is to engage in polluting activities to receive short-term benefits, while the long-term costs of those activities are borne by the collective. Voluntary cooperation to solve large-scale collective action problems such as climate change is unlikely. Thus, state intervention is needed to enforce cooperation through implementation of various climate policy instruments. These tools are more likely to be successfully and effectively implemented if they are supported by citizens. Policy experts argue that environmental taxation is the most effective way to mitigate climate change; however, public support is lacking. This dissertation investigates whether the institutional context, specifically perceptions of low quality of government (QoG), moderates the link between individuals' pro-environmental and political-ideological value orientations and climate policy attitudes. Analyzing cross-sectional and original survey experimental data, the dissertation examines if quality of government shapes the climate policy attitudes of citizens, and through what mechanisms. The analyses show that perceptions of poor institutional quality lower trust in political actors and institutions, and generate negative climate policy attitudes even among those who otherwise hold pro-environmental values and concerns and favorable attitudes towards government regulation. The dissertation contributes to an improved understanding of the determinants of climate policy attitudes and more informed recommendations for policymakers, and will hopefully also inspire further research on how institutional factors affect the prospects for effective climate policy.

Read more about this dissertation:
https://gupea.ub.gu.se/handle/2077/76359

Gafuri, Adea
Aid by Democratic Versus Autocratic Donors: Democratization Processes and Citizens' Perceptions in Recipient Countries

OECD countries are no longer the sole major providers of financial flows abroad. Authoritarian countries such as China, Russia, Iran, and Saudi Arabia, with their distinct practices and implementation processes, are increasingly present in low- and middle-income countries. In this Ph.D. dissertation, I develop and test hypotheses on the influence of foreign aid on democratization processes and citizens' attitudes in recipient countries. Employing a multi-method approach, using observational and experimental methods, I analyze the role of democratic donors such as the European Union (EU) and autocratic donors like China, both together and separately. I find that democratic donors like the EU, who target democratic institutions via democracy assistance can foster democratization. I argue that democracy assistance is effective when aid is coupled with political conditionality and monitoring mechanisms. On the other hand, aid from autocratic donors like China can decrease support for democracy, especially among those who view autocratic donors very positively. Autocratic aid impacts these perceptions through (1) attribution processes, i.e., individuals learn about aid projects that are implemented close to where they live (2) the instrumentalization of aid by political elites, i.e., political elites influence citizens by spreading information about the benevolence and generosity of authoritarian donors. Finally, this Ph.D. dissertation demonstrates that foreign donors' attributes convey to citizens how likely corruption is in the project and how responsive their local government and donors will be in implementing such projects. The political regime of the donor, whether democratic or autocratic, signals the level of responsiveness to citizens' demands. On the other hand, whether a donor is transparent or not, indicates the risk of corruption in the project and in the local government.

Read more about this dissertation:
https://gupea.ub.gu.se/handle/2077/76526

Off, Gefjon
Contested Feminism: Backlash and the Radical Right

During the past decade, various societies have observed feminist mobilizations and antifeminist counter-mobilizations, the latter being partly driven by radical right parties. Even in societies marked by institutions and norms that should be most conducive to progressive gender equality and LGBTQI+ norms, feminism is a point of contestation. Through a compilation of five papers using multiple methods, this dissertation investigates the contested nature of contemporary feminism across different European contexts. Specifically, the papers examine a) conservative/liberal polarization over feminism; b) the effect of (anti) feminist attitudes and feminist issue salience on radical right voting; c) radical right voters' (anti)feminist attitudes; d) young men's perceptions of feminism as a threat; and e) radical right voters' cultural grievances over feminism. Theoretically, I apply research on issue salience and threat perceptions to the study of attitudes toward feminism. Methodologically, I analyze existing and originally collected, experimental and observational data from surveys and interviews. In doing so, I theoretically and empirically contribute to research on cultural backlash, radical right voting, mass ideological polarization, antifeminism, and sexism. I find that people who oppose or counter-react against certain progressive gender and sexuality issues tend to vote for the radical right and distrust institutions. Demographically, they tend to be young men living in regions with increasing unemployment. They particularly oppose gender and sexuality issues that are salient in the public debate and evoke threat perceptions. Based on the findings, I develop a framework that may serve as guidance for future research on socially conservative backlash, as well as liberal-conservative polarization.

Read more about this dissertation:
https://gupea.ub.gu.se/handle/2077/76360

Robertson, Felicia
Political Trust – More Personal Than We Thought? Explaining How and When Personality Traits Affect Political Trust.

Political trust is crucial for a well-functioning society. Yet few countries enjoy the benefits of high political trust. This makes people wonder how trust in institutions is built. While trust in political institutions is considered to be an individual's evaluation of institutional performance, individuals within the same country make very different assessments. In this dissertation, I show that personality traits, that are genetic and socialized at an early age, can help explain why individuals' trust assessments differ. As personality traits reflect individuals' behavioral, cognitive, and emotional patterns, I argue that traits affect political trust in three ways, directly through our general tendencies, indirectly through how we process information and experiences, or how we interact with institutions. In three research papers, I study the relationship between personality traits and political trust in different political contexts, using different measurements of personality traits, political institutions, and institutional experiences. The results show that personality traits contribute to explaining why individuals' levels of trust in the same institutions differ. I conclude that personality traits are an important explanation for how political trust is formed and need to be considered when studying how trust changes over time.

Read more about this dissertation:
https://gupea.ub.gu.se/handle/2077/77729

Schwenk, Jana
Beyond the Party's Realm – The Consequences of Variation in Candidate Selection

In the last two decades, Western European parties have introduced various methods to select candidates for executive public office. A process that before was mainly the privilege of a narrow elite was opened to party members in several parties. While research extensively investigated the effects of variation in candidate selection on parties, little is known about the effects that variation in candidate selection has on voters and whether the effects are gendered. The dissertation argues that candidate selection has consequences beyond the party and explores in four research articles how variation in candidate selection affects voters' corruption perceptions, their evaluations of candidate quality, female representation, and gendered effects of evaluations of corruptibility. Overall, the results suggest that the consequences of variation in candidate selection are far-reaching, highlighting the importance of considering the impact of candidate selection and intraparty democracy more generally on outcomes beyond the party. The research articles in the dissertation demonstrate that candidate selection can affect corruption perceptions, evaluations of valence, and female representation. Not only does this dissertation demonstrate the need to consider the effects of intraparty dynamics on factors outside of the party, but it also illustrates how previous literature on each of the outcomes investigated in the dissertation fell short of considering intraparty democracy as an explanatory factor. Given the results of this dissertation, future research should thus focus more strongly theoretically and empirically on the effects of intraparty dynamics.

Read more about this dissertation:
https://gupea.ub.gu.se/handle/2077/78905

RESEARCH GRANTS 2023

In 2023, QoG researchers managed to secure funding for many new projects, not least a major grant on 8,1 million SEK from Riksbankens Jubileumsfond for creating the Local Quality of Government (Lo-QoG) dataset: A hub for local societal indicators across Europe (PI Aksel Sundström). The ambition of Lo-QoG is to become the leading platform on indicators that relates to local governance and its societal correlates, broadly defined. Another major achievement was that Aksel Sundström was granted the ERC Starting Grant, which is one of Europe's most prestigious research grants, awarded by the European Research Council (ERC). The EUR 1.5 million grant runs for five years and is aimed at researchers at the beginning of their careers with the aim is to promote the top researchers and the best ideas.

MISCONDUCT AND WHISTLE-BLOWING IN POLITICAL PARTIES

Funder: The Swedish Research Council
Project size: SEK 6 093 000
Participants: Birgitta Niklasson (PI), Andreas Bågenholm, Stephen Dawson & Jenny de Fine Licht
Project period: 2022 – 2025

The aim of this project is to identify and examine the mechanisms of whistleblowing in political parties. Whistleblowing, understood as insiders' disclosure of illegal, immoral, or illegitimate practices of an organization is generally recognized as a key process through which government institutions and corporations are held accountable. Still, we know little of this process in one of the most central institutions of democracy: the political parties. Bringing together the literatures on party research and the research fields of whistleblowing and corruption, we pose two sets of research questions: 1) What types of misconduct occur in political parties and to what extent do these practices take place? 2) How, by whom, and with what results is whistleblowing used to reveal these misconducts? The project provides an in-depth empirical knowledge into hitherto hidden processes of misconduct and inter-party accountability by analyzing surveys sent to political representatives in Sweden and by carrying out a large number of qualitative interviews with Swedish politicians, party members, civil servants, and journalists. Upon the conclusion of the project in 2025, our results will inform the discussion on the role of political parties in generating and sustaining good governance. They may also spark a debate about transparency and whistleblowing protection in party organizations.

→ **Read more about this project:**
https://www.gu.se/en/research/misconduct-and-whistleblowing-in-political-parties

SUSTAINING STATE CAPACITY IN A MODERN STATE: CITIZEN-STATE RELATIONS AND VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE IN SWEDEN

Funder: The Swedish Research Council
Project size: SEK 4 851 000
Participants: Agnes Cornell (PI), Rasmus Broms, and Andrej Kokkonen
Project period: 2023 – 2026

Sweden is a high-capacity state. But there are worrying signs of declining state capacity and the reach of the state varies alarmingly between different parts of Sweden. The Police's list of "vulnerable neighborhoods" illustrates both problems. One reason for the situation is that many citizens are unwilling to comply with the state. In our project we will map citizens' willingness to comply with the state at the subnational level and explain the variation we find. High-capacity states' ability to implement policy build on that citizens are willing to comply with its decrees. Sweden has in recent years received many citizens from countries in which the state exercises its power through coercion and violence. We believe that these citizens are less willing than native born citizens to comply with the state's decrees. To map their and other citizens' willingness to comply we will collect survey data among citizens and street-level bureaucrats who interact with citizens daily and analyze register data on voluntary visits to child health controls. We will also study how the state can build compliance among citizens who are unwilling to comply. We believe that interactions with bureaucrats are crucial for fostering compliance. We will therefore conduct survey experiments in which we match bureaucrats' characteristics with citizens' backgrounds to study how it affects citizens' willingness to comply. In all, the project aims to improve relationships between citizens and the state.

→ **Read more about this project:**
https://www.gu.se/en/research/sustaining-state-capacity-in-a-modern-state

DOES ADVANCING WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT LEAD TO PERCEPTIONS OF THREAT? RESEARCH ON WHO IS THREATENED BY WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT, UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS AND WHY

Funder: The Swedish Research Council
Project size: SEK 3 890 000
Participants: Nicholas Charron (PI), Amy Alexander, and Gefjon Off (Lüneburg)
Project period: 2023 – 2026

The main guiding research question of this project is: what generates, fosters or reduces perceptions of advancement in women's empowerment as threatening in Western democracies? Conventional wisdom suggests that older generations are more inclined to oppose societal changes that advance gender equality, yet in our recent publication, we find that young men are most likely to perceive advances in women's rights as threatening across Europe. Building on this study, the project aims to, one, identify which demographic groups are most likely to perceive advancements in women's empowerment as threatening over time, and two, what motivates such threat perceptions. Moreover, we aim to explain what role intervening factors – such as competition, issue framing, elite cues and social media – can play in mitigating perceived threats. Novel survey data from the upcoming rounds of the European Social Survey and the European Quality of Government (EQI) Survey and data freely available over time from other existing surveys will be analyzed. We will also design and field a pan-European randomized survey experiment in the next EQI round, testing various threat perceptions. The project will also conduct qualitative interviews in areas in Europe with selected groups that are most likely to perceive women's empowerment as a threat, specified from the findings of the large-N empirical studies to provide more nuance and depth to the overall findings and eventually policy recommendations.

→ **Read more about this project:**
   https://www.gu.se/en/research/does-advancing-womens-empowerment-lead-to-perceptions-of-threat

FEMALE LEADERSHIP AND EFFECTS FROM AFRICAN DROUGHTS (FEM-LEAD)

Funder: The European Research Council Starting Grant
Project size: SEK 15 000 000
Participants: Aksel Sundström (PI)
Project period: 2024 – 2028

Fem-LEAD (Female Leadership and Effects from African Droughts) aims to understand the connections between weather-related disasters and women's standing in politics in African countries. It challenges present scholarship by proposing a new link between climate change and gender: What if weather-related disasters, such as droughts, risk hurting recent advances of women as political leaders in African countries? Focusing on droughts, public opinion and political representation, its objective is to gain theoretical and empirical insights of links between weather-related disasters and women's political standing. The project will also involve two-three postdoctoral researchers and a research assistant.

→ **Read more about this project:**
   https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101117889

FIGHT AGAINST LARGE-SCALE CORRUPTION AND ORGANISED CRIME NETWORKS (FALCON)

Funder: European Commission Horizon Europe
Project size: EUR 122 500
Participants: Marina Nistotskaya (PI), Carl Dahlström
Project period: 2023 – 2026

Marina Nistotskaya (PI), Carl Dahlström have received a Horizon grant of for their part in the project Fight Against Large-scale Corruption and Organised Crime Networks (FALCON). The lead organization is Erevnitiko Panepistiliako Institouto Systimation (Greece).

Current evidence suggests that the global fight against corruption faces serious challenges: policy decisions are not well informed, the corruption landscape is complex and enormous, while measuring corruption is so far mostly based on subjective approaches, and there is lack of appropriate technological tools to support anti-corruption. To address these challenges, FALCON is designed and dedicated to support the composition, update and management of comprehensive corruption intelligence pictures, within domains and jurisdictions of interest. This will be accomplished following a multi-actor, evidence-based, data-driven approach, building upon existing assets and prior work of consortium partners. FALCON will, first, develop and validate objective and actionable indicators (individual and composite) of corruption that can be used to inform policy decisions. Second, it will design, implement and integrate powerful data analytics tools, data pipelines and applications that support the management of the entire lifecycle of corruption intelligence pictures. This will enable comprehensive corruption risk assessment, informed policy making, and improved anticorruption law enforcement. FALCON will be piloted in four corruption domains – corruption schemes at border crossings, sanction circumvention by kleptocrats/oligarchs, public procurement fraud, conflicts of interest of politically exposed persons (PEPs) – involving law enforcement experts (police authorities and border guards) from six (6) European countries and other key actors (i.e., GovTech providers, academia, financial intermediaries, policy makers, NGOs, and civil society).

FALCON's implementation will be incremental and iterative, forming synergies between SSH and technological expertise, and will adhere to the principles of Trustworthy AI and responsible research and innovation. Lastly, FALCON has defined specific key exploitable results and performance indicators for measuring its progress and success.

→ **Read more about this project:**
https://www.gu.se/en/news/the-falcon-project-fight-against-large-scale-corruption-and-organised-crime-networks

RESPOND – RESCUING DEMOCRACY FROM POLITICAL CORRUPTION IN DIGITAL SOCIETIES

Funder: European Commission Horizon Europe
Project size: EUR 6 000 000, of which the local portion of the grant is EUR 363 000
Participants: Marcia Grimes, Marina Nistotskaya and Frida Boräng
Project period: 2024 – 2029

The project "RESPOND – Rescuing Democracy from Political Corruption in Digital Societies" aims to study the phenomenon of political corruption and illicit influence in digital societies and propose solutions to counter it. In fact, the project continues Europe's efforts in protecting the stability of democracy and restoring civil society's trust in democratic values. QoG is one of 16 partners, and the consortium will be led by Alice Mattoni at the University of Bologna. It brings together psychologists, political scientists, sociologists, media scholars and historians and will run from 2024 to 2029. The QoG team will primarily on topics related to political finance and lobbying.

→ **Read more about this project:**
https://www.transcrime.it/en/transcrime-awarded-respond/

MEASURING THE QUALITY OF GOVERNMENT AT THE SUBNATIONAL LEVEL AND COMPARING RESULTS WITH PREVIOUS STUDIES – ROUNDS 5 AND 6

Funder: European Commission DG REGIO
Project size: EUR 3 750 000
Participants: Nicholas Charron, Victor Lapuente and Monika Bauhr
Project period: 2023 – 2027

"Measuring the quality of Government at the subnational level and comparing results with previous studies – rounds 5 and 6" is a 48-month research grant worth approximately The project consists of gathering new data across approximately 225 EU regions in two waves (2024 and 2027) along with case study field work in selected regions. The data collected will, among other things, go into constructing a 5th and 6th rounds of the 'European Quality of Government Index' (EQI), that Nicholas, Victor and Monika have worked on previously.

→ **Read more about this project:**
https://www.gu.se/en/research/measuring-the-quality-of-government-at-the-subnational-level-and-comparing-results-with-previous-studies

CONSULTANCY, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT IN THE FIELD OF FIGHT AGAINST AND PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION

Funder: EU Commission DG Migration and Home affairs
Project size: EUR 2 000 000, of which the QoG part of the grant is EUR 200 000
Participants: Anna Persson (content lead), Andreas Bågenholm (country expert), Nicholas Charron (regional expert), Bo Rothstein and Victor Lapuente (senior advisors).
Project period: 2023-2027

The Quality of Government Institute is a partner, together with the consultancy firm ECORYS (PI) and the research network ICRN, in the successful bid to consult the EU Commission DG Migration and Home affairs on matters related to the fight against and prevention of corruption. The general objectives of the projects are to support the EU's anti-corruption efforts, consisting of six pillars:

- Mainstreaming anti-corruption provisions in EU horizontal and sectorial legislation and policy;
- Monitoring performances in the fight against and prevention of corruption by Member States in the framework of the annual EU Rule of Law Report;
- Supporting the implementation of anti-corruption measures at national level via funding, technical assistance and experience-sharing;
- Improving the qualitative evidence base for anti-corruption policy;
- Promoting the fight against and prevention of corruption globally, through the participation in relevant international anti-corruption meetings; and
- Updating and modernising the EU anti-corruption framework.

ACTIVITIES IN 2023

In 2023, we continued to run our regular activities, such as our much-appreciated visiting scholar program, lunch seminar series, internal conferences, and internship program. We also organized a policy day on the topic of "Corruption and Quality in the Welfare State: Opportunities and Challenges of the Swedish System", which brought together a mix of practitioners from the public, private and non-profit sectors, leading to a very interesting policy dialogue on corruption in welfare states.

During the year, we hosted 11 visiting scholars and an additional three lunch seminar guests who all presented their research at a lunch seminar. One of them was the 2022 Best Paper Award winner Gustav Agneman, Postdoctoral researcher at Lund University, who presented his award-winning paper: "The Uneven Reach of the State: A Novel Approach to Mapping Local State Presence."

QoG scholars also presented their work at several academic conferences and workshops and were and engaged in a number of activities directed towards the academic world as well as the public and policymakers. For instance, in February and March, QoG arranged a series of lectures on "Corruption as a societal problem" (in Swedish: "Korruption som samhällsproblem") at the Gothenburg Senior University, involving talks by several of our researchers. QoG also participated with an exhibition booth, and a much-appreciated reception, at The American Political Science Association Annual Meeting & Exhibition, APSA, in Los Angeles, together with the V-Dem Institute, Governance and Local Development – GLD, and the department of Political Science at the University of Gothenburg.

QoG internal conferences
Every year, the QoG Institute organizes two internal conferences. Our internal conferences allow participating scholars to present papers and new ideas in a familiar yet highly professional and critical environment. Many of the conference contributions are published in our working paper series and/or published in peer-reviewed journals.

QoG internal winter conference
The QoG internal winter conference was organized in collaboration with the department of Political Science, University of Copenhagen, in Copenhagen. 18 papers were presented and discussed by 25 conference participants, of which 7 were from the University of Copenhagen.

QoG Internal summer conference
In August, we held yet another one of our much-appreciated internal conferences. 16 conference papers were presented and discussed by 21 conference participants. We were particularly happy to be joined by four colleagues from Aarhus University.

→ Group picture from QoG internal summer conference.

"In August, we held yet another one of our much-appreciated internal conferences. 16 conference papers were presented and discussed by 21 conference participants."

THE QOG INSTITUTE POLICY DAY 2023

CORRUPTION AND QUALITY IN THE WELFARE STATE: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF THE SWEDISH SYSTEM

Every year or two, the QoG Institute organizes a Policy Dialogue Day that aims to bridge the gap between analysis and practice. The policy day serves as a meeting platform for practitioners, policy makers, and academics. In March 2023, we hosted a policy day on the topic of "Corruption and Quality in the Welfare State: Opportunities and Challenges of the Swedish System". Two parallell panels were organized: "Korruption, otillåten påverkan och tystnadskultur i den offentliga förvaltningen" and "Den svenska välfärdens kvalitet: Insikter från äldreomsorgen" (in English "Corruption, unauthorized influence and culture of silence in the public administration" and "The quality of Swedish welfare: Insights from elderly care"). The event brought together a mix of practitioners from the public, private and non-profit sectors, leading to a very interesting policy dialogue on corruption in welfare states.

Presenters and panel participants:

Bauhr, Monika, Professor, the University of Gothenburg
Berglin, Cecilia, Expert, the University of Gothenburg
Bågenholm, Andreas, Researcher, the University of Gothenburg and Program manager, the QoG Institute
Dahlström, Carl, Professor, the University of Gothenburg
Dellve, Lotta, Professor, the University of Gothenburg
Ekström, Anna, Responsible for report on "cuture of silence" in Gothenburg city
Erlingsson, Gissur, Research, University of Linköping
Erngren, Lena, Quality manager, Attendo Scandinavia
Gunnarsson, Carina, Associate professor and active at the Swedish Defence Research Agency
Jansson, Mats, Deputy Chief Prosecutor, National Prosecution Service | The National Unit against Corruption
Kardell, Maude, Welfare strategist, Bräcke Diakoni
Lindvall, Johannes, Professor, University of Gothenburg
Mörck, Johan, Investigator, The Swedish Agency for Public Management
Olsson, Fredrik, Quality and development manager, Health and Welfare Office
Persson, Anna, Researcher, the University of Gothenburg
Resare, Nils, Journalist with a particular focus on aid and corruption
Romberg, Anna, Responsible for EVP Legal, Compliance & Governance at Getinge & founder of Nordic Business Ethics
Smith, Jamie, Method and subject representative in anti-corruption, SIDA
Winblad, Ulrika, Professor, University of Uppsala
Åshuvud, Ulrik, Secretary General, Transparency International Sweden

→ Photos from the QoG Policy Day 2023 on Corruption and Quality in the Welfare State: Opportunities and Challenges of the Swedish System, March 2023.

QOG VISITING SCHOLAR PROGRAM

The QoG Visiting Scholar Program is a vital part of our Institute. It provides intellectual impetus for the Institute, and we aim at inviting cutting-edge scholars, as well as prosperous doctoral students, who do research on the topics related to the QoG research agenda. During 2023, we hosted eleven visiting scholars and lunch seminar guests, of which most stayed for about one week. We also hosted three visiting PhD scholars.

Agneman, Gustav, Postdoc, Department of Political Science at the University of Lund and winner of QoG Best Paper Award.

Brieba, Daniel, Fellow in Public Policy and Political Science at LSE / Profesor en Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez.

Brierley, Sarah, Assistant Professor of Political Science at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Cooper, Christopher, A., Phd, Associate Professor, University of Ottawa.

vom Hau, Mattias, Associate Professor, Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals (IBEI).

Hollenbach, Florian, Associate Professor in Business & Politics at Copenhagen Business School.

Lavrinenko, Olga, Faculty of Political Science and International Studies, the University of Warsaw

Magalhães, Pedro, Researcher elections, public opinion and constitutional politics at the Institute of Social Sciences (ICS) of the University of Lisbon.

Muravjovas, Sergejus, PhD student in Management and Economics at the University of Management and Economics in Vilnius, Lithuania, and a Visiting Scholar at Penn Center for Social Norms and Behavioral Dynamics at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

Møller, Jørgen, Professor, Department of Political Science, Aarhus University.

Nye, John, Professor of Economics, George Manson University.

Selin, Jennifer, L., Senior Attorney Advisor, Administrative Conference of the United States.

Visiting PhD students

Di Giorno, Saverio, PhD candidate, University of Naples Parthenope.

Liarte, Irene, PhD candidate, Autonomous University of Madrid (UAM).

Ponzo, Marta, PhD candidate, University of Perugia.

→ **Previous visiting scholars:** https://www.gu.se/en/quality-government/our-activities/qog-visiting-scholar-program

QOG LUNCH SEMINARS

The QoG Lunch Seminar Series is another vital part of our Institute. We aim at inviting cutting-edge scholars who conduct studies on issues related to the research carried out at the QoG Institute, as well as experts from NGOs and other organizations. In 2023, our lunch seminar series continued to attract renowned and promising scholars from a range of countries. In total, we organized 13 lunch seminars.

Agneman, Gustav, Postdoc, Department of Political Science at the University of Lund and winner of QoG Best Paper Award: "The Uneven Reach of the State: A Novel Approach to Mapping Local State Presence".

Brieba, Daniel, Fellow in Public Policy and Political Science at LSE // Profesor en Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez: "Bureaucratic Selection, Merit, and the Price of Political Loyalty".

Brierley, Sarah, Assistant Professor of Political Science at the London School of Economics and Political Science: "Cross-Party Anti-Corruption Platforms and Voter Attitudes".

Cooper, Christopher A., Phd, Associate Professor, University of Ottawa: "At the Pleasure of the Crown: The politics of bureaucratic appointments".

Di Giorno, Saverio, PhD student, the University of Naples Parthenope: "That strange 'feeling' between Grand Corruption and market efficiency. The case of Italy".

Hollenbach, Florian, Associate Professor in Business & Politics at Copenhagen Business School: "Fiscal Capacity, Distributional Consequences, and Preferences over Taxation".

vom Hau, Mattias, Associate Professor, Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals (IBEI): "The Information Capacity of States, Ethnic Diversity, and Social Development".

Lavrinenko, Olga, Faculty of Political Science and International Studies, the University of Warsaw: "Why Does the Political Inequality of Women Endure? Institutional Constraints and the Ideological Fragmentation of Women's Organizations in Cross-National Perspective, 1981–2020".

Magalhães, Pedro, Researcher elections, public opinion and constitutional politics at the Institute of Social Sciences (ICS) of the University of Lisbon: "Social Classes and the Political Status Quo".

Muravjovas, Sergejus, PhD student in Management and Economics at the University of Management and Economics in Vilnius, Lithuania, and a Visiting Scholar at Penn Center for Social

→ **Olga Lavrinenko,** from the Faculty of Political Science and International Studies, the University of Warsaw, presenting her research at a QoG lunch seminar.

Norms and Behavioral Dynamics at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia: "Can Seeing Beautiful Nature Decrease Cheating?".

Møller, Jørgen, Professor, Department of Political Science, Aarhus University: "Social Science History: Principles and Procedures for Processing Historical Evidence".
Nye, John, Professor of Economics, George Manson University: "When Don't Institutions Matter?: The Universal Link Between Education and Market Liberal Values".

Selin, Jennifer L., Ph.D. Co-Director, Washington Office Carl Levin Center for Oversight and Democracy: "How Free is Information? Government Transparency in the American States".

Teorell, Jan, Professor of Political Science at the University of Stockholm and Per Andersson, Postdoc, at the University of Stockholm: "It's the state, stupid! Explaining democratic erosion in the 21st century".

Van der Windt, Peter, Associate professor of political science at New York University – Abu Dhabi: "Recruiting and Incentivizing Community Service Providers: Experimental Evidence from Sierra Leone" (co-hosted with GLD).

→ **Previous lunch seminars:** https://www.gu.se/en/qualitygovernment/our-activities/qog-lunch-seminars

QOG BEST PAPER AWARD

The Quality of Government (QoG) Institute´s **Best Paper Award** is an annual prize awarded to a paper on a quality of government related topic, demonstrating outstanding research based on its theoretical and empirical contributions.

Gustav Agneman, Postdoctoral researcher at **Lund University,** won the QoG Best Paper Award 2022, together with Kasper Brandt, Christoffer Cappelen & David Sjöberg, with their paper: "**The Uneven Reach of the State: A Novel Approach to Mapping Local State Presence.**" This semester, we had the honor to host him as visiting scholar and to listen to a presentation on his award-winning paper.

Motivation:
The paper offers an innovative and fine-grained measure of state reach at the local level, an endeavor which will increase the validity and viability of research on the determinants and effects of state presence in both scholarly and policy research moving forward. The paper is theoretically rich and synthesizes survey data with satellite imaging and uses machine learning to develop measures of predicted state presence in Sub-Saharan Africa. The authors then validate the measure through vaccination rates and census accuracy and go on to show that state presence predicts the likelihood that oil extraction leads to violent local conflicts. The paper provides a clear and comprehensive description of the method, which will allow replication to create similar data for other geographic regions. In sum, the paper greatly improves on existing approaches to measuring state reach, and thereby paves the way for more rigorous investigations of the sources of state density as well as its implications for a range of societal outcomes.

→ **Previous award-winning papers:** https://www.gu.se/en/quality-government/our-activities/the-qog-best-paper-award

→ Gustav Agneman, postdoctoral researcher at Lund University, before presenting his award-winning paper at a QoG lunch seminar.

EXTERNALLY ORGANIZED EVENTS

As usual, QoG researchers presented their work at several academic conferences and workshops during the year, such as the 119th American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting & Exhibition, the Annual Conference of the Swedish Political Science Association SWEPSA, the Midwest Political Science Association Conference (MPSA) and the European Consortium of Political Research (ECPR). The QoG Institute also organized an exhibition booth and hosted a reception at APSA, together with the V-Dem Institute and the Governance and Local Development Institute, to promote the research, policy outreach and datasets produced by the institutes and to connect with scholars from all around the world. Next to participation in conferences and workshops, our scholars were also invited to give talks at numerous other events and engaged in several activities directed towards the general public and policy makers.

Monika Bauhr presenting her research in Brussels at a workshop on the future for the Europan Cohesion Policy post-2027.

A SELECTION OF CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

Bauhr, Monika & Nicholas Charron "Cracking or shattering the glass ceiling. How competitive elections affect corruption risks." European Consortium of Political Research (ECPR), Prague 4-8, September.

Bohigues, Asbel, Jennifer M. Piscopo & Amy Alexander "Gender, Power Marginalizatin of Issue Ownership? Exploring Latin American Elites´ Perceptions of Corruption." Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), Los Angeles, August –September.

Bolkvadze, Ketevan, Ruth Carlitz & Marina Povitkina "Greenwashing in Emerging Democracies: NGOs as a Façade of Environmental Acion". Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), Los Angeles, August –September.

Boräng, Frida "The welfare state and the origins of the international refugee regime". The 14th European Social Science History Conference, Gothenburg, Sweden, April.

Broms, Rasmus "Do Bureaucratic Leaders Matter? Evidence from a Natural Experiment." Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), Los Angeles, August –September.

Charron, Nicholas "Cracking or Shattering the Glass Ceiling? How competitive elections affect corruption risks." Midwest Political Science Association Conference (MPSA) Chicago, April.

Charron, Nicholas – Opening Keynote Speech on "Gender Equality and Corruption in European Regions", Conference on Institutions, Knowledge Diffusion and Economic Development, Cagliari, September.

Charron, Nicholas and Monika Bauhr "Europe Around the Corner? How border proximity and quality of government explains European Identity." Midwest Political Science Association Conference (MPSA) Chicago, April.

Cornell, Agnes & Marcia Grimes "Institutional determinants of citizens' demand-making: Experimental evidence from Peru." Working group: Experimental Political Science, Annual Conference of the Swedish Political Science Association (SWEPSA), Gothenburg, October.

Cornell, Agnes & Marcia Grimes "Institutional determinants of civil society organizations' demand-making: Experimental evidence from Peru." Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), Los Angeles, August –September.

Dahlström, Carl "Executive Appointments under Legislative Oversight." European Consortium of Political Research (ECPR), Prague, September.

Dahlström, Carl & Mikael Holmgren "Executive Appointments under Legislative Oversight." Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), Los Angeles, August – September.

Dawson, Stephen, Felix Haas, Carl Müller-Crepon & Aksel Sundström "Control through Conservation: The Ethnic Politics of Natural Protection in Africa." Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), Los Angeles, August – September.

Harring, Niklas, Sverker C. Jagers & Simon Matti "How Ideology Affects Individual Attitudes to a Climate-Motivated Tax on Food." The Political Economy of Meat System Transformation, Monte Veritá, organized by ETH Zürich, September.

Harring, Niklas, Anna Nordén & Daniel Slunge "Do signals of anti-corruption norms make people less short-sighted and more solidaric? Testing preferences towards climate policy revenue use in East-Africa." , Annual conference of the Swedish Political Science Association (SWEPSA), Gothenburg, October.

Lapuente, Victor, Kohei Suzuki & Sofia Axelsson "An Experimental Survey on How Merit Affects Recruitment and Performance of Local Civil Servants in Sweden, Spain and Japan." Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), Los Angeles, August –September.

Leuschner, Elena "Protest Actions and Concessions", Annual Conference of the Swedish Political Science Association (SWEPSA), Gothenburg, October.

Leuschner, Elena "The Dynamics of Emotions During Protest", European Political Science Associate Conference (EPSA), Glasgow, June.

Nistotskaya, Marina "No Taxation without State-assigned Property Rights." The United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNI-WIDER) Development Conference: "Reviving up revenue for development – the role of domestic resource mobilization", Oslo, September.

Persson, Anna, Frida Boräng & Ruth Carlitz "The Power of Ideational Reach: A New Approach to State Capacity." Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), Los Angeles, August –September.

Robertson, Felicia "Subcategories of Personality Traits and the Relationship with Political Trust." Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), Los Angeles, August – September.

Sundström, Aksel "Control through Conservation: The Ethnic Politics of Natural Protection in Sub-Saharan Africa." Annual Conference of the Swedish Political Science Association (SWEPSA), Gothenburg, October.

Sundström, Aksel "Ethnic Politics and Protected Areas in Africa", presented at the Public Policy and Public Administration seminar." the Public Policy and Public Administration seminar, Gothenburg, December.

Sundström, Aksel "Female leaders and effects from African droughts." GEPOP internal workshop, Gothenburg, February.

Sundström, Aksel "Female leaders and effects from African droughts." The Gothenburg Research Group on Elections, Public Opinion and Political Behavior (GEPOP) morning meeting, Gothenburg, September.

Sundström, Aksel "Institutional trust and memories of a Soviet disaster: Insights from a quasi-experiment." Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) internal workshop, December.

Sundström, Aksel "QoG and DEMSCORE data." DEMSCORE launch conference, June.

Sundström, Aksel "When elders rule: Age composition in decision-making and perceptions of legitimacy." Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) internal workshop, June.

Sundström, Aksel "Understanding global opinion to rapidly expanding protected areas by 2030." The Interdisciplinary Centre for Conservation Science, Oxford (online), October.

Sundström, Aksel & Lena Wängnerud "Sexual forms of corruption and sextortion: How to expand research in a sensitive area." Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), Los Angeles, August –September.

A SELECTION OF INVITED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

Agerberg, Mattias "Understanding Bias in Citizen Surveys on Corruption", "21st virtual roundtable on measuring corruption", digital seminar arranged by Osaka University, Osaka, September.

Bauhr, Monika "Transparency as an antidote to corruption." General Research Seminar, University of Konstanz, Konstanz, January.

Charron, Nicholas "Electoral Responses to Political Corruption in Romanian Municipal Elections", Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Dahlström, Carl "Executive Appointments under Legislative Oversight." European University Institute, Department of Political and Social Sciences, Florence, November.

Leuschner, Elena "The Dynamics of Emotions During Protest", Lund Comparative Politics Seminar Series, Gothenburg General Research Seminar Series, Gothenburg, October.

Leuschner, Elena "The Dynamics of Emotions During Protest", Oslo Comparative Institutions and Regimes Seminar Series, Oslo, May.

Persson, Anna "Post-Independence (In)Direct Rule and State Development: Illustrations from Sub-Saharan Africa." TaxForDev Conference, Stone Town, November.

Persson, Anna "Who Pays for Distributive Politics? Reassessing the Patronage State in Sub-Saharan Africa" (with Elise Tengs), Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI)" Bergen, March.

Rothstein, Bo "Why no economic democracy in Sweden" Center for European Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, April.

Rothstein, Bo "How to create a innovative research unit", Center for Local Government Research, Linköping University, Linköping, November.

Rothstein, Bo "Is Universal Basic Income a Good Idea", Uppsala Association for Political Science, Uppsala, November.

Rothstein, Bo "The Shadow of the Swedish right". Institute for Future Studies, Stockholm, December.

Rothstein, Bo "Trust and the civil defence situation" Stockholm Defence University, Stockholm, November.

Rothstein, Bo "Trust and the vision of a liberal socialism". Department of Political Science, University of Stockholm, Stockholm, November.

Rothstein, Bo "Trust and the vision of liberal socialism", Institute for Future Studies, Stockholm, November.

Rothstein, Bo "What Explains Nordic Happiness", Department of Political Science, Reykjavik University, Reykjavik, May.

A SELECTION OF POLICY EVENTS AND TALKS

Bauhr, Monika "Demokrati och korruption: jämställdhet och representation", Gothenburg Senior University, March.

Bauhr, Monika "Do citizens' support EU Cohesion Policy?" Workshop: Which future for the European Cohesion policy post-2027? Brussels, December.

Bauhr, Monika – Talk at the Club University Foundation, a one-day interdisciplinary workshop on Cohesion Policy post-2027, aimed at fostering an exchange of views between experts from academia, practitioners, decision-makers and Belgian managing authorities involved in the preparation of the incoming Belgian presidency of the Council.

Bågenholm, Andreas "Korruption och ansvarsutkrävande" Gothenburg Senior University, March.

Dahlström, Carl "Driftsform och vårdkvalitet i svensk äldreomsorg." Talk at the audit office, the City of Gothenburg, Gothenburg, April.

Grimes, Marcia "Civilsamhällets roll i kampen mot korruption." Gothenburg Senior University, March.

Grimes, Marcia – Panelist at the Sustainability Day, the School of Business, Economics, and Law, University of Gothenburg, September.

→ Victor Lapuente and Marina Nistotskaya representing the QoG Institute at the Annual conference of the Swedish Political Science Association – SWEPSA 2023.

Holmberg, Sören – Föredrag i riksdagen på Riksrevisionens 20 årsjubileum om Kvaliteten i offentlig verksamhet, Stockholm, november.

Holmberg, Sören – Föredrag om Korruption i Sverige på KFI-dagen, Gothenburg, november.

Niklasson, Birgitta "Visselblåsning och korruption." Gothenburg Senior University, March.

Persson, Anna "Korruption som samhällsproblem." Gothenburg Senior University, March.

Persson, Anna "Korruption som hållbarhetsproblem." Sustainability Days, School of Business, Economics, and Law, University of Gothenburg, September.

Rothstein, Bo "Lobbying and Political Power in Sweden", Stockholm Workers Educational Association", Stockholm, November.

Rothstein, Bo "Politics of Hope versus Politics of Fear", Stockholm Workers Educational Association", Stockholm, November.

AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND OTHER SERVICES TO THE PROFESSION

Charron, Nicholas
2022–2023 academic year on sabbatical as a research fellow at the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, Harvard University.

Dahlström, Carl
Fernand Braudel Fellow, Department of Political and Social Sciences, European University Institute. Autumn 2023.

Harring, Niklas
Invited to the Swedish Government's National Climate Meeting.

Harring, Niklas
Member of the Gothenburg City Climate Council, 2023 – .

Persson, Anna
Elected the new chairman of the board of Transparency International Sweden (TI Sweden).

Persson, Anna
Member of the Research Delegation of The foundation of Baltic and East European Studies, 2023 – ongoing.

Persson, Anna
Panel member for the Norwegian Research Council's research panel for social science, 2020 – ongoing.

Rothstein, Bo
Appointed as Expert in the Swedish Government's Public Investigation about the Swedish Heath Care Administration.

Rothstein, Bo
Guest Researcher at the Swedish Institute San Michele Foundation. Capri, Italy, 26 October – 16 November.

Rothstein, Bo
Visiting scholar at the Harvard University, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, 20 March– 26 April.

Rothstein, Bo
Visiting scholar at the Stockholm Institute for Future Studies, 20 November – 14 December.

Sundström, Aksel
The First-Time Voter Award (together with Daniel Stockemer). Awarded by the International Centre for Parliamentary Studies (ICPS), for their work on youth political representation last year through the book "Youth without Representation: The Absence of Young Adults in Parliaments, Cabinets, and Candidacies" (University of Michigan Press, 2022), and for their dataset, the Worldwide Age Representation in Parliaments (WARP) Dataset.
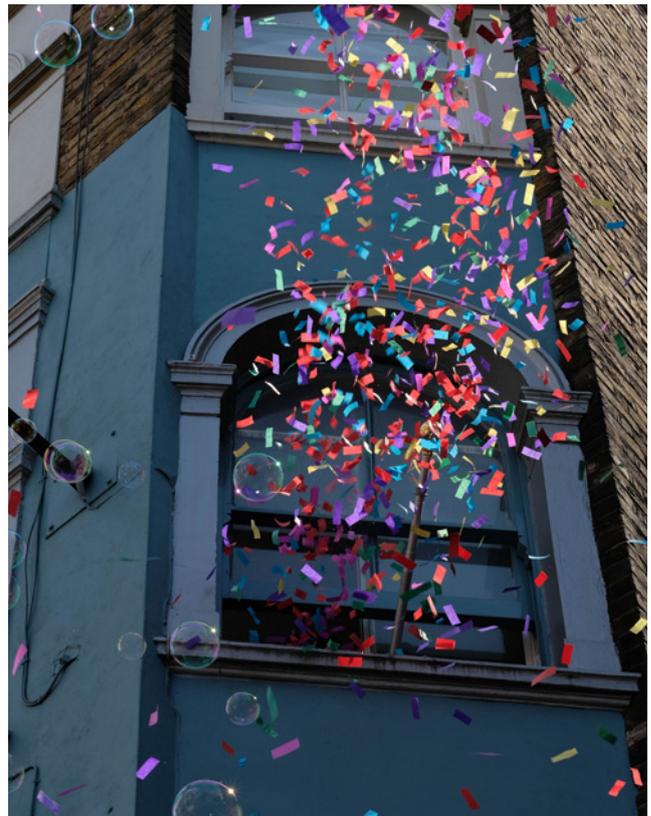
COLLABO-RATIONS

DEMSCORE

The QoG Institute is a partnering institute of the Demscore (acronym for research infrastructure for Democracy, Environment, Migration, Social policy, Conflict, and Representation), which is a an innovative e-infrastructure that brings together some of the world´s leading research infrastructures and databases, with the aim to provide free access to harmonized data from several of the world's largest datasets on Democracy, Environment, Migration, Social Policy, Conflict, and Representation. Demscore is a collaboration between the universites in of Gothenburg, Stockholm, Uppsala, and Umeå. The project is funded by the Swedish Research Council.

In 2023, the first full version of the DEMSCORE platform was launched and research findings from DEMSCORE partners were presented through seminars, panel discussions, and workshops.

→ **Read more about the Demscore project:**
https://www.demscore.se/

THE LANCET COMMISSION ON PEACEFUL SOCIETIES THROUGH HEALTH EQUITY AND GENDER EQUALITY

In 2023, the QoG Institute initiated a cooperation with the Lancet Commission on Peaceful Societies through Health Equity and Gender Equality. *The Lancet* and the Swedish Institute for Global Health Transformation (SIGHT) launched the Commission on Peaceful Societies through Health and Gender Equality in 2019. The Commission is an independent and interdisciplinary initiative of 20 Commissioners and other collaborators, originally set up to further the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and to explore the untapped intersections and opportunities between the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for health and well-being (SDG 3), gender equality (SDG 5), and peace, justice, and strong institutions (SDG 16). The QoG Institute, represented by Assoc. Prof. Amy C. Alexander, was involved in this transdisciplinary collaboration, which culminated in a report from the Commission published in the Lancet in November of 2023. This research generates novel, robust evidence based on global, longitudinal analysis of countries and case studies of countries that supports health equity, gender equality and peace as mutually reinforcing and pinpoints improvements in health equity and gender equality, in particular, as fundamental to countries achievements of greater and more sustainable peace.

→ **The report can be accessed at:**
The Lancet Commission on peaceful societies through health equity and gender equality – The Lancet.

→ **Read more about The Lancet Commission on Peaceful Societies through Health Equity and Gender Equality:**
https://peacefulsocietiescommission.org/

QOG DATA

In 2023, our data team grew and we are happy to welcome Rafal Lopez Valverde as Data Manager. Aksel Sundström, who is leading the QoG Data operation, also managed to get funding from Riksbankens Jubileumsfond for creating the Local Quality of Government (Lo-QoG) dataset: A hub for local societal indicators across Europe. The ambition of Lo-QoG is to become the leading platform on indicators that relates to local governance and its societal correlates, broadly defined. Thanks to this funding, the QoG Data team will grow with two new positions in 2024.

QOG DATA

In 2023, the QoG Data Team made significant progress, by updating the Compilation Datasets and by increasing the number of data sources. For the 2023 update, our compilations gathered 2087 variables from 122 sources. Enhancing our data collection further, we incorporated these eleven new data sources:

- Quota Adoption and Reform over Time (QAROT), 1947-2015 (Hughes, Paxton, Clayton & Zetteberg, 2017). This dataset is the first longitudinal dataset with information about the adoption, implementation, and reform of national gender quotas across the world.

- Change in Source of Leader Support (CHISOLS) Data (Mattes, Leeds & Matsumura, 2016). The goal of this dataset is to differentiate leader transitions in which a new leader comes to office who depends on different societal groups for support than their predecessor from leader transitions where both the current leader and their predecessor rely on essentially the same groups for support.

- Global Data Governance Map (Struett, Zable & Aaronson, 2022). This dataset focused on how governments around the world govern data on six different attributes: strategic, regulatory, responsible, structural, participatory and international.

- Informal Economy Database (Elgin, Kose, Ohnsorge & Yu, 2021). This database includes up to 196 economies over the period 1990-2018 and includes the twelve most commonly used measures of informal economy.

- Global Tax Expenditures Database (Redonda, von Haldenwang & Aliu, 2022). This dataset brings together the official and publicly available data on tax expenditures as published by national governments since 1990.

- Historical Index of Ethnic Fractionalization (Drazanova, 2019). The HIEF Data contains an ethnic fractionalization index for 165 countries across all continents. The dataset covers annually the period 1945-2013.

- Multidimensional Index of Bureaucratic Underrepresentation (Cingolani, 2022). This dataset presents a time-series cross-sectional Index of Bureaucratic Underrepresentation (IBU) covering a total of 37 European countries between 2008 and 2018.

- Enterprise Surveys (The World Bank, 2022). The World Bank Enterprise Surveys offer an expansive array of economic data on 180,000 firms in 154 countries.

- WJP Rule of Law Index 2022 (World Justice Project, 2022). This dataset measures how the rule of law is experienced and perceived in practical, everyday situations by the general public around the world.

- The World Uncertainty Index (Ahir, Bloom & Furceri, 2022). The WUI dataset reflects the frequency of the word uncertainty in the quarterly Economist Intelligence Unit country reports.

QoG Data offers open-access datasets, so users can learn, research and understand better the concepts relating to Quality of Government.

- The GenDip database on Gender and Diplomatic Representation (Niklasson & Towns, 2022). The purpose of this dataset is to provide information on the gender of diplomats around the world.

- The Data on Central Bank Independence (Romelli, 2022). This dataset provides information on a comprehensive index of CBI covering a wide range of central bank characteristics based on the charters of 154 central banks over the period 1972–2017.

During the year, we received a substantial engagement, with a total of 76,460 downloads of our data. The QoG Standard Dataset, Time-Series 2023, stood out as the most sought-after dataset. Our user base is notably international, with the majority visiting from the United States, complemented by significant representation from Western Europe. Within our Data Finder, the topics of corruption, democracy, and education garnered the most interest, while the ICRG Indicator of Quality of Government (icrg_qog) variable emerged as the most frequently searched variable.

At the beginning of the year, we received exciting news; Aksel Sundström and Marina Nistotskaya were awarded an 8.1 million SEK infrastructure grant from Riksbankens Jubileumsfond to support 'The Local Quality of Government (Lo-QoG) dataset: A hub for local societal indicators across Europe' project. The project aims to develop a dataset at the local/municipal level, which we anticipate will contribute to a more nuanced understanding of governance quality and societal conditions at the community level across various European regions. Additionally, this grant offers us an invaluable opportunity to expand our data team.

In 2023, our commitment to connecting with the research community was further strengthened through a variety of outreach initiatives. A key highlight was our participation in APSA 2023, held in Los Angeles, where we showcased our freely available resources to the political science community. Our exhibition booth, jointly hosted with GLD and V-Dem, was quite fruitful in terms of receiving feedback and suggestions from existing users and engaging with new individuals interested in utilizing our data collection and visualization tools for diverse research purposes.

In August, a group of PhD students from Oslo visited our department, and we presented our work and fostered collaborative discussions, which enriched our perspective and highlighted the practical applications of our data in academic research. We also continued our educational outreach by presenting in the 'Introduction to Applied Research Design and Quantitative Research Methods for Social Scientists' course, showcasing the QoG datasets and online tools to bolster students' quantitative research skills.

During the Fall semester, our team was pleased to welcome Paula Nilsson, a master's student from Lund University, who joined us as part of the ongoing data internship program we launched last year. Paula made valuable contributions in the preparation of the latest update of our compilation datasets. Furthermore, she designed an interactive dashboard titled "Share of Right-Wing Parties in Europe," which is now accessible on our website and offers an insightful data representation to our users.

Finally, we are delighted to announce the newest addition to our data team, Rafael Lopez Valverde. With a multifaceted background as a political scientist, data analyst, and full-stack developer, Rafael will work with us as a data manager and brings a wealth of experience from his work with public, private, and academic institutions, as well as political campaigns.
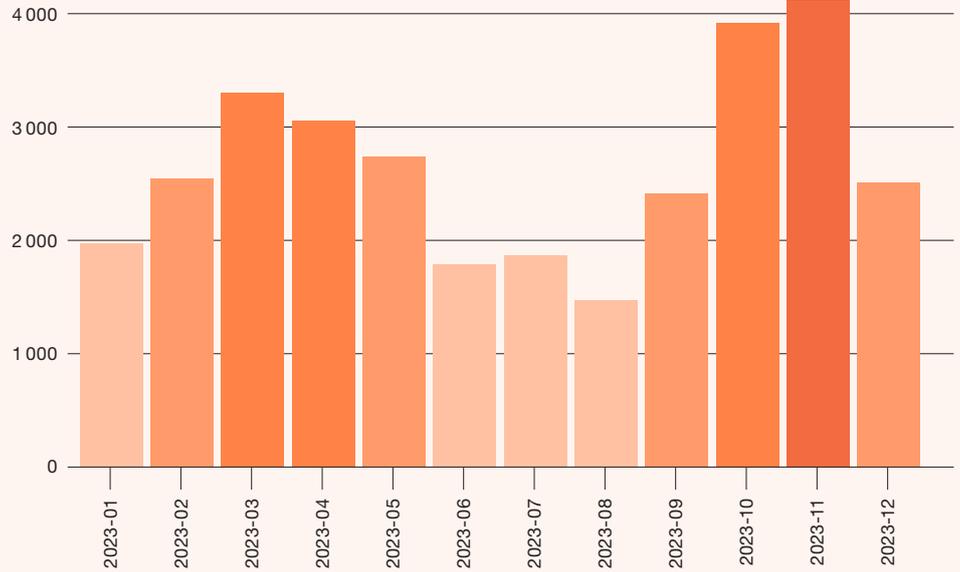
Reflecting on 2023, it was a fruitful year for the QoG Data Team. As we look to the future, our enthusiasm increases, and we are dedicated to pursuing new data projects that promise to benefit the research community. We cherish the opportunity to contribute to the expansion of knowledge about QoG.
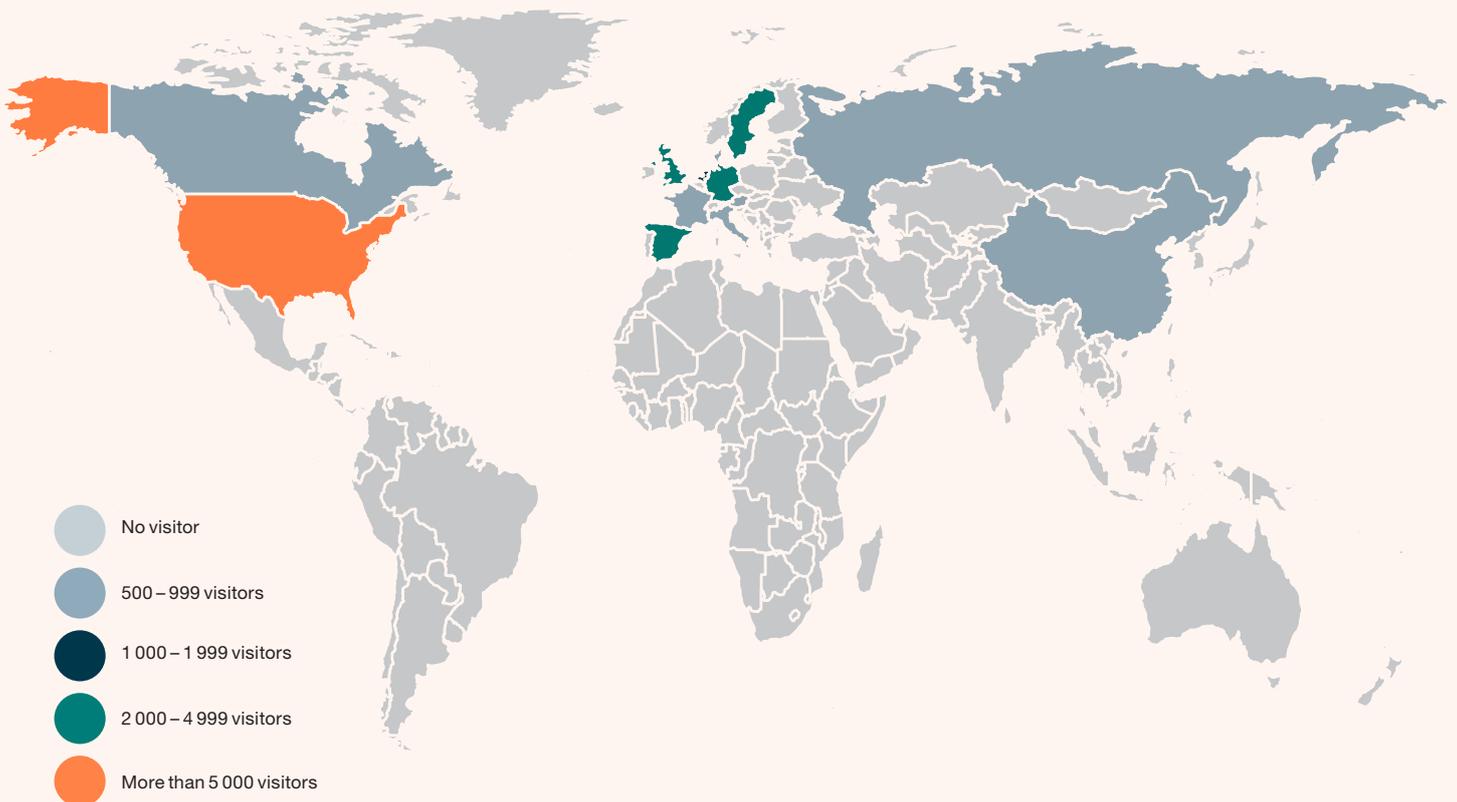
SEARCH LISTS
JAN–DEC 2023

5 MOST SEARCHED DATASETS	5 MOST SEARCHED VARIABLES	10 MOST SEARCHED KEYWORDS
1 KOG Index of Globalization	1 ICRG's Quality of Government	1 Corruption
2 ICRG	2 Economic Globalization	2 Democracy
3 Central Bank Independence Dataset	3 Index of Globalization	3 Education
4 World Economic Forum	4 Colonial Origin	4 GDP
5 IHME	5 Ethnic Fractionalization	5 GDP per capita

UNIQUE DOWNLOADS
2023

→ This year we had an uninterrupted record of the metrics of our visits, downloads and search. In 2023, we had 76460 downloads of which 31702 were unique downloads of both data and PDFs.

COUNTRY VISITS
2023

- No visitor
- 500 – 999 visitors
- 1 000 – 1 999 visitors
- 2 000 – 4 999 visitors
- More than 5 000 visitors

QOG FOR STUDENTS

QOG MASTER COURSES

Master students at the University of Gothenburg have an opportunity to take part in courses that specifically explore different aspects of quality of government and the performance of democracies from a "governance" perspective.


THE PERFORMANCE OF DEMOCRACIES

This course explores factors that explain cross country variation in democratic performance and their implications. More specifically, it is concerned with how institutional variation among democratic regimes is related to outcomes in general dimensions of performance, such as, human well-being, corruption and sound management of public finances, among others. It therefore takes a quality of 'governance' perspective, focusing on why and how democracies 'succeed or fail'. You also get to study the implications that follow for citizen attitudes and democratic support.

In 2023, 22 students were enrolled on the PERDEM course.

→ **Read more about the course:**
https://www.gu.se/en/study-gothenburg/
the-performance-of-democracies-sk2211
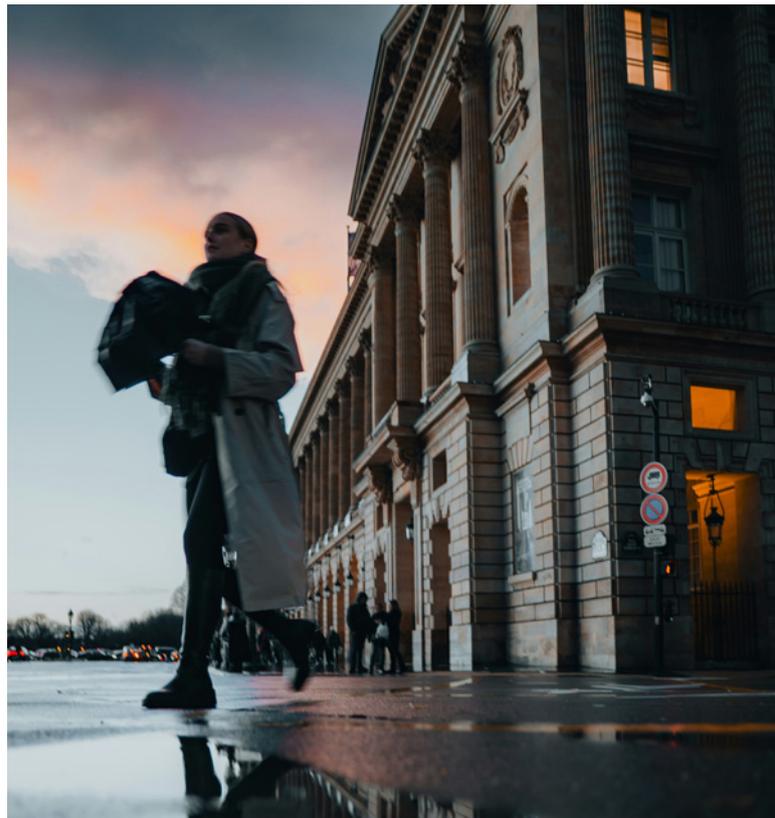
THE QUALITY OF GOVERNMENT IN A COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

The course addresses problems related to the quality of governance (QoG) and corruption in a comparative perspective. Today, there is consensus among social science researchers about the importance of high-quality government for economic and democratic development as well as for social and environmental sustainability. Government organisations that are trustworthy, reliable, impartial, uncorrupted and competent are currently seen as one of the most important factors of human well-being. Corruption is seen as having detrimental effects on economic growth, the public goods provision, the democratic processes and trust among citizens. The quality of governance is not a problem for developing countries only but exists also in economically developed democracies where trust in government institutions and the sustainability of welfare programs has been questioned. The central issues that we address in the course are: What is QoG? How can QoG be defined and measured? What explains the great variation between the countries in QoG? What do you get from high QoG and what are the mechanisms that give high/low QoG?

In 2023, 24 students were enrolled on the QoG course.

→ **Read more about the course:**
https://www.gu.se/en/study-gothenburg/the-quality-of-government-in-a-comparative-perspective-sk2212

INTERNSHIP PORTRAIT OF JIUYANG: MY JOURNEY AT THE QUALITY OF GOVERNMENT (QOG) INSTITUTE

As a political science major in the second year of my master's program, deeply intrigued by the complexities of global governance, I embarked on an internship at The Quality of Government (QoG) Institute. Filled with excitement and curiosity, I stepped into the role of a Research Assistant Intern, viewing it as both a gateway into the world of political research and a critical milestone in my academic journey.

Contrary to my initial expectations of a structured environment with well-defined tasks, I found myself immersed in a dynamic and multifaceted research setting. My involvement spanned various projects, where I assisted in data collection and literature reviews. This rich experience, extending beyond my expectations, offered me a comprehensive insight into the nuances of political research.

A highlight of my time at QoG was the privilege of attending numerous professional academic seminars and forums, including the prestigious 2023 Annual Conference of the Swedish Political Science Association (SWEPSA). This exposure to cutting-edge research and interactions with renowned political scholars was an enlightening experience, a glimpse into the vast world of political academia that one can only experience as a QoG intern.

The projects I contributed to were closely aligned with my research interests, thanks to QoG's collaborative environment where professors shared and engaged with interns' interests. Whether it was analyzing the impact of drought on political trust or exploring the dynamics of women's representation in politics, each project I assisted with not only deepened my knowledge but also provided a real glimpse into the life of an academic, affirming my passion for pursuing an academic career.

I am profoundly grateful for the mentorship and guidance provided by seasoned researchers at QoG. Their kindness and patience were invaluable, especially when I faced challenges, such as a daunting task involving corruption data analysis using Stata. Despite my initial apprehension and inexperience in programming, the supportive and encouraging environment at QoG turned this challenge into a significant learning opportunity, enhancing my research skills.

This internship has not only reinforced my aspiration to pursue an academic career but has also been a pivotal phase in my personal and professional development. The practical experience blended with academic learning at QoG has been instrumental in shaping my career trajectory, transforming me into a more competent, thoughtful, and skilled individual. The lessons learned and the relationships forged during this time are undoubtedly the foundational pillars for my future endeavors in political science. I highly recommend any student who is passionate about academia to apply for this great intern position at Quality of Government Institute, which could never let you down.

> "The projects I contributed to were closely aligned with my research interests"

QOG INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The Quality of Government Institute hosts an internship program aimed at students enrolled on a master's program. The internship provides opportunities for students to obtain practical experience in working with various research projects within academia in an international environment and gives the student the opportunity to experience the day-to-day work at the Institute and to participate in seminars and other events organized by the Institute. In 2023, we accommodated 5 interns for a period of 10–20 weeks:

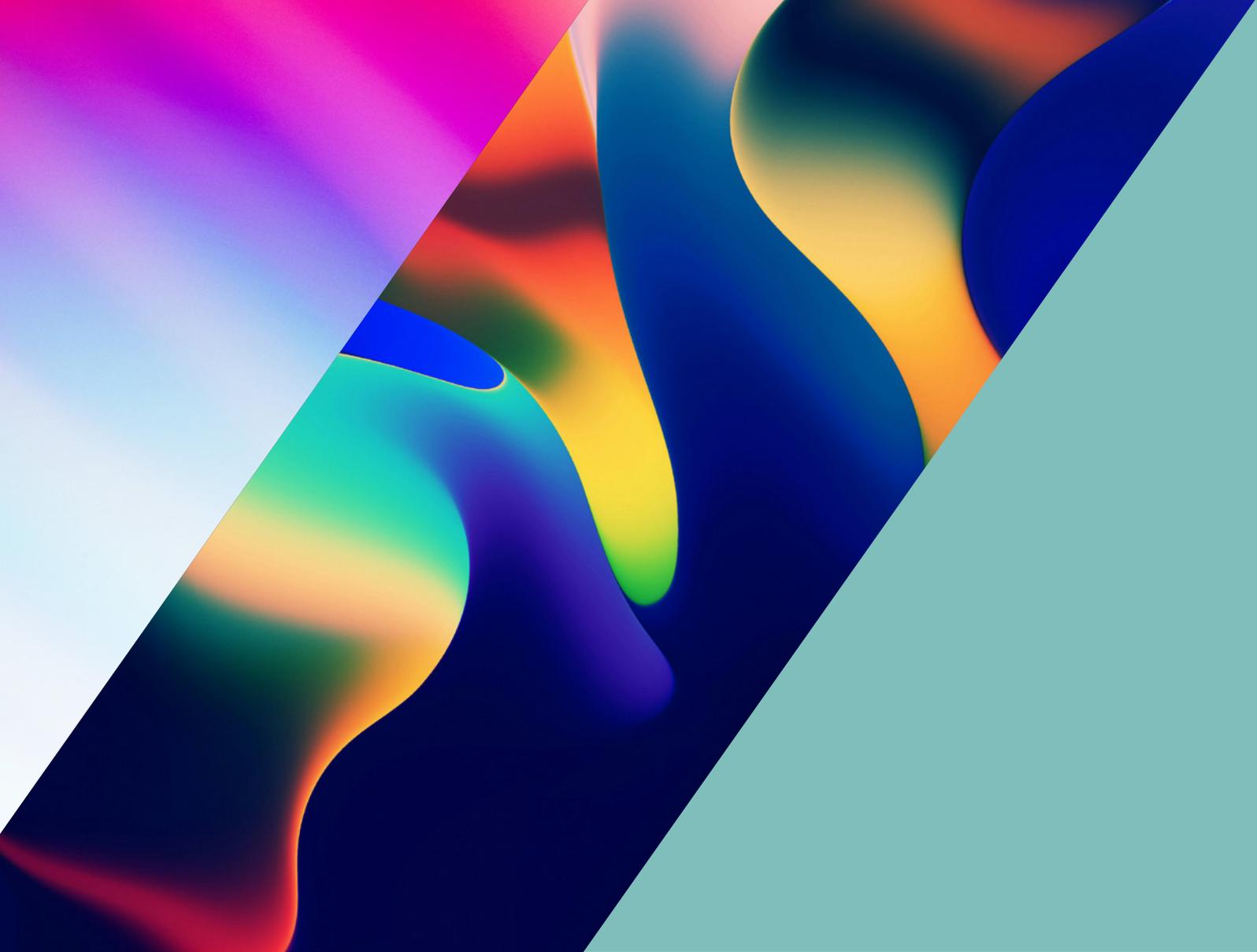**Hallin, Hampus,** Master student at the Political Science program, University of Gothenburg.

Khoury, Rasha, Master student at IAGG, University of Gothenburg.

Kovalicka, Anna Maria, Master student at IAGG, University of Gothenburg.

Li, Jiuyang, Master student at the Global Studies program, Lund University.

Nilsson, Paula, Master student at Social Scientific Data Analysis Program, Lund University.

Ohlsson, Alva, Master student in Economics at the School of Business, Economics and Law, University of Gothenburg.

FUNDING AGENCIES