

# Hendrik Erz, PhD

## Researcher

Institute for Analytical Sociology (IAS)  
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## Contact

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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

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## 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](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.sozilogie.de/index.php/kongressband\\_2022/article/view/1693](https://publikationen.sozilogie.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](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

- 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 Policy-making**  
 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**      **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)

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| <b>2024</b>      | Session Pretrained models and sociology: ethical, methodological, and theoretical considerations (at NSA 2024) |
| <b>2023</b>      | Summer Institute in Computational Social Science (SICSS), Norrköping, Sweden (with PI Jacob Habinek)           |
| <b>2022</b>      | IAS PhD Retreat, Norrköping, Sweden  |
| <b>2021-2022</b> | IAS Salon (Institute Reading Group)  |
| <b>2021-2022</b> | PhD Representative, Institute for Analytical Sociology   |
| <b>2016</b>      | 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)

## Referees

Prof. Dr. Marc Keuschnigg  
Prof. Dr. Jacob Habinek  
Prof. Dr. Étienne Ollion  
Prof. Dr. Peter Hedström

## Academic Software

**Since 2017** Zettlr (Project Maintainer)

**Since 2024** Pandoc (Contributor)

## Languages

German (native), English (fluent, C1),  
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