# Olivier Schmitt

**CURRICULUM VITAE**

*As of November 2026*

olsc@fak.dk · Institute for Military Operations, Royal Danish Defence College
Ryvangs Allé 1, DK-2100 Copenhagen, Denmark

## CURRENT POSITION

**Professor and Head of Research** 2025–present
Institute for Military Operations, Royal Danish Defence College

**Research Associate** 2023–present
RAND Europe

**Senior Associate Fellow** 2024–present
NATO Defence College

## PREVIOUS ACADEMIC POSITIONS

**Professor, Center for War Studies** 2024–2025
University of Southern Denmark (SDU)

**Professor (with special responsibilities)** 2019–2024
Department of political science, SDU

**Director of Research and Studies** 2020–2022
French Institute of Higher National Defence Studies (IHEDN) — secondment from SDU

**Director of the Center for War Studies** 2019–2020
SDU

**Associate professor** 2015–2019
Department of political science, SDU

**Post-doctoral research fellow** 2014–2015
Center for International Studies, University of Montreal

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Visiting professor** 2018
New York University, Program in International Relations

**Visiting professor** 2018
University Paris II – Panthéon Assas

**Visiting research fellow** 2013
Sciences Po - CERI

**Research analyst** 2011
International Institute for Strategic Studies

**Research assistant** 2009–2010
Geneva Center for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)

## EDUCATION

**PhD** 2010–2014
Department of War Studies, King's College London

**Master in International Affairs** 2008–2010
Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva

**BA and MA in Political Science** 2004–2009
Sciences Po Aix

## POLICY-MAKING EXPERIENCE

**Reserve officer** 2012–present
French Air and Space Force

**Desk officer** 2012–2013
Operations division (Afghanistan), NATO

**Desk officer for Germany and Central Europe** 2008
Policy Planning Staff, French Ministry of Defence

**Intern** 2006–2007
French military mission to Germany

## OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES

**Co-Scientific Advisor, Master in International Security** 2026–present
PSIA, Sciences Po

**Associate Editor** 2023–present
European Journal of International Security

**Scientific Board member** 2023–present
Defense Research Unit, French Institute for International Relations (IFRI)

**Associate Fellow** 2020–present
Network for Strategic Analysis (Canada)

**Scientific Board member** 2020–present
Strategic Research Institute of the École Militaire (IRSEM)

**Scientific Board member** 2019–present
French Association for War and Strategic Studies (AEGES)
- Vice-President and Scientific Director 2017–2019
- Founding Member and Secretary General 2015–2017

**Board member** 2017–present
European Initiative in Security Studies (EISS)

**Fellow** 2026
Young Strategists Forum, German Marshall Fund

**Vice-President** 2022–2025
"Security and Defense Network" (SECDEF), SDU

**Member** 2022–2025
Internal think-tank, faculty of business and social sciences, SDU

**Member** 2022–2024
"P5 Network on Strategic Stability"

**Scientific Board member** 2017–2020
NATO Science for Peace and Security Programme

**Editorial board member** of *Journal of Strategic Studies*, *Review of International Studies*, *Defense and Security Analysis*, *Les Champs de Mars*, *Vortex*, *Annuaire Français de Relations Internationales*, *Le Rubicon*, and the *Issues in Modern Warfare* book series (IB Tauris).

**Member** of the *International Studies Association*, *British International Studies Association*, *European International Studies Association*, and *Association Française de Science Politique*.

## AWARDS

**Henrik Enderlein Prize for excellence in the social sciences** 2026
Jointly awarded by the Hertie School and Sciences Po

**Marshall Foch Award for the best book in military sciences** 2025
Awarded by the Académie Française (French Academy)

**Admiral Castex Prize for the best article in Maritime Strategy** 2025
Awarded by IFRI and the French Navy

**Best Article Award** 2020
Journal International Affairs

**Best Article in Strategy Award** 2015
Conseil Supérieur de la Formation et de la Recherche Stratégique (CSFRS)

**Patricia Weitsman Award (best paper)** 2015
International Security Studies Section, International Studies Association

**Alexander George Award (best paper)** 2012
Foreign Policy Analysis Section, International Studies Association

## GRANTS

**Danish Industry Foundation** 2023–2026
*"Cybersecurity and Business Continuity"*. 8.5000.000 DKK (1.397.990 €). Co-PI (PI: Jan Stentoft)

**Independent Research Fund Denmark** 2021–2025
*"Beauty Contest: The Changing Politics of Foreign Investment in Europe"*. PI. 5.626.468 DKK (755.000 €)

**Independent Research Fund Denmark** 2018–2020
*"Learning from Afghanistan"*. PI. 1.222.000 DKK (164.000 €)

**Carlsberg Foundation** 2018–2021
*"Distinguished Associate Professor Fellowship"* for the project *"Transforming Armed Forces in the 21st Century"*. PI. 3.890.000 DKK (523.000 €)

**Independent Research Fund Denmark** 2018
*"Stay abroad" grant* for the research project *"Learning from Afghanistan"* . 212.037 DKK (28.500 €)

**Gerda Henkel Foundation** 2017–2019
Support for the research project *"Learning from Afghanistan"*. 28.000 €

**Eisenhower Fellowship** 2015
NATO Defence College *(declined)*

## PHD SUPERVISION

**Tanja Marie Hansen** Defended 2021
*"Explaining the Absence of Terrorist Claim-Making." Current position:* Assistant Professor, Aarhus University.

**Vicky Karyoti** Defended 2022
*"AI Integration in the Armed Forces: A Military Revolution?." Current position:* Assistant Professor, Royal Danish Defence College.

**Michael Gjerstad** Defended 2022
*"Russian Military Change in Ukraine and Syria." Current position:* Researcher, International Institute for Strategic Studies.

**Per Jacob Lindgaard** Defended 2023
*"Military Organizational Culture and Doctrinal Change." Current position:* Danish Ministry of Defence Acquisition and Logistics Organisation (DALO).

**Anna Vlasiuk Nibe** Defended 2024
*"The politics of Foreign Investment Screenings in Europe." Current position:* Assistant professor, University of Southern Denmark.

**Esben Larsen** Defended 2024
*"Planning for a new mission. Danish Military role conception in a changing strategic landscape." Current position:* Military researcher, Institute for Military Operations, Royal Danish Defence College.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### At the Royal Danish Defence College

- Core module on military operations (since 2025), MA

### At SDU

- Military Power (2024), MA
- Strategic foresight analysis (2024), MA
- International Security (2018 / 2020 / 2021 / 2023 / 2024), MA
- Geoeconomics and International Risks (2024), MA
- Governance and Strategic Decision-Making (2023 / 2024), MA
- International Organisations (2016 / 2017), MA
- Theories of International Relations (2015 / 2016), MA
- The Conduct of Contemporary Warfare (2016 / 2017), MA
- The Study of Contemporary Conflicts (2017 / 2019), MA

### At Paris-II

- Military Power (2021 / 2022), MA

### At University of Montreal

- Summer school on the analysis of contemporary conflicts (2016 / 2017), MA

### At Sciences Po

- Fundamentals of International Security (2025/2026), MA
- Theories of International Relations (2014), MA
- Contemporary Security Issues (2013 / 2014), BA

### At King's College London — Teaching Assistant

- The Causes of War (2011), BA
- The Art of War Studies (2010 / 2011), BA

## RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

"The Strategic Dilemma in Alliance Politics" (with Lotje Boswinkel)
*Status:* under review

"Strategic Culture and Operational Preferences: an Experiment through Wargaming" (with Jean-Francois Bélanger and Lauren Surkin)
*Status:* data collection in progress

"Assessing Deterrence at the Operational Level of War through AI-Enabled Simulations: the Case of the Integration of Nordic Air Forces" (with Jean-Francois Bélanger, Kenneth Payne and Baptiste Allouis-Cros)
*Status:* data collection in progress

"Assessing Military Operations: Epistemological and Methodological Challenges"
*Status:* data collection in progress