Julian Walterskirchen

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PhD Student, Department of Political Science, University of Gothenburg

Research interests

Conflict and Security Studies, International Relations, quantitative methods, international military cooperation, conflict prediction, natural language processing, machine learning, counter-terrorism, and the prevention of violent extremism.

Employment

Sep. 2024 - ongoing PhD Student
Department of Political Science, University of Gothenburg.

Jan. 2024 - Aug. 2024 Research Associate
Center for Crisis Early Warning, University of the Bundeswehr, Munich. *"Providing scientific support modelling conflicts and crises early warning for the German Federal Foreign Office's PREVIEW Data Science Team"*. Director: Prof. Dr. Carlo Masala.

Sep. 2021 - Dec. 2023 Research Associate
Center for Crisis Early Warning, University of the Bundeswehr, Munich. *"Integrating unstructured data sources to improve crisis early warning models"*. Director: Prof. Dr. Carlo Masala.

Mar. 2021 - Sep. 2021 Research Associate
Crisis Early Warning - IT Support, Center for Intelligence and Security Studies (CISS), University of the German Federal Armed Forces. *"Validation of computer-assisted methods to improve crisis early warning models"*. Project manager: Prof. Dr. Carlo Masala.

Mar. 2019 - Feb. 2021 Research Assistant
Department of Political Science of the University of Innsbruck - OeNB funded project. *"Sanction dynamics in the cases of North Korea, Iran and Russia: Objectives, Measures and Effects"*. Supervised by Prof. Dr. Gerhard Mangott.

Apr. 2018 - Jan. 2019 Prevention of Violent Extremism (PVE) Consultant
United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, New York City.

Sept. 2017 - Feb. 2018 Political Affairs Intern
United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, New York City.

Education

Sep. 2024 - ongoing PhD Student
Department of Political Science, University of Gothenburg.

Oct. 2016 - Dec. 2017 M.Sc. International Relations, University of Essex
Thesis supervision: Prof. Dr. Kristian S. Gleditsch. Graduated with distinction.

Oct. 2012 - Jun. 2016 B.A. Political Science, University of Innsbruck
Thesis supervision: Prof. Dr. Gerhard Mangott.

Publications

Peer-reviewed

2023 Introducing an Interpretable Deep Learning Approach to Domain-Specific Dictionary Creation: A Use Case for Conflict Prediction. *Political Analysis*. Co-authored with Sonja Häffner, Maximilian Nagl, and Martin Hofer.

2019 A Cross-National Analysis of Forced Population Resettlement in Counterinsurgency Campaigns. *Peace Economics, Peace Science and Public Policy.* 26 (1). Co-authored with Tobias Böhmelt, Christoph Dworschak, and Ulrich Pilster.

Monographs

2022 Sanction dynamics in the cases of North Korea, Iran and Russia: Objectives, Measures and Effects. *SpringerBriefs in International Relations*. Co-authored with Gerhard Mangott and Clara Wend.

Papers under review

Under review - "Text as Data for Crisis-Early Warning: A Comparative Assessment of NLP Methods for Conflict Prediction". Co-authored with Sonja Häffner. PREPRINT: https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/4mbzn

Under review - "The 2023/24 VIEWS Prediction Challenge: Predicting the Number of Fatalities in Armed Conflict, with Uncertainty". Co-authored with Håvard Hegre, Paola Vesco, Michael Colaresi, Jonas Vestby, et al. PREPRINT: https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2407.11045

Under review - "Taking time seriously: Predicting conflict fatalities using temporal fusion transformers". Co-authored with Christian Oswald, Sonja Häffner, and Marco N. Binetti. PREPRINT: https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/7xu93

Under review - "Mass Reproducibility and Replicability: A New Hope". Co-authored with Brodeur, Abel, Derek Mikola, and Nikolai Cook, et al. PREPRINT: https://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4790780

Working papers

In progress - "Friend or Foe: Using Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis to Measure Relations between Member States at the UN General Assembly". Co-authored with Sonja Häffner.

In progress - "The night before or the morning after: Coup risk, failed coup attempts, and minister removals in autocracies". Co-authored with Christian Oswald, Sonja Häffner, Marco N. Binetti, and Christoph Dworschak.

In progress - "The Impact of Sanctions Imposition Coordination: A Time-Varying Measure of EU and US Sanctions Coordination in the Cases of Russia, Iran, and North Korea" Co-authored with Sonja Häffner.

Replication reports

In progress - "Computational and Robustness Reproducibility of *UN Peacekeeping and Democratization in Conflict-Affected Countries*". Co-authored with Christian Oswald. https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/7k2vz

In progress - "Replication of The Morning After: Report from the Nottingham Replication Games". Co-authored with Christian Oswald, Sonja Häffner, Marco N. Binetti, and Christoph Dworschak. https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/a2d5p

Training

Summer Schools

Aug. 2021 - University of Essex Summer School in Social Science and Data Analysis: Advanced Machine Learning For Social Scientists taught by Reto Wüest.

Aug. 2017 - University of Essex Summer School in Social Science and Data Analysis: Agent Based Models taught by Darren Schreiber.

Jul. 2017 - University of Essex Summer School in Social Science and Data Analysis: Data Visualization taught by Richard Traunmüller.

Teaching

University of Innsbruck, Department of Political Science

Winter semester 2020/21 - 402010 PS Applied Methods of Social Sciences.

Summer semester 2020 - 402024 PS Statistics: Statistics for Social Sciences using R.

Winter semester 2019/20 - 402022 PS Statistics: Statistics for Social Sciences using R.

Conferences & Workshops

Conferences

Oct. 2023 - Center for Crisis Early Warning Symposium 2023, Munich, Germany.

Jun. 2023 - European Peace Science Conference (NEPS), Bologna, Italy.

May 2023 - Computational Text Analysis (COMPTEXT), Glasgow, UK.

May 2022 - Computational Text Analysis (COMPTEXT), Dublin, Ireland.

Aug. 2020 - European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR), online.

Jun. 2017 - European Peace Science Conference (NEPS), Antwerp, Belgium.

Workshops

Oct. 2023 - Workshop "2023/24 VIEWS prediction challenge", Berlin, Germany.

Sep. 2023 - Workshop "Empirical Research on Peace and Conflict" (AFK Methoden), Munich, Germany.

Sep. 2022 - Workshop "Empirical Research on Peace and Conflict" (AFK Methoden), Sandbjerg, Denmark.

Jul. 2017 - Workshop "Political, Economic, Social, and Legal Aspects of Hosting Migrants and Refugees", Bahçeşehir University, Istanbul, Turkey.

Referees

Kristian S. Gleditsch - University of Essex, MSc supervisor.

Tobias Böhmelt - University of Essex, Instructor and co-author.

Christoph Dworschak - University of York, Co-author.