

Niklas Karl Hänze

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

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🌐 Website

🔍 Google Scholar

🆔 ORCID

Professional Experience

- 01/2026 – 📌 **Postdoctoral Researcher** at the Chair *International Politics - Global Inequality* and the Cluster of Excellence *The Politics of Inequality* at the University of Konstanz
- 10/2022 – 12/2025 📌 **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)



Education

- 2022 – 2026 📌 **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: *Between Vulnerability and Adaptation: The Political Dimensions of Environmental Risk*
All referee reports received, grade: "excellent (o.o)" (summa cum laude); defense will be held on March 24th 2026
- 2024 📌 **EITM (Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models) Summer Institute** at Emory University, Atlanta
- 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

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] William Favell and **Niklas Hänze**, “Social trust in a changing climate: The dual impact of environmental and conflict stressors,” *Under review*.
- [2] **Niklas Hänze**, “How natural disaster shape political institutions: Evidence from earthquakes and income tax introductions,” *Under review*.
- [3] **Niklas Hänze** and William Favell, “Unequal adaptation: The compounding effect of conflict on climate inequality,” *Working paper*.
- [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*.

Teaching Experience

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| 09/2025 - 12/2025 |  <i>Climate Change and (Spatial) Inequality</i>
Bachelor and Master Seminar
University of Lucerne
<i>Evaluation: 3.9/4</i> |
| 09/2024 - 12/2024 |  <i>Climate Change and (Spatial) Inequality</i>
Master Seminar
University of Lucerne
<i>Evaluation: 3.5/4</i> |
| 02/2024 – 02/2024 |  <i>Applied Data Management for Social Scientists</i>
Course Tutorial (PhD level)
University of Konstanz |
| 10/2021 - 04/2022 |  <i>International Relations and European Integration</i>
Course Tutorial (Bachelor level)
University of Konstanz |
| 04/2019 - 09/2019 |  <i>Methods of Empirical Social Science Research</i>
Course Tutorial (Bachelor level)
Osnabrück University |



Additional Professional Experience

- 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




Additional Professional Experience (continued)

- 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

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-Award 2023** by the *German Association for Peace and Conflict Studies* (Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Friedens- und Konfliktforschung) for the master thesis titled "Reversing the causal arrow: The nexus between armed conflict and natural disasters"

Services to the Discipline

-  Representative of the Early Career Researchers of the Cluster of Excellence *The Politics of Inequality* (year 2026)
-  Co-organizer of the weekly PhD Brown Bag Seminar of the Department of Politics and Public Administration and the Cluster of Excellence *The Politics of Inequality*
-  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)

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| May 2025 | ■ Climate, Conflict and Inequality Workshop with the <i>POLIMPACT</i> 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) (German Political Science Association) Kongress: Paper presentation |
| June 2024 | ■ Environmental Politics and Governance (EPG) 10th Annual Conference: Poster presentation |
| April 2024 | ■ 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) (German Association for Peace and Conflict Research) Annual colloquium |

Research Interests

- Security implications of climate change and international climate finance
- Political determinants and consequences of environmental impacts
- Causal inference, quantitative methods, spatial analysis

Skills

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