

Academic CV

1. Biographical Note

I am a political scientist, whose work is situated at the intersection of EU studies, discourse studies, and political economy. My research uses various theories of discourse to study the political communication of the European Union about (external) economic policies. It seeks to advance the theoretical and methodological boundaries of these theories, but also uses them to conduct in accessible empirical research on European politics. While I am still a relatively young scholar, I have an emerging international profile, having published in a wide variety of internationally recognized journals and volumes. I have extensive experience in the design and the teaching of classes, as well as in the supervision of graduate and postgraduate students. I am currently working on my first research monograph, 'Hegemony, Discourse, and Political Strategy', which is to appear with John Benjamins Publishing in 2022; and on a Dutch-language student handbook about discourse analysis for political scientists (together with Jan Orbie).

2. Academic appointments

Chargé de recherche at Engage, Université Saint-Louis (10/2021 – present).

Postdoctoral researcher at the Centre for EU Studies, Ghent University (6/2020 – 9/2021).

Visiting scholar at the Centre for Ideology and Discourse Analysis, University of Essex (10/2019 – 12/2019).

Doctoral researcher at the Centre for EU Studies, Ghent University (10/2016 – 5/2020).

3. Publications

Doctoral Dissertation

Jacobs, T. 2020. *Winning Hegemony. A Discourse-Theoretical Perspective on Political Strategy and the Trade Politics of the European Parliament*. Unpublished Doctoral Dissertation, Ghent University.

- Supervisors: prof. Jan Orbie, prof. Ferdi De Ville; jury members: prof. David Howarth, prof. Fabienne Bossuyt, dr. Julie Birkholz, dr. Jan Zienkowski.
- Viva on 4/5/2020; accepted without revisions; public defence on 29/5/2020.
- Qualitative and quantitative analysis of the discursive and political contestation of EU Trade policy in speeches during the plenary session of the European Parliament.

Research Monographs

Jacobs, T. *Winning Hegemony. Discourse Theory and Political Strategy*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing. Forthcoming, prospectus accepted.

Journal articles

Jacobs, T. Dancing the 'middle ground': between Marxism and post-Marxism. *Science and Society: A Journal of Marxist Thought and Analysis*. Revised and resubmitted (major revisions).

Gheyle, N. & Jacobs, T. 2021. Beyond conflict: choice expansion in a poststructuralist reading of (de)politicization. *Contemporary Political Theory*. Submitted.

Jacobs, T., Gheyle, N., De Ville, F., & Orbie, J. 2021. COVID-19 and the dislocation of EU Trade Policy: a poststructuralist and discourse-theoretical perspective. *Journal of Common Market Studies*. Revised and resubmitted (minor revisions).

Jacobs, T. 2020. Institutions and political strategy in Post-Marxist Discourse Theory. A reply to Pedro Rey-Araújo. *Rethinking Marxism*, 31(1), 154-161.

Jacobs, T. 2020. Operationalizing Heterogeneity in Poststructuralist Discourse Theory. The Heterogeneous Logics of International Trade Politics. *Critical Discourse Studies*, available via Online First at <<https://doi.org/10.1080/17405904.2020.1785899>> (impact factor: 1,254 in 2019).

Jacobs, T. 2019. The Dislocated Universe of Laclau and Mouffe: An Introduction to Post-Structuralist Discourse Theory. *Critical Review. A Journal of Politics and Society*, 30(3-4), 294-315 (impact factor 0,837 in 2019).

Jacobs, T. and Tschötschel, R. 2019. Topic models meet discourse analysis: a quantitative tool for a qualitative approach." *International Journal of Social Research Methodology* 22(5), 469-485 (impact factor 2,519 in 2019).

Jacobs, T. 2019. The strategic turn in post-Marxist Discourse Theory. *Global Discourse. An interdisciplinary journal of current affairs*, vol. 9, no. 2, available via Online First at <<https://globaldiscourseblog.co.uk/2019/02/21/the-strategic-turn-in-post-marxist-discourse-theory/>>.

Jacobs, T. 2018. Poststructuralist discourse theory as an independent paradigm for studying institutions: Towards a new definition of 'discursive construction' in institutional analysis. *Contemporary Political Theory*, 18(3), 379-401 (impact factor 0,868 in 2018).

Jacobs, T. 2016. The language diplomats speak: a discourse-theoretical approach to the negotiations in the EURONEST parliamentary assembly. *EU Diplomacy Papers*, 3(5), 1-33.

Contributions to edited volumes

Jacobs, T. & Jacobs, G. 2021. 'It is, perhaps more than ever before, a matter of participation': ontological tension and boundary work in a free trade blog. In: Declercq, J., Vandendaele, A. & Jacobs, G. (Eds.), *Contesting the news: towards a postfoundational media linguistics*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins, in press.

Jacobs, T. & Orbie, J. 2020. Discourse Theory as a novel approach for critical research on EU Trade Policy. In: Yannis Stivachtis, Didier Bigo, Thomas Diez, Evangelos Fanoulis & Ben Rosamund (eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Critical European Studies*. London: Routledge, 254-266.

Book reviews

Jacobs, T. 2018. Review of Zienkowski, Jan (2017). *Articulations of Self and Politics in Activist Discourse. A Discourse Analysis of Critical Subjectivities in Minority Debates*. *Journal of Language and Politics*, 17(5), 704-707 (impact factor 1,093 in 2018).

Articles in popularizing journals

Jacobs, T. 2019. Een wetenschappelijke kijk op ideologie. *Apache*.

Jacobs, T. 2019. Quo Vadis, Europees Links? *Samenleving en Politiek*, 26(6), 58-63.

Jacobs, T. 2019. Dijk van Europa. *Samenleving en Politiek*, 26(4), 74-76.

Gheyle, N. & Jacobs, T. 2018. Inventing the future. *Samenleving en Politiek*. 25(5), 85-87.

Jacobs, T. 2016. Het ongelooflijk slappe pleidooi vóór CETA'. *Mo(ndiaal) Magazine*, 10.

Policy briefs

Jacobs, T. 2016. The language diplomats speak. *Think Tank Review*, 40, 13.

Hanot, C., Jacobs, T., Jatulyte, E., & Strunk, C. 2016. Whistleblower Protection in the European Parliament and EU Member States. Transparency International.

Unpublished working papers

Gheyle, N. & Jacobs, T. 2017. Content Analysis: a short overview. Unpublished working paper.

4. Internationalization

Conference organisation and invited talks

‘On the discourse of free trade: engagement and conflict in an era of social media, populism and fake news’, 16 December 2021, Paris.

- Together with Geert Jacobs, I am giving the keynote lecture at the English for Specific Purposes Study Linguistics Conference organised by Université Paris 2 Panthéon Assas.

‘Discourse Theory as a Framework for the Analysis of Political Strategy. Post-Marxism, Hegemony, and the Discursive Reproduction of Society’, 22 September – 25 September 2021, Bremen.

- Invited lecture at the symposium ‘Hegemony, Crisis, and Intervention New Perspectives on Emancipatory & Radical Democratic Discourse’ in Bremen, hosted by Universität Bremen, Universität Greifswald and the Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung.

‘If Einstein had been a political scientist – the theory and analysis of “political space” and “political time”’, 28 June – 2 July 2021, online.

- Together with Craig Love, I organize a panel at the ‘Interpretative Policy Analysis’ Conference on the conceptualization of space and time in political-scientific research at the annual conference at the Interpretative Policy Analysis network.

‘Quantitative Tools for Qualitative Analysis: Computational Social Science meets Discourse Analysis’, 15 November 2017, London.

- I was the lead organizer of the symposium ‘Quantitative Tools for Qualitative Analysis: Computational Social Science meets Discourse Analysis’, which took place at the European Symposium Series on Societal Challenges in Computational Social Science, and was hosted by the Alan Turing Institute and the British Library (London, United Kingdom). It took was attended by around 75 scholars.

International Pragmatic Conference, Belfast (2017), Antwerp (2015), New Delhi (2013).

- I was involved in the organisation of editions of the International Pragmatic Conference in Belfast (Northern Ireland), 16-21 July 2017; Antwerp (Belgium), 26-31 July 2015; and New Delhi (India), 8-13 September 2013. My responsibilities included logistics and administration. All three events drew between 900 and 1.200 attendees.

Research stays abroad

Research stay at the Centre for Ideology and Discourse Analysis, University of Essex (United Kingdom), October-December 2019 (collaboration with prof. dr. David Howarth).

Research stay at the Archives of the European Parliament in Luxembourg (Luxembourg), September 2017 and February-March 2018 (archival research for original source material).

International positions

Founding member of ‘DiscourseNet’.

- DiscourseNet is the world’s largest organisation focused on Discourse Studies and discourse analysis. It has existed informally since 2008, and became a formal association in 2019.

5. Teaching

EU Trade Policy (2020-2021) (K000997A)

- Since 2020, I teach this twelve-week course for around 45 contact hours; designing and teaching the lectures, tutorials, and workshops together with prof. dr. Jan Orbie. The class provides students with a thorough knowledge of the EU's policies and politics with regards to international trade, and trains their ability to understand and critically assess historical and ongoing debates in this field. It focuses strongly on the theoretical knowledge that the students need to autonomously study EU trade policy.

Political-scientific methods: discourse analysis (2017-2018; 2018-2019; 2019-2020; 2020-2021) (K000926).

- Since 2017, I taught this twelve-week course for around 30 contact hours; designing and teaching the lectures, tutorials, and workshops. The class offers an initiation into discourse analysis as a theoretical prism and an analytic method in political science. Its goal is to ready students to use discourse analysis in their own research, and to enable them to grasp constructivist and discursive political theories. The class focuses on frame analysis, critical discourse analysis, poststructuralism, and the work of Michel Foucault.

Political-scientific methods: discourse analysis (2016-2017) (K000926).

- In my first year on the class, I assisted the lecturer-in-charge (prof. dr. Jan Orbie) by teaching several classes, and by organizing tutorials, workshops, and examinations.

6. Supervision

Jury member for the doctoral defence of Bekim Collaku (supervisor: prof. dr. Jan Orbie) (October 2020).

Supervisor ('promotor') of a doctoral dissertation and doctoral grant applications (2)

- Sjorre Couvreur, who I am supervising, was given a four-year grant for doctoral research on the discursive geopoliticization of the EU's international trade policy towards China by the Special Research Fund (Bijzonder Onderzoeksfonds) (2022-2025)

Supervisor ('promotor') of bachelor papers (6) and master theses (6) focusing on discourse analysis and the EU's political economy during the 2020-2021 academic year.

- I am the main point of contact for the students, guiding, advising, and helping them as they write their bachelor paper or master thesis.

Commissioner ('2nd reader') of bachelor papers (20+) and master theses (15+) focusing on discourse analysis and the politicization during the 2017-2018, 2018-2019, and 2019-2020 academic years.

- I organized several feedback sessions, tutored the students, and brainstormed about their research. I also attended their oral defences and graded their papers.

7. Scholarships, grants and awards

Winner of the 2021 Els Witte Award for best doctoral dissertation in political science in Belgium and the Netherlands

Postdoctoral grant (appointment as 'chargé de recherche') by the F.R.S.-FNRS (National Fund for Scientific Research/Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique) 2021-2023

Postdoctoral grant (appointment as ‘postdoctoraal onderzoeker’) by the BOF (Special Research Fund/Bijzonder Onderzoeksfonds) 2021-2023

Shortlisted for an postdoctoral grant by the FWO (Fund for Scientific Research/Fonds Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek) 2021.

Doctoral Grant of the BOF (Special Research Fund/Bijzonder Onderzoeksfonds) 2016-2020.

ENP prize of the College of Europe (€1.000), 2015-2016.

Beneficiary of the ENP-EU Scholarship of the European Commission (€25.000), 2015-2016.

8. Public outreach

Interview about discourse analysis in *Schamper*, 2021.

Moderator of the Politico European Election Debate 2019 in Ghent, 7 March 2019 (together with Ryan Heath), as well as of several other local election debates in Flanders.

Discussion about post-Marxism on Mensentaal, radio show hosted by Urgent.fm, 10 May 2019.

Member of the panel ‘Open versus closed: Europe and the philosopher’s stone’ at the European Youth conference 2018 in the European Parliament (Strasbourg, France), 1-2 July 2018.

9. Education

Advanced Master in International Relations and EU Diplomacy at the College of Europe (2015-2016).

- Graduated with high mention (magna cum laude), score of 785/1000
- Master thesis on language use during international negotiations in the EURONEST Parliamentary Assembly between MEPs and Parliamentarians of ENP Countries
- Winner of the Prize for Best master thesis on the European Neighborhood Policy
- Beneficiary of the ENP-EU Scholarship of the European Commission
- Member of the Transparency Group, collaboration with Transparency Europe

Master of Arts in History at Ghent University (2014-2015).

- Graduated with highest mention (summa cum laude), score of 897/1000.
- Master thesis on messaging dynamics between terrorist organizations and mass media

Bachelor in History at Ghent University and the Ecole Pratique des Hautes-Etudes (Paris-Sorbonne) (2011-2014)

- Graduated with highest mention (summa cum laude), score of 857/1000.