

# Hendrik Erz

## PhD Candidate

Institute for Analytical Sociology (IAS)  
Linköping University

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## Contact

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## Research Interests

Political Sociology, Computational Social Science, Natural Language Processing, Computational Text Analysis, Sociology of Culture, Science of Science, Ethics of AI

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## Education

- Since 2020**     **PhD in Analytical Sociology, Linköping University**  
Working Title: **Policymaking in U.S. Congress: Evidence from a Century of Speech and Vote Behavior**  
Supervisors: Jacob Habinek (IAS, Linköping University), Étienne Ollion (CNRS, Paris)  
(expected: 2025)
- 2017**     M.A. in Sociology, University of Bonn
- 2014**     B.A. in History, University of Bonn (minor: Political Science)

## Extracurricular

- 2021**     Science of Science Summer School (S4)  
Syracuse University, New York, United States

## Employment

- Since 2020**     **Researcher in Analytical Sociology**  
Institute for Analytical Sociology (IAS)  
Linköping University
- 2019-20**     **Researcher in Machine Learning / Artificial Intelligence**  
Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy (IFSH)  
University of Hamburg
- 2017-19**     **Research Assistant Domestic Policy / Digitalization**  
Department for Political Science and Sociology  
University of Bonn

## Publications

### Manuscripts in Preparation (available upon request)

**Hendrik Erz.** Policymaking in Times of Crisis: Discursive Dynamics in U.S. Congress, 1960-1990.

**Hendrik Erz.** Vote Defection and Party Power in U.S. Congress: Modelling a Century of Speech and Vote Behavior, 1873-1989.

**Hendrik Erz.** Measuring Issue-Level Polarization in U.S. Congressional Discourse Using Topic Models and Community Detection. *Currently under review*

**Hendrik Erz,** Sebastian Giessler. Language Models from the Sweatshop? Helping Researchers Avoid Ethical and Legal Issues With Off-The-Shelf Software.

### Peer-Reviewed Articles

**2025** Manika Lamba, **Hendrik Erz** (2025). Thanking the World: Exploring gender-based differences in acknowledgment patterns and support systems in theses. *Data and Information Management* 100092. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dim.2024.100092>

Alexandra Dirksen, Sebastian Giessler, **Hendrik Erz**, Martin Johns, Tobias Fiebig (2025). Don't Patch the Researcher, Patch the Game: A Systematic Approach for Responsible Research via Federated Ethics Boards. *Proceedings of the New Security Paradigms Workshop*, 126–141. New York, NY, USA: Association for Computing Machinery. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3703465.3703475>

**2019** **Hendrik Erz** (2019). Der lange Schatten von Gustave Le Bon. Zum sprachlichen Einfluss der Crowd Science auf die Soziologie der Gewalt. *Soziologiemagazin* 2/2019, 71–88. <https://doi.org/10.3224/soz.v12i2.06>  
("The long shadow of Gustave Le Bon. On the linguistic influence of Crowd Science on the Sociology of Violence.")

### Book Chapters

**2018** **Hendrik Erz** (2018). Karl Marx und das digitale Zeitalter, in: Klasse, Kapital und Revolution. 200 Jahre Marx. Dietz, Bonn, pp. 145–156.

### Other Publications

**2023** **Hendrik Erz,** Anastasia Menshikova (2023). Text als Daten. Extraktion von Variablen mittels LSTM-Netzwerken. In: Paula-Irene Villa (ed.) 2023: *Polarisierte Welten. Verhandlungen des 41. Kongresses der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Soziologie 2022*. [https://publikationen.sozioologie.de/index.php/kongressband\\_2022/article/view/1693](https://publikationen.sozioologie.de/index.php/kongressband_2022/article/view/1693)  
("Text as Data. Variable Extraction via LSTM Networks")

**2020** **Hendrik Erz** (2020). Künstliche Intelligenz und Daten: Eine Evaluation software-basierter militärischer Informationsgewinnung (Research Report No. 4). IFSSH, Hamburg. [https://ifsh.de/file/publication/Research\\_Report/004/20200701\\_Research\\_Report\\_004.pdf](https://ifsh.de/file/publication/Research_Report/004/20200701_Research_Report_004.pdf) (accessed 07.01.21)  
("Artificial Intelligence and data: An evaluation of software-based military intelligence.")

**Hendrik Erz** (2020). Operative Porträts: eine Bildgeschichte der Identifizierbarkeit von Lavater bis Facebook. Von Roland Meyer. Review. Soziologiemagazin 2020, 75–81. <https://doi.org/10.3224/soz.v13i1.07>

**Hendrik Erz** (2020). The Status Quo is a Dystopian Nightmare. engagée 9, 20–25.

**2019** **Hendrik Erz** (2019). Neoliberalismus — Wie alles anfangt: Das Walter Lippmann Kolloquium. Review. Soziologieblog. <https://soziologieblog.hypotheses.org/12990> (accessed 10.23.19).

Andreas Schulz, **Hendrik Erz**, Veronika Riedl (2019). How to make a Soziologiemagazin. Soziologiemagazin 1/2019. <https://elibrary.utb.de/doi/pdf/10.3224/soz.v12i2.08> (accessed 07.01.21)

**2017** **Hendrik Erz** (2017). Zygmunt Bauman: Die Angst vor den anderen. Review. Widerspruch 70/2017, 164–168.

## Invited Talks

**2024** **Economic Policymaking in U.S. Congress**  
Institute for Social Science, Department for Computational Social Science  
University of Stuttgart, Germany

**Economic Policymaking in U.S. Congress**  
IAS Annual Spring Retreat, Kolmården, Sweden

**2023** **Polarization and Paradigm Shifts in US Congressional Economic Policymaking**  
IAS Text Analysis Research Group, Norrköping, Sweden

**2022** **Discursive Dynamics in Policymaking: Economic Policymaking in U.S. Congress**  
IAS Conference, Stockholm, Sweden

**2022** **Technological A11y: Zettlr Beyond the Code**  
Staatliche Hochschule für Gestaltung, Karlsruhe, Germany

## Conference and Workshop Presentations

**2025** **Vote Defection and Party Power in U.S. Congress**  
Joint Spring Conference of the methods sections of DGS and AS  
University of Leipzig, Germany

**2024** **Language Models from the Sweatshop? Helping Researchers Avoid Ethical and Legal Issues With Off-The-Shelf Software**  
Conference of the Nordic Sociological Association (NSA) 2024, Norrköping, Sweden (in session Pretrained models and sociology)

**Policymaking in Times of Crisis: Discursive Dynamics in U.S. Congress, 1960-1990**  
Conference of the American Sociological Association (ASA) 2024, Montréal, Canada

**Markets as actors: Congressional speech between regulation and market freedom**

Conference of the International Network of Analytical Sociologists (INAS), Leipzig, Germany

**Economic Policymaking in U.S. Congress** (Lightning Talk)

Swedish Conference on Computational Social Science, Uppsala, Sweden

**2023**

**Language Models from the Sweatshop? Towards Guidelines For CSS Researchers to Avoid Ethical and Legal Issues With Off-The-Shelf Software.** (Poster)

International Conference on Computational Social Sciences (IC2S2), Copenhagen, Denmark

**From Speeches to Bills: How do Discursive Dynamics Shape Policymaking in U.S. Congress?**

Conference of the International Network of Analytical Sociologists (INAS), Princeton, United States

**Taming Rogue Ethics: The Case for a Unified and Fair IRB Procedure**

STS-hub.de Conference, Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule (RWTH) Aachen, Germany

**Disentangling the Discourse on U.S. Economic Policymaking**

Textual Politics Conference, Sciences Po, Paris, France.

**2022**

**Text als Daten: Extraktion von Variablen mittels LSTM-Netzwerken**

Kongress der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Soziologie, Bielefeld, Germany.

**Extracting Agency from Textual Data Using LSTM Networks**

Conference of the International Network of Analytical Sociologists, Florence, Italy.

**2019**

**From Arab Spring to Gilets Jaunes: Riots and the annihilation of legality**

Historical Materialism Athens Conference, Greece.

**2017**

**Terrorismus und der War on Terror**

Master Thesis Presentation, Studentischer Soziologiekongress, TU Chemnitz, Germany.

## Teaching

**2022-2024**

**Digital Strategies for the Social Sciences**

M.Sc. program; Teaching Assistant; Linköping University

**2023**

**Summer Institute for Computational Social Sciences (SICSS)**

Lecture and workshop on Computational Text Analysis

**2021-2023**

**Logic of Social Inquiry**

M.Sc. program; Teaching Assistant; Linköping University

**2018-2019**

**Introduction to Political Science**

B.A. program; Teacher; University of Bonn

**2018**

**Scientific Writing**

B.A. program; Teacher; University of Bonn

- 2018**      **Introduction to Karl Marx' Capital (Reading Course)**  
B.A. program; Course Director; University of Bonn
- 2015**      **Tutorial: Methods for Quantitative Sociology**  
B.A. program; Teaching Assistant; University of Bonn

## Service

### Reviewer

- Since 2025**      Network Science
- Since 2018**      Soziologiemagazin

### Editorial Board Member

- 2020-2024**      Head of Editorial Board, Soziologiemagazin

### Organization and Organizational Assistance

- Since 2023**      Swedish Interdisciplinary Research School in Computational Social Science (SIRCSS), Norrköping, Sweden (with PI Jacob Habinek)
- Since 2022**      Website administration; International Network of Analytical Sociologists (INAS)
- 2025**      Chair for the International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2), Norrköping
- 2025**      Summer Institute in Computational Social Science (SICSS), Norrköping, Sweden (with PI Jacob Habinek)
- 2024**      Session Pretrained models and sociology: ethical, methodological, and theoretical considerations (at NSA 2024)
- 2023**      Summer Institute in Computational Social Science (SICSS), Norrköping, Sweden (with PI Jacob Habinek)
- 2022**      IAS PhD Retreat, Norrköping, Sweden
- 2021-2022**      IAS Salon (Institute Reading Group)
- 2021-2022**      PhD Representative, Institute for Analytical Sociology
- 2016**      Student Research Symposium, University of Bonn, Germany

## Supervision

- Co-Supervisor, M.Sc. thesis in CSS, Sophia Grill (2024)
- Co-Supervisor, M.Sc. thesis in CSS, Yiqiu Wang (2023)
- Co-Supervisor, M.Sc. thesis in CSS, Lijun Peng (2022)

## Memberships

- American Sociological Association (ASA);
- International Network of Analytical Sociologists (INAS)

## Academic Software

**Since 2017**      Zettlr (Project Maintainer)

**Since 2024**      Pandoc (Contributor)

## Languages

German (native), English (fluent, C1),  
Swedish (Moderate, B1), French (Moderate, A2)

## Programming Languages & Frameworks

**Scientific**      Python, R, Stata, matplotlib, numpy, pandas, PyTorch

**Front-End**      JavaScript/TypeScript, HTML, LESS/SCSS/CSS, Vue.js

**Back-End**      Node.js, PHP, Rust, C/C++