Robin Bartlett Rissi

01.24.1984 – US & Swiss citizen

Work Experience

07/2017 –today **Scientific collaborator, e-democracy research group (smartvote)**

- Project manager of smartvote International, an innovative online platform, which matches voters to candidates and parties that share their policy positions. Management of smartvote in Australia, Luxembourg, Tibet, among others.
- Project assistance with smartvote.ch und smartmonitor.ch (parliamentary monitoring).
- Activities: Project planning and implementation; web design, requirements engineering and web content management; and research in the fields of democracy, elections und civic education.

03/2012 –06/2017 **Freelance political advisor for diverse organizations**

- Mandate from the Swiss Association of the Deaf (SGB-FSS) for a position paper on sign language and deaf culture, including research, expert interviews and redaction.
- Mandate from WWF Switzerland for the project management of the national election campaign for 2015: Coordination of all communication activities: magazine article, website, newsletter. Management of the Ecorating (www.ecorating.ch), including the candidate questionnaire and parliamentary monitoring.
- Diverse mandates for lobbying activities at the Swiss parliament for the WWF, BirdLife, Pro Natura and Foundation for Landscape Protection.

08/2012 – 02/2015 **Project Assistant at Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation**

- Development, construction and content management of the website of the SDC Quality Assurance Section (www.poverty-wellbeing.net).
- Reorganization and content management of the website of the SDC Climate Change and Environment Network (www.sdc-climateandenvironment.net).

10/2011 – 3/2012 **Project Manager of Public Affairs at BirdLife Switzerland**

- Lobbying of Swiss biodiversity policy: analysis of thematic conflicts and actor's positions, as well as the identification of useful alliances, arguments and measures.
- Representation of BirdLife Switzerland in bodies of the Swiss government.
- Organization of the parliamentary intergroup "Biodiversity and Species Conservation".

3/2011 – 10/2011 **Substitute Director of Public Affairs at WWF Switzerland**

- Coordination and operative execution of political lobbying activities at the national level in environmental policies of importance to WWF.
- Development of strategies and measures in order to support national policy in the thematic areas biodiversity, climate and energy. Management of the public affairs division, including annual planning, staff management and finances.

11/2010 – 2/2011 **Intern in the Public Affairs Division at WWF Switzerland**

- Analysis and assessment of mandates and interest ties as well as voting behavior of members of parliament.
- Assistance in the development of fact sheets, preparation of lobbying activities, research of parliamentary initiatives as well as the completion of diverse requests.

12/2009 – 7/2010 **Intern at PeaceWomen Across the Globe Int'l Secretariat in Berne, Switzerland**

- Assistance in the composition of project concepts, proposals and reports, as well as in the support of various projects (e.g., "Ecological Security & Environmental Justice").

9/2008 – 9/2009 **Professor's Assistant at the Institute of Political Science, University of Bern**

- Assistance in the construction of a qualitative databank for the Swiss National Science Foundation financed research project "The Privatization of Welfare States: Industrial Relations as a Source of Benefits" with Prof. Dr. Christine Trampusch.
- Coordinator of the Mentoring Program at the Institute of Political Science.

EDUCATION

9/2007 – 11/2009 **Master of Arts at the University of Bern, Switzerland**

- Major in Political Science - Minor in Environmental Studies
- Participation the Mentoring Program at the Institute of Political Science (2007/08)

Master's Thesis: *Can Party Systems Explain the Fate of Post-Colonial Democracies? Party Fragmentation and Democratic Consolidation in Africa and Asia*

9/2004 - 9/2007 **Bachelor of Arts at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland**

- Major in Contemporary History - Minor in Political Science

Bachelor's Thesis: *Die Quarta Lingua: Geschichte der Verfassungsrevision des Sprachenartikels 1937/38 und deren Bedeutung für die Schweizer Nation* (The Fourth Language: History of the Constitutional Revision of the Language Article 1937/38 and its Relevance for the Swiss Nation)

9/2003 - 6/2004 **Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon, USA**

- Major in International Affairs - Minor in German

9/2002 – 7/2003 **Year Abroad with AFS (American Field Service) in Uttwil, Switzerland**

- Homestay and attendance of the Kantonsschule in Romanshorn, Switzerland

9/1999 - 6/2002 **High School at Proctor Academy in Andover, New Hampshire, USA**

- Recipient of the Marion Hatt Scholarship, which recognizes "*academic motivation, strength of character and community involvement*"

LANGUAGE SKILLS

English	Mother tongue, experience teaching, editing, and translating from German
German	Fluent verbal and written knowledge German language certificate from the Goethe Institute, level C2
Swiss German	Excellent oral comprehension and fluent speaking
French	Intermediate verbal and written knowledge

SOFT SKILLS

- Excellent working knowledge of MS-Office (Word, Excel and Power Point), Adobe Photoshop and web design (HTML, Typo3)
- Practical knowledge of negotiation techniques and rhetorical skills

EXTRACURRICULAR INTERESTS & ACTIVITIES

- Quartierleist Schönau-Sandrain, active participant since 2016
- American Women's Club of Berne, member and active participant since 2007
- Ethnopoly Bern, participant and volunteer since 2009
- Model United Nations of Berne 2008-2009, participation in GerMUN in Berlin, Germany (2/2009), and NMUN in New York, USA (4/2009)