

# SUKAYNA YOUNGER-KHAN

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Comparative Politics, Science of Science, Political Psychology ·  
Computational Methods, Natural Language Processing, Experiments

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

<i>Cluster of Excellence Politics of Inequality</i>	<i>Oct 2022–2026</i>	Doctoral Fellow, UNIVERSITY OF KONSTANZ
		PhD candidate in Politics & Public Administration. Research area: Science, academia and information systems in comparative contexts. Methods: NLP, networks, digital trace data, and survey experiments.
<i>College of Social Sciences</i>	<i>Sep–Oct 2026</i>	Visiting Doctoral Fellow, UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW
		Situated in the research group led by Prof. Anja Neundorf.
<i>WZB Social Science Center Berlin</i>	<i>Jun 2021–Oct 2022</i>	Research Fellow, GLOBAL GOVERNANCE UNIT
		Project researcher for 'Towards a Typology of Contestations' project at Cluster of Excellence SCRIPTS. Trained named entity recognition models; conducted sentiment analysis, latent factor analysis, k-means clustering for data mining.
<i>ACLED Event Data Project</i>	<i>May–Dec 2020</i>	Researcher, SOCIAL MOVEMENTS TEAM
		Extracted and coded event data following real-time activity reports for BLM protests in the US. R, Alteryx for data management; Tableau for analysis and visualisation.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

<i>University of Konstanz</i>	<i>Feb 2026</i>	Teaching Assistant, KOMEX
		PhD/Early Career · Finetuning LLMs; AI Assisted Text Analysis · Lecturer: Seraphine MAERZ
<i>University of Konstanz</i>	<i>Sep 2024–Apr 2025</i>	Lecturer, ACADEMIA IN AUTOCRACIES
		Advanced BA · Co-lecturer: Nils B. WEIDMANN
<i>Hertie School of Governance</i>	<i>Sep-Dec 2021</i>	Teaching Assistant, ADVANCED STATISTICS
		MA/MSc · Supervisor: Svanhildur THORVALDSOTTIR
<i>University of Essex</i>	<i>2019–2021</i>	Teaching Fellow, LAW, POLITICS & IR
		BA level · Courses: Conflict & Cooperation; Scientific Reasoning (full list on request) · Learning Advisor, Applied Learning Committee & Project Leader

## EDUCATION

<i>PhD Candidate</i>	<i>Oct 2022–26</i>	University of Konstanz
		In progress · Comparative Politics, Interdisciplinary, Computational Methods Working title: "Under Pressure: A New Age of Science in Non-Democracies" · Committee: Nils B. WEIDMANN; David GARCIA; Anja NEUNDORF
<i>Master of Science Conflict Resolution</i>	<i>Dec 2020</i>	University of Essex
		Distinction · Conflict Studies, Computational Methods Thesis: "How to Lose Friends and Alienate People: A Network Analysis of Cooperation and Conflict between Non-State Armed Groups in Yemen" · Supervisor: Philip LEIFELD · Examiner: Kristian Skrede GLEDITSCH
<i>Master of Laws International Law</i>	<i>Jan 2019</i>	University of Sussex
		Distinction · Empirical Legal Studies, Law of Armed Conflict Supervisor: Dr Edward GUNTRIP

<i>Bachelor of Laws</i>	<i>Jun 2017</i>	Cardiff University First Class Honours · Dean's Honour Roll 2014, 2015 Exchange at INTI International University Malaysia (2013-15)
<b>PUBLICATIONS &amp; WORKING PAPERS</b>		
<i>Publications</i>		Younger-Khan, S. Mapping patterns of trust in science and scientists. (2026) <i>Current Opinion in Psychology</i> . <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/">https://doi.org/10.1016/</a> Younger-Khan, S., Weidmann, N.B., Oswald, L. Consistent effects of science and scientist characteristics on public trust across political regimes. (2024) <i>Humanit Soc Sci Commun</i> 11, 1379. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1057/s41599-024-03909-2">https://doi.org/10.1057/s41599-024-03909-2</a>
<i>Under Review</i>		Younger-Khan, S. Exposure to indoctrination in schools and innovation performance: Evidence from 147 countries (2025) Younger-Khan, S. Cheap Talk? Political Rhetoric and Science Policy of Authoritarian Leaders (2025)
<i>Working Papers</i>		Younger-Khan, S. Navigating Instability: How Do Political Transitions Reshape Scientific Collaboration? (2026) Younger-Khan, S., Weiss, R. Constructing the typology of contestations: A methodology (2022). <i>SCRIPTS Working Paper Series No. 17.</i>
<i>Preprints</i>		Younger-Khan, S. Salient cleavages, tactical cooperation and violence between armed groups in Yemen. (2022) <i>Sage Advance Preprints</i> . <a href="https://advance.sagepub.com/doi/10.31124/advance.21623526.v1">https://advance.sagepub.com/doi/10.31124/advance.21623526.v1</a>
<b>AWARDS AND PARTICIPATION</b>		
<i>Awards</i>		Feb 2025 · Outgoing Doctoral Fellowship · Cluster Politics of Inequality Feb 2025 · Konstanzia MEiN Fellowship · University of Konstanz Jun 2022 · WZB Conference Grant · 12th Annual EPSA Conference 2022 Mar 2022 · UCL Travel Grant · UCL Conflict and Change Annual Workshop Feb 2022 · Fellowship Grant · ECPR Methods Winter School Jun 2021 · Fellowship Grant · Essex Summer School in Social Science Analysis Jul 2020 · Scholarship · Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis
<i>Scholarships</i>		2019-20 · Academic Excellence Masters Scholarship · University of Essex 2018-19 · School of Law Award for Best Performance · University of Sussex 2017-18 · Chancellor's Masters Scholarship · University of Sussex 2013-15 · INTI-Laureate Merit Scholarship · Joint Award from Cardiff University & INTI International University, Malaysia
<i>Conferences, Talks and Workshops</i>		Jan 2026 · Paper presentation; Swiss Political Science Association Annual Congress, University of Zurich Nov 2025 · Paper presentation; Comparative Politics and Policy Cluster, University of Glasgow Jun 2025 · Paper presentation; 15th Annual EPSA Conference 2025, Madrid Jun 2025 · Programme committee, 5th Workshop on Computational Linguistics for Political and Social Sciences at KONVENS 2025, Hildesheim Apr 2025 · Paper presentation, 7th Annual COMPTEXT Conference 2025, University of Vienna Oct 2024 · Paper presentation; panel discussant, Methods in Conflict Research, AfK Methods Workshop at Fragile Lives Conference, Humboldt-University Berlin Sept 2024 · Paper presentation; programme committee, 4th Workshop on Computational Linguistics for Political and Social Sciences at KONVENS 2024, University of Vienna Jul 2024 · Paper presentation, Panel: Trust in Institutions, 14th Annual EPSA Conference 2024, Cologne Jun 2024 · Invited talk, Social Data Laboratory Seminar Series, University of Bremen Jun 2024 · Paper presentation, Bike & Talk Tour (w/ Nils B. Weidmann), Kassel and Göttingen Apr 2024 · Paper presentation, Mitgliederversammlung der Sektion Methoden der Politikwissenschaft der Deutschen Vereinigung für Politische Wissenschaft (DVPW), Bamberg Oct 2023 · Paper presentation, Panel: Survey experiments in inequality research: climate-income-scientists, Fall Academy "Challenging Inequalities II" 2023 May 2023 · Paper presentation, Disinformation Working Group, Clemson University Jun 2022 · Paper presentation, Panel: Identity & Civil Conflict, 12th Annual EPSA Conference 2022, Prague Mar 2022 · Paper presentation, Panel: Micro-Dynamics of Conflict, 4th Conflict and Change PhD Workshop, University College London

<i>Science Communication</i>	Oct 2021 · Speaker, 1st Methods in Network Science Workshop, Women in Network Science Sep 2021 · Paper presentation, 5th Workshop on Conflict Dynamics, Nuffield College University of Oxford and University of Mannheim (online) Feb 2021 · Participant, 3rd Conflict and Change PhD Workshop, University College London (online)
	Jun 2022 · Lead organiser for SCRIPTS Exhibition "Information Crisis in Modern Democracy" in collaboration with Data Politics Lab, HIIG, Weizenbaum Institute, Der goldene Aluhut, Correctiv

#### METHODS TRAINING

<i>KOMEX Workshops</i>	Jan 2024 · Social Data Science with Python · University of KONSTANZ
<i>WPM Summer School</i>	Jul 2023 · Women in Political Methodology · University of BASEL
<i>Radboud Summer School</i>	Jul 2023 · Complexity methods for Behavioral Science: A Toolbox for Studying Change · Fred HASSELMAN
<i>ASPP Essex Summer School</i>	Sept 2022 · 16th Advanced Scientific Programming in Python Summer School · Bilbao, Spain
<i>ECPR Winter School Dynamics Research Group</i>	Aug 2021 · Advanced Methods for Text as Data: Natural Language Processing · Burt MONROE
<i>Data Science Summer School</i>	Jul 2020 · Intro to Network Analysis; Advanced Network Analysis · Filip AGNEESSENS
	Feb 2022 · Machine Learning with Big Data for Social Scientists · Akitaka MATSUO
	Nov 2021 · Online Experiments using OTree · Amalia ALVAREZ-BENJUMEA
	Jul 2021 · Research Design & Causal Analysis with R · Julian SCHUESSLER
	Experimental Designs & Experimental Methodology · Libby JENKE
	Natural Language Processing: Text Classification & Topic Modelling · Dirk Hovy

#### TECHNICAL SKILLS

<i>Proficient</i>	PYTHON, R, SQL, BASH, L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X, Computing: Google Cloud, Amazon AWS, GitHub/GitLab, Software: Qualtrics
<i>Intermediate</i>	JAVASCRIPT, HTML/CSS, OTree, Tableau

#### PROFESSIONAL PARTICIPATION

<i>Memberships</i>	COMPTEXT · PONYClub Network of Women in Political Science · SwissNLP · European Political Science Association (EPSA) · Society for Political Methodology (PolMETH) · Conflict Research Society (CRA) · Royal Statistical Society (RSS)
<i>Professional Service</i>	Co-organiser, Women in Stats; Co-organiser, Cluster ECR Retreat 2023; Representative, WZB Flexible Funding Committee & Guest Visitor Committee; Chairperson, UEIC Equality and Diversity Committee; Representative, Kaplan LGBTQIA+ Company Network; UNESCO Policy Lab Expert (Civic Education)
<i>Reviewing</i>	Reviewer/Committee for COMPTEXT, KONVENS, AfK Methods Workshop · Perspectives on Politics, Frontiers in Psychology, Humanities and Social Science Communications

#### OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

<i>Legal Practice</i>	Jun-Jan 2019 · Legal Advisor, Triangle, Brighton Feb-Dec 2018 · Legal Advisor, Citizens Advice Bureau, Brighton May-Dec 2017 · Legal Advisor, The Personal Support Unit, Cardiff Mar-Apr 2017 · Mini-Pupil, One Crown Office Row Chambers, Brighton Feb-May 2016 · Paralegal, Chooi & Company/Messrs Thomas Philip, Malaysia
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#### REFERENCES

<i>Academic</i>	Prof Nils Weidmann, Professor of Political Science, University of Konstanz · <a href="mailto:nils.weidmann@uni-konstanz.de">nils.weidmann@uni-konstanz.de</a> Prof Philip Leifeld, Professor in Social Statistics, University of Manchester · <a href="mailto:philip.leifeld@manchester.ac.uk">philip.leifeld@manchester.ac.uk</a>
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