

Vegard H. Tørstad

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Current position

2022-2026 **Postdoctoral Fellow**, Department of Political Science, University of Oslo

Education

2016-2021 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

2023	Political Science Approaches to Climate Action (lectures)
2023	International Politics: Key Debates (lectures)
2023	BA Thesis in Political Science (seminars)
2023	Coffee & Coding (R instructor)
2022, 2023	International Environmental Governance (lectures)
2022	Comparative Environmental Politics (teaching assistant)
2020, 2018	International Environmental & Resource Politics (seminars)
2018, 2015	International Security Policy (seminars)

Publications & talks

BOOK PROJECT

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

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2023 Kuyper, Jonathan W. and Vegard Tørstad: [Mobilizing Non-State Actors for Climate Action through the Global Stocktake](#). *Nature Climate Change*.
- 2023 Tveit, Andreas K. and Vegard Tørstad: [The Relative Effectiveness of Overlapping International Institutions: European Union versus United Nations Regulations of Air Pollution](#). *International Political Science Review*.
- 2023 Tørstad, Vegard: [Can Transparency Strengthen the Legitimacy of International Institutions? Evidence from the UN Security Council](#). *Journal of Peace Research*.
- 2020 Tørstad, Vegard: [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: [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: [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 and Håkon Sælen: [Fairness in the Climate Negotiations: What Explains Variation in Parties' Expressed Conceptions?](#) *Climate Policy* 18(5): 642-654.

2018 Tørstad, Vegard: [Håndhevelse og Legitimitet: En Integrativ Vurdering av Parisavtalens Effektivitet.](#) *Internasjonal Politikk* 76 (1): 47-72.

REVISE & RESUBMIT

Tørstad, Vegard and Vegard Wiborg. Commitment Ambiguity and Ambition in Climate Pledges. Revise and resubmit at *The Review of International Organizations*.

UNDER REVIEW

Tørstad, Vegard, Jonas Nahm, Jon Hovi, Tora Skodvin and Gard Olav Dietrichson. Green Spending During Economic Recessions: Recovery Packages in Canada and the US.

Tørstad, Vegard. Impartiality and legitimacy in international courts: The case of GATT/WTO dispute settlement reform.

WORKING PAPERS

Tørstad, Vegard, Jon Hovi, Håkon Sælen and Andreas Kokkvoll Tveit. Balancing Ambition and Compliance Prospects in Climate Pledges.

Sprinz, Detlef and Vegard Tørstad. Time Inconsistency and Credibility in Long-Term Climate Policy.

Kupzok, Nils, Jonas Nahm, and Vegard Tørstad. Doubling Down: Climate Politics in Times of Global Economic Crises.

Tørstad, Vegard, Jon Hovi and Håkon Sælen. Green spending during the 2008 financial crisis and the Covid-19 crisis.

Wiborg, Vegard and Vegard Tørstad. The Effects of Mitigation Uncertainty under Pledge-and-Review: Evidence from the Lab.

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.

CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

- APSA Annual Meeting, 2023 (paper), 2021 (poster)
- ECPR General Conference, 2023 (paper), 2021 (roundtable), 2020 (paper), 2017 (paper)
- Environmental Politics and Governance (EPG), 2021 (paper), 2020 (paper)
- International Studies Association, 2023 (poster)
- Junior IO Scholars Workshop, 2022 (paper)
- MPSA Annual Meeting, 2022 (paper & discussant), 2021 (paper & discussant)
- Norwegian Political Science Association Annual Meeting, 2022 (paper)
- NYU Rebecca B. Morton Conference on Experimental Political Science, 2021 (poster)
- Political Economy of Climate and the Environment (PECE), 2023 (paper)
- Political Economy of International Organization (PEIO), 2021 (poster)
- Political Studies Association Annual Meeting, 2021 (paper)
- TILEC Economic Governance and Legitimacy workshop, Tilburg University, 2022 (paper)

INVITED TALKS

- 2022 CICERO Center for Climate research, 3 November.
- 2021 British International Studies Association's Climate Diplomacy event, 4 June.
- 2020 Maastricht University, 2 December.
- 2020 CICERO Center for Climate research, 17 June.
- 2014 Norwegian Parliament. Oslo, December 2014.
- 2015 Socialist Youth Party. Oslo, March 2015.

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

Supervision

- 2022-24 Supervisor, four MA theses in political science
- 2022-24 Co-supervisor, two MA theses in political science

Professional service

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

Co-organizer: Network for Social Science Climate Research in Oslo (2023-); Departmental Seminars, University of Oslo (2022-)

Selection committee: Fritt Ord Foundation's Student Stipend (2022)

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

Available upon request

Last updated: September 25, 2023