

# Viktoria Spaiser

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## Education

04/09-11/13	<a href="#">UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES TRIER</a> GERMAN DIPLOMA in Computer Science (distant studies)	TRIER, GERMANY
04/09-11/12	<a href="#">BIELEFELD GRADUATE SCHOOL IN HISTORY AND SOCIOLOGY,</a> <a href="#">BIELEFELD UNIVERSITY</a> PHD in Sociology	BIELEFELD, GERMANY
09/07-09/08	<a href="#">KING'S COLLEGE LONDON</a> MA in Conflict, Security and Development	LONDON, UK
10/02-03/07	<a href="#">WESTPHALIAN WILHELMS UNIVERSITY</a> MAGISTER in Social Anthropology, Sociology and Psychology	MÜNSTER, GERMANY

## Employment

07/20-	<a href="#">SCHOOL OF POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS</a> Associate Professor in Sustainability Research and Computational Social Science	LEEDS, UK
08/15-06/20	<a href="#">SCHOOL OF POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS</a> University Academic Fellow (tenure-track) in Political Science Informatics October 2017–March 2018 on maternity leave	LEEDS, UK
09/14-07/15	<a href="#">DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, UPPSALA UNIVERSITY</a> Postdoctoral Researcher	UPPSALA, SWEDEN
09/12-08/14	<a href="#">INSTITUTE FOR FUTURES STUDIES</a> Postdoctoral Researcher	STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN
03/12-05/12	<a href="#">ETH ZÜRICH (SWISS FEDERAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY)</a> <a href="#">PROFESSORSHIP OF COMPUTATIONAL SOCIAL SCIENCE</a> Visiting Researcher	ZÜRICH, SWITZERLAND
11/08-12/10	<a href="#">INSTITUTE FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH ON CONFLICT AND VIOLENCE, BIELEFELD UNIVERSITY</a> Research Assistant	BIELEFELD, GERMANY

## Publications

### Peer-reviewed journal papers

- 2023 N NISBETT & V SPAISER. How convincing are AI-generated moral arguments for climate action? *Frontiers in Climate*, 5, 1193350 [DOI]
- 2023 N NISBETT & V SPAISER. Moral Power of Youth Activists – Transforming International Climate Politics? *Global Environmental Change*, 82, 102717 [DOI]
- 2022 V SPAISER, N NISBETT & C STEFAN. “How dare you?” - The normative challenge posed by Fridays for Future. *PLoS Climate*, 1(10), e0000053 [DOI]
- 2021 D UNDZENAS, K DUNN & V SPAISER. Re-examining the EU Referendum vote: right-wing authoritarianism and social dominance orientation as indirect trait-level motivation. *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties*, AHEAD-OF-PRINT [DOI]
- 2019 V SPAISER, D LUZZATTI & A GREGORIOU. Advancing sustainability: Using Smartphones to Study Environmental Behaviour in a Field-Experimental Setup. *Data Science. Methods, Infrastructure and Applications*, 2(1-2), 277-290 [DOI]
- 2019 V SPAISER, K SCOTT, A OWEN & R HOLLAND. Consumption-based accounting of CO2 emissions in the Sustainable Development Goals Agenda. *International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology*, 26(4), 282-289 [DOI]
- 2019 M ASHER, C LESTON-BANDEIRA & V SPAISER. Do Parliamentary Debates of e-Petitions Enhance Public Engagement With Parliament? An Analysis of Twitter Conversations. *Policy & Internet*, 11(2), 149-171 [DOI]
- 2018 RP MANN, V SPAISER, L HEDMAN & DJT SUMPTER. Choice Modelling with Gaussian Processes in the Social Sciences: A Case Study of Neighbourhood Choice in Stockholm. *PLoS ONE*, 13(11), e0206687 [DOI]
- 2018 M ROMENSKYY, V SPAISER, T IHLE & V LOBASKIN. Polarized Ukraine 2014: Opinion and Territorial Split Demonstrated with the Bounded Confidence XY Model, Parametrized by Twitter Data. *Royal Society Open Science*, 5, 171935. [DOI]
- 2018 I FAZEY, N SCHÄPKE, G CAIGLIA ... V SPAISER ... & C WYBORN. Ten essentials for action-oriented and second order energy transitions, transformations and climate change research. *Energy Research & Social Sciences*, 40, 54-70. [DOI]
- 2018 V SPAISER, P HEDSTRÖM, S RANGANATHAN, K JANSSON, MK NORDVIK & DJT SUMPTER. Identifying Complex Dynamics in Social Systems: New Methodological Approach Applied to Study School Segregation. *Sociological Methods & Research*, 47(2), 103-135. [DOI]
- 2017 V SPAISER, T CHADEFAUX, K DONNAY, F RUSSMANN & D HELBING. Communication Power Struggles on Social Media: A Case Study of the 2011-12 Russian Protests. *Journal of Information Technology & Politics*, 14(2), 132-153. [DOI]
- 2017 V SPAISER, S RANGANATHAN, R BALI SWAIN, & DJT SUMPTER. The Sustainable Development Oxymoron: Quantifying and Modelling the Incompatibility of Sustainable Development Goals. *International Journal of Sustainable Development & World Ecology*, 24(6), 457-470. [DOI]
- 2016 V SPAISER & DJT SUMPTER. Revising the Human Development Sequence Theory using an Agent-Based Approach and Data. *Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation* 19(3),

1. [DOI]

- 2015 S RANGANATHAN, SC NICOLIS, V SPAISER, & DJT SUMPTER. Understanding Democracy and Development Traps using a Data-driven Approach. *Big Data* 3(1), 22-33. [DOI]
- 2014 V SPAISER, S RANGANATHAN, RP MANN & DJT SUMPTER. The Dynamics of Democracy, Development and Cultural Values. *PLoS ONE* 9(6). [DOI]
- 2014 S RANGANATHAN, V SPAISER, RP MANN & DJT SUMPTER. Bayesian Dynamical System Modelling in the Social Sciences. *PLoS ONE*, 9(1). [DOI]
- 2013 V SPAISER. Young Immigrants' Internet Political Participation in Germany. Comparing German East Europeans and German Turks. *International Journal of E-Politics*, 4(1), 1-17. [DOI]
- 2012 V SPAISER. Empowerment or democratic divide? Internet-based Political Participation of Young Immigrants and Young Natives in Germany. *Information Polity*, 17(2), 115-127. [DOI]
- 2011 V SPAISER. "Information wants to be free!" The Political Net-Activist (Youth-)Movement. (in German). *Diskurs Kindheits- und Jugendforschung*, 6(4), 403-416. [DOI]
- 2010 J MANSEL, V SPAISER. Explaining Educational Success and Failure of Young Immigrants. (in German). *Diskurs Kindheits- und Jugendforschung*, 5(2), 209-225. [DOI]

Book chapters

- 2021 V SPAISER. Digital data and methods. In: G. MANZO (ED.) *Research Handbook on Analytical Sociology*, Edward Elgar, 352-363
- 2012 K KRAFT, M FREIHEIT & V SPAISER. Young German Muslims and the Middle-East Conflict: A Sociology of Knowledge Based Analysis of Anti-semitic Discourse Patterns. In: G BOTSCH, O GLÖCKNER, C KOPKE & M SPIEKER (EDS.). *Islamophobia and Anti-semitism - a Controversial Comparison* (in German), De Gruyter, 227-254.
- 2012 J MANSEL & V SPAISER. Anti-semitic Attitudes among Young Nuslms: Discrimination Experiences and Transnational Influences as Explaining Factors. In: W HEITMEYER (ED.). *German Conditions Vol. 10* (in German), Suhrkamp, 220-244.
- 2011 V SPAISER. The Political Potential of the Internet: New Forms of Political Acting and the Democratic Rationalisation In: W HEITMEYER, J MANSEL & T OLK (EDS.). *Individualisation of Youth: Between Creative Innovation, Search for Justice and Social Reaction* (in German), Juventa, 120-134.
- 2010 J MANSEL & V SPAISER. Groups-focused Enmity in Relation with Existential Fears and Feelings of Loss of Control. In: W HEITMEYER (ED.). *German Conditions Vol. 8* (in German), Suhrkamp, 49-71.

Books

- 2013 V SPAISER. *New Participation Chances? How Immigrant and Non-immigrant Young People use the Internet for Political Purposes.* (in German), Beltz Juventa.
- 2013 J MANSEL & V SPAISER. *Exclusion Dynamics. When do Young People Discriminate against Outgroup Members?* (in German), Beltz Juventa.

## Software / Packages / Statistical Tools / Reports

- 2022 N NISBETT, [V SPAISER](#), J HAWKINS, P JENSEN, E MORGANTI, AA JAHROMI, S AL AREFI & C RICHARDSON-BARLOW. Low carbon infrastructure transition in the North of England. Report. *Energy Leeds, University of Leeds*. [\[LINK\]](#)
- 2013 S RANGANATHAN, [V SPAISER](#), RP MANN & DJT SUMPTER. bdynsys. R package for Bayesian Dynamical Systems Modeling. *CRAN*. [\[LINK\]](#)

## Non-Academic / Media Output

- 2022 [V SPAISER](#). *Ask a Climate Researcher*. Short Videos on “Do climate strikes really make a difference”, “What actions is the government taking and is it quick enough?”, “What is the best way to stop climate change?”, Video Series, Priestley International Centre for Climate, University of Leeds, [\[LINK\]](#)
- 2022 [V SPAISER](#) & N NISBETT. *Stabilising Earth’s Climate: Key Social Dynamics*. Podcast, Settee Seminars series. [\[LINK\]](#)
- 2021 [V SPAISER](#). “*The eyes of all future generations are upon you? ? how to galvanise climate action*”. Blog, Leeds at COP26 blog series, organised by Policy Leeds, [\[LINK\]](#)

## Invited Presentations

- 2023 “The role of norms and civil society to trigger social tipping”, Tipping Points Discussion Series, [AIMES](#), [Future Earth](#), [Earth Commission and WCRP](#), GLOBAL.
- 2022 “Climate Crisis Norm Entrepreneurs: How successful are they?”, Research Seminar, [Institute for Futures Studies](#), Stockholm, SWEDEN.
- 2022 “How to accelerate social change in response to the climate crisis?”, Brown Bag Lecture, [Stockholm Resilience Centre](#), Stockholm, SWEDEN.
- 2022 “AI & ML - Tools for tackling great societal challenges?”, Workshop on Artificial Intelligence and Democracy, [University of Tubingen](#), GERMANY.
- 2022 “Designing for Democracy Engagement: Climate Emergency”, Online Seminar, [Centre for Democratic Engagement](#), University of Leeds, UK.
- 2021 “Using smartphones to study environmental behaviour in a field-experimental setup: A Pilot Study”, University of Warwick DSSGx (Data Science for Social Good Summer Projects 2021) public lectures series, [University of Warwick](#), UK.
- 2021 “Applying Principles of Analytical Sociology in Computational Social Science”, 2021 [Summer Institute in Computational Social Science](#), University College London, UK.
- 2021 “Not just for STEM: Open and reproducible research in the social sciences”, [University of Leeds Library](#) Open Lunch: Reflections On Open Research Seminar Series, University of Leeds, UK.
- 2020 “Using smartphones to study environmental behaviour in a field-experimental setup. A Pilot Study”, [UCD School of Sociology](#) Seminar Series 2020-2021, University College Dublin, IRELAND.
- 2019 “Polarized Ukraine 2014: Opinion and Territorial Split Demonstrated with the Bounded Confidence XY Model, Parametrized by Twitter Data”, 3rd Euro CSS (European Symposium Series on

- Societal Challenges in Computational Social Science (Euro CSS), [ETH Zurich](#), SWITZERLAND.
- 2018 “Pursuing the UN Data Revolution for Sustainable Development”, Social and Economic Data Science (SEDS) research seminar, [London School of Economics and Political Science \(LSE\)](#), UK.
- 2018 “Studying environmental behaviour with smartphones in field-experimental setups”, School of Engineering, Research Seminar, [Newcastle University](#), UK.
- 2018 “Revolutions stuck on Twitter: What can data analytics of Twitter data teach us about failed revolutions and political change?”, Mathematics for Social Activism Workshop, [Uppsala University](#), SWEDEN.
- 2017 “The Global Sustainable Development Goals Challenge”, Climate Exchange Interdisciplinary Seminar, [Priestley International Centre for Climate](#), University of Leeds, UK.
- 2016 “Digital Divide or Digital Empowerment? Political Online Participation of you Immigrants in Germany”, 17. [Gautinger Internettreffen](#), Gauting, GERMANY.
- 2015 “Communication Power Struggle on Social Media: A Case Study of the 2011-12 Russian Protests.”, Research Seminar, [Oxford Internet Institute](#), University of Oxford, Oxford, UK.
- 2014 “School Segregation: Complex Macro-Patterns and Micro-Mechanisms”, School Choice and School Differentiation in Comparative Perspective Conference, [Higher School of Economics St. Petersburg](#), RUSSIAN FEDERATION.
- 2013 “Dynamical Systems Modeling in Social Science”, Wednesday Seminar, Department of Sociology, [Stockholm University](#), SWEDEN.

## Contributed Conference Presentations

- 2022 Tipping Points. From Climate Crisis to Positive Transformation, Exeter, UK.
- 2021 2nd World Forum on Climate Justice, Glasgow, virtual, UK.
- 2021 Climate Exp0, COP26 Universities Network, virtual, UK.
- 2016 American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (APSA), Philadelphia, USA.
- 2016 CoSyDy Workshop on Phase Transitions in Socio-Economic Systems, London, UK.
- 2016 2nd Annual International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2), Evanston, USA.
- 2015 Transformations 2015. People and the Planet in the Anthropocene, Stockholm, SWEDEN.
- 2015 Data for Policy. Policy-Making in the Big Data Era, Cambridge, UK.
- 2014 GESIS Computational Social Science Winter Symposium, Cologne, GERMANY.
- 2014 20th ACM SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining: Data Science for Social Good, New York, USA.
- 2014 7th International Network of Analytical Sociology (INAS) Conference, Mannheim, GERMANY.
- 2013 6th International Network of Analytical Sociology (INAS) Conference, Stockholm, SWEDEN.
- 2011 International Joint Workshop on Immigrant Inclusion by E-Participation, University of Helsinki, FINLAND.
- 2011 12th Annual International Digital Government Research Conference: Innovation in Challenging

Times, University of Maryland, College Park, USA.

2010 35th Congress of the German Society of Sociology (DGS), Johann Wolfgang Goethe University, Frankfurt GERMANY.

## Teaching & Supervision

### Lecturing & Training

- 2023- *MSc Climate Futures*, Interdisciplinary MSc in Climate Futures, University of Leeds, UK.
- 2022 *Computational Social Science*, 7-modules online course, Institute for War & Peace Reporting (IWPR) & CABAR.asia Media School, Bishkek, KYRGYZSTAN.
- 2019/2020 *Conflict, Cooperation and Strategic Decision Making*. (module leader) MSc level course, School of Politics and International Studies, University of Leeds, UK.
- 2019/2020 *Introduction to Programming for Social Science*. (module leader) B.A. level course, School of Politics and International Studies, University of Leeds, UK.
- 2019-2021 *Technology, Media and Politics: Research and Real World Cases*. MSc level course, School of Politics and International Studies, University of Leeds, UK.
- 2018, 2019 *Introduction to Python for Data Analytics*, 2-day training course, Leeds Institute for Data Analytics, University of Leeds, UK.
- 2018 *Global Inequalities and Development*. M.A. level course, delivering 1 lectures and 3 seminar on Sustainable Development Goals, School of Politics and International Studies, University of Leeds, UK.
- 2017-2021 *Advanced Statistical Analysis*. B.A. level course, delivering 2 lectures and seminar on Time Series Analysis and Panel Analysis, School of Politics and International Studies, University of Leeds, UK.
- 2016-2018 *Approaches to Analysis*. B.A. level course, School of Politics and International Studies, University of Leeds, UK.
- 2015-2021 *Analysing Data in Politics, Development and International Relations*. B.A. level course, School of Politics and International Studies, University of Leeds, UK.
- 2015-2017 *Research Methods*. M.A. level course, delivering 3 lectures/seminars on quantitative methods, School of Politics and International Studies, University of Leeds, UK.
- 2014 *Formal Modelling in Social Sciences*. Master and PhD level course, Department of Sociology, Stockholm University, SWEDEN.
- 2009-2010 *Research seminar on political socialisation: Young people's attitudes on the Middle-East Conflict* (in German), Master level course in cooperation with Prof. Jürgen Mansel, Bielefeld University, GERMANY.
- 2009-2010 *Internet as a socialisation and society-forming medium* (in German), Master level course, Bielefeld University, GERMANY.

### Supervision

2022- [Susan Ann Samuel](#), PhD student, School of Politics and International Studies, University of

Leeds, UK.

- 2018-2019 [Ahmed Tarek Hammad](#), visiting PhD student from Catholic University of the Sacred Heart Milan ITALY.
- 2018-2023 [Daniel Valdenegro](#), PhD student (successfully completed), School of Politics and International Studies and School of Mathematics, University of Leeds, UK.
- 2017-2021 [Nicole Nisbett](#), White Rose DTP Collaborative Award PhD student (successfully completed), School of Politics and International Studies, University of Leeds, UK.
- 2016-2017 Molly Asher, Data Science intern, Leeds Institute for Data Analytics, University of Leeds, UK.

### Accreditation

- 2017- Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (HEA), FHEA

### Academic Service

- 2022- External Examiner for London School of Economics and Political Science, MSc in Applied Social Data Science
- 2022- PhD 1st year transfer and viva examiner, University of Leeds
- 2022- Probation mentor for junior colleagues at School of Politics and International Studies, University of Leeds
- 2021- Associate Editor of the The British Journal of Politics and International Studies.
- 2020 Co-organiser of the Integrating quantitative social, ecological and mathematical sciences into landscape decision-making semi-virtual workshop, Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences, University of Cambridge, UK.
- 2020 Programme Chair for 2nd MISDOOM 2020 (2nd Multidisciplinary International Symposium on Disinformation in Open Online Media), Leiden University, NETHERLANDS and 3rd MISDOOM 2021 (3rd Multidisciplinary International Symposium on Disinformation in Open Online Media), Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford, UK
- 2019 Mentor at the Doctoral Consortium at the 3rd Euro CSS (European Symposium Series on Societal Challenges in Computational Social Science, ETH Zurich, SWITZERLAND.
- 2019 Member of the review and selection committee for the US Social Science Research Council for the call *Social Media & Democracy Research Grants as part of the Social Data Initiative* in collaboration with Facebook and Social Science One, New York, US.
- 2019 Workshop organisation and hosting in collaboration with Richard P. Mann *2nd Workshop on Mathematics for Social Activism*, Leeds, UK.
- 2018-2021 Deputy Director for the Civil Society, Development and Democracy pathway of the White Rose Doctoral Training Partnership
- 2017-2021 Member of the Q Step Executive Committee, University of Leeds
- 2017 Member of the Leeds Institute for Data Analytics (LIDA) Academic Advisory Board
- 2015 Workshop organisation and hosting *Social Change as a Complex Dynamical System*, Uppsala,

SWEDEN.

- 2013 Conference organising committee for the *6th International Network of Analytical Sociology (INAS) Conference*, Stockholm, SWEDEN
- 2017- Conference programme committee member for the 8th International Conference on Emerging Ubiquitous Systems and Pervasive Networks EUSPN 2017, 9th International Conference on Social Informatics Socinfo 2017, 3rd IEEE International Conference on Data Science and Systems, 4th International Conference on Computational Social Science IC2S2 2018
- 2009- Various article reviews among others for *Science*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *European Journal of Political Research*, *Journal of the Royal Society Interface*, *Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulations*, *Comparative Politics*, *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion & Parties*, *Journal of Information Technology & Politics*, *International Journal of Conflict and Violence*, *Information Polity*.

## Awards and Grants

- 2021 [UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship Award](#), (1.2 Million GBP) awarded by the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) for four years for the research project "Understanding Normative Change to Address the Climate Change Emergency" starting 1st of October 2021
- 2020 [The Alan Turing Institute](#), (81K research grant for six data science interns for 6 months each) for the "Holme Wood: Collaborative ATI Leeds Grant" project, PI: Faisal Mushtaq, my role: Co-I
- 2019 [London Mathematical Society](#), (2.5K Research Workshop Grant) for the "2nd Workshop on Mathematics for Social Activism", in collaboration with Richard P. Mann
- 2017 [White Rose Doctoral Training Partnership Collaborative Award](#), (100% ESRC funding of a PhD candidate for three years) for the research project "Assessing the UK parliament's online public engagement activity", PI: Cristina Leston Bandeira, University of Leeds, my role: Co-I, Co-Supervisor, Collaborator: House of Commons, Public Information
- 2013 [SIMSAM Grant](#) (Swedish Initiative for research on micro data in the social and medical sciences), 25 Million SEK/€2,6 Million awarded by the Swedish Research Council for five years for the research project "School Segregation Dynamics", PI: Peter Hedström, Institute for Analytical Sociology, Linköping University, my role: co-author & co-applicant
- 2011 [Hans Böckler Foundation PhD Grant](#) (€1150 p.m. + allowances) from 01/11-08/12.
- 2007 [German Academic Exchange Service \(DAAD\) Postgraduate Grant](#) (€900 p.m. + tuition fees) from 09/07-09/08.

## Impact Activities

- 2023 Gave a talk on "Leveraging positive social tipping dynamics in response to the climate crisis" for the [1.5 Degrees DAO](#), network
- 2023 Academic lead on the project "Speculative Futures", one of the [For The Public Good LEEDS 2023](#) projects
- 2022 Co-founded [Scientists for Future](#), UK Chapter
- 2021 Provided written evidence with Cristina Leston Bandeira to the "Mobilising action on climate change and environment: behaviour change" enquiry by the House of [Lords Environment and](#)



## Climate Change Committee

- 2019 Provided expertise on Sustainable Development Goals at the [UN](#) workshop “Analytical tools for capacity building on quantitative methods for SDG interactions and integration in national development strategies and integrated planning”, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- 2017 Contributed to a report on e-petitions for the [House of Commons Petitions Committee](#) by Cristina Leston Bandeira.
- 2014-2015 Investigated mental health problems and segregation in Swedish schools using data analysis and agent-based simulation for the [Sveriges Kommuner och Landsting \(Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions\)](#), delivered report and presentation.
- 2008-2010 Investigated as a research assistant antisemitism among young immigrants in Germany for the [German Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth](#), delivered report.

## Skills

### Software and Programming

R, Python, MATLAB, NetLogo, LaTeX, MPlus, HLM, LIMDEP, Gephi, Stata.

### Languages

- German (bilingual)
- Russian (bilingual)
- English (fluent)
- French (conversant)