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Peace Research Institute Oslo
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Education

2013 ETH ZURICH
PhD Degree in Political Science, October 2013
I developed and tested a theoretical model explaining micro-dynamics and macro-outcomes of irregular civil wars.

2010 ETH ZURICH
Master's Degree in Comparative and International Studies, June 2010
With a strong focus on theory and quantitative methodology, I incorporated GIS and advanced statistical techniques into my research. The final thesis demonstrated that geographic conflict zones in civil wars can be predicted reliably ahead of time.

2008 UNIVERSITY OF FREIBURG
Magister Degree in Anthropology, Computer Science, and Cognitive Science, July 2008
My final thesis focused on optimization techniques for empirical Agent-Based Models.

Academic Positions

2024- *Research Professor, Peace Research Institute Oslo*

2024- *Co-Editor (with Gudrun Østby), Journal of Peace Research*

2020-2022 *Deputy Editor, Journal of Peace Research*

2019-2024 *Senior Researcher, Peace Research Institute Oslo*

2017-2018 *Temporary Full Professor (Vertretungsprofessur) for International Politics, HU Berlin*

2015-2017 *Elected member of the Executive Committee of the Zukunftskolleg in Konstanz*

2015 *Visiting Lecturer, The Graduate Institute, Geneva*

2014-2018 *Marie Curie Fellow, Zukunftskolleg, University of Konstanz*

2013-2014 *Postdoctoral Researcher, International Conflict Research, ETH Zurich*

2012-2014 *Teaching Assistant, ECPR Winter Schools of Methods and Techniques*

2008-2013 *Scientific Assistant, International Conflict Research, ETH Zurich*

2010-2011 *Teaching Assistant, Institute for Political Science, University of Zurich*

2007-2008 *Student Assistant, Bioinformatics and Systems Biology, University of Freiburg*

2006-2008 *Student Assistant, Department for Cognitive Science, University of Freiburg*

2005-2006 *Teaching Assistant, Department for Cognitive Science, University of Freiburg*

Research Interests

Conflict processes; Statistics; Computational modeling; Geographic Information Systems; Survey research

Publications

Peer Reviewed

2025 Mathilde Mjelva, Sebastian Schutte, Helga Malmin Binningsbø, and Francesca Jensenius: Beyond Hate Speech: Online Rumors and Out-Group Resentment in Divided Societies. *Comparative Political Studies*, 10.1177/00104140251381753

2025 Sebastian Schutte, Daniel Karell, and Ryan Barrett: Online speech and communal conflict: Evidence from India. *PNAS Nexus* 4 (5), pgaf149.

2024 Jonas Vestby, Sebastian Schutte, Andreas Forø Tollefsen, and Halvard Buhaug: Societal determinants of flood-induced displacement. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 121 (3), e2206188120.

2022 Sebastian Schutte and Claire Kelling: A Monte Carlo analysis of false inference in spatial conflict event studies. *PloS one* 17 (4).

2022 Sebastian Schutte, Constantin Ruhe, and Andrew Linke: How indiscriminate violence fuels conflicts between groups: Evidence from Kenya. *Social Science Research*, 103, 102653.

2021 Sebastian Schutte, Jonas Vestby, Jørgen Carling, and Halvard Buhaug: Climatic conditions are weak predictors of asylum migration. *Nature Communications*, 12 (1), 1-10.

2021 Sebastian Schutte, Constantin Ruhe, and Niranjan Sahoo: How fear of violence drives intergroup conflict: Evidence from a panel survey in India. *Online first in Terrorism and Political Violence*

2019 Sebastian Schutte: Politics or prejudice? Explaining individual-level hostilities in India's Hindu-Muslim conflict. *International Interactions*, 45, 4, 666-692.

2018 Daniel Karell and Sebastian Schutte: Aid, Exclusion, and the Local Dynamics of Insurgency in Afghanistan. *Journal of Peace Research*, 55 (6): 711-725.

2018 Sebastian Schutte and Roos van der Haer (2018): Research Report: A software solution for rapid policy assessment with reimbursed SMS and mobile cash. *International Journal of Social Research Methodology*, 21 (6): 685-694.

2017 Arturas Rozenas, Sebastian Schutte, and Yuri Zhukov: The Political Legacy of Violence: The Long-Term Impact of Stalin's Repression in Ukraine. *The Journal of Politics*, 79, (4): 1147-1161.

2017 Nils B. Weidmann and Sebastian Schutte: Using Night Light Emissions for the Subnational Prediction of Wealth. *Journal of Peace Research*, 54 (2): 125-140.

2017 Sebastian Schutte. Violence and Civilian Loyalties: Evidence from Afghanistan. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 61(8): 1595-1625.

2017 Sebastian Schutte. Regions at Risk: Predicting conflict zones in African insurgencies. *Political Science Research and Methods*, 5 (3): 447-465.

2017 Sebastian Schutte. Geographic determinants of violence in civil war. *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, 34 (4): 380-405.

2015 Andrew M. Linke, Sebastian Schutte, and Halvard Buhaug. Population attitudes and the spread of political violence in Africa. *International Studies Review*, 17: 1-20.

2015 Sebastian Schutte. Geography, outcome, and casualties: A unified model of insurgency. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 59 (6): 1101-1128

2015 D. Helbing, D. Brockmann, T. Chadefaux, K. Donnay, U. Blanke, O. Woolley-Meza, M. Moussaid, A. Johansson, J. Krause, S. Schutte and M. Perc. Saving human lives: what complexity science and information systems can Contribute. *Journal of Statistical Physics*, 158: 735-781.

2014 Sebastian Schutte and Karsten Donnay. Matched wake analysis: finding causal relationships in event data. *Political Geography*, 41: 1-10.

2012 Sebastian Schutte. Cooperation beats deterrence in cyberwar. *Peace Economics, Peace Science and Public Policy*, 18 (3).

2011 Sebastian Schutte and Nils B. Weidmann. Diffusion patterns of violence in civil war. *Political Geography*, 30 (3): 143–152.

2009 Sebastian Schutte. Optimization and falsification in empirical Agent-Based Models. *Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation*, 13 (1) 2.

Other publications

2025 Kjølv Egeland, Ben Dando, and Sebastian Schutte: Widening the Ceasefire Toolkit: The promise of Geophysical Monitoring in Ukraine and Beyond. *European Leadership Network*: <https://tinyurl.com/3wp8rmfd>

2019 Daniel Karel and Sebastian Schutte: How US Military Aid Can Backfire. *Political Violence at a Glance*: <https://tinyurl.com/yyy6sfux>

2016 Nils B. Weidmann and Sebastian Schutte: Want to know how rich your neighbor is? Take a look at a satellite image. *Monkey Cage blog of the Washington Post*: <https://tinyurl.com/1sxamr3>.

2016 Sebastian Schutte: Trump/Hitler comparisons are overstated. How did Hitler actually consolidate power? *Monkey Cage blog of the Washington Post*: <https://tinyurl.com/luvu7m2>.

Theses

2013 Sebastian Schutte. Violence, Geography, and Mobilization. A theory of insurgency. PhD thesis, ETH Zurich. Available online at <http://e-collection.library.ethz.ch/view/eth:7740>.

2010 Sebastian Schutte. Regions at Risk - Estimating conflict zones in African civil wars. MA thesis, ETH Zurich. Available online at <http://sebastianschutte.net/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/MAThesisSchutte2010.pdf>.

2008 Sebastian Schutte. Crystal ball or screensaver? Discussing suitable applications for Agent-Based Modeling in the humanities. Magisters thesis, University of Freiburg. Available online at <http://www.freidok.uni-freiburg.de/volltexte/6001/>.

Software

2013 Sebastian Schutte and Karsten Donnay: MWA package for causal inference in spatiotemporal event data. Available online at <http://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/mwa/index.html>.

Classes taught

2017 Introduction to Comparative Politics and International Relations, Humboldt University of Berlin

2017 The Political Geography of Power and Conflict, Humboldt University of Berlin

2017 Introduction to Civil War Research, Humboldt University, Berlin

2015 Introduction to Geographic Event Data Analysis in R, University of Konstanz

2015-2017 Theories of Political Violence: Top-down versus Bottom-up, The Graduate Institute Geneva; University of Konstanz; Humboldt University of Berlin

Awards and Grants

2024 Grant by the Research Council of Norway for a three year project on using seismo-acoustic measurements in Ukraine for conflict monitoring and research: [\[REMWAR project page\]](#)

2021 Grant by the Research Council of Norway for a three year project on the connection between online speech and real world harm: [\[ODAS project page\]](#)

2018 Co-winner of the Nils Petter Gleditsch JPR Article of the Year Award (with Daniel Karell)

2016 5-year ZIF-Marie Curie Research Fellowship at the Zukunftskolleg in Konstanz

2016 Grant (Standardprojekt) by the German Foundation for Peace Research to study emergent hostilities in low intensity conflicts via SMS surveys

2014 Zukunftskolleg funding for deployment of an SMS gateway for panel surveys in India

2014 Zukunftskolleg funding for a research visit to Duke University, NC, USA

2014 2-year ZIF-Marie Curie Research Fellowship at the Zukunftskolleg in Konstanz

2013 Early PostDoc Mobility Fellowship from the Swiss National Science Foundation (declined in favor of the Marie Curie Fellowship)

2012 Winner of the Stuart A. Bremer award for the best paper presented by a graduate student at the Jan Tinbergen European Peace Science Conference

2012 Winner of the CISP (Centro Interateneo di Studi per la Pace) award for the best paper on topics of interest to the center