



**Styre:** Fakultetsstyret ved Det samfunnsvitenskapelige fakultet

**Styresak:** 21/20

**Møtedato:** 21.04.2020

**Dato:** 30.03.2020

**Arkivsaksnr:** 2019/16307-

EVEN

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## **Opprykk til professor etter kompetanse, søknadsrunden 2019. Godkjenning av sakkyndig vurdering og tildeling av opprykk**

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Førsteamanuensis Leiv Marsteintredet, Institutt for sammenliknende politikk, søkte om opprykk til professor etter kompetanse i statsvitenskap 31 august 2019. Etter anbefaling fra instituttet, oppnevnte fakultetsstyret følgende sakkyndige komité:

- Professor Bernt Aardal, Institutt for statsvitenskap, Universitetet i Oslo
- Professor Eva Heidbreder, University of Magdeburg
- Professor Leonardo Morlino, Luiss University, Roma

Bernt Aardal ble oppnevnt som leder for komiteen.

Den sakkyndige komité har i sin rapport av 24 februar 2020 enstemmig konkludert med at Leiv Marsteintredet er kompetent for opprykk til professor. Det er ikke mottatt merknader fra søker til den sakkyndige vurderingen.

I henhold til Forskrift om endring i forskrift om ansettelse og opprykk i undervisnings- og forskerstillinger § 2-1 (15) skal søkers egen institusjon fatte vedtak om godkjenning av bedømmelsen og tildele opprykk på grunnlag av denne.

### **Fakultetsledelsens merknader:**

Fakultetsledelsen anbefaler at den sakkyndige vurderingen godkjennes, og at Leiv Marsteintredet tildeles opprykk og lønn som professor fra 1. september 2019.

### **Forslag til vedtak:**

Styret ved Det samfunnsvitenskapelige fakultet godkjenner den sakkyndige vurderingen av Leiv Marsteintredet, og tildeler ham opprykk og lønn som professor i statsvitenskap fra 1. september 2019.

Jan Erik Askildsen  
dekan

Alette Gilhus Mykkeltvedt  
fakultetsdirektør

Vedlegg:  
Sakkyndig vurdering

## Assessment of Dr. Leiv Marsteintredet for promotion to full professorship, University of Bergen

This assessment is based on 1) the Norwegian regulations concerning appointment and promotion to teaching and research positions<sup>1</sup>, and 2) Qualification requirements for promotion to professor – Supplementary guidelines for assessment committees with the social sciences (prepared by the National Conference of Faculties of Social Sciences in December 2007, with adjustments approved April 23, 2013).<sup>2</sup>

*“Promotion to professor requires significant academic production beyond what is required for a doctorate. The research must be of a high quality and show both breadth and depth. The production must reflect an independent research profile and show an ability to address new questions. Consistent research activity is a prerequisite».*<sup>3</sup>

### Education and career

Leiv Marsteintredet, born 1976, holds a Master of Arts degree in Political Science (Comparative Politics) from the University of Bergen (2004) and a PhD-degree in Political Science at the University of Bergen (2010) with the thesis “Presidential Interruptions in Latin America. Concepts, Causes, and Outcomes.”. He has held positions as teaching assistant in the Dept. Of Comparative Politics, University of Bergen (2001-2004), assistant professor in the same department with responsibilities in the BA programme in comparative Politics (2004-2006), PhD-scholar (2006-2010), assistant professor at the Dept. of Sociology, University of Tromsø (2010), post-doctoral research fellow at the Dept. of Comparative Politics, University of Bergen (2010-2013), associate professor at the Dept. of Literature, University of Oslo (2013-2017), associate professor II (20%) at the Dept. Of Comparative Politics, University of Bergen (2014-2017), and associate professor and director of studies at the Dept. Of Comparative Politics, the University of Bergen (since 2017).

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<sup>1</sup> <https://lovdata.no/dokument/SF/forskrift/2006-02-09-129?q=Forskrift%20om%20ansettelse%20og%20opprykk>

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.uhr.no/f/p1/ib387fa65-c04e-4912-976d-b2603f4c7aab/qualification\\_requirements\\_for\\_promotion\\_to\\_professor-fakmotesv-23042013.pdf](https://www.uhr.no/f/p1/ib387fa65-c04e-4912-976d-b2603f4c7aab/qualification_requirements_for_promotion_to_professor-fakmotesv-23042013.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.uhr.no/f/p1/ib387fa65-c04e-4912-976d-b2603f4c7aab/qualification\\_requirements\\_for\\_promotion\\_to\\_professor-fakmotesv-23042013.pdf](https://www.uhr.no/f/p1/ib387fa65-c04e-4912-976d-b2603f4c7aab/qualification_requirements_for_promotion_to_professor-fakmotesv-23042013.pdf)

Dr. Marsteintredet has extensive teaching experience, including lectures, seminars in Europe, USA and Latin America. He has supervised students at all levels, both at bachelor, master, and PhD-level. He has also completed pedagogical courses in teaching and supervision. Dr. Marsteintredet, thus, fulfils the requirements of "documented competence in relevant educational theory and practice based on training or on teaching and supervision".

### Research projects and networks

Dr. Marsteintredet has been participating in many national and international research projects, both as a researcher and as project co-leader. In the latter capacity, he is now a member of the project "Democracy and Development", which analyses the institutional developments and policy developments in regimes that have recently changed from authoritarianism towards a more democratic regime. The primary purpose of the project is understanding how politics is shaped in the interaction between political institutions, processes and political actors. Dr Marsteintredet is responsible for the Latin American area.

Dr. Marsteintredet has demonstrated that he has been, and still is well integrated in international research networks.

### Submitted publications

Leiv Marsteintredet's publication list includes one PhD- dissertation, seventeen peer-reviewed articles, fifteen book chapters, ten country reports and working papers, four edited books, one single-authored book. Twenty-five publications are authored by Marsteintredet alone. Two are co-authored with him as lead author. Twenty are co-authored. Moreover, one article, two book chapters, and one peer-reviewed report are forthcoming. Eleven articles/chapters/books are published in the last five years. To these academic publications, the activity of scientific diffusion with short articles (4), book reviews (2), popular science articles (2), op-ed and blogs (44) should be considered.

Leiv Marsteintredet is a renowned specialist in Latin America. Within this comparative field and with some simplifications, his main publications can be divided into four main thematic areas: 1. Presidential interruptions, succession, term limits, vice-presidency (sub-area A: presidential

interruptions in Latin America; sub-area B: Vice-presidency, presidential succession and term limits); 2. Institutions and democracy in the Dominican Republic; 3. International human rights; 4. Concepts and Methods.

First thematic area: Presidential interruptions, succession, term limits, the vice-presidency

Sub area A: presidential interruptions in Latin America (attachments 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7)

In Marsteintredet and Berntzen (2008), “Reducing the Perils of Presidentialism in Latin America through Presidential Interruptions” (#4), Marsteintredet (2008), *Las consecuencias sobre el régimen de las interrupciones presidenciales en América Latina*. (#5), Alvarez and Marsteintredet (2010), “Presidential and Democratic Breakdowns in Latin America: Similar Causes, Different Outcomes” (#6), Marsteintredet (2010), *Presidential Interruptions in Latin America. Concepts, Causes, and Outcomes*. PhD-dissertation (# 7), Marsteintredet, Llanos and Nolte (2013), “Paraguay and the Politics of Impeachment” (#3), as in the other contributions in the book *Presidential Breakdowns in Latin America. Causes and Outcomes of Executive Instability in Developing Democracies* (2010, #6), (“Presidentialism and Presidential Breakdowns in Latin America”, “Presidential Breakdowns Revisited”, “Epilogue”), in all of them the author addresses one of the critical issues of democracies and especially Latin American democracies. He specifically contributed to developing this stream of research on the breakdowns of Latin American presidentialisms. The five contributions and the other book chapters provide the first comprehensive, in-depth analysis of all presidential breakdowns that occurred in Latin American third democratisation wave. Nine countries and fourteen breakdowns in twenty years between early 1980s and early 2000s are explored in the research. The causes are explored also with the help of statistical technique, and the salience of the growth, inflation, scandals, street protest, parliamentary seats and other factors are precisely assessed in the scrutinised cases. Overall, this research became of the most important empirical and theoretical contributions on an intensely debated field within the international literature. The book (#6) became a compulsory reference for the analysis of democratic breakdowns. Especially in years when the attention of the scholars was more focused on democratic transitions, this book was originally anticipating the turning point that took place also at international level after 2005/2006 in terms of democratic deterioration, crisis and breakdown.

In Marsteintredet (2014) “Explaining variation of executive instability in presidential regimes: Presidential interruptions in Latin America” (#2), the author goes back to the causes of presidential interruptions and the consequences for the related democracies. By connecting the main causes of an interruption to the consequences, the author developed a typology of interruptions with the possibility of identifying when the removal of a president is a positive or negative turning point for the affected democracy. This article is one of the most notable contributions to the scholarly debate in this field.

[Sub-area B: Vice-presidency, presidential succession and term limits \(attachments 8, 9, 10\)](#)

In “Allies and Traitors: Vice-Presidents in Latin America ... (2019) (#8), Marsteintredet and his co-author develop an original analysis of the topic by profiting of two datasets. The first dataset is built by dr. Marsteintredet on vice-presidency, presidential succession and term limits with data from Latin American constitutions and related constitutional changes since independence. It has been expanded to cover presidential succession since 1970. The second dataset, built by the second author of the article, is vice-presidential candidates. The article opens a new area of research on vice-presidents and presidential succession and singles out cases and explanations of the changes of succession rules in Latin America. In the article also emerges why vice-presidency has been a controversial office.

In “La vicepresidencia y los problemas de la sucesión presidencial en América Latina. Viejos y nuevos retos para el presidencialismo”. (2019) (# 9), the author explains why the reasons for the controversies are embedded in the constitutional succession rules of presidential systems. Three issues come especially out. They are in the rules that promote loyalty between the president and the successor, that assure legitimacy to govern to the successor, but the first rules may be in contrast with the other ones: more loyalty means less independent legitimacy to the successor. The third issue is the presidential substitution as a fixed line of succession is only meant to cope with the death, the cases of illegal behaviour rather than with the solution of government crises.

In “Presidential Term Limits in Latin America ca. 1820-1985” (2019) (#10) the author relies on the data from the research project of presidential succession and vice presidency. Thus, he conducts the first analysis of term limits in Latin America, based on all constitutions of the entire region by showing how the potential democratic impact of effective presidential term limits are underestimated and the manipulation of those institutions in authoritarian regimes.

Summing up, the nine publications reviewed here show how the author was pathbreaking in both sub-areas by building original data sets that are also relevant for the entire international scholar community working on Latin America and by developing his own in-depth relevant analysis.

[Second thematic area: Institutions and democracy in the Dominican Republic \(attachments 11, 12\)](#)

In “Rendición de cuentas horizontal y preponderancia presidencial: una combinación difícil. El caso de República Dominicana, 1967-2009” (2010) (#11), the author builds on budgetary time-series data to analyse presidential powers and horizontal accountability in the country. Using budgetary data, he created an index of horizontal accountability, in addition to measure presidential powers. In a third step of the analysis, the author displays how presidential powers negatively affect horizontal accountability. The declining predominance of the presidency is also emphasised after the second democratic transition in 1994.

In “Executive-Legislative Deadlocks in the Dominican Republic” (2008) (#12), the question is about the reasons for deadlocks. The author adopts a combination of statistical techniques and process tracing to check four institutional hypotheses. The analysis of the deadlock periods supports the hypothesis that the additional triggering or the sufficient causes for deadlocks are either exogenous to the political institutions or related to the instability of the party system, which consists of three almost equal-sized parties. Moreover, presidents’ powers and coalition building have helped alleviate the deadlock problem.

Summing up this thematic field, all the contributions on the Dominican Republic mentioned here but also others not attached to the application are single-authored by dr. Marsteintredet. The candidate has been internationally recognised as the scholar who is the leading expert on this country

[Third thematic area: International human rights \(attachments 13, 14, 15\)](#)

In “The Constitutions of the Dominican Republic. Between aspirations and realities” (2020) (# 13), the focus is on the continuity of the country's constitutional development rather than the high number of Constitutions the country had. The primary issue is that no government attempted to rule without a constitution adopting the formal tenets of liberal democracy. More recent constitutional reforms have been more effective in implementing real checks on the traditional

and robust presidential powers. Consequently, there has been a process of more effective implementation of liberal constitutional principles in governing the country.

In “The Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the mobilisation of parliaments” (2017) (#14), the author addresses the problem of the parliament in complying with the rulings of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights by arguing in favour of the involvement of domestic parliaments and the Court’s tool of advisory opinions. Involving the parliament would push the legislation to more consistent with international human rights treaties, make pressure toward reluctant governments to better protect human rights and to implement them domestically. Moreover, the work of an international human rights Court would be reduced if national parliaments mobilise more effectively for human rights. There would be a decreasing risk of domestic backlash and at the same time growth of legitimacy of the Court's decisions. Finally, a thicker communication with parliament procedures may reduce the level of conflict and improve the quality of deliberation in national parliaments in matters relating to human rights.

In “Mobilisation against International Human Rights: Re-domesticating the Dominican Citizenship Regime” (2016) (# 15), the author addresses the topic of the mobilisation of Dominican political elite against rulings of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights on citizenship and nationality for Dominican-Haitians. The article develops the notion of the pro-violation constituency. Thus, differently from the most common approach that is focused on the positive impact of the rulings of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the author was stressing the backlash of human rights.

To sum up, the pieces commented about the international human rights confirm dr. Marsteintredet as the renowned expert of the Dominican Republic and at the time show another important facet of his interest to complete the picture of this scholar.

#### [Fourth thematic area: Concepts and Methods \(attachment 16\)](#)

In “Coups with adjectives. Conceptual stretching and innovation in research and practice (2020) (#16), starting from an old interest of the leading author (dr. Marsteintredet), this article shows that the use of coups with adjectives has become more frequent in public and scholarly debates. However, at the same time, the coups have been becoming rarer. Building on this inconsistency, the author argue that this development is linked to a recurrent phenomenon in social sciences. When the actual occurrence of the phenomenon meant by the empirical concept becomes less

prevalent, the meaning of the concept is overstretched with the addition of adjectives. This is an instance of family resemblance structure. Although this strategy can avoid stretching and increase differentiation, the authors warn against harmful consequences, be they conceptual, theoretical, or practical.

This is a relevant, promising theoretical area the author might largely develop in next years.

There are at least two other broad and relevant thematic areas related to the Norwegian relations and perception of Latin America and to research on Academia and Norwegian political science with several contributions. However, no publications are attached.

### Concluding evaluation: summarised assessment of publications and research competence according to the qualification requirements

- 1) Scope: Out of the forty-seven academic publications, dr. Marsteintredet published twenty-five works as single author, two as a leading author and 20 as co-author. The balance between single-authored publications and co-authored ones demonstrates that the candidate is an independent, autonomous scholar, but at the same time, he well is integrated in national and international networks of scholars. Moreover, also not taking into consideration co-authored publications and the PhD-thesis, the number of publications is well beyond the range of 8-12 full-length journal articles listed as a requirement. To this, we can add that some of these publications are not articles but single-authored books (1) and edited books (4). In sum, the scope requirement is more than wholly fulfilled.
- 2) Quality: In addition to the forthcoming article to be published in *Political Studies*, dr. Marsteintredet published his works in some of the most highly considered journal, some of them with an impressive impact factor. They include *Comparative Politics*, *International Political Science Review*, *Journal of Democracy*, *Latin American Politics and Society*, *Journal of Latina American Studies*, *América Latina Hoy*. This is the most relevant indicator of quality as it is well known how severe the blind review process in these journals is. His publications present clear research questions framed in highly appropriate theoretical perspectives. The original data set dr. Marsteintredet built on the Presidential breakdowns



in Latina America is also an excellent example of methodological rigour complemented by a relevant, stringent statistical analysis.

- 3) Breadth: The thematic areas described above, with the addition of the specific sub-areas and methodologically varied studies, are very important sub-fields of political science. Moreover, the academic production of dr. Marsteintredet also displays the dominance of quantitative and different qualitative research technique. Hence, dr. Marsteintredet demonstrates the necessary breadth to qualify for professor promotion.
- 4) Independence and collaboration: As noted above, Marsteintredet's research profile represents a good balance between strong independence (twenty-five single-authored publications, plus two as leading co-author, out of forty-seven academic publication ) and collaboration (twenty co-authored publication). He takes an active part in national and high-level international research networks and demonstrates collaborative skills much needed today. Thus, he fully meets the double requirements of independence and collaboration.
- 5) Visibility: As dr. Marsteintredet has published in high quality, peer-reviewed international journals, as well as collaborating with renowned scholars in the field, in addition to participating to conferences delivering papers in international conferences, also organised by the leading international associations, the visibility of his research is unquestionable. His participation in international networks adds to his visibility.
- 6) Relevance: Marsteintredet's research focuses on classical themes in political science, like the effective working of top governmental institutions. He has been particularly active during the last five years with eleven publications, the relevant forthcoming article in *Political Studies* included. His research and publications are at the forefront of knowledge in his field. Moreover, the more recent focus also on methodological and conceptual topics show his intellectual growth in the years, and he can be important for a department regarding young colleagues and students at a different level of education. Thus, dr. Marsteintredet is an active and highly relevant scholar.

Summing up, the committee concludes that dr. Marsteinsstredet satisfies all the requirements listed in the guidelines and thus qualifies for promotion to professor.

Rome. Magdeburg, Oslo, 24. February, 2020



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