

Mohammad Mahdi Khesali

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March 14, 1990

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<https://mahdi-khesali.github.io/>

Work Experience

- **Research Associate**
Law and Economics Institute University Hamburg Since Mai. 2021
- **Research Associate**
Max Plank Institute for research on collective goods Oct. 2020 - April. 2024
- **Visiting Lecturer**
Brunel University London Spring Semester 2023
- **Research Assistant**
German Institute of Global and Area Studies Aug. 2019 - Sept. 2019
– Government Visits Project
- **Research Assistant**
Law and Economics Institute University Hamburg Jan 2019 - Sept. 2020
- **Internship**
Law and Economics Institute University Hamburg Jul. 2018 - Oct. 2018
- **Research Assistant**
Judiciary Research Institute Dec. 2015 - Dec. 2016
– Conducting research on IT law

Education

- **ETH Zürich**
Research stay Zürich, Switzerland
Sep. 2023 - Dec. 2023
- **Bonn University**
PhD. candidate in Law Bonn, Germany
Since Sep. 2020
- **Hamburg University**
PhD. candidate in Economics Hamburg, Germany
Since Sep. 2020
- **Leuphana University**
M.A Public Economics, Law and Politics Lüneburg, Germany
Oct. 2017 - Nov. 2019
- **Shahid Beheshti University**
B.A. Law Tehran, Iran
Oct. 2008 - Feb. 2013

Teaching Experience

- **Computational Social Science**
MPI for Research on Collective Goods Summer School 2025
- **Computational Social Science**
Institute for Law and Economics University Hamburg Summer School 2025

- **Contract Law and Public Law (level 1)**

Brunel University London

Spring Semester 2023

- **Public Choice**

Law and Economics Institute University Hamburg

Summer Semester 2021

- **Introduction to law and economics**

Leuphana University

2018-2020

Awards, Grants & Honours

Scholarship for Master by DAAD 2017

Ranked 532 in nationwide university entrance exam (top 0.1%) 2008

Computer Skills

- Statistical software
 - **Expert:** Python
 - **Expert:** R
 - **Intermediate:** STATA
- Programming languages
 - **Expert:** Python
 - **Expert:** R
- Data Management
 - **Intermediate:** SQL
- Basic knowledge
 - **Expert:** Microsoft Office

Language Skills

- English
 - **Fluent**
- German
 - **Fluent**
- Persian(Farsi)
 - **Native**

Work in Progress

- Khesali, Mahdi; Voigt, Stefan; von Jacobi, Nadia; *Culture Matters: On the Distal Determinants of the Rule of Law*
- Khesali, Mahdi; Voigt, Stefan; von Jacobi, Nadia; *Explaining the Change of Fundamental Values and Norms*
- Khesali, Mahdi; Voigt, Stefan; von Jacobi, Nadia; *Historic Moral Foundation Cast a Long Shadow - Insights From a Novel Folktale Dataset*

Working Paper

- Hermstrüwer, Yoan; Khesali, Mahdi (2025); *The Democracy Premium in Expressive Law*
- Khesali, Mahdi; Voigt, Stefan; von Jacobi, Nadia (2025); *Once Upon a Time: Introducing the Historical Values Survey*

Publications

- Journals
 - Bjørnskov, Christian; Voigt, Stefan; Khesali, Mahdi (2023); *Unconstitutional States of Emergency*; In: The Journal of legal Studies 52.2, pp. 455–481
 - Gutmann Jerg; Khesali, Mahdi; Voigt, Stefan (2021); *Constitutional Comprehensibility and the Coordination of Citizens: A test of the Weingast-hypothesis*; U. Chi. L. Rev. Online, 1

Conferences and Workshops

- **Conference on Economics of Digitization 2024** München
Once Upon a Time: Introducing the Historical Values Survey Oct. 2024
- **ASREC Europe** Thessaloniki
Once Upon a Time: Introducing the Historical Values Survey Sep. 2024
- **European Law and Economics** Berlin
Historic Moral Foundation Cast a Long Shadow Sep. 2023
- **European Empirical Legal Studies** Warsaw
Contract as Mirror of Image Sep. 2023
- **6th Monash-Warwick-Zurich Text-As-Data Workshop** Online
Historic Moral Foundation Cast a Long Shadow Sep. 2023
- **Silvapiana: Workshop in Political Economy** Pontresina
Doing It Right, Doing It Wrong Jul. 2023
- **Italian Law and Economics** Palermo
Historic Moral Foundation Cast a Long Shadow Dec. 2022
- **European Empirical Legal Studies** Amsterdam
Doing It Right, Doing It Wrong Sep. 2022
- **On the Crossroads of Law and Economics: Experimental Approaches** Rotterdam
Democracy versus Morality: An Experiment Jun. 2022
- **European Law and Economics** Online
Constitutional Comprehensibility and the Coordination of Citizens Sep. 2020