

Gus Greenstein

Institute of Public Administration, Faculty of Governance & Global Affairs
Leiden University

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

Leiden University, Assistant Professor 2023–present
Institute of Public Administration, Faculty of Governance & Global Affairs

EDUCATION

Stanford University, PhD in Public Administration and Environmental Governance 2018–2023
Emmett Interdisciplinary Program in Environment & Resources (E-IPER)
Committee: Francis Fukuyama, Dan Honig, Eric Lambin, Len Ortolano
David and Lucile Packard Foundation Fellow

University of Oxford, MPhil in International Development 2016–2018
Rhodes Scholarship Finalist

Amherst College, BA in Environmental Studies 2010–2014
Magna Cum Laude with Distinction
Thomas J. Watson Fellow (\$33,000 research grant)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Policy implementation, bureaucratic structure, public management, institutional change, environmental governance, international development

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Gus Greenstein and Mirko Heinzl. Online first. [“Bureaucratic Politics and Aid Allocation: Evidence from USAID.”](#) *Regulation & Governance*.

Gus Greenstein. 2025. [“Staff \(Mis\)allocation in Public Agencies: Evidence from Protected Area Management in Brazil.”](#) *Public Management Review*.

ISA Environmental Studies Section Graduate Student Paper Award, 2023

Gus Greenstein. 2024. [“How Personnel Allocation Affects Performance: Evidence from Brazil’s Federal Protected Areas Agency.”](#) *Public Administration* 102(3): 860–896.

LSE Business Review op-ed

Gus Greenstein. 2022. [“The Influence of Alternative Development Finance on the World Bank’s Safeguards Regime.”](#) *Global Environmental Politics* 22(3): 171–193.

Ryan Hledik and **Gus Greenstein**. 2016. [“The Distributional Impacts of Residential Demand Charges.”](#) *The Electricity Journal* 29(6): 33–41.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Gus Greenstein and Dan Honig. 2024. “[Managing Aid Personnel](#).” In Raj Desai, Shanta Devarajan, and Jennifer Tobin, eds., *The Elgar Handbook of Aid and Development*. Edward Elgar.

WORKING PAPERS

Gus Greenstein. “[Bureaucratic Autonomy in Environmental Governance](#).”

SELECTED WORK IN PROGRESS

“Design Foundations of Environmental Policy Durability: Evidence from Forest Regulations in Australia, Brazil, British Columbia, Indonesia, and New Zealand.” With Ben Cashore, Virgínia Totti Guimarães, Peter Kanowski, Paula Máximo, Harry Nelson, Levi Robson, Depi Susilawati, and Zou Yutong.

“Bureaucratic Quality and Environmental Outcomes: A Global Analysis.” With Diego Salazar Morales.

POLICY REPORTS AND OTHER WRITING

Gus Greenstein. 2025. “[Reallocating Staff Can Help Reduce Amazon Deforestation in Brazil](#).” *LSE Business Review*.

World Bank. 2022. *Enhancing the Effectiveness of the World Bank’s Global Footprint*. Independent Evaluation Group. Washington, DC.

Austin Meyer and Gus Greenstein. 2017. “[Fork in the River](#).” *Roads and Kingdoms and Slate*.

GRANTS AND HONORS

Leiden University Fund Grant for Academic Project (€34,965)	2025
APSA Paul Volcker Junior Scholar Research Grant (\$3,000)	2025
ISA Environmental Studies Section Graduate Student Paper Award	2023
E-IPER Research Funds (\$2,910), Stanford University	2022
McGee-Levorsen Research Funds (\$3,200), Stanford University	2021
E-IPER Research Funds (\$4,000), Stanford University	2020
McGee-Levorsen Summer Research Funds (\$2,000), Stanford University	2019
E-IPER Summer Research Funds (\$4,000), Stanford University	2019
Stanford Graduate Fellowship	2019
Stanford E-IPER PhD Fellowship (5 years full funding)	2018
Evan Carroll Commager Fellowship (\$10,000)	2016
Rhodes Scholarship Finalist (Northern California)	2015
Thomas J. Watson Fellowship (\$33,000)	2014
Amherst College Department of Economics Fellowship (\$4,000)	2012

TEACHING

Leiden University, Faculty of Governance & Global Affairs

Governance of Biodiversity and Ecosystems (MSc, co-instructor)	Fall '23, '24, '25
Governing Sustainability (BSc, instructor of record)	Fall '25
International Environmental Governance (MSc, instructor of record)	Fall '23, '24
International Governance (BA minor, instructor of record)	Fall '23, '24
Sustainability Challenge (MSc, group advisor)	Fall '24
MSc Thesis Supervision, Governance of Sustainability (26 total)	'23–present
Doctoral Thesis Supervision: Devin Diran	'24–present

Stanford University, Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies

International Environmental Governance (co-instructor of record)	Fall 2021
Policy Problem Solving in the Real World, TA for Francis Fukuyama	Spring 2021

Johns Hopkins University, School of Advanced International Studies

International Development Proseminar, TA for Dan Honig	Fall 2020
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Amherst College, Department of Economics

Intermediate Econometrics, TA for Katharine Sims	Spring 2014
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INVITED TALKS

University of Amsterdam	2026
Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (PBL)	2025
Hertie School of Governance, Berlin	2024
Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (virtual)	2023
Penn State School of Public Policy (virtual)	2021
Center for Policy Research, New Delhi	2019
ENVRES 280: Environment and Resources Topics, Stanford University	2019
CEE 265: Sustainable Water Resources Development, Stanford University	2019
Marabá City Council, Marabá, Brazil	2017
Center for Research and Advocacy, Imphal, India	2015

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

ECPR General Conference, Thessaloniki	2025
Workshop for Junior Scholars in IOs and Development, Amsterdam	2025
ECPR General Conference, Dublin	2024
Conference on Earth Systems Governance, Nijmegen	2023
ECPR General Conference, Prague	2023
Conference on Earth Systems Governance, Toronto	2022
ECPR General Conference, Innsbruck	2022
Environmental Politics and Governance Conference, Penn State	2022
Georgetown SFS Workshop on Aid & Development (virtual)	2022
Public Management Research Conference, Phoenix	2022
International Studies Association Annual Meeting, Nashville	2022
International Studies Association Annual Meeting (virtual)	2021
Sustainability and Development Conference, Ann Arbor	2018

Conference on Latin America in the Era of Sustainability, Oxford	2017
Federal University of Pará, Belém, Brazil	2013

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (PBL), Consultant	2025
World Bank, Environment Practice, Consultant	2022
World Bank, Independent Evaluation Group, Consultant	2020–2021
The Brattle Group, Research Analyst	2015–2016
International Rivers, Researcher	2015
Conservation Strategy Fund, Researcher	2012

RESEARCH AFFILIATIONS

Research Fellow, Earth Systems Governance Project	2023–present
Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore	2022–present
Department of Political Science, University of Brasília	2020–2023
School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University	2020
Center for Policy Research, Delhi	2019

SERVICE

To the Profession.

Steering Committee, Environmental Politics Standing Group, ECPR	2024–present
Reviewer for <i>American Political Science Review</i> , <i>Forest Policy and Economics</i> , <i>Global Environmental Politics, Governance, International Studies Quarterly</i> , <i>Journal of Environment and Development</i> , <i>PLOS One</i> , <i>Policy Design and Practice</i> , <i>Policy Sciences</i> , <i>Public Management Review</i>	

Leiden University.

Vice Chair, Board of Examiners, Governance of Sustainability MSc	2024–present
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Stanford University.

Graduate Student Advisory Council	2019–2021
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FIELDWORK

India (2019, 2014), Mexico (2017, 2015), Cambodia (2016, 2015), Thailand (2015), Vietnam (2016), Lesotho (2015), Mozambique (2015), Brazil (2012)

LANGUAGES AND SKILLS

Languages: English (native), Spanish (intermediate-advanced), Portuguese (intermediate), Dutch (B2), German (beginner)

Programming: R, Stata, \LaTeX

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association, International Studies Association, Public Management Research Association

Last updated: February 14, 2026