

Curriculum Vitae

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Derek Beach
Professor
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Google Scholar citations (December 2024) = 7950
ORCID nr = 0000-0003-1869-0145
Born December 04, 1970
Danish and US citizen

Education

Ph.D., Department of Political Science, University of Southern Denmark, January 2003.
MA, Department of Political Science, University of Aarhus, Denmark, October 1999.
MSc with Distinction, Department of Government, London School of Economics, November 1998.

Employment

Professor (permanent), Department of Political Science, University of Aarhus, Denmark. (from April 1, 2019)
Academic coordinator, Methods Excellence Network (2021 – present)
Academic co-convenor, ECPR Methods School (2013 – 2021)
Assistant / Associate Professor / Professor with special responsibility (MSO), Department of Political Science, University of Aarhus, Denmark. (Jan. 2003 – April 2019)

Visiting Researcher

Academic Fellow, Independent Evaluation Group, World Bank, Washington DC, USA (Jan. - June 2022)
Visiting Research Fellow, American University and Georgetown University, Washington DC, USA (Jan. - Aug. 2007)
Visiting Research Fellow, John Hopkins University SAIS, Washington DC, USA. (Sept. 2004 - Nov. 2004)

Consulting experience

External methodological expert, Impact evaluation ESF interventions “organizing differently”, Flemish government. 2018-2020.
Member of reference group for expert report on methods for Swedish Expert Group for Aid Studies, 2019-2021.
Evaluations of policy influence of UN agency ESCWA (fall 2021), e-learning programs (ESCWA) (2022).
Authored manual of ‘Best Practices for Policy Influence’ for UN ESCWA (spring 2022).
Member of team for the ‘Country Program Evaluation for Morocco’, Independent Evaluation Group, World Bank (fall 2021 – spring 2022).
Study of impact of data and analysis on migration/refugee policy (cases of Colombia and Kenya) for the Joint Data Center (UNHCR/World Bank), 2023.

Research focus

Developing case study methods

I am at the forefront of methodological research further developing case study methods - and Process tracing in particular - as a case-based methodological approach. I have co-written the first book on Process-tracing (2nd edition in 2019), co-written another on case-based methods more broadly, and published numerous articles and chapters. As recognition of my contributions, I have for example written encyclopedia articles on Process tracing methods, including for the Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics. I am currently working on a four-year project (Mechanisms and Mechanistic Evidence in the Social Sciences) that aims to further develop case-based methods for both applied evaluation and academic research.

Research on European integration

The principal focus of my substantive research has been investigating and explaining the dynamics of the European integration process using in-depth case study research methods. Within this subject area, I have made internationally acknowledged contributions within three main substantive research themes related to European integration: leadership by EU institutions in treaty reform negotiations, and legal integration and compliance with EU law. Having already made recognized contributions to the study of the history-making negotiations in the EU (e.g. Beach, 2004, 2005, 2007), I have concluded a larger project financed by the Danish Social Science Research Council (FSE) on the role of the European Council in crisis-governance in the EU. We found that an important but overlooked explanation for the EU’s resilience in the past decade in the face of multiple existential crisis has been the informal collaboration between EU

institutional actors behind the scenes in crafting solutions to the crises in what we term the machine room. Moving beyond the headline decisions and crisis summits, we revealed how EU institutions were effective behind the scenes in managing crises, shepherding highly politicized reform processes towards more ambitious reforms than otherwise would have been agreed. The project resulted in articles published in *Policy Studies Journal*, *European Journal of Political Research*, *Journal of European Public Policy*, *Journal of Common Market Studies*, and *West European Politics*.

Major research grants and prizes

491,000 DKK (ca €66,000) principal investigator, research grant from the Danish Social Science Research Council to fund the 'DKOPT – DEF - Voter behavior in the Danish defense opt-out referendum' project. Spring 2022.

Winner of the Gordon Smith and Vincent Wright Memorial Prize for the best article published in 2021 in the journal *West European Politics*. Article title: 'The Long Shadow of Attitudes' (co-written with Daniel Finke).

3,637,000 DKK (ca €490,000) principal investigator, research grant from the Danish Social Science Research Council to fund the 'Mechanisms and Mechanistic Evidence in the Social Sciences' project. Started September 2020.

800,700 DKK (ca €120,000) 'Semper Ardens' research grant from the Carlsberg Foundation to complete a book manuscript on studying mechanisms. Awarded November 2018.

377,500 DKK principal investigator, research grant from the Carlsberg Foundation to fund survey of voter opinions after the EU referendum in Denmark on the Danish JHA opt-outs, principal investigator. Awarded 8 October 2015.

3,749.125 DKK (ca research grant from the Danish Social Science Research Council to fund the Building a New Europe project. Principal investigator. Awarded June 2014.

2012 Sage Prize for Best Paper presented in qualitative methods to the American Political Science Association 2011 Annual Meeting – Paper 'The Three Variants of Process-tracing'.

1,119,828 DKK research grant from the Danish Social Science Research Council to fund collaborative project 'DK OPT – Danish opt-out referendum surveys – campaign effects and post-election survey'. Principal investigator. Research team includes Kasper Møller Hansen (KU), Claes de Vreese (SDU and Amsterdam), Sara Hobolt (LSE).

516,713 DKK research grant from the Danish Social Science Research Council to fund survey of voter opinions after the EU referendums in Denmark on the Danish opt-outs, principal investigator together with Prof. Palle Svendsen. Date of award May 2008. (not utilized as no referendum has been held)

596,540 DKK research grant from the Danish Social Science Research Council to fund the project 'Choosing Europe – Explaining governmental positions on EU constitutional reform.', principal investigator. Date of award November 2005.

1,279,405 DKK research grant from the Danish Social Science Research Council to fund the Post-Doc project 'Agents or actors – the influence of supranational actors in European rule-creation.', principal investigator. Date of award June 2002.

Publications

Books (peer-reviewed)

(2019) *Process-tracing – foundations and guidelines*. 2nd Edition. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press. (together with Rasmus Brun Pedersen) (peer-reviewed)

(2016) *Causal Case Studies: Comparing, Matching and Tracing*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press. (together with Rasmus Brun Pedersen) (peer-reviewed)

(2020) *Explaining Foreign Policy – an introduction*. Houndmills: Palgrave MacMillan. (peer-reviewed textbook) (second edition with Rasmus Brun Pedersen)

(co-editor) (2007) *Leadership in the big bangs of integration*. Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan. (with Colette Mazzucelli). (peer-reviewed)

(2005) *The dynamics of European integration: when and why EU institutions matter*. Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan. (peer-reviewed)

(2001) *Between Law and Politics: The relationship between the European Court of Justice and EU Member States*.

Copenhagen: DJØF Publishing. (peer-reviewed)

Articles (peer-reviewed)

Henstock, Luke, Rebecca Johnson, Philip Kinghorn, Derek Beach and Hareth Al-Janabi (2025) 'Why and how do workplaces invest in mental health and wellbeing? A systematic review and process tracing study.', *Social Science and Medicine*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socscimed.2024.117633>

Johnson, Rebecca, Derek Beach and Hareth Al-Janabi (2025) 'How is process tracing applied in health research? A systematic scoping review.' *Social Science and Medicine*, 366, February 2025, 117539-

Smeets, Sandrino and Derek Beach (2024) 'The European Union Response to the Inflation Reduction Act: An Assessment of the European Council System Beyond Crisis.' *Journal of Common Market Studies* . <https://doi.org/10.1111/jcms.13653>

Nathan Thomas, Anna Kristina Hultgren, Beatrice Zuaro, Dogan Yuksel, Peter Wingrove, Marion Nao, Derek Beach (2024) 'Process Tracing for applied linguistics.', *Research Methods in Applied Linguistics*, 3(2).

Kaas, Jonas, Mathilde Cecchini and Derek Beach (2024) 'Elucidating the Social – developing Social Process Tracing as an integrative framework.' *Sociological Methods and Research*. Online First.

Smeets, Sandrino, and Derek Beach (2023) 'The Institutional Ingredients of Polycrisis Management: Unpacking European Council's Handling of the Energy Crisis.' *Politics and Governance*, 11(4): 275-285.

doi:<https://doi.org/10.17645/pag.v11i4.7345>

Camacho, Gabriela and Derek Beach (2023) 'Theorizing how interventions work in evaluation: Process-tracing methods and theorizing process theories of change'. *Evaluation*, 29(4): 390-409. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13563890231201876>

Smeets, Sandrino and Derek Beach (2023) "It is like déjà vu all over again" an inside analysis of the management of EU migration reform.', *Journal of European Integration*. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/07036337.2023.2209273>

Smeets, Sandrino and Derek Beach (2023) 'New Institutional Leadership goes viral: EU crisis reforms and the coming about of the Covid Recovery Fund.' *European Journal of Political Research*. 62: 377–396. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1475-6765.12508>

Beach, Derek and Sandrino Smeets (2022) 'Once bitten, twice shy. The overgeneralization trap and epistemic learning after policy failure.', *Politics and Policy*. 50(6): 1067-1284.

Álamos-Concha, P., Pattyn, V., Rihoux, B., Schalembier, B., Beach, D., & Cambré, B. (2021) 'Conservative solutions for progress: on solution types when combining QCA with in-depth Process-Tracing.' *Quality and Quantity*. DOI:

10.1007/s11135-021-01191-x

Smeets, Sandrino and Derek Beach (2021) 'It takes three to tango' New inter-institutional dynamics in managing major crisis reform.', *Journal of European Public Policy*. DOI: 10.1080/13501763.2021.1958904

Beach, Derek (2021) 'Evidential pluralism and evidence of mechanisms in the social sciences.', 199: 8899–8919. DOI: 10.1007/s11229-021-03187-4

Beach, Derek and Daniel Finke (2021) 'The long shadow of attitudes: differential campaign effects and issue voting in EU referendums.', *West European Politics*, 44(7): 1482-1505. DOI: 10.1080/01402382.2020.1780829

Beach, Derek, and Jonas Gejl Kaas. (2020) 'The Great Divides: Incommensurability, the Impossibility of Mixed-Methodology and What to Do about It.' *International Studies Review*, 22(2): 214–235. DOI: 10.1093/isr/viaa016

Beach, Derek and Sandrino Smeets (2020) 'The unseen hands – collaborative instrumental leadership by institutions in the British re-negotiation case.', *European Journal of Political Research*. 59(2): 444-464.

Beach, Derek and Sandrino Smeets (2020) 'How the development of the new European Council-dominated crisis governance modus operandi paradoxically strengthened the role of EU institutions.', *Journal of European Integration*. 42(6): 837-854.

Smeets, Sandrino and Derek Beach (2020) 'Political and instrumental leadership in major EU reforms. The role of the EU institutions in setting-up the Fiscal Compact.' *Journal of European Public Policy*. 27(1): 63-81. DOI: 10.1080/13501763.2019.1572211

Smeets, Sandrino and Derek Beach (2020) 'Intergovernmentalism and its implications: New Institutional Leadership in major EU reforms.', *Journal of European Public Policy*. 27(8): 1137-1156. DOI: 1080/13501763.2019.1699940

Beach, Derek (2020) 'Multi-methods research: a review of recent applications and ways forward.' *Government and Opposition*. 55(1): 163 – 182. DOI: 10.1017/gov.2018.53

Beach, Derek, Sandrino Smeets and David Schäfer (2019) 'The past in the present – how policy makers learn to tackle wicked policy problems through analogical reasoning.', *Policy Studies Journal*. 49(2): 457-483. DOI: 1111/psj.12372

Smeets, Sandrino and Derek Beach (2019) 'When success is an orphan. Informal institutional governance and the EU Turkey deal.' *West European Politics*. 43(1): 129-158. DOI: 10.1080/01402382.2019.1608495

Smeets, Sandrino, Alenka Jaschke and Derek Beach (2019) 'The role of the EU institutions in establishing the ESM. Institutional leadership under a veil of intergovernmentalism.' *Journal of Common Market Studies*. DOI: 10.1111/jcms.12842

Wauters, Benedict and Derek Beach (2018) 'Process tracing and congruence analysis to support theory based impact evaluation.' *Evaluation*, 24(3): 284–305. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1356389018786081>

Beach, Derek and Ingo Rohlfing (2018) 'Integrating cross-case analyses and process tracing in set-theoretic research: Strategies and parameters of debate.' *Sociological Methods and Research*. 47(1) 3-36. DOI: 10.1177/0049124115613780

Beach, Derek (2018) 'Achieving Methodological Alignment When Combining QCA and Process tracing in Practice.', *Sociological Methods and Research*. 47(1): 64-99, DOI: 10.1177/0049124117701475

Beach, Derek, Kasper Møller Hansen, and Martin Vinnæs Larsen (2018). 'How campaigns enhance European issues voting during European Parliament elections.' *Political Science Research and Methods* 6(4): 791-808.

Beach, Derek and Rasmus Brun Pedersen (2018) 'Selecting appropriate cases when tracing causal mechanisms.', *Sociological Methods & Research*. 47(4):837-871, DOI: 10.1177/0049124115622510

Beach, Derek (2016) 'It's all about mechanisms - what Process-tracing case studies should be tracing.', *New Political Economy*, 21(5): 463-472.

Schmitt, Johannes and Derek Beach (2015) 'The contribution of Process-tracing to evaluations of budget support programs.' *Evaluation*, 21(4): 429-447.

Beach, Derek (2012) 'Taking mechanisms seriously', *European Political Science* advanced online publication (30 March 2012) | doi:10.1057/eps.2012.5).

Beach, Derek (2007) 'The European Parliament in the 2000 IGC and the Constitutional Treaty Negotiations: from loser to winner.' *Journal of European Public Policy*, Volume 14, Number 8, 2007, pp. 1271-1292.

Beach, Derek (2005) 'Why governments comply : an integrative compliance model that bridges the gap between instrumental and normative models of compliance.', *Journal of European Public Policy*. Volume 12, Number 1, February 2005, pp. 1-30.

Beach, Derek (2004) 'The unseen hand in treaty reform negotiations: the role and impact of the Council Secretariat.', *Journal of European Public Policy*. Volume 11, Number 3, June 2004, pp. 408-439.

Book chapters and encyclopedia entries

Raimondo, E. and D. Beach (2024) 'Process tracing methods in evaluation.', in: K. E. Newcomer and S.W. Mumford (Eds). *Research Handbook on Program Evaluation*. Chamberly: Edward Elgar Publishing, pp. 570-586.

Beach, D (2022) 'Process-Tracing Methods in Social Science.' (2nd edition) *Oxford Research Encyclopedias of Politics: Qualitative Political Methodology*. Oxford University Press. DOI: 10.1093/acrefore/9780190228637.013.176 (peer-reviewed)

Beach, D. (2021) 'If you can't join them...Explaining No Votes in Danish EU Referendums.' in *The Palgrave Handbook of European Referendums*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2021. s. 537-552.

Beach, D. (2021) 'Process Tracing in Crisis Decision Making.', in *Oxford Encyclopedia of Politics*. Oxford University Press. doi: 10.1093/acrefore/9780190228637.013.1510

Beach, D. (2019) 'The Constitutional Treaty and European Union politics.', in *Oxford Encyclopedia of Politics*. Oxford University Press. doi: 10.1093/acrefore/9780190228637.013.1100 (peer-reviewed)

Beach D. (2018) 'Process Tracing Methods.' In: Wagemann C., Goerres A., Siewert M. (eds) *Handbuch Methoden der Politikwissenschaft*. Springer Reference Sozialwissenschaften. Springer VS, Wiesbaden. (peer-reviewed)

Beach, D. (2018) 'Referendums in the European Union.', in *Oxford Encyclopedia of Politics*. Oxford University Press. doi: 10.1093/acrefore/9780190228637.013.503 (peer-reviewed)

Reykers, Y., and Beach, D. (2017) 'Process-Tracing as a Tool to Analyse Discretion.' In T. Delreux and J. Adriaensen (Eds), *The Principal Agent Model and the European Union*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 255-281. (peer-reviewed)

Beach, D (2017) 'Denmark: A tale of two referendums - the contrasts between low and high salience referendums in Denmark.' i F Mendez & M Mendez (red), *Referendums on EU matters*. European Parliament - Constitutional Affairs Committee Study. pp. 174-187.

Beach, D. (2015) 'Liberal International Relations Theory and EU Foreign Policy.', in Jørgensen, Aarstad, Drieskens, Laatikainen and Tonra (eds) *The Sage Handbook of European Foreign Policy*, London: Sage, pp. 86-98.

Beach, D. (2015) 'Process-tracing methods.' *Encyclopedia of Public Administration and Public Policy*, Third Edition. London: Taylor and Francis.

Beach, D. (2013) 'The Fiscal Compact, Euro-reforms, and the Challenge for the Opt-Outs.', in *Danish Foreign Policy Yearbook 2013*, 113-133. (peer-reviewed)

Beach, D. (2013) 'Agency and the role of the European Court of Justice in building the European Union – judicial agency in a comparative perspective', in Bice Maignuashca and Raf Marchetti (eds) *Contemporary Political Agency - Theory and Practice*. London: Routledge, 52-71. (peer-reviewed)

Teaching experience

I have taught courses on following topics: case study research methods, international negotiation theory, US foreign policy, EU integration, and International Relations theory. These courses have ranged from introductory bachelor-level courses (large lectures), graduate-level seminars, to Ph.D. level courses.

Recent courses taught

Ph.D. course 'Social science as a craft.' 7 session, 10 ECTS all day ph.d. workshop on social science methods.

Department of Political Science, University of Aarhus. Spring 2018, Fall 2019, 2020.

ICPSR Summer School (Michigan), June 2016-2021. Three day intensive course on Process-tracing.

IPSA Summer School, Sao Paulo, Brazil, January-February 2012 - 2020. Two week Ph.D.-level course on 'case study methods in political science.'

ECPR Winter School, March 2018, 2019. One week intensive Ph.D.-level workshop on 'Advanced Process Tracing'.

ECPR Winter School, February 2012 - 2017. One week Ph.D.-level course on 'Advanced Process Tracing'.

ECPR Summer School, July-August 2012 - 2016, 2018-2020. One week Ph.D.-level course on 'Process-tracing'.

APSA Short Course on Process-Tracing, August 2013. APSA Short Course on Case study methods, August 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020.

Berlin Graduate School for Transnational Studies, Two day Ph.D.-level course in Process-tracing, March 2013, 2014, 2016-18.

Institute of European Studies, Faculty of social and political sciences of the Université Libre de Bruxelles, Two-day Ph.D. course on 'Process-tracing', January 16-17, 2014.

Introduction to International Relations, Spring 2011 - 2017, Department of Political Science, University of Aarhus, Denmark.

Workshop on Social Science Research, Concordia University, Three day course in case study methods in May 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, two days in 2012, 2013.

Three-day course in Process-tracing, University Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona, May 2015.

German Institute of Global and Area Studies, Two day course in Process-tracing, May 22-23, 2014, October 2014, June 2017. Two day course in causal case study methods, June 2015.

Experience with advising Ph.D. students

Completed: Rasmus Brun Pedersen (national preference formation in EU constitutional negotiations), completed June 2009, Ingvild Olsen (groups in the EU Council of Ministers), completed fall 2011, Henrik Jepsen (climate negotiations), completed fall 2012, Henrikas Bartesuvicus (causes of ethnic conflict), completed fall 2013, Aasne Aarestad (private security companies), completed fall 2016, Jonas Gejl Pedersen (Russian foreign policy), completed fall 2018, Nicolas Burmester (BRIC cooperation) completed spring 2019. Nikolaj Andersen (China) completed spring 2021.

Ph.D. defense committees: European University Institute (May 2014), University of Bamberg (May 2018), University of Sheffield (September 2018), KU Leuven (October 2019), Humboldt University (August 2022)

Selected recent invited lectures

Invited plenary presentation on Process tracing in evaluation. Swedish Evaluation Society annual meeting, Stockholm, December 2023.

UN Evaluation Methodology Working Group (SO2), lecture on Process tracing, May 11, 2021.

Lecture on 'Process tracing methods', Faculty of Education at the University of Cambridge, April 2, 2021.

'How does it work? Using process tracing methods to study policy processes', MRC Epidemiology Unit, University of Cambridge, April 8, 2020.

Keynote speaker at Spring Conference 2019 of the Working Group "Methods in Evaluation" DeGEval – Evaluation Society "Causality and Plausibility – Evaluation between Science and Practice", Vienna, Austria, June 2019.

Speaker at Sapphire Series panel "Progress and Communication across Methodological Divides in International Studies.", International Studies Association Annual Conference, March 2019. Toronto, CA.

'Process tracing methods.', All day lecture at Antwerp Management School, Antwerp, January 2018.

Research leadership experience

Principal Investigator, project 'Mechanisms and Mechanistic Evidence in the Social Sciences', and 'Building a New Europe'. Research team for the BNE included post-doc Sandrino Smeets.

Academic co-convenor of the ECPR Methods Schools Program (2012-2021).

Principal Investigator, collaborative project 'DK OPT – Danish opt-out referendum surveys – campaign effects and post-election survey'. Research team includes Kasper Møller Hansen (KU), Claes de Vreese (SDU and Amsterdam), Sara Hobolt (LSE).

Co-edited special issue (fall 2018) of *Sociological Methods and Research* together with Ingo Rohlfing entitled 'Combining set theory and process tracing in multi-method research.'

Co-editor of peer-reviewed submitted articles, *Politica* (Danish peer-reviewed political science journal).

Co-director ECPR workshop entitled 'Process tracing methods' at the ECPR Joint Session of Workshops, April 2012, Antwerp.

Co-directed ECPR workshop entitled 'The Role of Political Agency in the Constitutional Politics of the EU' at the ECPR Joint Session of Workshops, 14-19 April 2005, Granada. (together with Thomas Christiansen, EIPA, Maastricht). The project resulted in an edited special issue of *Journal of European Public Policy* in December 2007.

Co-edited book project with Colette Mazzucelli that resulted in edited volume published in 2007 entitled *Leadership in the Big Bangs of European Integration* (Palgrave MacMillan).

Professional service

Member of the Board of the Committee on Concepts and Methods, International Political Science Association (summer 2012 - 2016).

Program chair for the Committee on Concepts and Methods for the 2014 International Political Science Association meeting.

Program co-chair for annual American Political Science Association meeting (2014) for the Qualitative and Multi-method Research Section.

Chairman of the Danish European Studies Association (spring 2011 – spring 2013).

Head of the International Relations Section, Department of Political Science, University of Aarhus (fall 2010 – fall 2012).

Reviewer for: American Political Science Review, Brazilian Political Science Review, Comparative Political Studies, European Journal of Political Research, European Union Politics, Evaluation, Field Research, Governance, Identities, International Political Science Review, Journal of Common Market Studies, Journal of Economic Policy Reform, Journal of European Public Policy, Journal of European Integration, Lancet Global Health, Political Research Quarterly, Political Science Research and Methods, Policy Studies Journal, Political Analysis, Political Studies, Public Administration, Review of International Organizations, Sociological Methods and Research, West European Politics, Palgrave Macmillan, Routledge, University of Michigan Press, European Research Council (ERC).