

Vegard H. Tørstad

Personal

Born: 26 March 1992

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Current position

2022-() **Assistant Professor**, Department of Political Science, University of Oslo

Education

2016-2020 PhD in Political Science, European University Institute, Florence
2016-2017 MASTER OF RESEARCH in Political Science, European University Institute, Florence
2014-2016 MASTER OF SCIENCE in International Affairs, *cum laude* (top 5%), Sciences Po, Paris
2011-2014 BACHELOR in Political Science, University of Oslo

Previous experience

2021-22 **Postdoctoral Fellow**, Dep. of Law and Governance, BI Norwegian Business School
2015-20 **Lecturer**, Department of Political Science, University of Oslo
2015 **Lecturer**, Norwegian Environmental Agency, Oslo
2015 **Research consultant**, DNV-GL and United Nations
2015 **Research assistant**, Department of Political Science, University of Oslo
2014 **Research assistant**, CICERO Center for Climate Research, Oslo

Visiting appointments

2019 **Visiting scholar**, Ralph Bunche Institute, CUNY Graduate Center, New York
2018-20 **Guest researcher**, PluriCourts, Department of law, University of Oslo
2017 **Guest researcher**, Department of political science, University of Oslo
2015 **Guest researcher**, CICERO Center for Climate Research, Oslo

Teaching

- 2020, 2018 STV2250 *International Environmental Politics* (seminars), University of Oslo
2018, 2015 STV2230 *International Security Policy* (seminars), University of Oslo

Publications & talks

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2022 Tørstad, Vegard (2022): Can Transparency Strengthen the Legitimacy of International Institutions? Evidence from the UN Security Council. *Journal of Peace Research*, forthcoming.
- 2020 Tørstad, Vegard (2020): Participation, ambition and compliance: can the Paris Agreement solve the effectiveness trilemma? *Environmental Politics* 29(5): 761-780.
- 2020 Tørstad, Vegard, Håkon Sælen and Live S. Bøyum (2020): The domestic politics of international climate commitments: which factors explain cross-country variation in NDC ambition? *Environmental Research Letters* 15(2): 024021.
- 2019 Sælen, Håkon, Vegard Tørstad, Christian Holz and Tobias D. Nielsen (2019): Fairness conceptions and self-determined mitigation ambition under the Paris Agreement – is there a relationship? *Environmental Science and Policy* 101: 245-254.
- 2018 Tørstad, Vegard (2018): Håndhevelse og Legitimitet: En Integrativ Vurdering av Parisavtalens Effektivitet. *Internasjonal Politikk* 76 (1): 47-72.
- 2017 Tørstad, Vegard and Håkon Sælen (2017): Fairness in the Climate Negotiations: What Explains Variation in Parties' Expressed Conceptions? *Climate Policy* 18(5): 642-654.

PHD THESIS

- 2020 Tørstad, Vegard: *After Reform: Procedural Justice and the Legitimacy of International Institutions*. Monograph/book project. Florence: European University Institute. [Abstract](#).
- Selected as [EUI's thesis of the month](#), based on academic excellence and relevance to a broad audience.

UNDER REVIEW

Tørstad, Vegard and Vegard Wiborg: Commitment Ambiguity and Prudence in Climate Pledges. Status: Under review.

Tveit, Andreas Kokkvoll and Vegard Tørstad: The Relative Effectiveness of Overlapping International Institutions: EU versus UN Regulations of Air Pollution. Status: Under review.

WORKING PAPERS

Tørstad, Vegard: Judicialization and legitimacy: The effects of GATT/WTO dispute settlement reform on states' legitimacy perceptions. Status: *Manuscript under preparation*.

Tørstad, Vegard: Participation and legitimacy in the UNFCCC: A case study of COP21. Status: *Manuscript under preparation*.

Wiborg, Vegard and Vegard Tørstad: Mitigation uncertainty and cooperation under a pledge-and-review system: Evidence from the lab. Status: *Manuscript under preparation*.

RESEARCH REPORTS

- 2016 Tørstad, Vegard (2016): 'What's Fair – and Why? An Empirical Analysis of Distributive Fairness in the Climate Negotiations', *CICERO report* (4). [Link](#)
- 2015 Hultmann et al. (2015): 'Impact: Transforming Business, Changing the World', *Research report to the UN Secretary-General* (Co-author). [Link](#)
- 2014 Kallbekken et al. (2014): 'Norges Klimaansvar 2030' ('Norway's Climate Responsibility 2030'), *Research report to the Norwegian Parliament* (Co-author). [Link](#)

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES/MEDIA

- 2021 Interview on climate negotiations and the Paris Agreement by *Energi & Klima*. [Link](#)
- 2021 Interviewed for episode on the Paris Agreement by the podcast *I'm Not A Scientist* (March 22).
- 2018 Tørstad, Vegard (December 4): 'COP24: Nå skal reglene til Parisavtalen skrives' ('COP24: Writing the rules for the Paris Agreement'), *Klassekampen*. Print edition.

- 2017 Tørstad, Vegard (November 17): 'COP23: I en kano i Bonn' ('COP23: In a canoe in Bonn'), *Klassekampen*. Print edition.
- 2017 Tørstad, Vegard (August 25): 'Hva jeg hørte på Elba' ('What I heard on Elba'), *Klassekampen*. [Link](#)
- 2017 Tørstad, Vegard and Håkon Sælen (August 3): 'Fairness in the Eyes of Parties to the Paris Agreement: What Explains Divergences?' *Climate Strategies blog*. [Link](#)
- 2016 Tørstad, Vegard (September 29): 'Obama-doktrinen' ('The Obama doctrine'), *Klassekampen*. [Link](#)
- 2016 Bøyum, Live and Vegard Tørstad (June 8): 'Eit klima for endring' ('A climate for change'), *Klassekampen*. [Link](#)
- 2016 Tørstad, Vegard (March 22): 'En global klimaavtale – hvorfor nå?' ('A global climate agreement – why now?'), *Dagsavisen*. [Link](#)
- 2015 Tørstad, Vegard (June 6): 'Klimabløff' ('Climate Deception'), *Dagsavisen*. Print edition.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- APSA Annual Meeting 2021 (poster)
- ECPR General Conference, 2021 (roundtable), 2020 (paper), 2017 (paper)
- Environmental Politics and Governance (EPG), 2021 (paper), 2020 (paper)
- MPSA Annual Meeting, 2021 (paper & discussant), 2022 (paper & discussant)
- NYU mini-conference on Experimental Political Science, 2021 (poster)
- Political Economy of International Organization (PEIO), 2021 (poster)
- Political Studies Association Annual Meeting, 2021 (paper)

INVITED TALKS

- 2022 'Impartiality and legitimacy in the international judiciary: The case of GATT/WTO dispute settlement reform.' Economic Governance and Legitimacy workshop, Tilburg University, 19 May
- 2021 'Managing multilateral climate negotiations.' British International Studies Association's Climate Diplomacy event, 4 June.

- 2020 'The effects of transparency reform on the legitimacy of the UN Security Council.' Maastricht University, 2 December.
- 2020 'Mitigation Uncertainty under Pledge-and-Review.' (with Vegard Wiborg, UiO). CICERO Center for Climate research, 17 June.
- 2014 'Norway's Climate Responsibility 2030'. (with S.Kallbekken and L. Nøstbakken). Norwegian Parliament. Oslo, December 2014.
- 2015 'Burden-Sharing in the Climate Negotiations: The Case of Norway.' Socialist Youth Party. Oslo, March 2015.

OTHER PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 'Procedural Justice Reform and Legitimacy: A Comparative Analysis of the UNFCCC, GATT/WTO and UNSC.' PluriCourts lunch seminar, 22 April. University of Oslo.
- 2019 'An impartiality reform in GATT/WTO dispute settlement.' PluriCourts Political Science Seminar, 5 February. University of Oslo.
- 2018 'Procedural Justice Reform as a Legitimation Strategy.' PluriCourts Political Science Seminar, 18 June. University of Oslo.
- 2018 'Procedural Justice Reforms in International Institutions.' International Relations Seminar, 8 May. European University Institute, Florence.
- 2018 'Procedural Justice Reforms in International Institutions.' PluriCourts International Legal and Political Theory Seminar, 12 March. University of Oslo.
- 2018 'Procedural Justice Reforms in International Institutions.' PluriCourts lunch seminar, 12 February. University of Oslo.

Grants

- 2020 Mobility grant (192 000 NOK) from the Norwegian Research Council
- 2020 Doctoral research grant (16 200 EUR) from the European University Institute
- 2019 Research grant (50 000 NOK) from the Department of Economics, University of Oslo, for the project 'Mitigation uncertainty and collaboration in a repeated coordination game' (w/Vegard Wiborg)

2019	Research grant (86 000 NOK) from CICEP for the project 'Mitigation uncertainty and collaboration in a repeated coordination game' (w/Vegard Wiborg)
2016	Mobility grant (192 000 NOK) from the Norwegian Research Council
2016-2019	Doctoral grant (1 300 000 NOK) from the Norwegian Research Council

Professional service

Reviewer: *Environmental Research Letters*, *Journal of European Public Policy*, *Environmental Politics*, *International Environmental Agreements: Politics, Law and Economics*, *Climate Policy*, *European Journal of Legal Studies*

Languages

Norwegian (native), English (fluent), French (C1), Italian (B1), Spanish (A2).

Leaves of absence

Paternity leaves in 2019 (3 months) and 2021 (3 months).

References

Jennifer Welsh, Professor, McGill University, Montréal (doctoral supervisor)

Daniel Naurin, Professor, PluriCourts, University of Oslo (doctoral co-supervisor)

Håkon Sælen, Senior researcher, CICERO Center for climate research, Oslo

Last updated: April 28, 2022