

DR. JAN WILKENS

(LAST UPDATE JANUARY 26, 2025)

EDUCATION

- PhD** University of Hamburg, International Relations October 2018
Cumulative Dissertation: “*Translocal Activism and the Syrian Struggle in Global Politics*”
Committee: Prof. Antje Wiener, Prof. Fawaz Gerges, Prof. Klaus Schlichte
Passed with *Summa cum laude*
- MSc** School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London September 2012
MSc Middle East Politics
Thesis: “*The Syrian “crisis” as a new moment of Global Constitutionalism – An early IR perspective on constitutionalisation beyond the West*” (passed with distinction)
Advisor: Prof. Arshin Adib-Moghaddam
- BA** University of Hamburg September 2011
History, Culture and Languages (focus on Arabic) of the Near and Middle East
Thesis: “*A “new” Pan-Arabism – an analysis of recent addresses of Bashar al-Assad (very good, 1,0)*”
Minored in Political Science
- Higher Language Institute, Damascus, Syria
Standard Arabic Regular Courses Program July 2010-February 2011

ACADEMIC POSITIONS & WORK EXPERIENCE

- Senior Researcher**, University of Hamburg 2021-Present
Cluster of Excellence “Climate, Climatic Change, and Society” (CLICCS)
Synthesis Project
- PostDoc**, University of Hamburg 2019 to 2021
Cluster of Excellence “Climate, Climatic Change, and Society” (CLICCS)
B2 - Dynamics of Climate Governance: Norms, Contestation, and Policies.
- Lecturer and Research Associate**, University of Hamburg 2013 to 2021
Political Science, esp. Global Governance
- Scientific coordinator**, University of Hamburg 2016
Coordination and organization of the lecture series “European Crisis in Global Perspective”
- Scientific coordinator**, University of Hamburg 2012 to 2015
Project “Constitutionalism Unbound: Developing Triangulation for International Relations”
- Student Assistant**, German Institute for Global and Area Studies (GIGA) 2011

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

I have taught undergraduate and postgraduate courses at the University of Hamburg, Political Science. In all courses, I have developed the syllabus and contents and have been responsible for assessments and marking. Classes include conceptual, theoretical, and methodological work with students. I successfully supervised over 15 BA dissertations and co-supervised MA dissertations related to IR in the Middle East, Social Movements, Postcolonialism, and Climate Governance.

Global Climate Governance (English, BA)	Summer 2024
Postcolonial Theory in International Relations (English, MA)	Summer 2021
Concepts in International Relations (German, BA)	Summer 2021
Introduction to Political Science (German, BA)	Winter 2020
Postcolonialism in International Relations (English, MA)	Summer 2020
Europe and the Middle East (English, BA)	Winter 2019
Social Movements in International Politics (English, BA)	Winter 2018
Postcolonialism in International Relations (English, BA)	Summer 2018
Introduction to International Relations Theories (German, BA)	Summer 2018
Global IR and the Postcolonial Challenge (English, BA)	Winter 2017
The Middle East in International Relations (English, BA)	Winter 2017
Introduction to International Relations Theories (German, BA)	Summer 2017
Introduction to International Relations Theories (German, BA)	Summer 2016
Postcolonialism in International Relations (English, BA)	Summer 2015
Contentious Politics and International Relations (English, BA)	Summer 2014
IR Theories and the Politics of the Middle East (English, BA)	Winter 2013

PUBLICATIONS

Edited Volumes

Engels, Anita, Marotzke, Jochem, Ratter, Beate, Gresse, Eduardo Gonçalves, López-Rivera, Andrés, Pagnone, Anna, & **Wilkins, Jan** (Eds.). (2024). Hamburg Climate Futures Outlook 2024: Conditions for Sustainable Climate Change Adaptation. transcript Verlag.
<https://doi.org/10.1515/9783839470817>

Including contributions to the following chapters:

- Gresse, Eduardo Gonçalves, López-Rivera, Andrés, Pagnone, Anna, **Wilkins, Jan**, Engels, Anita, Marotzke, Jochem & Ratter, Beate. Chapter 1: The Hamburg Climate Futures Outlook 2024: Goals and Structure. (pp. 14-17).
- Engels, Anita, **Wilkins, Jan**, López-Rivera, Andrés, Gresse, Eduardo Gonçalves, Pagnone, Anna, Ratter, Beate, Döring, Martin, Marotzke, Jochem, Aykut, Stefan & Wiener, Antje. Chapter 2: The Plausibility of Climate Futures: Explaining the Methodology. (pp. 18-25).
- **Wilkins, Jan**, López-Rivera, Andrés, Engels, Anita & Gresse, Eduardo Gonçalves. Chapter 3: The Plausibility of Achieving Deep Decarbonization by 2050. (pp. 26-67).
- Gresse, Eduardo Gonçalves, Engels, Anita & **Wilkins, Jan**. Box I: The Implications of Degrowth Scenarios for the Plausibility of Climate Futures. (pp.68-69).

- Engels, Anita, Marotzke, Jochem, Ratter, Beate, Gresse, Eduardo Gonçalves, López-Rivera, Andrés, Pagnone, Anna & **Wilkins, Jan**. Box III: Toward an Inclusive and Connected Repertoire of Climate Action. (pp. 152-153).
- López-Rivera, Andrés, **Wilkins, Jan**, Gresse, Eduardo Gonçalves, Pagnone, Anna, Engels, Anita, Marotzke, Jochem, Ratter, Beate, Wiener, Antje, Oberg, Achim and Döring, Martin. Chapter 6: Integration and Synthesis of Assessments. (pp. 144-151)
- Engels, Anita, Marotzke, Jochem, Ratter, Beate, Gresse, Eduardo Gonçalves, López-Rivera, Andrés, Pagnone, Anna & **Wilkins, Jan**. Chapter 7: Implications for Shaping Climate Futures. (pp.154-159).

Engels, Anita, Marotzke, Jochem, Gresse, Eduardo Gonçalves, López-Rivera, Andrés, Pagnone, Anna, & **Wilkins, Jan** (Eds.). (2023). Hamburg Climate Futures Outlook 2023: The plausibility of a 1.5°C limit to global warming - social drivers and physical processes. Cluster of Excellence Climate, Climatic Change, and Society (CLICCS). <https://doi.org/10.25592/UHHFDM.11230>.

Including contributions to the following chapters:

- **Wilkins, Jan**, Pagnone, Anna, Gresse, Eduardo Gonçalves, López-Rivera, Andrés, Engels, Anita, Marotzke, Jochem, Aykut, Stefan C., Rödder, Simone, Sillmann, Jana, & Wiener, Antje. (2023). CLICCS Plausibility Assessment Framework. (pp. 20-33).
- Pagnone, Anna, Gresse, Eduardo Gonçalves, López-Rivera, Andrés, **Wilkins, Jan**, Engels, Anita, & Marotzke, Jochem. (2023). Plausibility of attaining the Paris Agreement temperature goals. (pp. 33-50).
- **Wilkins, Jan** & Aykut, Stefan C. (2023). Technology and the plausibility of climate futures. (pp. 66-67).
- Pavenstädt, Christopher, **Wilkins, Jan**, Huch, Charlotte, Jarke-Neuert, Johannes, Commelin, Solange, & Mosuela, Cleovi. (2023). Climate protest and social movements. (pp. 97-103).
- **Wilkins, Jan**, López-Rivera, Andrés, Rothe, Delf, Schenuit, Felix, & Wiener, Antje. (2023). Knowledge production. (pp. 133-139).

Articles (refereed)

Wilkins, Jan, & Datchoua-Tirvaudey, Alvine. (2022). Researching climate justice: a decolonial approach to global climate governance. *International Affairs*, 98(1), 125–143. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1093/ia/iiaab209>

Wilkins, Jan. (2017). Postcolonialism in International Relations. In R. Marlin-Bennett (Ed.), *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of International Studies*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (Revised and updated version forthcoming 2025). <https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190846626.013.101>

Hofius, Maren, **Wilkins, Jan**, Hansen-Magnusson, Hannes, & Gholiagha, Sassan. (2014). Den Schleier lichten? Kritische Normenforschung, Freiheit und Gleichberechtigung im Kontext des »Arabischen Frühlings« - Eine Replik auf Engelkamp/Glaab/Renner, Ulbert und Deitelhoff/Zimmermann. *Zeitschrift für Internationale Beziehungen*, 21(2), 85-105. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/24587912>

Articles (in preparation)

Wilkens, Jan, Engels, Anita, Gresse, Eduardo Gonçalves, López-Rivera, Andrés, Marotzke, Jochem, Pagnone, Anna & Ratter, Beate. Assessing the plausibility for sustainable climate adaptation.

Working Papers & Non-refereed Articles

Aykut, Stefan C., Pavenstädt, Christopher N., Datchoua-Tirvaudey, Alvine, D'Amico, Emilie, Braun, Max, Karnik Hinks, Ella, Schenuit, Felix, **Wilkens, Jan**, & Rödder, Simone. (2022). Circles of Global Climate Governance: Power, Performance and Contestation at the UN Climate Conference COP26 in Glasgow. Center for Sustainable Society Research Working Paper Series, Working Paper No. 3 (February 2022), 1-29.
<https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.25592/CSS-WP-004>

Wilkens, Jan (2015). Der "Islamische Staat" und die angebliche Alternativlosigkeit in Syrien, In: Alsharq-Kompendium: IS-Dossier, <https://www.disorient.de/magazin/der-islamische-staat-und-die-angebliche-alternativlosigkeit-syrien>

Book Chapters

Wilkens, Jan. (forthcoming, 2025). *Narratives of Change in the Climate Crisis: The Return of the Tipping Point and Critical Norms Research*. In S. Gholiagha, P. Orchard, A. Wiener (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Norms Research in International Relations*. Oxford University Press.

Wilkens, Jan. (forthcoming, 2025). *Grounded in a changing climate – Knowledge production and struggles for just climate futures*. In B. Ackerly, L. Cabrera, M. Deveaux, F. Forma, G. Fuji Johnson, G. Starblanket, A. Wiener (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Grounded and Engaged Normative Theory*. Oxford University Press.

Wilkens, Jan. (2024). Who Pays for Climate Change Adaptation? Climate Justice in the Mediterranean. In S. Florensa et al. (Eds.), *IEMed Mediterranean Yearbook 2024*, European Institute of the Mediterranean (pp. 288-291).

Wilkens, Jan. (2023). *Constructivism and global constitutionalism*. In A. F. Lang Jr. & A. Wiener (Eds.), *Handbook on Global Constitutionalism* (2nd & revised ed., pp. 115-128). Edward Elgar Publishing. (1st ed. published in 2017)

Wilkens, Jan. (2022). *Chakrabarty, Dipesh (2009). The Climate of History: Four Theses*. In Y. Ibrahim & S. Rödder (Eds.), *Schlüsselwerke der sozialwissenschaftlichen Klimaforschung* (pp. 63-68). transcript Verlag.

Wilkens, Jan. (2022). *Translocal activism and the Syrian struggle in global politics: Civil society, agency, and 'new' political spaces*. In J. K. Gani & R. A. Hinnebusch (Eds.), *Actors and dynamics in the Syrian conflict's middle phase: between contentious politics, militarization and regime resilience* (pp. 410-430). Routledge.

Wilkens, Jan & Kessler, Oliver. (2021). *Concluding Chapter: Concepts at Work in Global IR*. In P. Ish-Shalom (Ed.), *Concepts at Work: On the Linguistic Infrastructure of World Politics* (pp. 203–221). University of Michigan Press.

Perino, Grischa, Jarke-Neuert, Johannes, **Wilkens, Jan**, & Pavenstädt, Christopher. (2021). Climate Protests and Social Movements. In D. Stammer, A. Engels, J. Marotzke, E. Gresse, C. Hedemann, & J. Petzold (Eds.), *Hamburg Climate Futures Outlook 2021: Assessing the Plausibility of Deep Decarbonization by 2050*. Hamburg, CLICCS. (pp. 87-90).

Petzold, Jan, Wiener, Antje, Neuburger, Martina, **Wilkens, Jan**, Datchoua-Tirvaudey, Alvine, Schnegg, Michael, Notz, Dirk Philipp, Gonçalves Gresse, Eduardo, Scheffran, Jürgen, Lüdemann, Jana, Schmitt, Tobias, & Singer, Katrin. (2021). Diverse ways of knowing in a changing climate (Box 3). In D. Stammer, A. Engels, J. Marotzke, E. Gresse, C. Hedemann, & J. Petzold (Eds.), *Hamburg Climate Futures Outlook 2021*. Hamburg, CLICCS. (pp. 51).

Wilkens, Jan. (2015). *Contention and Constitutionalization in the Global Realm: Assessing the Uprisings in West Asia and North Africa and their Impact on International Politics*. In F. A. Gerges (Ed.), *Contentious politics in the Middle East: popular resistance and marginalized activism beyond the Arab uprisings* (pp. 25-50). Palgrave Macmillan.

Policy Reports

Wilkens, Jan & Acara, Eda. (forthcoming, 2025). [Coordinating Lead Authors Chapter 6] The Environmental Change-Conflict-Migration-Nexus and Uneven Challenges of Adaptation. In: *Special Report on Environmental Change, Conflicts, and Human Migration in the Mediterranean Basin* [Lange, M., Majdalani, R., Cramer, W., Driouech, F., Guiot, J., Gattacceca, J., Marini, K. (eds.)]. Union for the Mediterranean, Plan Bleu, MedECC Secretariat, Marseille, France.

Book Reviews

Wilkens, Jan (forthcoming, 2025) *Saving Ourselves: From Climate Shocks to Climate Action* by Dana R. Fisher, *Political Science Quarterly*.

Academic Blogs & Media Contributions

Wilkens, Jan (2023). Das 1,5-Grad-Ziel möglich machen! Deutsche Klima-Konsortium (DKK). <https://www.deutsches-klima-konsortium.de/news/das-15-grad-ziel-moeglich-machen/>

Gholiagha, Sassan, Speyer, Johanna, **Wilkens, Jan** & Wunderlich, Carmen (2022). Whiter norms research in times of uncertainty? A Symposium. *Duck of Minerva*. <https://www.duckofminerva.com/2022/11/whither-norms-research-in-times-of-uncertainty-a-symposium.html>

Bank, André, Flemmer, Riccarda; Heller, Regina; Hofius, Maren; Pfeifer, Hanna & **Wilkens, Jan**. (2021). Die “Politics of Scale” in der deutschsprachigen Politikwissenschaft: Warum sich eine breitere Diskussion des Konzepts lohnt. *DVPW Blog*. <https://www.dvpw.de/blog/die->

[politics-of-scale-in-der-deutschsprachigen-politikwissenschaft-warum-sich-eine-breitere-diskussion-des-konzepts-lohnt-ein-beitrag-von-andre-bank-riccarda-flemmer-regina-heller-maren-hofius-hanna-pfeifer-und-jan-wilkens](#)

Wiener, Antje, Gholiagha, Sassan, **Wilkens, Jan** & Acharya, Amitav (2017). Entering the Global Multilogue – A Replique to the German ZEIT Manifesto. Duck of Minerva.

<https://www.duckofminerva.com/2017/10/entering-the-global-multilogue-a-replique-to-the-german-zeit-manifesto.html>

Wilkens, Jan & Saliba, Ilyas (2017). Syrischer Bürgerkrieg: Brandbeschleuniger Großmachtspolitik. Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

<https://www.faz.net/aktuell/politik/brandbeschleuniger-grossmachtspolitik-14981521.html>

I have further contributed to media inquiries by *Tagesschau*, *NDR*, *WDR*, *RedaktionsNetzwerk Deutschland*, *Table Media*, and *Stern* on topics related to climate governance and climate activism.

AWARDS

Research Grant by the Übersee-Club e.V. for field work in Lebanon (5000€)

Shortlisted for the International Affairs Centenary Prize for the article “Researching climate justice: a decolonial approach to global climate governance” *International Affairs*, 98(1), 125–143.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

MAXQDA

Regular and advanced training including the latest version MAXQDA2024

Using MAXQDA for different methodological approaches to qualitative research, document and interview analysis, and coding (Dr. Dresing & Pehl GmbH)

Teaching in Higher Education

Regular and different certified courses in increasing student motivation, teaching techniques, and BA/MA thesis supervision (Hamburg Center for University Teaching and Learning). I’m registered for the “Certified Supervisor Workshop” focused on supervising PhD students in 2025.

Project Management for Academic Projects

Certified training in the management of academic projects and writing of project applications.

Communicating Science and Social Media in Science

Certified training science communication in public media and social media for scientists (Hamburg Research Academy).

INVITED TALKS

Lauterpacht Centre for International Law, Cambridge University

Keynote “Hamburg Climate Futures Outlook – How to Make Climate Adaptation a Success”
November 2024

University of Hamburg & Fridays For Future Hamburg
Public Lecture “Hamburg Climate Futures Outlook 2023: Gesellschaftliche Treiber,
physikalische Prozesse und die Plausibilität das 1,5-Grad-Klimaziel zu erreichen”
April 2023

Forum Politische Bildung, Nachhaltigkeit & Transformation, Hannover
Keynote “Soziale Mobilisierung und die Plausibilität von Klimazukünften”
September 2023

United Nations Association of Germany (DGVN), Young Researchers working group
Keynote “Universality as (post-)colonial practice: The meaning of a historical concept for
contemporary politics in West Asia and North”
March 2017

Socio-Legal Studies Group, University of Oxford
Keynote “Extra-territorial activism and the transnational construction of the state”
November 2016

Lauterpacht Centre for International Law, Cambridge University
Keynote “A meaningful world among others? - contending narrations of legitimate orders”
November 2016

EVENT ORGANIZATION

Organization of EWIS workshop “Nature and Political Order(s): Exploring Environmental
Politics, Climate Futures, and Decarbonisation in the Middle East” together with Cemal Burak
Tansel (EWIS Workshops, September 2021).

Organization of the workshops “Die ‘Politics of Scale’ in der deutschen Politikwissenschaft”
together with André Bank, Riccarda Flemmer, Regina Heller, Maren Hofius & Hanna Pfeifer
(November 2020).

Organization of Public Lecture Series “European Crisis in Global Perspective: Local Changes
and Global Developments” (University of Hamburg, Summer term 2016).

Organization of Public Event “Der Iran nach dem Nuklearabkommen: Zwischen Wandel und
Herausforderungen?” together with the Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen (IfA) and the German
Federal Foreign Office (Hamburg, November 2016).

ACTIVE CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION AND PRESENTATION OF RESEARCH

- DAVO Conference “Gesellschaften im Wandel: Recht, Kultur und Politik im Vorderen Orient” 26-28 September 2024.
- 29. DVPW Kongress “Politik in der Polykrise”, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, 24-27 September 2024.
- 4. DVPW Thementagung “Making Sustainability Happen: Global Politics Meets Planetary Boundaries”, Tutzing, 10-12 April 2024.
- Book Launch Event “Handbook of Global Constitutionalism, 2nd edition”, University of St. Andrews, School of International Relations, 12 March 2024.
- 16th EISA Pan-European Conference on International Relations, University of Potsdam, 5-9 September 2023.
- Offene Sektionstagung “Internationale Politik” (DVPW). Universität Friedrichshafen, 14-16 June 2023.
- International Studies Association (ISA) Online Conference, 28 March-2 April 2022.
- 34th Conference of the German Middle East Association (DAVO), Berlin, 12-16 September 2022.
- British International Studies Association (BISA). Online Conference, 15-17 June 2022.
- European International Studies Association (EISA). Online Conference, 13-17 September 2021.
- International Studies Association (ISA) Online Conference, 6-9 April 2021.
- Workshop “Natural Resources and Geopolitics in the MENA: Disruptions, Transformations and Pathways” MEDirections, EUI, Florence, 23-25 October 2019.
- Centre for Syrian Studies “4th International Conference on Syria”, University of St. Andrews, 1-4 August 2018.
- BRISMES Conference 2018 “New Approaches to Studying the Middle East”. King’s College London, 25-28 June 2018. Panel Organisation “West Asia and North Africa in Global International Relations: Advancing Methodologies and Concepts”
- Workshop “The World at the Door: When the Local and Everyday are International”. London School of Economics, 3 November 2017
- 5. Offene Sektionstagung “Internationale Politik” (DVPW). Universität Bremen, 4-6 Oktober 2017.
- 4th European Workshops in International Studies (EWIS). Cardiff University/Wales, 7.-10 June 2017. Workshop “Recovering the Middle East in/from International Relation”.
- Workshop on images and online narratives in international relations, University of Oxford, 20 January 2017.
- 10th ECPR General Conference, Charles University. Prag, 7-10 September 2016.
- Migration and the Conflict Cycle. GIGA, IFSH, Universität Siegen, Istanbul Policy Center. Hamburg, 28-29 April 2016.
- 4. Offene Sektionstagung “Internationale Politik” (DVPW). Magdeburg, 25-27 September 2014.
- 4. Nachwuchskonferenz des Exzellenzclusters “Die Herausbildung normativer Ordnungen” – ‘Praktiken der Kritik’. Frankfurt am Main, 5-7 December 2013.

- LSE Middle East Centre PhD Conference on ‘Contentious Politics in the Middle East’. London, 30. September 2013.
- 8th EISA Pan-European Conference on International Relations. Warschau, 18.-21. September 2013.

JOURNAL REVIEWER

- Climate Policy
- Global Constitutionalism
- Global Studies Quarterly
- Global Society
- International Affairs
- International Relations
- International Studies Quarterly
- Journal of International Political Theory
- Millennium: Journal of International Studies
- Politische Vierteljahresschrift (PVS - Journal of the German Political Science Association)
- Revista Brasileira de Política Internacional
- Swiss Political Science Review

MEMBERSHIPS AND SERVICE TO THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

German Political Science Association / Deutsche Vereinigung für Politikwissenschaft
Member and Co-Speaker of the thematic network “IR norms research” (since 2020)

School of Integrated Climate and Earth System Sciences, University of Hamburg
Graduate School Postdoctoral Representative (2021-2023)

Young Climate Scientist Award, Center for Earth System Research and Sustainability
Member of Selection Committee 2022 & 2024

Memberships

- British International Studies Association (BISA), The Colonial / Postcolonial / Decolonial Working Group
- European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR)
- European International Studies Association (EISA)
- German Middle East Studies Association for Contemporary Research and Documentation/Deutsche Arbeitsgemeinschaft Vorderer Orient für gegenwartsbezogene Forschung und Dokumentation (DAVO)
- International Studies Association (ISA)

LANGUAGES

German, English, Arabic

FURTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA),
Aleppo, Syria (2009) Internship Neirab Rehabilitation project

Tent of Nations, Israel and Occupied Territories/Palestine
Jerusalem & Bethlehem, Civil Service (2005 – 2006)