

# JULIA WARTMANN

Schaffhauserstrasse 80, 8057 Zürich | 0041 79 770 01 41 | [julia.wartmann@icloud.com](mailto:julia.wartmann@icloud.com)

## EDUCATION

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### UNIVERSITY OF BASEL,

Graduate School of Social Sciences G3S  
2024

SWITZERLAND

February 2019 – February

- PhD in International Relations and Gender Studies, member of the International Graduate School North-South. Defended on 17th of May 2024 (Grade 5.7 in Swiss grading system).
- Thesis: "Negotiating Freedom: Gender Equality, Multiculturalism and Governance in North and East Syria." Supervised by Prof. Laurent Goetschel and Prof. Elisabeth Prügl (Geneva IHEID), External examiner: Prof. Nadjie Al-Ali (Brown University).
- Conducted doctoral research at swisspeace, member of the Statehood and Conflict team. Research focus on gender, conflict, and peacebuilding with a particular emphasis on the Middle East region.

### VISITING RESEARCH FELLOW AT BROWN UNIVERSITY

Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs/ Center for Middle East Studies  
2023

PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

January- June

- Working on thesis on Gender Equality Reforms in North and East Syria.
- Attendance of events on International Relations of the Middle East as well as the topic of nationalism and gender in cultural decolonization processes.

### UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

MSc International Relations of the Middle East with Arabic (180 ECTS)  
2017

EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND

September 2015 – November

- Graduated "summa cum laude" from the School of Social and Political Science.
- Received a distinction for the master's thesis "Why did the attempt to establish an Islamic democracy in Egypt in the wake of the Arab Spring fail? A comparison of the Turkish AKP and the Egyptian FJP." supervised by Dr. Jamie Allinson.
- Achieved high grades in Arabic language exams (grade A or 6 in Swiss grading system).

### UNIVERSITY OF BIR ZEIT

Arabic Language Course  
2016

RAMALLAH, OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES

June – August

- Completed intensive Arabic language course, achieving the highest level (level 4).

### UNIVERSITY OF ZURICH

Bachelor of Arts in Social Science

ZURICH, SWITZERLAND

September 2010– August 2014

- Graduated "insigni cum laude" in Social and Cultural Anthropology (120 ECTS) with a minor in Arabic language studies (60 ECTS).
- Received a grade of 5.5 for bachelor's thesis on "The role of popular music in Latin American societies."

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### FIELDWORK PHD NORTH AND EAST SYRIA

January – June 2021

- Discourse and qualitative data analysis using MAXQDA.
- Ethnographic field work (participant participation, semi-structured in-depth interviews, focus-groups)
- Presented research findings at academic conferences and workshops; including Middle East Studies Association (MESA), European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR), Swiss Association for Gender Studies (SAGS), and the Swiss Research Network Gender & Political Science.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Conference, *Montréal, 2.-5. November 2023*  
"Reassessing Claims of Kurdish Marginality in the Case of the Autonomous Administration of NES."

- European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) General Conference, *Prague, 4.-8 September 2023*  
“Negotiating what it means to be “free”: gender equality and governance in North and East Syria.”
- Swiss Research Network Gender & Political Science, *Bern, 11.-12. October 2023*

## **GRANTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

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- Shortlisted for tenure-track Assistant Professor position within the Department of Conflict Resolution, Human Security, and Global Governance at the University of Massachusetts Boston.
- Doc.Mobility for the period of 1 January 2023 to 30 June 2023. The award of USD 25,913.- (CHF 24'882.-) is determined to cover the salary and research costs.
- Doc.CH Swiss National Science Foundation (SNFS). The Doc.CH grants are awarded by the Swiss National Science Foundation to the most promising candidates to enable them to write a dissertation on a topic of their own choice in the humanities and social sciences. It covers for years of salary and research expenses (Total: CHF 277'767).
- Graduate School of Social Sciences G3S start-up grant to develop application 12 months (Total: CHF 30'000).

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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### **UNIVERSITY OF BASEL**

- Geneva Graduate Institute: Intersectionality and International Relations: Feminist and Queer Resistance to the Canon *Autumn Semester 2024*
- University of Basel: Lecture Series and accompanying seminar: Decolonize University! Re-Imagining Theories and Practices of Knowledge Production *Spring Semester 2022*
- Co-Teaching Graduate School of Social Science: Seminar Gender Equality, Reactions, and Backlash: Approaches, Contestation, and Alternatives *Autumn Semester 2021*
- Doctoral Seminar “Exit Racism” *Autumn Semester 2021*

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

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### **WOCHENZEITUNG WOZ**

*Journalist*

**Zurich, Switzerland**  
*September 2018 – February 2019*

### **AZ LIMMATTALER ZEITUNG**

*Journalist*

**Dietikon, Switzerland**  
*November 2014 – May 2015*

### **ÖBU - SWISS BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

*Internship*

**Zurich, Switzerland**  
*October 2009 – March 2010*

## **EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

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- Co-Founder “Telefon Gegen Gewalt (TGG)” a hotline for women who are in a situation of violence, who have legal questions about their residence status, or need support. *June 2020 – Present*
- Verein Park Platz, Zurich, Switzerland *June 2018 – Jan. 2021*
- Co-founder Hebron International Resource Network H.I.R.N Switzerland *March 2017 – Present*

## **ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS**

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- Forthcoming: March 2025. “Practising Utopia – Governing Effects of Democratic Confederalist Discourse in North and East Syria” In *Utopianism in the Middle East and North Africa*, edited by Thomas Pierret and Simon Wolfgang Fuchs, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.
- Forthcoming: January 2025. “What do you think she meant?” Proxy-Interviewing as ethnographic Methodology and Solidarity.” In *Doing gender studies – producing knowledge otherwise* edited by, Dina Bolokan, Anukriti Dixit, Melina Rutishauser and Julia Wartmann. Zurich: Seismo Press.
- Wartmann, Julia. 2023. “Negotiating what it means to be “free”: gender equality and governance in North and East Syria.” *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, DOI: 10.1080/14616742.2023.2269154
- Wartmann, Julia. “Women’s Rights in Northeast Syria: Enforcing Gender Equality.” *Gender Campus* (blog). December 2022. <https://www.gendercampus.ch/en/blog/post/womens-rights-in-northeast-syria-enforcing-gender-equality>.