

Paris, August 20th 2024

Léa Dousset, Meryl Merran and Anciane Vitoux reached out to Sciences Po in November 2020 with a detailed project proposal to establish a <u>new educational policy stream in our School of Public Affairs.</u>

The School of Public Affairs had already eleven policy streams (public administration, security and defense, energy, environment and sustainability, culture, global health, etc.), but none focused on education, despite it constituting the largest share of France's budget. In fact, Sciences Po had already thought of opening a policy stream in education but abandoned it at that time because they thought that there would not be enough employment opportunities for its graduates.

Léa, Meryl and Anciane thus undertook a wide employability study. They interviewed almost a hundred professionals working in education-related areas in France and abroad, who could be interested in hiring such graduates (ex: Edtech, public administration, international institutions, etc.).

They presented us with their promising results in Spring 2021 and initiated a collaboration with the Ministry of Education. It convinced us to launch an internal investigation to determine if our undergraduate students would be interested in such a new Master's policy stream and whether we had the resources to effectively open it. In the meantime, they suggested a very detailed and progressive syllabus. It both put forward a wide variety of courses (policy related, history and philosophy of education, as well as fieldwork or case-study with practitioners) and offered a range of innovative pedagogical practices.

In June 2023, the Conseil de l'Institut unanimously voted in favor of the opening of this new policy stream in the Fall 2024.

In Spring 2024, Léa Dousset and Meryl Merran participated in the evaluation of the applicants' files for the first cohort of this new educational policy stream policy in our School of Public Affairs.

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