



Dr. E. Keith Smith

Oberassistent/Senior Researcher
 ETH - International Political Economy/International
 Environmental Politics
 email: keith.smith@gess.ethz.ch

Current position

September 2023-Present *Oberassistent (Senior Researcher), 100%*
 ETH Zurich, Switzerland
 International Political Economy International Environmental Politics

Areas of specialization

Global Environmental Politics, Air Pollution Mitigation, Environmental impacts in middle-income and developing states, Mixed-methodologies, Political polarization

Education

August 2012 - May 2020 PhD in Sociology, Colorado State University (USA)
September 2009 - July 2010 MSc in Social Policy Analysis, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Belgium)
August 2007 - February 2009 MA in European Politics, University of British Columbia (Canada)
August 2002 - May 2007 BA in German (Language, Literature and Culture), Colorado State University (USA)

Academic Employment History

September 2020 - August 2023 *Post-doctoral Researcher, 100%*
 ETH Zurich, Switzerland International Political Economy Environmental Politics
May 2017 - August 2020 *Scientific Researcher, 100%*
 GESIS - Leibniz Institute for Social Sciences, Cologne
August 2015 - May 2017 *Course Lecturer, 50%*
 Colorado State University, Department of Sociology, Fort Collins, CO
August 2015 - May 2017 *Journal Manager, 20%*
 The Sociological Quarterly
August 2012 - May 2015 *Teaching Assistant, 25%*
 Colorado State University, Department of Sociology, Fort Collins, CO

Non-Academic Employment History

February 2011 - August 2012 *Research Officer, 100%*
 Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Toronto, ON Canada
September 2010 - February 2011 *Senior Data Analyst, 100%*
 Bank of Nova Scotia, Toronto, ON Canada
February - August 2009 *Customer Relations Management, 100%*
 Royal Bank of Canada, Toronto, ON Canada

Leave of Absence

January 2019 - April 2019 *Parental Leave*

Grant-Funded Research Projects

2023 E. Keith Smith (Principal Investigator). "Estimating Political Feasibility of Environmental Policy Designs Using Conjoint Experiments". Agency: ETH Career Seed Grant (30.000 CHF)

2023 Thomas Bernauer (Lead coordinator) and E. Keith Smith (Co-coordinator). "Designing Environmentally Effective and Politically Feasible Policies for Cleaner Urban Air in the Global South". Agency: Swiss Network for International Studies (280.000 CHF)

2023 Massimo Tavoni and Johannes Emmerling (Lead coordinator), E. Keith Smith and Thijs Bouman (Co-work package leaders). "Climate Policy Acceptability Economic Framework (CAPABLE)". Agency: HORIZON EU - 380.000 EUR (ETH), 3.4 million EUR (consortium total)

Teaching

Courses taught at masters and post-graduate level at ETH Zurich: Comparative and International Political Economy, Statistics I, Public Institutions and Policy-Making Processes, Public Opinion and Behavioural Public Policy Analysis. Courses taught at undergraduate level at Colorado State University: Classical Sociological Theory, Social Stratification, Methods of Sociological Inquiry, Computer Methods for Sociology, Introduction to Sociology.

Supervision and mentoring of Junior Researchers

2023 Maja Schoch. "A Breath of Fresh Data: Exploring the Determinants of Air Quality Monitoring in Non-OECD Cities". MA Thesis, ETH-Zurich (Master in Comparative and International Studies).

2023 Sam Mattern. "Towards Clean Air in Ghana: A Quantitative Assessment of Air Pollution Monitoring in the Greater Accra Metropolitan Area (GAMA), and a Roadmap for Enhanced Data Provision". MA Thesis, ETH-Zurich (Master in Science, Technology and Policy).

2023 Patricia Maissen. "Haze of Accountability The Effect of Air Pollution on Electoral Punishment". MA Thesis, ETH-Zurich (Master in Comparative and International Studies).

2023 Sevval Simsir. "Polls and Particles: Investigating the Impact of Elections on Air Quality in India". MA Thesis, ETH-Zurich (Master in Comparative and International Studies).

2022 Alessio Levis. "Why Do People Engage in Ecological Behavior? The Role of Trust in Impartial Institutions and Decentralized Environmental Governance". MA Thesis, ETH-Zurich (Master in Comparative and International Studies).

2021 Franziska Vogel. "More for the people - Populist attitudes and support for redistribution". MA Thesis, ETH-Zurich (Master in Comparative and International Studies).

Editorial Activities

2024-Current Associate Deputy Editor, Climatic Change.

Reviewing Activities

Reviewed articles for American Journal for Political Science, British Journal of Political Science, Nature Climate Change, Nature Communications, Climatic Change, Climate Policy, Environmental Science and Policy, Environmental Politics, Environmental Sociology, International Journal of Comparative Sociology, Journal of Environmental Studies and Science, Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion, Political Geography, BMC Public Health, Royal Society Open Science, The Sociological Quarterly.

Grant applications reviewed for the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), Dutch Research Council (NWO), Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) in Canada, Czech Science Foundation (GACR), Royal Society (Marsden Fund) in New Zealand.

Invited Lectures

2025 Smith, E. Keith. "Navigating Deep Uncertainty in Coupled Social and Climate Systems through Anticipatory Governance". High-end climate risks symposium, Max Planck Institute of Geoanthropology.

2024 Smith, E. Keith. "How Response Methods Affect Substantive Inferences in Conjoint Experiments". CDM Colloquium, University of Konstanz.

2021 Smith, E. Keith. "Concern and anticipation of sea-level rise provide grounds for social tipping towards climate action". Complexity Science Hub, Vienna.

2019 Smith, E. Keith. "Social Tipping Processes and Rapid Societal Transformations". University of Oxford: Oxford Martin Post-Carbon Transition Programme.

- 2018** Smith, E. Keith. "A social trap for the climate?: Collective action, trust and climate change risk perception in 35 countries." Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact : COPAN Group.
- 2017** Smith, E. Keith. "Who is Still Not Worried About Climate Change? An introduction to the social patterning of climate change concern." Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact : COPAN Group.

Service

Academic Expert Workshop Organization

- 2019** "Social Tipping Processes relevant to stay within Planetary Boundaries". GESIS-Cologne, June 17-19, 2019. 20 International Experts.
- 2018** "DominoES: Social Tipping Elements Decisive for the Future of the Anthropocene". GESIS-Cologne, June 4-6, 2018. 25 International Experts.

Conference Section Organization

- 2021** E. Keith Smith, Christina Eder and Isabelle Stadelmann-Steffan. "From individual perceptions to collective dynamics in environmental and climate change politics." ECPR General Conference 2021.
- 2019** E. Keith Smith and Christina Eder. "Public attitudes towards climate change." 4th International ESS Conference. Turbulent times in Europe: Instability, Insecurity and Inequality, University of Mannheim.
- 2018** E. Keith Smith and Christina Eder. "A Change in Climate Change Attitudes (and Behavior)?" ECPR General Conference 2018.
- 2018** E. Keith Smith Roula Nezi, Kristi Winters and Slaven Zivkovic. Political Science Roundtable. GESIS Cologne, Fall 2018.

Academic Awards

- 2019** GESIS Performance Bonus (Leistungsprämie), Excellent Performance (Hervorragende Leistung) (€4,000)
- 2009-2010** IMPALLA scholarship funded by the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg to study at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (€14,000)
- 2008-2009** Master of Arts study grant as a Research Assistant sponsored by the Transatlantic Program of the Federal Republic of Germany (\$5,000 CAD)