

Niklas Karl Hänze

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Education

- 2022 – … ■ **PhD Candidate** at the University of Konstanz
Graduate School of the Social and Behavioral Sciences
Committee: Gabriele Spilker (*University of Konstanz*), Nils B. Weidmann (*University of Konstanz*), Jonas Vestby (*Peace Research Institute Oslo*)
Thesis title: *Between Vulnerability and Adaptation: The Political Dimensions of Environmental Risk*
- 2020 – 2022 ■ **Master of Arts** in Politics and Public Administration with specialization in International Relations and European Integration (grade: 1.2)
University of Konstanz, Department of Politics and Public Administration
Thesis: *Reversing the Causal Arrow: The Nexus Between Armed Conflict and Natural Disasters*
- 2017 – 2020 ■ **Bachelor of Arts** in Political Science and Economics (grade: 1.3)
Osnabrück University, Institute of Social Sciences
Thesis: *The Impact of Droughts on the Political Trust in Africa*.
- 2015 – 2017 ■ **Law School** (passed the intermediate examination)
Albert-Ludwigs-University of Freiburg
- 2015 ■ **Abitur** (General Higher Qualification for University Entrance)
Reformschule Kassel and Jacob-Grimm-Gymnasium Kassel

Publications

Journal Articles

- [1] Niklas Hänze and Viktoria Jansesberger, “Does climate adaptation aid reach those most in need? Sub-national evidence from Philippine provinces,” *Political Geography*, vol. 125, p. 103 450, Mar. 2026, ISSN: 0962-6298. DOI: 10.1016/j.polgeo.2025.103450.
- [2] Tim Wegenast, Niklas Hänze, and Roos Haer, “Women’s empowerment and climate adaptation: Does joint land ownership promote food security of households facing extreme weather events in Tanzania?” *Africa Spectrum (conditionally accepted)*, 2026.
- [3] Niklas Hänze, “When conflict becomes calamity: Understanding the role of armed conflict dynamics in natural disasters,” *Journal of Peace Research*, vol. 62, no. 4, pp. 1030–1045, 2025. DOI: 10.1177/00223433241265028.
- [4] Tim Wegenast, Niklas Hänze, Roos Haer, and Marcel Birulés, “The effect of traditional agricultural practices on the food consumption of households facing extreme weather events in Tanzania,” *Agriculture & Food Security*, vol. 13, no. 1, p. 56, 2024. DOI: 10.1186/s40066-024-00512-1.
- [5] Alexander De Juan and Niklas Hänze, “Climate and cohesion: The effects of droughts on intra-ethnic and inter-ethnic trust,” *Journal of Peace Research*, vol. 58, no. 1, pp. 151–167, 2021. DOI: 10.1177/0022343320974096.

Select Works in Progress

- [1] **Niklas Hänze**, "How natural disaster shape political institutions: Evidence from earthquakes and income tax introductions," *Under review*.
- [2] William Favell and **Niklas Häenze**, "Social trust in a changing climate: The dual impact of environmental and conflict stressors," *Draft available*.
- [3] **Niklas Häenze**, Viktoria Jansesberger, and Gabriele Spilker, "Localized disparities in climate finance: The sub-national allocation of mitigation and adaptation funds in least developed countries," *Draft available at peio.me*.
- [4] Austin Beacham and **Niklas Häenze**, "Protecting against nature by protecting nature: Evidence from Europe on natural disasters and conservation," *Draft available*.

Professional Experience

- 10/2022 – █ **Independent Doctoral Fellow** at the Cluster of Excellence *The Politics of Inequality* at the University of Konstanz
- 02/2025 – 04/2025 █ **Visiting Researcher** at the *Peace Research Institute Oslo* (PRIO)
- 07/2021 – 03/2022 █ **Research Assistant** for Dr. Tim Wegenast at the Chair of International Politics at the University of Konstanz
 - Preprocessing and analyzing spatial datasets
- 01/2021 – 07/2021 █ **Research Assistant** at the Cluster of Excellence *The Politics of Inequality* in the project *Perceptions of Inequality in a Socialist Dictatorship: Evidence from the German Democratic Republic* at the University of Konstanz
 - Systematic development of a coding scheme and coding of petitions of GDR citizens
- 04/2019 – 03/2020 █ **Research Assistant** for Prof. Dr. Alexander De Juan at the Chair of Comparative Politics at Osnabrück University
 - Preprocessing, cleaning, and analyzing various complex datasets
- 10/2019 – 12/2019 █ **Research Internship** at the GIGA German Institute of Global and Area Studies for two months
 - Developing a research proposal for a joint project with the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research to the German Research Foundation about climate change and armed conflict

Teaching Experience

- 09/2025 - 12/2025 █ *Climate Change and (Spatial) Inequality*
Bachelor and Master Seminar
University of Lucerne
Evaluation: 3.9/4
- 09/2024 - 12/2024 █ *Climate Change and (Spatial) Inequality*
Master Seminar
University of Lucerne
Evaluation: 3.5/4

Teaching Experience (continued)

- 02/2024 – 02/2024 ─ *Applied Data Management for Social Scientists*
KOMEX Course Tutorial
University of Konstanz

- 10/2021 - 04/2022 ─ *International Relations and European Integration*
Bachelor Tutorial
University of Konstanz

- 04/2019 - 09/2019 ─ *Methods of Empirical Social Science Research*
Bachelor Tutorial
Osnabrück University

Additional Academic Training

- Summer 2024 ─ Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM) Summer Institute
At Emory University, Atlanta

Awards

- ─ **In_equality ECR Excellence Award 2024** by the Cluster of Excellence *The Politics of Inequality* for the article "When conflict becomes calamity: Understanding the role of armed conflict dynamics in natural disasters"
- ─ **Christiane-Rajewsky-Price 2023** by the German Association for Peace and Conflict Studies for the master thesis titled "Reversing the Causal Arrow: The Nexus Between Armed Conflict and Natural Disasters"

Service to the Discipline

- ─ Representative of the Early Career Researchers of the Cluster of Excellence *The Politics of Inequality* (year 2026)
- ─ Reviewer for: *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *Global and Planetary Change*

Conference Participations

- January 2026 ─ **The Political Economy of International Organization (PEIO)** 18th Annual Conference: Paper presentation
- ─ **Annual Conference of the Swiss Political Science Association (SPSA)**: Paper presentation
- June 2025 ─ **Environmental Politics and Governance (EPG)** 11th Annual Conference: Paper presentation

Conference Participations (continued)

- May 2025 └ **Climate, Conflict and Inequality Workshop** with the *POLIMPACT* project from the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) and the University of Konstanz: Paper presentation
- └ **Virtual Workshop in Historical Political Economy. Annual Virtual Conference**: Paper presentation
- April 2025 └ **CENTREPEACE Junior Scholar Symposium** at the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO): Paper presentation
- January 2025 └ **The Political Economy of International Organization (PEIO) 17th Annual Conference**: Poster presentation
- September 2024 └ **Deutsche Vereinigung für Politikwissenschaft (DVPW) Kongress**: Paper presentation
- June 2024 └ **Environmental Politics and Governance (EPG) 10th Annual Conference**: Poster presentation
- └ **In_equality Conference** Poster presentation
- └ **International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Convention**: Paper presentation
- June 2023 └ **European Political Science Association (EPSA) 13th Annual Conference**: Paper presentation
- March 2023 └ **Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Friedens- und Konfliktforschung (AFK) Award Ceremony**

Research Interests

- └ Political determinants and consequences of environmental impacts
- └ Armed conflict and climate change, international climate finance, social trust
- └ Quantitative methods, causal inference, spatial analysis

Skills

- Software └ R (Excellent knowledge)
 Stata (Excellent knowledge)
 Latex (Excellent knowledge)
 Microsoft Office (Excellent knowledge)
 QGIS (Proficient knowledge)
- Languages └ English and German (Fluent)
 French (Proficient knowledge)