

PhD admissions for Political Science specialty in Spring 2026 – available supervisors and supervision topics

Name of supervisor	Academic position	Research profile in the Estonian Research Information System & E-mail	Supervision areas for PhD studies	Topic of a thematic call (if proposed)	Additional information
Oksana BELOVA-DALTON	Research Fellow in International Relations	ETIS profile oksana.belova-dalton@ut.ee	Terrorism and political violence, preventing and countering violent extremism	N/A	
Eiki BERG	Professor of International Relations Theory	ETIS profile eiki.berg@ut.ee	Secessionist conflicts, de facto states, politics of recognition	Left-behind minorities in frozen conflicts	Is also open to candidates applying with their own topics that match the general supervision areas
Stefano BRAGHIROLI	Associate Professor of European Studies	ETIS profile stefano.braghiroli@ut.ee	EU decision-making and institutions, European party politics, EU enlargement process, euroscepticism and illiberalism	Contesting Europe: Illiberal Challenges to European Integration	Is also open to candidates applying with their own topics that match the general supervision areas
Helen EENMAA	Associate Professor of Governance and Legal Policy	ETIS profile helen.eenmaa@ut.ee	Automated decision-making, technology law, markets, law & economics, legal philosophy, moral philosophy	1) Automated decision-making and contracting 2) Philosophical foundations of automated decision-making and contracting	Is also open to candidates applying with their own topics that match the general supervision areas
Piret EHIN	Professor of Comparative Politics	ETIS profile piret.ehin@ut.ee	Electoral behaviour and political representation in Europe; parties, voters, elections (national and European level); Public opinion and political attitudes, especially political support, trust, efficacy, support for EU/European integration; European integration, Europeanization, EU politics, EU institutional issues and possible institutional reforms	Political behavior, elections and representation in Europe	Is also open to candidates applying with their own topics that match the general supervision areas
Edgars EIHMANIS	Research Fellow in Political Economy	ETIS profile edgars.eihmanis@ut.ee	EU economic governance, European political economy, decarbonization and green transition, financialization, national development strategies, industrial policy and growth models, EU funds and conditionalities	EU economic governance and European political economy	Is also open to candidates applying with their own topics that match the general supervision areas

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Dmytro KHUTKYY	Research Fellow in Digital Governance	ETIS profile dmytro.khutkyy@ut.ee	Digital democracy; digital governance	Digital Democracy and Digital Governance: What Strengthens Good Governance in Democracies?	Is also open to supervise candidates applying with their own topics, especially on topics related to Ukraine
Alar KILP	Lecturer in Comparative Politics	ETIS profile alar.kilp@ut.ee	Religion and nationalism in Eastern Europe; sacralization, securitization, and political legitimization in wartime contexts; value cleavages, polarization, and party competition; identity construction, politics of memory, and civilizational narratives	Religion and the Politics of Nationalism in Eastern Europe in the Context of the Russia–Ukraine War	Is also open to candidates applying with their own topics, especially related to comparative study of religion and politics in Eastern Europe
Shpend KURSANI	Lecturer in International Relations	ETIS profile shpend.kursani@ut.ee	Self-determination disputes, secession and de facto states, state-building, digital realms in International Relations, LLM analyses of International Relations behavior and outcomes	N/A	
Andrey MAKARYCHEV	Professor of Regional Political Studies	ETIS profile andrey.makarychev@ut.ee	Biopower, necropolitics, critical security studies	N/A	
Kristina MUHHINA	Research Fellow in Public Policy	ETIS profile kristina.muhhina@ut.ee	Democracy in multi-stakeholder governance; public sector institutional reforms and good governance promotion	1) Democracy in multi-stakeholder governance 2) Public sector institutional reforms in the EU's Eastern neighborhood	Is also open to candidates applying with their own topics in the fields of public policy, public administration, public governance
Martin MÖLDER	Associate Professor of Political Science	ETIS profile martin.molder@ut.ee	Party systems, voter behaviour/attitudes, party ideology	N/A	
Eva PIIRIMÄE	Professor of Political Theory	ETIS profile eva.piiirimae@ut.ee	Historical and contemporary theories of nationalism, sovereignty, self-determination, federalism, liberalism, democracy, nation-statehood and international order	Rethinking the nation-state in transnational perspective	Is also open to candidates applying with their own topics, especially related to the study of Baltic or German intellectual history from the 18-21 st century

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Andres REILJAN	Research Fellow in Political Behaviour	ETIS profile andres.reiljan@ut.ee	Political behaviour, comparative politics, party politics, political polarization, affective polarization	How dangerous is affective polarization to democracy and social cohesion (and what can we do about it)?	Is also open to candidates applying with their own topics that match the general supervision areas
Juhan SAHAROV	Research Fellow in Political Theory	ETIS profile juhan.saharov@ut.ee	Experts and expertise during the Cold War, Soviet history, 1989 revolutions, political transitions, social movements, history of political thought, Baltic perestroika	Politics of Expertise and the 1989 Revolutions in East-Central Europe	Is also open to candidates applying with their own topics that match the general supervision areas
Liisa TALVING	Associate Professor of Comparative Politics	ETIS profile liisa.talving@ut.ee	Comparative politics, electoral studies, political behaviour	N/A	