

# Niklas Karl Hänze

🏠 University of Konstanz, Cluster of Excellence *Politics of Inequality*,

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🌐 Website

🔗 Google Scholar

## Education

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- 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

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### 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] **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.
- [3] 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.
- [4] 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] 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?” *Revise and resubmit.*

- [2] **Niklas Hänze**, “How natural disaster shape political institutions: Evidence from earthquakes and income tax introductions,” *Under review*.
- [3] William Favell and **Niklas Hänze**, “Social trust in a changing climate: The dual impact of environmental and conflict stressors,” *Draft available*.
- [4] **Niklas Hänze**, 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*.
- [5] Austin Beacham and **Niklas Hänze**, “Protecting against nature by protecting nature: Evidence from Europe on natural disasters and conservation,” *Draft available*.


## Professional Experience

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- 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

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- 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)

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- 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

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



## Awards

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-  **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"

## Servive to the Discipline

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-  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

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- 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)

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

## Research Interests

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

## Skills

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| Software  | ■ R (Excellent knowledge)<br>Stata (Excellent knowledge)<br>Latex (Excellent knowledge)<br>Microsoft Office (Excellent knowledge)<br>QGIS (Proficient knowledge) |
| Languages | ■ English and German (Fluent)<br>French (Proficient knowledge)   |

## Letters of Recommendation

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Letters of recommendation can be provided by:

**Prof. Dr. Gabriele Spilker**

University of Konstanz

✉ [gabriele.spilker@uni-konstanz.de](mailto:gabriele.spilker@uni-konstanz.de)

**Prof. Dr. Nils Weidmann**

University of Konstanz

✉ [nils.weidmann@uni-konstanz.de](mailto:nils.weidmann@uni-konstanz.de)

**Jonas Vestby, PhD**

Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO)

✉ [jonves@prio.org](mailto:jonves@prio.org)