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## **What's the issue? : the lobbying and representativeness of political parties on specific policy issues**

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## C.V. JEROEN ROMEIJN

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Date of Birth: 02.03.1990, Quito

### Work Experience

Policy Advisor 2019 - present  
Europe Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

PhD-candidate 2015 – 2020  
Institute of Public Administration, Leiden University

Intern 2014  
Economic Department, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Oslo

### Education

Msc European Studies 2013 - 2015  
University of Gothenburg

Msc Political Science, cum laude 2012 - 2014  
Radboud University Nijmegen

Bachelor Political Science 2008 - 2012  
Radboud University Nijmegen

Gymnasium 2002 – 2008  
Stedelijk Gymnasium Arnhem

### Languages

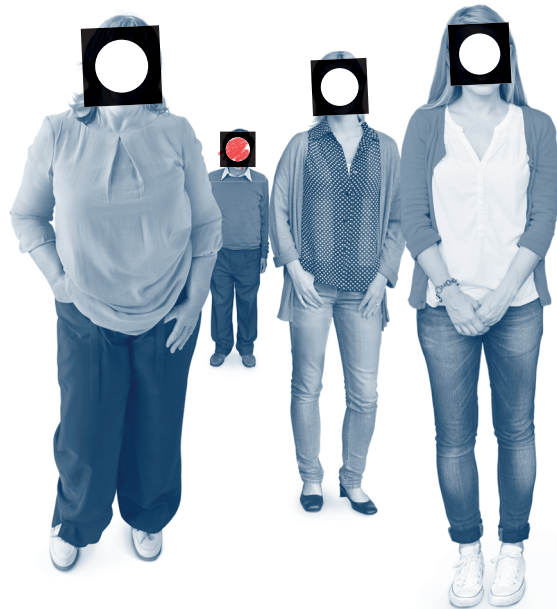
Dutch, English, French, Swedish. Basic knowledge of German, Spanish, Danish and Norwegian.

### Other:

Competitive ballroom dancer and dance teacher 2010 – 2018

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# WHAT'S THE ISSUE?

Political parties take positions and make decisions on many policies that directly influence important parts of the lives of their voters. These policies include issues like raising the retirement age, lending money to large companies that face bankruptcy, or deploying soldiers to Afghanistan.

But do political parties take into account the policy preferences of the general public and their own voters when making such decisions? And to what extent do interest groups influence political parties' positions and decisions on these policy issues?

This dissertation studies these important questions across a range of wealthy, Northwestern European democracies with strong democratic credentials, covering dozens of political parties, policy issues and even more interest groups and other policy advocates.