

# Christopher Claassen

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## Academic Appointments

Professor of political behaviour, School of social and political sciences, University of Glasgow, 2023-  
Senior lecturer in politics, School of social and political sciences, University of Glasgow, 2019-2023  
Lecturer in politics, School of social and political sciences, University of Glasgow, 2015-2019

## Education

PhD, political science, Washington University in St. Louis  
MPhil, political economy, University of Cape Town  
BA, psychology, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg

## Selected Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Claassen C., Devine D. 2025. The politics of imperial nostalgia. *British Journal of Political Science*.

Claassen C., Ackermann K., Bertsou E., Borba L., Carlin R. E., Cavari A., Dahlum S., Gherghina S., Hawkins D., Lelkes Y., Magalhães P. C., Mattes R., Meijers M. J., Neundorf A., Oross D., Ozturk A., Sarsfield R., Self D., Stanley B., Tsai T., Zaslove A., Zechmeister E. J. 2024. Conceptualizing and measuring support for democracy: A new approach. *Comparative Political Studies*.

Claassen C., Magalhães P. 2023. Public support for democracy in the United States has declined generationally. *Public Opinion Quarterly*.

Claassen C. 2023. Immigration and public support for political systems in Europe. *Perspectives on Politics*.

Claassen C., Magalhães P. 2022. Effective government and evaluations of democracy. *Comparative Political Studies*.

Claassen C., McLaren L. 2022. Does immigration produce a public backlash or public acceptance? Time-series, cross-sectional evidence from 30 European democracies. *British Journal of Political Science*.

Claassen C. 2020. In the mood for democracy? Democratic support as thermostatic opinion. *American Political Science Review*.

Claassen C. 2020. Does public support help democracy survive? *American Journal of Political Science*.

Claassen C. 2019. Estimating smooth country-year panels of public opinion. *Political Analysis*.

Claassen C. 2016. Group entitlement, anger and participation in intergroup violence. *British Journal of Political Science*.

## Selected Public Engagement

### Media articles:

Claassen C. Study shows views of British empire shape voting behaviour – but in subtle ways. *The Conversation*, 18 December 2025

McLaren L & Claassen C. Public backlash or public acceptance? Attitudes towards immigration. UK in a Changing Europe, 3 September 2021

Claassen C. Does public support for democracy defend a country from autocrats? Not necessarily. *Washington Post*, The Monkey Cage, 17 July 2019

### Podcasts:

“Democracy Works”, McCourtney Institute for Democracy, Pennsylvania State University, 5 November

2024

“Science of Politics”, Niskanen Center, 9 February 2022

## Selected Research Grants and Prizes

Philip Leverhulme Prize in politics and international relations (£100,000). “For researchers at an early stage of their careers whose work has had international impact and whose future research career is exceptionally promising”. Leverhulme Trust, 2021-2024

PI, Glasgow team: The rural-urban divide in Europe (€1.41 million total value, €271,609 for Glasgow team). New Opportunities for Research Funding Agency Cooperation in Europe (NORFACE), 2021-2023

Co-I: Do immigrant numbers inflame anti-immigrant opinion? A time-series cross-sectional analysis of European immigrant numbers and opinions, 1995-2017 (£9,761). British Academy / Leverhulme Trust, 2019-2021

## Recent Invited Talks

Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy and Strategy, Reichman University, 2025

McCourtney Institute for Democracy, Pennsylvania State University, 2024

School of Public Policy and Management, Korea Development Institute, 2024

European studies department, University of Amsterdam, 2023

Workshop on citizens’ attitudes to democracy, University of Zurich, 2023

Department of social science, Humboldt University Berlin, 2022

Conference on ‘What is democracy? theories, practices, values’, University of Oxford, 2022

Department of political science, University of Bergen, 2022

Department of political science, Trinity College Dublin, 2020

## Leadership and Citizenship

**Editorial boards:** British Journal of Political Science, 2026-

**Peer reviews:** Reviewer for leading journals including *PNAS*, *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *World Politics*, *British Journal of Political Science*, and others. Book proposal reviewer for Oxford University Press and Bristol University Press. Grant reviewer for funding councils including the British Academy, European Research Council, National Science Foundation, and National Research Council Canada.

**Service and leadership roles:** University of Glasgow, Politics and international studies REF outputs lead; REF impact lead

**External examination:** University of Bristol, undergraduate Politics & IR programme, 2021-2024