Hendrik Erz, PhD

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Research Interests

Political Sociology, Computational Social Science, Analytical Sociology, Computational Text Analysis/NLP, Legislative Debates, U.S. Congress, Science of Science, Ethics of AI

Education

2025   **PhD in Analytical Sociology, Linköping University**

On the Record: Understanding A Century of Congressional Lawmaking Through Speech and Vote Behavior
Supervisors: Jacob Habinek (IAS, Linköping), Étienne Ollion (CNRS, Paris)

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 2025   **Researcher in Analytical Sociology**
Institute for Analytical Sociology (IAS)
Linköping University

2020-25   **PhD Student 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. (Preprint available at SocArXiv: https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/fxrzk_v1)

Hendrik Erz. Brittle Parties? Dissent, Breaking Ranks, and Party Power in U.S. Congress.

Hendrik Erz. Think Alike, Talk Alike? Measuring Issue-Level Polarization in Congressional Speech Using Community Detection-Algorithms. (*Under review*)

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

Alexandra Dirksen, Sebastian Giessler, **Hendrik Erz**. Ethics in Computer Science and Security Research.

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

2024   Alexandra Dirksen, Sebastian Giessler, **Hendrik Erz**, Martin Johns, Tobias Fiebig (2024). 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."*)

Books and Book Chapters

2025   **Hendrik Erz** (2025). On the Record: Understanding a Century of Congressional Lawmaking through Speech and Vote Behavior. Linköping University Press. https://doi.org/10.3384/9789181182828

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.soziologie.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 softwarebasierter militärischer Informationsgewinnung (Research Report No. 4). IFSH, Hamburg. 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 anfing: 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

2025   **Vote Defection and Party Pressure in U.S. Congress: Evidence from a Century of Vote and Speech Behavior**
IAS Annual Spring Retreat, Kolmården, Sweden

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 Pressure in U.S. Congress**
International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2)
Norrköping, Sweden

    Vote Defection and Party Power in U.S. Congress
Conference of the International Network of Analytical Sociologists (INAS)
Columbia University, New York, USA

    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

2025	**Python Workshop**
	M.Sc. program; Lecturer; Linköping University
	Full-day custom workshop with lecture parts introducing set-up, syntax, data analysis, and text classification with BERT

	Summer Institute in Computational Social Science (SICSS)
	Lecture and workshop in ethics for CSS
	Lecture and workshop in Computational Text Analysis
Since 2024	**Behavioral Mechanisms in the Social Sciences**
	M.Sc. program; Lecturer (course director: Rodrigo Martínez Peña); Linköping University
Since 2022	**Digital Strategies for the Social Sciences**
	M.Sc. program; Teaching Assistant (2022-2024) and Course Director (Since 2025); Linköping University
2023	**Summer Institute in Computational Social Science (SICSS)**
	Lecture and workshop in 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 and newsletter; International Network of Analytical Sociologists (INAS)
2025	Program Chair, 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 Instititute 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)
German Sociological Association (DGS)

Referees

Prof. Dr. Marc Keuschnigg, University of Leipzig, Germany
Prof. Dr. Jacob Habinek, Linköping University, Sweden
Prof. Dr. Étienne Ollion, École Polytechnique, Paris, France
Prof. Dr. Peter Hedström, Linköping University, Sweden

Academic Software

Since 2017	Zettlr (Project Maintainer)
Since 2024	Pandoc (Contributor)

Languages

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

Programming Languages & Frameworks

Scientific	Python, R, Stata, matplotlib, numpy, pandas, PyTorch, Slurm (HPC)
Frontend	JavaScript/TypeScript, HTML/CSS, Vue.js
Backend	Node.js, PHP, Rust, C/C++, Bash/ZSH, SQL