

VIOLETA INES HAAS

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

10/24 - today **Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse (IAST)**

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Institution: Toulouse School of Economics (TSE)

10/24 - today **Humboldt Governance Lab (Humboldt GovLab)**

Affiliated Researcher

Institution: Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

EDUCATION

09/21 - 09/24 **The Dynamics of Demography, Democratic Processes and Public Policy**
Doctorate (Dr. phil.) in Political Science (summa cum laude)

Title: Illiberal Politics in Contemporary Democracies: Electoral, Institutional, and Behavioral Consequences

Committee: Heike Klüver (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin), Mark A. Kayser (Hertie School), Rafaela M. Dancygier (Princeton University)

02/23 - 05/23 **Princeton University**

Visiting Researcher

Sponsor: Rafaela M. Dancygier

Institution: The Mamdouha S. Bobst Center for Peace and Justice

Initiative: Initiatives on Contemporary European Affairs (ICEA)

04/19 - 08/21 **Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin**

M.A. Social Sciences

Final Grade (German): 1.0 ("A")

10/14 - 03/19 **Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin**

B.A. Social Sciences

Final Grade (German): 1.0 ("A")

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research focuses on the **political economy of crime and discrimination**, examining how legal reforms and state actors impact public perceptions of and behavior toward marginalized groups.

JOB MARKET PAPER

Panic at the Courtroom: Can Legislative Action against Discrimination in Court Reduce Violence?

Can legislative measures against discrimination in court reduce bias-motivated behavior? This study examines the impact of criminal code reforms that prohibit the LGBTQ+ “panic” defense, a legal strategy that attributes a defendant’s violent actions to a victim’s sexual orientation or gender identity, on the incidence of hate crimes. I argue that such reforms operate through two mechanisms: first, by increasing the material costs of engaging in bias-motivated violence through heightened legal sanctions, and second, by signaling institutional disapproval of violence as a means of enforcing heteronormative and masculinist norms. To assess the causal effect of these reforms, I exploit the staggered adoption of LGBTQ+ “panic” defense bans across US states and employ a difference-in-differences design. The findings indicate that states implementing bans experience a significant reduction in anti-LGBTQ+ hate crimes. This study advances scholarship on minority rights, policy feedback, and the criminal justice system by demonstrating how legal reforms shape social norms and constrain bias-driven violence. The results also have direct implications for policymakers and advocates seeking to mitigate hate crimes through judicial and legislative interventions.

- Selected presentations: EPSA, MPSA, TxECW, CESS, NPBW
- Target journals: British Journal of Criminology; The American Journal of Political Science

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Haas, V. I., Bogatyrev, K., Abou-Chadi, T., Klüver, H., & Stoetzer, L. (2025). The Electoral Effects of State-Sponsored Anti-LGBTQ Measures. *Conditionally Accepted at The Journal of Politics*, https://doi.org/10.31219/osf.io/wvnbr_v3

Haas, V. I., Stoetzer, L. F., Schleiter, P., & Klüver, H. (2023). Can wedge strategies by mainstream parties cross-cut the anti-immigration far right vote?. *Electoral Studies*, 83, 102617. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.electstud.2023.102617>

WORKING PAPERS & WORK IN PROGRESS

1. *The Police as Gatekeepers of Information: Immigration Salience and Selective Crime Reporting*
with Ashrakat Elshehawy, Arun Frey, Sascha Riaz, and Tobias Roemer
 - Draft available upon request
 - Target journal: American Political Science Review
2. *Beyond Persuasion: Protest’s Direct Behavioral Impact on Bystanders*
with Daniel Bischof, Ferdinand Geissler, Johannes Giesecke, Felix Hartmann, Macartan Humphreys, Heike Klüver, Lukas Stötzer, and Tim Wappenhans
 - Pre-print: <https://doi.org/10.31219/osf.io/42s8e>
 - Target Journals: Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences

3. *Electoral Responses to Local Cooperations with Radical-Right Parties*
with Phillip Heyna, Hanno Hilbig, Tim Wappenhans
 - Draft available upon request
 - Target journals: The Journal of Politics; British Journal of Political Science
4. *How Good Ancestors Make Good Citizens: Norm Legacies and the Activation of Civic Virtue*
with Mirko Wegemann
 - Early work in progress
 - Registered Report to be submitted to: Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences

TEACHING EXPERIENCE & SUPERVISION

06/25	Inclusion/exclusion in the political sphere: suffrage extensions and quotas Institution: Toulouse Summer School in Quantitative Social Sciences Position: Instructor for student presentations and discussion
02/25 & 01/26	Guest Lecture: Introduction to Large Language Models in Social Sciences Institution: Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin Position: Guest Lecturer
10/23 - 03/24	Hate in Context: Investigating Contextual Drivers of Bias-Motivated Crime Institution: Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin Position: Lecturer Syllabus: here
10/22 - 03/23	Comparative Politics and International Relations Institution: Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin Position: Lecturer Student Evaluation: overall assesment 4/4 (average of other lecturers: 3.8)
10/15 - 03/19	Statistics I & II Institution: Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin Position: Teaching Assistant
10/16 - 11/16	Orientation Days for First-Year Students Institution: Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin Course: Introduction to the Techniques of Scientific Work Position: Teaching Assistant

Supervision:

- Co-supervisor. Bachelor's Thesis. Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. 2025.

GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

- **Fellowship Summer School for Women in Political Methodology**
Organization: University of Basel
Type: Full tuition costs and accommodation
- **Faculty Award for Good Teaching (2nd place)**
Organization: Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Type: Teaching Grant

- **Enrollment and Student Health Care Fee Grant**
Organization: The Mamdouha S. Bobst Center for Peace and Justice
Type: Research stay at Princeton University
- **Department Young Scholar Grant**
Organization: Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Type: Visa and travel costs for research stay
- **Erasmus+ Staff Training Mobility Grant**
Sending Organization: Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Receiving Organization: Central European University (CEU), Budapest
Type: ECPR Summer School in Methods and Techniques fees

ACADEMIC WORK EXPERIENCE

01/20 - 08/21	Editorial Assistant, The Journal of Politics (JOP) Field: Comparative Political Behaviour
09/19 - 08/21	Research Assistant, Cluster of Excellence "Contestations of the Liberal Script" Institution: Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin Project: "Social Inequalities, Migration and the Rise of Populist Parties"
10/18 - 08/19	Research Assistant, Chair of Comparative Political Behavior Institution: Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
02/16 - 06/16	Research Assistant, Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP) Institution: German Institute for Economic Research (DIW) Field: Empirical Migration and Integration Research
10/15 - 03/19	Research & Teaching Assistant, Chair of Empirical Social Research Institution: Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin Courses: Statistics I & Statistics II

SERVICES TO THE PROFESSION

(Co-)Organizer of:

- *General Seminar Speaker Series at IAST 2025/2026 ([programme](#))*
- *Workshop on the Political Economy of Autocratic Rule & Democratic Backsliding at IAST, 2025 ([programme](#))*
- *The Queer Politics Webinar (terms: 2023/24, 2024/25, and 2025/26)*
- *The Empirical Political Science in Progress (EPSIP) Colloquium at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin 2021/2022*

Mentor for:

- *The EPSA LGBTQ+ Mentorship Program*

Reviewer for:

- *The Journal of Politics, The European Journal of Political Research, European Political Science Review, Electoral Studies, and the Swiss Political Science Review*

INVITED TALKS

- *Mannheimer Zentrum für Europäische Sozialforschung (MZES) Speaker Series, Fall 2025*
- *Progressive Politics Research Network Workshop, Fall 2025*
- *Fritz Thyssen Stiftung Workshop “Bridging Boundaries: Advancing Gender and Politics through Quantitative Methods,” Spring 2025*
- *Zurich Workshop “Representation in Divided Democracies,” Spring 2025*
- *EUI Political Behaviour Colloquium, Fall 2023*
- *Queer Politics Webinar, Spring 2023*

CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

26 - 28/06/25	28th IPSA World Congress of Political Science
26 - 28/06/25	15th Annual Conference of the European Political Science Association (EPSA)
23 - 25/10/24	Nordic Political Behavior Workshop (NPBW)
24 - 27/09/24	29th Conference of the German Political Science Association (DVPW)
04 - 06/07/24	14th Annual Conference of the European Political Science Association (EPSA)
15 - 26/05/24	Interdisciplinary Workshop on Identity and Politics
21 - 24/06/23	13th Annual Conference of the European Political Science Association (EPSA)
13 - 16/04/23	80th Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)
24 - 25/02/23	Texas Economics of Crime Workshop (TxECW)
03 - 04/03/23	Rebecca B. Morton Conference on Experimental Social Science (CESS)
14 - 15/07/22	OX/BER Workshop on Political Behaviour and Comparative Political Economy
23 - 26/06/22	12th Annual Conference of the European Political Science Association (EPSA)
21 - 22/04/22	European Graduate Network Conference (EGNC)
05/11/21	WZB Workshop - The Rise of Grassroots Radicalism and its Political Effects

SUMMER SCHOOLS & TRAINING

16 - 22/07/23	Summer School for Women in Political Methodology 2023 Courses: Function and packages in R, Advanced Graphics in R, Web-Scraping, Text Analysis, Word Embeddings, Images as Data
20/07/23	Image Analysis
25- 26/11/22	Advances in the Difference-in-Differences Design
07/22 - 08/22	Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis Course: Causal Inference and Experiments in the Social Sciences
12/11/22	Survey Experiments (Online Workshop)
10/11/22	Online Experiments (Online Workshop)
15 - 17/09/22	Spatial Data Analysis (Online Workshop)
07/19 - 08/19	ECPR Summer School in Methods and Techniques Courses: Introduction and Advanced Quantitative Text Analysis

SKILLS

Language Skills	German (native) Spanish (native) English (fluent) French (conversational)
Computing Skills	R (advanced) STATA (advanced) Python (advanced) \LaTeX (advanced)