

THERESE ANDERS

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Updated May 2020

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Hertie School, Berlin

2019–2020

Postdoctoral research fellow | data scientist

Academic coordinator of the SCRIPTS Data and Methodology Center

Research fellow at the Hertie School Data Science Lab

EDUCATION

University of Southern California, Los Angeles

2020

Ph.D. in Political Science and International Relations

Dissertation *Perspectives on state capacity and the political geography of conflict* uses computational methods to understand spatial and temporal dynamics of actor behavior in conflict zones (Chair: Patrick James)

Methodology certificate (2015): Completion of courses in advanced statistical analysis, research design, causal inference, data visualization, introductory and advanced machine learning, Python programming

University of Southern California, Los Angeles

2015

M.A. in Economics

Freie Universität Berlin, Germany

2013

Diplom Degree in Political Science (B.A. and M.A. equivalent)

Duke University, Durham

2010–2011

Non-degree exchange program

Universidad CEU Cardenal Herrera, Valencia, Spain

2010

Non-degree exchange program

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed articles

- [1] Territorial control in civil wars: Theory and measurement using machine learning. In *Journal of Peace Research*. Forthcoming.
 - Winner of Kenneth Boulding Award (International Studies Association Peace Studies Section 2019)
- [2] Bread before guns or butter. Introducing Surplus Domestic Product (with Christopher Fariss and Jonathan Markowitz). In *International Studies Quarterly*. 2020.
- [3] Deportation, Crime, and Victimization (with Sandra Rozo and Steven Raphael). In *Journal of Population Economics*. Conditionally accepted.
 - Nominated for Juan Luis Londoño Prize (Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association meeting 2017)
- [4] *Moral Hazard: German Public Opinion on the Greek Debt Crisis* (with Brian Rathbun and Kathleen Powers). In *Political Psychology* 40(3). 2019.

Book chapters

- [5] "In Defeat, Defiance": Churchill in Words (1935–1939) and in Deeds (1940) (with Brian Rathbun). In *Reasoning of State: Realists, Romantics and Rationality in International Relations*. Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press. 2019.

Conference proceedings

- [6] Measuring territorial control in civil wars using Hidden Markov Models: A data informatics-based approach (with Hong Xu, Cheng Cheng, and T. K. Satish Kumar). In *Proceedings of the NIPS 2017 Workshop on Machine Learning for the Developing World*. 2017.

UNPUBLISHED MANUSCRIPTS

Under review

- [1] New Estimates of Over 500 Years of Historic GDP and Population Data (with Christopher Fariss and Jonathan Markowitz). Revise & resubmit at *Journal of Conflict Resolution*.

Working papers

- [3] How does Insecurity Affect Government Welfare Spending? Insights from Colombian Municipalities.
[4] Estimating conflict exposure from event data.
[5] Strategic compassion: The determinants of international emergency aid after natural disasters (with Thomas Jamieson).
[6] Measuring Power Projection (with Jonathan Markowitz, Megan Becker, Jacob Tucker, and Lauren Cholakian).

AWARDS

2020 Nominated for Ph.D. Achievement Award, USC

2019 Kenneth E. Boulding Award for best student paper, ISA Peace Studies Section

2017 Best Graduate Student Paper Award, ISA West Conference

2015 Essay Competition Winner, USC Center for International Studies

2015 Best Graduate Student Paper Award, ISA West Conference

TEACHING

Director of Research and Training	USC Security and Political Economy (SPEC) Lab
Developed curriculum for data science training of graduate & undergraduate RAs	2016–2017

Participant in instructor training	RStudio
Data science pedagogy for diverse student groups	July 2019

As instructor

Data Science Workshop Series for faculty and postdoctoral fellows	Hertie School
Co-organizer & instructor	Jan–May 2020

Advanced data visualization in R for Ph.D. students	Summer Methods School, Florida State University
3 four-hour sessions	May 2019

Math and quantitative methods for social science Ph.D. students	USC
Four-day course	Aug 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016

Introduction to \LaTeX for Ph.D. students <i>Two-hour workshop</i>	USC Feb 2018, Apr 2016
Maps in R for Ph.D. students <i>Two-hour workshop</i>	USC Apr 2017
Data visualization in R <i>2 two-hour lecture & lab series</i>	USC Apr 2017
Data management in R <i>6 two-hour lecture & lab series</i>	USC Fall 2016
Introduction to R <i>2 two-hour sessions & lab series</i>	USC Mar 2016
As teaching assistant	
Math and quantitative methods for social science Ph.D. students <i>Four-day course</i>	USC Aug 2015

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2020 AWS Cloud Credits for Research (\$10,000)
 2020 Hertie School Faculty Activity Fund (~\$4,000, with Julian Wucherpfennig)
 2019 USC Graduate School Summer Research and Writing Grant (\$5,000)
 2018 USC CIS Graduate Student Research Grant (\$1,000, with Thomas Jamieson)
 2018 PolMeth XXXV National Science Foundation (NSF) travel grant
 2018 Visions in Methodology (VIM) NSF conference participation travel grant
 2017 Peace Science Society travel grant
 2017 APSA travel grant
 2017 ISA travel grant
 2013–2018 USC Winifred Greenleaf Allen Fellowship (tuition and stipend)
 2013–2018 USC Dornsife Doctoral Fellow stipend
 2013 McGill Graduate Excellence Fellowship (declined).
 2012 Internship grant by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)
 2010–2011 Fellowship by Freie Universität Berlin and Duke University (tuition and stipend)
 2010–2011 Scholarship by the DAAD (stipend)
 2010–2011 Ernst-Reuter Fellowship of the Ernst-Reuter Society of the FU Berlin (stipend)
 2010 Fulbright Travel Grant (declined)

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

New Faces in Political Methodology XI Conference (Penn State University)	2019
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CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

rstudio::conf	2020
Society for Political Methodology (PolMeth) Europe meeting	2020 ¹
International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Convention	2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 ¹
Society for Political Methodology (PolMeth) Annual Meeting	2018
Peace Science Society International North American Meeting	2017, 2018
American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting	2017, 2018, 2019
USC Center for International Studies Working Paper Series	2018
Neural Information Processing Systems Workshop <i>Machine Learning for the Developing World</i>	2017
ISA West Annual Meeting	2014, 2015, 2016, 2017
USC Conference <i>Political Economy and Power Projection</i>	2016

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

RStudio <i>Software engineering intern</i>	May–Aug 2019 <i>Remote</i>
Developed open source software solutions for peer review in data science classes via the <code>ghclass</code> R package.	
Research Center SFB 700 “Governance in Areas of Limited Statehood” <i>Student Assistant to the Management</i>	2011–2013 <i>Berlin, Germany</i>
Managed the center’s professional and academic development program for doctoral students. Organized presentations, receptions, and workshops in the U.S. and Germany.	
German Embassy <i>Intern, Political Department</i>	Summer 2012 <i>Washington D.C., USA</i>
Wrote policy briefs for embassy staff.	
German Council on Foreign Relations <i>Intern, Transatlantic Relations Program</i>	Spring 2012 <i>Berlin, Germany</i>
Authored policy reports and press analyses. Conducted data base management.	
Deutscher Bundestag (German Parliament) <i>Student Assistant to Member of Parliament</i>	2008–2009 <i>Berlin, Germany</i>
Authored policy dossiers and press reviews.	

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant to Jonathan Markowitz (USC Center for International Studies)	2016–2019
Research Assistant to Brian Rathbun (USC Center for International Studies)	2014–2015
Research Assistant to Stacy Smith (USC Annenberg Inclusion Initiative)	2014

¹Conference canceled due to Covid-19.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

PSS Workshop “Measuring and Conceptualizing Rebel Governance” <i>Invited participant</i>	Kansas State University Nov 2019
Visions in Methodology (VIM) conference <i>Invited participant</i>	Ohio State University May 2018
Dornsife Ph.D. Academy <i>Invited panelist</i>	USC Nov 2018, Sep 2018

SERVICE

Executive Board Student Representative for ISA West (2015–2017)
Discussant, APSA panel “Territorial Control and Conflict Dynamics in Civil Wars” (August 2018)
Discussant, USC conference “The Political Economy of Security” (January 2018)
Discussant, USC CIS Working Paper Series (October 2018, November 2017, February 2016, September 2015, April 2015)
Ad hoc reviewer for *Foreign Policy Analysis*

SOFTWARE

R	Statistical modeling Machine learning Data wrangling (tidyverse) Advanced data visualization (ggplot2) Spatial analysis (sf) Bayesian modeling (rstan) Natural language processing Web scraping Package development & functional programming Panel data analysis Forecasting
Large scale computing	High-Performance Computing (USC) Amazon Web Services Elastic Compute Cloud RStudio Cloud
Stata	Data management, analysis, and visualization
Python	Text analytics, data management (pandas), SQLite
Other	L ^A T _E X Adobe Illustrator Tableau

LANGUAGES

German (native), English (excellent), Spanish (intermediate), French (basic)

REFERENCES

Pablo Barberá

Research Scientist, Facebook Core Data Science

Assistant Professor, School of International Relations, University of Southern California

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Professional Educator and Data Scientist, RStudio

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