Michele Scotto di Vettimo

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Academic positions

Leverhulme Early Career Fellow   2024-ongoing
King's College London
Department of Political Economy

Research Fellow   2021-2023
University of Exeter
Department of Politics & Centre for Computational Social Science

Education

Ph.D. in Political Science · King's College London   2022
Thesis: *Policy responsiveness in the European Union*

M.Sc. in Public Management · Bocconi University, Milan   2016

M.A. in European Affairs · Institut d'études politiques, Paris   2016

B.A. in Political Science · University of Naples "Federico II"   2014

Erasmus programme · University of Ljubljana   2014

Publications

Peer-reviewed articles

Scotto di Vettimo, M. & Koop, C. (2025) "Technocrats, reputation, and responsiveness in policy explanation", *Governance*. Forthcoming. DOI: 10.1111/gove.70103.

Zhirnov, A., Thomeczeck, J.P., Antonucci, L., Scotto di Vettimo, M., Buma, R., Cristea, V., Kersting, N., Krouwel, A., Lange, S., Lopéz-Ortega, A., Thompson, J., Di Stefano, R., & Ruggeri, F. (2025) "A Populist Axis? Analyzing Connections between Populist, Economic, and Cultural Dimensions of Political Space", *Comparative Political Studies*. Accepted.

Scotto di Vettimo, M., Haraldsson, A., Gelovani, S., Banducci, S., Koc-Michalska, K., & Theocharis, Y. (2025) "Research challenges and training needs in text analysis for political science research", *European Political Science*. Accepted.

Thomeczek, J.P., Zhirnov, A., Scotto di Vettimo, M., Lange, S., Buma, R., Cristea, V., Dolle, M., Kersting, N., Krouwel, A., Lopéz-Ortega, A., Thompson, J., Antonucci, L., Di Stefano, R., & Ruggeri, F. (2025). "One model to rule them all? Choosing axes for European political landscapes with VAA data", *Journal of Information Technology & Politics*. Online First. DOI: 10.1080/19331681.2025.2469166.

Zhirnov, A., Thomeczeck, J.P., Scotto di Vettimo, M., Lopéz-Ortega, A., Krouwel, A., Antonucci, L., Di Stefano, R., & Kersting, N. (2025). "Do populist parties better represent their voters than mainstream parties? Evidence from the 2019 European Parliament Elections in Italy, the Netherlands, Germany and Sweden", *Electoral Studies*, 94, 102906. DOI: 10.1016/j.electstud.2025.102906.

Haraldsson, A., Gelovani, S., Scotto di Vettimo, M., Kalsnes, B., & Koc-Michalska, K. (2024). Citizen-produced political text: An interdisciplinary study of inequalities in research. *Questions de communication*, 46. DOI: 10.4000/12yfj.

Koop C. & Scotto di Vettimo, M. (2024). Non-majoritarian institutions, media coverage, and 'reinforced accountability'. *Governance*, 37(2): 599–617. DOI: 10.1111/gove.12785.

Devine, D., Valgarðsson, V., Smith, J., Jennings, W., Scotto di Vettimo, M., Bunting, H., & McKay, L. (2024). Political trust in the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic: A meta-analysis of 67 studies. *Journal of European Public Policy*, 31(3): 657–679. DOI: 10.1080/13501763.2023.2169741.

Koop, C. & Scotto di Vettimo, M. (2023). Do the media scrutinise central banking? Evidence from the Bank of England. *European Journal of Political Economy*, 77: 102296. DOI: 10.1016/j.ejpoleco.2022.102296.

Scotto di Vettimo, M. (2022). Measuring public support for European integration using a Bayesian IRT model. *European Union Politics*, 23(2): 171–191. DOI: 10.1177/14651165221080400.

Book chapters

Koop C. & Scotto di Vettimo, M. (2024). ¿Independientes pero bajo control? Evaluando la rendición de cuentas de múltiples aristas de las instituciones no mayoritarias. In Dussauge Laguna, M. & Casas Benítez, A. (eds): *Nuevos derroteros en la Administración y las Políticas Públicas*. FLACSO: México (Forthcoming). English version available on SSRN. DOI: 10.2139/ssrn.4948140.

Reports

"Report on the platform for the OPTED project (D9.5)" (with Banducci, S., Balluff, P., Gelovani, S., & Theocharis, Y.). September 2023. Report written as part of the OPTED project.

"Report on Producing a prototype platform for the OPTED project (D9.4)" (with Banducci, S., Gelovani, S., & Theocharis, Y., Dhamal, P.). September 2022. Report written as part of the OPTED project.

"Report on training and research needs and opportunities for the OPTED platform (D9.3)" (with Banducci, S., Gelovani, S., & Theocharis, Y.). May 2022. Report written as part of the OPTED project. *The report is available at this link*.

Selected working papers

"Whom do you serve? A comparative analysis of mass-elite congruence between voters, business and political elites (2007 - 2017)" (with Marzi, P.), presented at the Annual Meeting of the Italian Political Science Association, Genoa, September 2023. *Revise & Resubmit*.

"When are estimates coming from voting advice applications likely to be biased?" (with Zhirnov, A., Thomeczeck, J.P., Antonucci, L., D'Ippoliti, C., Horvath, L., Thompson, J., Buma, R., Christea, V., Di Stefano, R., Kersting, N., Krouwel, A., Lopéz-Ortega, A., & Strobl, M.). *Under review*.

"Talking Heads: Communication and responsiveness at the European Council". *Under review*.

"A Micro-approach to Statistical Matching to Expand the Investigation of Insecurity, Gender and Populism" (with Di Stefano, R., Antonucci, L., D'Ippoliti, C., Strobl, M., Thomeczek, J.P., Zhirnov, A., Banducci, S., Kersting, N., and Krouwel, A.). *Under review*.

"Timing matters: The European Council and urgency in EU legislative politics" (with Bressanelli, E., Koop, C., & Reh, C.)

"Do central bank communication and outreach affect public attitudes towards the organisation? Evidence from a survey experiment" (with Koop, C., & Turnbull-Dugarte, S.), presented at the CHAD Research Group Seminar, University of Bergen, May 2024.

"Do societal priorities matter for the agenda of independent central banks?" (with Koop, C.).

"Do they listen to the experts? Exploring experts' influence in sustainability policies" (with Accai, C., Galanti, T., & Bressanelli, E.)

Data and tools

Scotto di Vettimo, M. (2022), "scRapEU: An `R` function to scrape data on EU laws". Version February 2025. DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.10871232.

OPTED Meteor. https://meteor.opted.eu/ (member of the scientific team).

Scotto di Vettimo, M., Haraldsson, A., Gelovani, S., Banducci, S., Koc-Michalska, K., & Theocharis, Y. (2022) "A survey of the research challenges and training needs in text analysis for political science research". [Data collection]. DOI: 10.24378/exe.4344.

Teaching

Course Convenor · London Doctoral Training Partnership   2025
Quantitative methods for text classification and topic detection

Teaching Assistant · University of Exeter   2022-2024
Introduction to Social Data (2023-2024)
Data Analysis in Social Science 1 (2022-2023)

Teaching Assistant · King's College London   2018-2021
Comparative political systems
Introduction to political science
Integration of the European Union (2018-2020)

Guest Lecturer · King's College London   2019

Grants and awards

Leverhulme Early Career Fellowship · 'Opening the black box of EU's most powerful institution: the European Council' (2024-2026) · ECF-2023-018.

Consultancies & other research experiences

Consultancies and collaborations

University of Siena · Project "*The REpresentative DIsconnect: diagnosis and strategies for RECTification (REDIRECT)*" · (April-May 2025)

Istituto Carlo Cattaneo · Project "*The Far-Right in EU Coalition Politics: Chances and Threats for the European Project*" · (November 2024-March 2025)

Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies, Pisa · Project "*Knowledge and Experts in the PolicY of Sustainable Development (KEYS)*" · (November 2024-March 2025)

NATO Strategic Communication Centre of Excellence · (February-May 2022)

Other research experiences

Research Associate · King's College London, Policy Institute   2019-2021
Research Assistant · University of Southampton   2021
Research Assistant · University of Birmingham   2019
Research Assistant · King's College London   2018

Reviwer

Peer-reviewed journals

British Journal of Political Sciences · European Journal of Government and Economics · European Journal of Political Research · European Union Politics · Frontiers in Political Science · Journal of European Public

Policy · Journal of Public Policy · Public Opinion Quarterly · Review of International Political Economy · West European Politics

Funding bodies

National Science Centre, Poland

Conferences

Annual International and Interdisciplinary Conference on the Quantitative and Computational Analysis of Textual Data (COMPTEXT) Conference (Vienna 2025[‡]; previously also in Amsterdam 2024, Glasgow 2023[+], and Dublin 2022).

Italian Political Science Association's (SISP) Annual conference (Naples 2025[‡]; previously also in Trieste 2024, Genoa 2023[‡], and Rome 2021*).

Conference of the ECPR Standing Group on the European Union (Rome 2021).

American Political Science Association's (APSA) Annual meeting (San Francisco 2020).

European Political Science Association's (EPSA) Annual conference (Prague 2020).

LSE-Oxford Annual Graduate Student Conference (London 2020).

* Panel organiser; [+] panel chair; [‡] panel discussant.

Workshops & invited talks

Political science research on EU politics and policies: agendas, challenges and opportunities, May 2025 · University of Lecce (Previously also in Catania 2024).

The normalisation of the European Council, February 2025 · Europa University Flensburg

Conceptualising, measuring and mapping global authoritarianism, March 2023 · University of Exeter. Workshop sponsored by the Exeter Global Authoritarianism Network

Parliamentary Data for a Better Democracy, Brussels, June 2022

Governing through the storm: institutional change in testing times, February 2022 · Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna in Pisa

Politics and International Relations seminar, February 2022 · University of Southampton

Memberships

Quantitative and Computational Text Analysis Association · COMPTEXT (2025-)
COST action network OPINION · 'Tools' and 'Data Management' Working Groups (2024-)
Political Studies Association of the United Kingdom · PSA (2024-)
Italian Political Science Association · SISP (2022-)

Other professional experience

Business developer · Lattanzio Advisory Public Sector, Rome	2017
Internship · Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Rome	2016
Internship · Permanent Representation of Italy to the EU, Brussels	2016

Computer, methodologies, & language skills

Software, services & Programming languages: Amazon Mechanical Turk, R, Python, Stata, SPSS, Office package, LaTeX, Qualtrics, Prolific, JAGS.

Skills: Web scraping, Machine learning algorithms, Quantitative text analysis, Survey experiments, Analysis of survey data, Bayesian Item Response Theory, Large language models.

Languages: Italian (Native speaker), English (C2), French (B2), German (A2).

References

Susan Banducci, *University of Birmingham*
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Edoardo Bressanelli, *Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna*
Associate Professor of Political Science
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Christel Koop, *King's College London*
Professor of Political Economy
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Exeter, 5th December 2025