

ABOUT ME

Corneel (He/Him) holds two master's degrees in **Economics** and **European Studies**, with a focus on policy analysis, international relations, and diplomacy. He is currently a PhD candidate within IDEoPOP on the impacts of **populism** on diplomatic policymaking at **Sciences Po Paris** under the supervision of Professor Christian Lequesne and Professor Leslie Wehner. Passionate about the intersections of global governance, international relations, and democratic resilience, Corneel is eager to advance research that deepens our understanding of global political dynamics and policy impact.

WORK EXPERIENCE

2025 – CURRENT Paris, France
PHD CANDIDATE, IDEOPOP - MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE DOCTORAL NETWORK SCIENCES PO PARIS

1. Under the supervision of Professor **Christian Lequesne** (CERI) and Professor **Leslie Wehner** (University of Bath);
2. "The Populist Challenge to Diplomacy: Political Capture, Institutional Resistance, and Foreign Policy Adaptation";
3. Funded under the European Union's Horizon Europe – Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions – Doctoral Networks (MSCA-DN), IDEoPOP explores how populism intersects with both domestic and international politics and how it impacts international politics.

09/2024 – 11/2024 New York City, United States
ECONOMIC AFFAIRS INTERN, UN DESA UNITED NATIONS

- Overview:
1. **Scholarship** from the Flanders Trainee Programme;
 2. Conducted policy research and data analysis within the **Sustainable Development Office**;
 3. Supported meetings with industry partners, policymakers, and environmental organizations;
 4. Drafted briefings and facilitated communication on **climate, energy, and sustainability policies**.

- Skills developed:
1. Writing reports on **environmental and energy policies**;
 2. **Facilitating collaboration** on climate and regional development projects;
 3. Analyzing policy impacts on energy transition and sustainable finance;
 4. Communicating sustainable development objectives in an **international policy context**.

10/2022 – 12/2022 Brussels, Belgium
RESEARCH & INNOVATION ASSISTANT, DG RTD ECORYS

- Overview:
1. Analyzed sustainability and environmental indicators for European Commission projects;
 2. Contributed to **Green Deal** Call Projects, Sustainable Blue Economy Partnerships, European Research Area, and GRANULAR;
 3. Wrote reports on **EU sustainability policies, energy transition, and circular economy initiatives**.

- Skills developed:
1. **Assessing policy impacts** on climate, energy, and regional development;
 2. Writing proposals and policy recommendations;
 3. Collaborating with **international stakeholders on EU Green Deal projects**
 4. Managing multi-sector research projects under tight deadlines.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Rome, Italy
MASTER - MA, EUROPEAN STUDIES: EU INSTITUTIONS AND PUBLIC POLICY LUISS University - School of Government

Focus on Foreign Policy, Public Policy, EU Security, Energy Policy, and EU Law, with emphasis on democratic resilience, environmental governance, and EU development cooperation. Personal interest in global sustainability and EU-Global South relations.

Thesis: 'EU Democracy Promotion in the Middle-East: Why it is a failure' supervised by Prof. Dr. Yves Mény - **29/30**
Final Grade: 110/110

Focus on Economic Policy, Social Policy, Macroeconomics, Energy Policy, and Quantitative and Economic Analysis. Personal interest in environmental policies, development economics, and energy policy.

Thesis: 'What Influence Can We Expect from the European Green Deal on Migration Flows?' supervised by Prof. Dr. Ilse Ruysen - **16/20**

Final Grade: Cum Laude

MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP SKILLS

United Nations Youth Association

- 1. Organizing events with professors, diplomats, and experts to engage students in discussions about pressing global issues;
- 2. Advisor in 2023, President in 2021, Finance Deputy President of UNYA Flanders in 2020, Member since 2019;
- 3. Teamwork and leadership; Meeting deadlines; Planning and cooperating with busy individuals.

SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

Podcast about Decolonization in Ghent together with Global Minds Fund

- 1. Production of a high-quality podcast financed by Global Minds Fund under my supervision;
- 2. Engaged with activists, professors, and students to stimulate open conversation, placing our history in its current context.

Academic Network for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Policy

- 1. Organization of a yearly summer school called 'An Introduction to the Comprehensive Concept of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights';
- 2. Helping on the board with the selection procedure and general management.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Mother tongue(s): **DUTCH**

Other language(s):

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken production	Spoken interaction	
ENGLISH	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
FRENCH	B1	B2	B1	B1	B2
ITALIAN	A2	A2	A2	A2	A1
GERMAN	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1

DIGITAL SKILLS

Artificial Intelligence | Microsoft Office | Microsoft Excel -Basic Excel/ Advanced Excel Formulas | Java Basics | R-Studio Basics | Official Databases of the EU, EC, UN, World Bank, ... | Proficient with Adobe Lightroom

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Christian Lequesne - Sciences Po (CERI)

christian.lequesne@sciencespo.fr

Daniel Platz - UN DESA (FSDO)

platz@un.org

Haya Al-Ajlani - European Commission (DG RTD)

haya.al-ajlani@ugent.be