

# JANINA GRABS

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## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2021 - present Assistant Professor (tenure-track) for Business and Society  
Department of Society, Politics and Sustainability, ESADE Business School, Spain
- 2021 - 2024 Affiliate Member of the Faculty of Graduate Studies  
Department of Geography, University of Victoria, Canada
- 2019 - 2021 Postdoctoral Researcher  
Department of Humanities, Social and Political Sciences, ETH Zürich, Switzerland
- 2018 - 2019 Visiting Researcher  
School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Yale University, USA

## EDUCATION

- 2018 Ph.D. in Political Science (summa cum laude)  
Graduate School of Political Science, University of Münster, Germany
- 2014 M.Sc. in Agricultural and Food Economics, University of Bonn, Germany  
M.Sc. in Business and Economics, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
- 2012 B.A. (First Class Honors) in Political Science, McGill University, Canada
- 2010/11 Exchange year at Sciences Po (Paris), summa cum laude

## MAJOR GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2021 SNIS International Geneva Award, given to the three best papers published on a subject related to international studies that are especially useful from the perspective of international organizations, Swiss Network for International Studies (CHF 5,000)
- 2021 ONE Book Award for the best book published in the previous three years in the area of organizations and the natural environment, Academy of Management (USD 500)
- 2021 Project grant "The paradoxes of climate-smart coffee" (2021-2025, DKK 11,993,426), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (co-investigator, PI: Kristjan Jespersen)
- 2020 Project grant "Assessing the effectiveness and equity of zero-deforestation commitment implementation in the palm oil sector" (2020-2024; CHF 785,128), Swiss National Science Foundation (co-investigator, PI: Rachael Garrett)
- 2020 SSHRC Connection Grant "Traders as agents of sustainability governance in global food supply chains: Initiating a research agenda" (2020-2022, Can\$ 24,915), Canadian Social Science and Humanities Research Council (co-PI, with Sophia Carodenuto)
- 2019 Virginia Walsh Award for the best dissertation in environmental politics, American Political Science Association
- 2019 Oran R. Young Prize awarded for the best early-career paper of the 2019 Mexico Conference, Earth System Governance Network
- 2018 Giandomenico Majone Prize for the best paper presented at the 2018 Biennial Conference of the ECPR Standing Group on Regulatory Governance by an early career researcher (up to 7 years after PhD), European Consortium on Political Research

## PUBLICATIONS

### Refereed books

1. **Grabs, J.** (2020). *Selling sustainability short? The private governance of labor and the environment in the coffee sector*. Cambridge University Press.  
- Winner of the 2021 ONE Book Award, Academy of Management  
- Reviewed in *Perspectives on Politics, Governance, and Global Justice* and *Human Rights Journal Review*

### Refereed journal articles

16. Garrett, R., **Grabs, J.**, Cammelli, F., Gollnow, F. & Levy, S. (2022). Should Payments for Ecosystem Services be used to implement zero-deforestation supply chain policies? The case of soy in the Brazilian Cerrado. *World Development*, 152, 105814.
15. Cammelli, F., Levy, S., **Grabs, J.**, Valentim, J., & Garrett, R. (2022). Effectiveness-equity tradeoffs in enforcing exclusionary supply chain policies: lessons from the Amazonian cattle sector. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 332, 130031.
14. **Grabs, J.**, Cammelli, F., Levy, S., & Garrett, R. (2021). Designing effective and equitable zero-deforestation supply chain policies. *Global Environmental Change*, 70, 102357  
- Winner of 2021 SNIS International Geneva Award, Swiss Network for International Studies
13. **Grabs, J.** & Carodenuto, S. (2021). Traders as sustainability governance actors in global food supply chains. A research agenda. *Business Strategy and the Environment*, 30(2), 1314-1332.
12. **Grabs, J.** (2021). Signaling Southern sustainability: When do actors use private or public regulatory authority to market tropical commodities? *Journal of Environmental Management*, 285, 112053.
11. Dietz, T., & **Grabs, J.** (2021). Additionality and implementation gaps in Voluntary Sustainability Standards. *New Political Economy*, early view, doi: 10.1080/13563467.2021.1881473 (equal authors)
10. Dietz, T., **Grabs, J.**, & Estrella Chong, A. (2021). Mainstreamed voluntary sustainability standards and their effectiveness: Evidence from the Honduran coffee sector. *Regulation & Governance*, 15(2), 333-355.
9. **Grabs, J.**, Auld, G., & Cashore, B. (2021). Private regulation, public policy, and the perils of adverse ontological selection. *Regulation & Governance*, 15(4), 1183-1208.
8. **Grabs, J.** (2020). Assessing the institutionalization of private sustainability governance in a changing coffee sector. *Regulation & Governance*, 14(2), 362-387.
7. Dietz, T., Estrella Chong, A., **Grabs, J.**, Kilian, B. (2020). How effective is multiple certification in improving the economic conditions of smallholder farmers? Evidence from an impact evaluation in Colombia's coffee belt. *Journal of Development Studies*, 56(6), 1141-1160.
6. **Grabs, J.**, & Ponte, S. (2019). The evolution of power in the global coffee value chain and production network. *Journal of Economic Geography*, 19(4), 803-828.
5. Dietz, T., Auffenberg, J., **Grabs, J.**, Estrella Chong, A., & Kilian, B. (2018). The Voluntary Coffee Standard Index (VOCSI). Developing a composite index to assess and compare the strength of Mainstream Voluntary Sustainability Standards in the global coffee industry. *Ecological Economics*, 150, 72-87.
4. Dietz, T., Estrella Chong, A., Font Gilabert, P., & **Grabs, J.** (2018). Women's empowerment in rural Honduras and its determinants: insights from coffee communities in Ocotepeque and Copan. *Development in Practice*, 28(1), 33-50. (equal authors)

3. **Grabs, J.**, Kilian, B., Hernández, D. C., & Dietz, T. (2016). Understanding coffee certification dynamics: A spatial analysis of voluntary sustainability standard proliferation. *International Food & Agribusiness Management Review*, 19, 31-55.  
- Winner of 2016 Best Paper Award in category “Relevance to managers”, IFAMA World Conference
2. **Grabs, J.**, Langen, N., Maschkowski, G., & Schöpke, N. (2016). Understanding role models for change: a multilevel analysis of success factors of grassroots initiatives for sustainable consumption. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 134, 98-111.
1. **Grabs, J.** (2015). The rebound effects of switching to vegetarianism. A microeconomic analysis of Swedish consumption behavior. *Ecological Economics*, 116, 270-279.

### Book chapters

1. Maschkowski, G., Schöpke, N., **Grabs, J.**, & Langen, N. (2016). Learning from co-founders of grassroots initiatives: personal resilience, transition, and behavioral change – a salutogenic approach. In: Henfrey T., & Maschkowski G. (eds.) *Resilience, Community Action and Societal Transformation*. East Meon: Permanent Publications and Bristol: Good Works.

### Book reviews and book review responses

2. **Grabs, J.** (2021). Moving Forward on the Point of Voluntary Sustainability Certifications. AN INVITED RESPONSE TO Bennett, E. A. 2021. Voluntary Sustainability Certifications: What is the Point? *Global Justice and Human Rights Journal Review* 1(4), 18-23. *Global Justice and Human Rights Journal Review*, 1(5), 24-30.
1. **Grabs, J.** (2021). Private Governance and Public Authority: Regulating Sustainability in a Global Economy. By Stefan Renckens. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2020. 314p. \$99.99 cloth. *Perspectives on Politics*, 19(1), 324-326.

### Work under review

3. Bennett, E., & **Grabs, J.** How can businesses share more economic value with suppliers? The emergence of “profit sharing” as an alternative to solidarity trade, fair trade certification, or direct trade (equal authors). R&R.
2. **Grabs, J.** & Garrett, R. Supply chain sustainability paradoxes when implementing private environmental governance in the Indonesian palm oil sector. R&R.
1. **Grabs, J.** A theory of credible cross-temporal corporate commitments as goal-based private sustainability governance. Under review.

### Other publications

5. Bennett, E., & **Grabs, J.** (2021). Rethinking the “necessary” trade-offs of distributing value to suppliers: An analysis of the profit-sharing model. Carr Center Discussion Paper. Harvard Kennedy School Carr Center for Human Rights Policy.
4. IPES-Food (2018). *Breaking away from industrial food and farming systems - seven case studies of agroecological transition*. Louvain-la-Neuve: International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems (research lead).
3. IPES-Food (2017). *Unravelling the Food–Health Nexus: Addressing practices, political economy, and power relations to build healthier food systems*. Louvain-la-Neuve: International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems (contributing researcher).
2. **Grabs, J.** (2017). The rise of buyer-driven sustainability governance: Emerging trends in the global coffee sector. *ZenTra Working Paper in Transnational Studies* No. 73/2017.

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1. **Grabs, J.** (2015). *Value-adding strategies for low-emission coffee: An overview*. San Jose, Costa Rica: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

### OTHER AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2019 WWU Dissertationspreis 2019, awarded for the best dissertation of the Department of Social and Educational Sciences of the Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster (€3,500)
- 2019 Admission to Robert Bosch Postdoc Academy for Transformational Leadership (2019-2021)
- 2018 Admission to the Earth System Governance Research Fellow Network
- 2016 Best Paper Award in category “Relevance to managers”, IFAMA World Conference
- 2012 Allen Oliver Gold Medal, McGill University  
Dean of Arts Convocation Prize, McGill University

### OTHER GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2020 Faculty Exchange Grant to support ETH visit of Indonesian collaborator Dr. Nia Kurniawati Hidayat (CHF 8,500), ETH for Development (ETH4D)
- 2019 Project grant from *Fonds Welternährungssystem* (CHF 8,900), ETH World Food System Center (with Federico Cammelli)
- 2019 2019 University of Toronto Scarborough Postdoctoral Fellowship (Can\$ 90,000), declined
- 2019 Gender Equity Grant for International Conference Visits (€400), University of Münster
- 2018 IPID4All Travel Grant for International Research Exchanges (€5,000), German Academic Exchange Service
- 2018 DAAD International Conference Travel Grant (€600), German Academic Exchange Service
- 2017 IPID4All Travel Grant for International Research Exchanges (€5,000), German Academic Exchange Service
- 2017 Gender Equity Grant for International Conference Visits (€500), University of Münster
- 2014 – 2015 Mercator Fellowship on International Affairs (€20,000), Mercator Foundation/German National Academic Foundation
- 2012 – 2014 Erasmus Mundus Scholarship (€12,000), European Union

### TEACHING

#### ESADE Business School

Sociology (co-taught, undergraduate, 2021)

Business in society (graduate, 2021)

Critical political economy: Growth, inequality and planetary boundaries (undergraduate, 2022)

#### University of Münster

Ethics and sustainability governance of international value chains (undergraduate, 2017, 2018 & 2019)

Methods: Policy analysis and impact evaluation (undergraduate, 2018 & 2019)

Introduction to international organizations (undergraduate, 2018)

Critical political economy: Growth, inequality and planetary boundaries (undergraduate, 2018)

## **Yale University**

Problem solving in the global era: Social science contributions to forward looking environmental management (lead Teaching Fellow, graduate, 2018)

Global environmental governance (lead Teaching Fellow, graduate, 2019)

## **THESIS SUPERVISION AND MENTORSHIP**

### *PhD thesis supervision*

Daniel Mwalutolo, 2021-2025, University of Dar es Salaam (co-supervisor)

Guta Regasa Megerssa, 2021-2025, Jimma University (co-supervisor)

Adelina Chandra, 2020-2024, ETH Zurich, title: The effectiveness and equity of zero deforestation commitments in the Indonesian palm oil sector (co-supervisor)

### *MS thesis supervision*

Yan Pavillard, 2020-2021, ETH Zurich, title: The potential effectiveness of corporate grievance procedures for the implementation of zero-deforestation commitments (supervisor)

Longzhun Lin, 2020-2021, ETH Zurich, title: Assessing the potential effectiveness and equity of cocoa traders' zero-deforestation commitments (co-supervisor)

## **LEADERSHIP IN SERVICE**

### **Service in professional organizations**

- 2021 – 2024 Book Review Editor, Earth System Governance journal
- 2021 – 2025 Steering Committee member, ECPR Standing Group on Regulatory Governance
- 2021 – 2023 Outreach committee officer, International Studies Association Environmental Studies Section
- 2020 – present Organizing committee member, ECPR RegGov Early Career Network
- 2020 Committee member, APSA STEP (Science, Technology, and Environmental Politics) Section Virginia M. Walsh dissertation award committee

### **Conference and panel organization**

- 2021 Organization of private sustainability governance reading group and seminar series, online.
- 2021 Panel organization, 2021 ECPR Standing Group on Regulatory Governance 8th Biennial Conference, online, June 23. – 25.
- 2021 Organization of First Swiss Knowledge Exchange on Research on Agriculture, Conservation, and Development Issues in Forest-Risk Supply Chains, online, May 27-28.
- 2021 Panel and roundtable organization, 2021 International Studies Association, online, April 6-9.
- 2019 Panel organization, 2019 Mexico Conference of the Earth System Governance Network, Oaxaca, November 6. – 8.
- 2019 Panel organization, 2019 International Studies Association, Toronto, March 27. – 30.

**Policy advice and expert opinions**

2017 – 2020 Co-chair of EKLIPSE Expert Working Group on business activities’ impacts on biodiversity

**INVITED TALKS**

- 2022 Invited seminar speaker, KTI seminar, KTI seminar, Wageningen University, online, Jan. 11.
- 2021 Guest lecturer in class “International Environmental Policy” by Prof. Jessica Green, University of Toronto, online, Nov. 23.
- 2021 Invited presenter, webinar “Sustainable food value chain management: beyond standardized frames of sustainability”, University of Helsinki, online, Oct. 21.
- 2021 Guest lecturer, International Summer Course SKPM, IPB University, online, Aug. 13.
- 2021 Invited presenter, 59<sup>th</sup> SOBER (Sociedade Brasileira de Economia, Administração e Sociologia Rural) Congress, online, Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- 2021 Invited Re:Co (Regarding: Coffee) Symposium panelist, Specialty Coffee Association, online, May 12.
- 2021 Invited presenter, internal seminar at JDE (second-largest global coffee roaster), online, Feb. 24.
- 2020 Invited presenter, Global Land Programme (GLP) webinar, online, Dec. 8.
- 2020 Invited presenter, SINTERCAFE (Semana Internacional del Café) 2020, online, Nov. 13.
- 2020 Invited panel speaker, Closing Plenary, 2020 Virtual Forum of the Earth System Governance Network, online, Sept. 17.
- 2020 Invited presenter, Deutscher Kaffeeverband (German Coffee Association) online seminar “Nachhaltigkeits-News im Kaffee in 7 Speed Speeches”, online, Aug. 26.
- 2020 Invited presenter and panel speaker, Tropical Forest Alliance Soy Dialogue on “Payments for Environmental Services: a Game-Changer for Brazil and Beyond?”, online, July 30.
- 2020 Invited panel speaker, ISEAL Alliance webinar “Why system credibility matters for impacts: how the Credibility Principles can support effectiveness and impacts”, online, July 21.
- 2020 Invited presenter and panel speaker (with Samuel Levy), ICLR 2020 Workshop Tackling Climate Change with Machine Learning, online, April 28.
- 2020 Invited presenter and panel speaker, UNCTAD-ICO workshop “Fostering sustainable development in coffee-exporting countries”, Geneva, Feb. 18.
- 2019 Guest lecturer in seminar “Governing through Markets: Sustainability and Fairness in the Global Economy” by Professor Tim Bartley, University of St. Gallen, Sept. 16.
- 2019 Invited panel speaker at the event “Sustainability – A transatlantic conversation”, organized by the California Wine Institute and Harpers Magazine, London, July 11.
- 2019 University of Massachusetts Boston Organizations and Social Change (OSC) Research Seminar, Boston, May 1.

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- 2019 Invited Re:Co (Regarding: Coffee) Symposium presenter, Specialty Coffee Association, Boston, April 10. - 11.
- 2019 Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies Research Luncheon, New Haven, March 4.
- 2018 Invited panel speaker, Specialty Coffee Association Sustainability Webinar “Coffee Prices and Farm Profitability”, online, Sept. 25.

## MEDIA CONTRIBUTIONS AND MENTIONS

### Radio and podcasts

- 2021 Coffee. *Sweaty Penguin* podcast, Nov. 19.
- 2021 Environmental regulation, business and biodiversity. *Eclipse* podcast, May 5.
- 2020 How traders can be the facilitators for brand sustainability goals. *Innovation Forum* podcast, Oct. 9.
- 2020 Selling sustainability short? The private governance of labour and the environment in the coffee sector (Podcast). *Evidensia* podcast, July 30.
- 2019 Sofía. *Filter Stories* podcast, March 10.

### Written media

- 2021 **Grabs, J., & Bennett, B.** Profit Sharing: Towards a Just and Stable Future for Coffee Growers. *25 Magazine*, April 13.
- 2021 Müller-Jung, J. Rettungsversuche für die Regenwälder. *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, March 29.
- 2021 Cammelli, F., Levy, S., & **Grabs, J.** Tracing food supply chains in challenging times (and places). *Food System Stories website*, March 18.
- 2020 **Grabs, J.** How effective is private regulation in incentivizing more sustainable production practices in the coffee sector?. *Evidensia website*, Oct. 16.
- 2020 Brown, N. A Chat with Janina Grabs on the New Book ‘Selling Sustainability Short’. *Daily Coffee News*, May 29.
- 2020 **Grabs, J.** Kaffeeproduktion braucht klare Regeln. *Wissen/Leben (WWU alumni magazine)*, May 13.
- 2019 **Grabs, J.** Coffee certifications: Selling sustainability short?. *Coffee & Cocoa International Magazine*, Oct. 11.
- 2019 Levin, M. Crisis forces Colombia’s coffee farmers fight for a living wage. *Fresh Cup Magazine*, June 7.
- 2019 **Grabs, J.** Farm Profitability Q&A – Janina Grabs. *Specialty Coffee Association News*, Jan. 8.
- 2018 **Grabs, J.** The Coffee Price Crisis and Price Volatility: Can We Tame the C Market?. *25 Magazine*, Dec. 14.
- 2018 Greenwood, V. Swapping t-bone for tofu - but does it add up?. *BBC.com*, Nov. 12.

2018 Brown, N. Ranking Certifications: German Researchers Create VSS Index for Coffee. *Daily Coffee News*, June 20.

## CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

- 2021 2021 Bratislava Conference of the Earth System Governance, online, Sept. 7-9.
- 2021 2021 International Studies Association, online, April 6-9.
- 2020 Authors' Workshop 'Governance Netzwerke | Kooperation, Konkurrenz, Konflikt', Zeppelin University (online attendance), Oct. 1.
- 2020 2020 ETH Virtual Workshop "Data Science in Climate and Climate Impact Research: Conceptual Issues, Challenges, and Opportunities", online, Aug. 20.
- 2019 Authors' Workshop 'Interactions between Private and Public Authority in Global (Business) Governance: comparative and inter-disciplinary perspectives', Melbourne University (online attendance), Dec. 2.
- 2019 Authors' Workshop 'Moral Critique in and around Markets: Organizing (for) Alternatives in Troubled Times', Witten/Herdecke University, Nov. 21. - 22.
- 2019 2019 Mexico Conference of the Earth System Governance Network, Oaxaca, Nov. 6. - 8.
- 2019 2019 International Studies Association, Toronto, March 27. - 30.
- 2019 "Signaling sustainability: The interplay of public and private regulation of tropical commodity production", 2019 International Studies Association, Toronto, March 27. - 30.
- 2019 Authors' Workshop 'Beyond the government-market-communities trichotomy: Conditions and instruments for cooperative, coercive and competitive interactions in natural resource and agri-environmental governance', Duisburg, March 11. - 12.
- 2018 2018 Annual Meeting of the International Political Economy Society, Boston, Nov. 2. - 3.
- 2018 ECPR General Conference 2018, Hamburg, Aug. 22. - 25.
- 2018 ECPR Standing Group on Regulatory Governance 7<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference, Lausanne, July 4. - 6.
- 2018 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Environmental Politics and Governance, Stockholm, June 28. - 30.
- 2018 Yale Workshop on Private Authority and Public Policy in Global Context, New Haven, Jan. 10. - 11.
- 2017 American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, Aug. 31. - Sept. 3.
- 2017 12<sup>th</sup> Conference of the European Society for Ecological Economics, Budapest, June 20. - 23.
- 2017 Policy Implementation Reloaded: New Insights from Domestic, European and International Scholarship, International Conference, Münster, July 06. - 07.
- 2016 International Food and Agribusiness Management Association World Conference, Aarhus, June 19. - 23.
- 2014 International Conference on Consumer Research, Bonn, Sept. 29. - 30.
- 2014 International Society for Ecological Economics Conference, Reykjavik, Aug. 13. - 15.



## **OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

- 2015 – 2019      Research associate, TransSustain project, University of Münster/  
INCAE Business School, Costa Rica
- 2016 – 2018      Research consultant, International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems

## **OTHER SERVICE TO THE DISCIPLINE**

### **Chairing and discussant services**

- 2021              Chair, 2021 International Studies Association, online, April 6-9.
- 2020              Discussant, GLOBE Webinar Series on Global Governance and the European Union:  
Future Trends and Scenarios (GLOBE), December 10.
- 2020              Discussant, RegGov Early Career Network Conference, December 7.
- 2018              Discussant, ECPR General Conference 2018, Hamburg, August 22. – 25.
- 2018              Discussant, Copenhagen Business School Workshop on Private Authority and Public  
Policy in Global Context, March 22. – 23.
- 2017              Chair and discussant, American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San  
Francisco, Aug. 31. – Sept. 3.

### **Book referee services**

Cambridge University Press, Routledge (Taylor & Francis Group), Elsevier Academic Press

### **Journal referee services (selected)**

Business Ethics Quarterly, Business Strategy and the Environment, Environmental Politics, Global  
Environmental Politics, Global Society, Journal of Economic Geography, Journal of Environment and  
Development, Journal of Environmental Policy & Planning, Regulation & Governance, Review of Policy  
Research, World Development

## **FURTHER PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**

- 2021              Summer Institute in Computational Social Science, Zurich, June 14. – 18.
- 2021              PRME UK and Ireland Business and Society Research Development Workshop, May 14.
- 2019              Yale Certificate of College Teaching Preparation (CCTP), Yale University Poorvu Center for  
Teaching and Learning, academic year 2018-19
- 2017              APSA Course Design and Pedagogy Workshop. American Political Science Association  
Annual Meeting, San Francisco, Aug. 31. – Sept. 3.
- 2017              Certificate in project management, Graduate Center of the University of Münster, April 18. –  
July 27.
- 2017              IMPACT: approaches and tools for enhancing the social and policy impact of your research.  
European Society for Ecological Economics Summer School, Budapest, June 18. – 20.
- 2017              Knowing and creatively using participatory teaching methods, Center for Academic  
Teaching of the University of Münster, June 12.

**LANGUAGES**

English (native), German (native), French (proficient), Spanish (proficient), Swedish (basic – B1), Russian (basic – B1), Indonesian (beginner – A1), Catalan (beginner – A1), Portuguese (passive – can read with dictionary), Italian (passive – can read with dictionary)

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS**

European Consortium on Political Research, International Studies Association, Earth System Governance Project (Research Fellow), Academy of Management, Group for Research on Organizations and the Natural Environment (GRONEN)

Last updated: January 2022