

## Short Profile

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As an interdisciplinary researcher trained in geography and management, I study how socio-spatial dynamics shape power, access, and legitimacy in governance and cross-sector collaboration. My work examines how actors navigate and contest unequal structures in contexts of environmental and societal challenges, with a particular focus on crisis and sustainability governance. During my PhD at Copenhagen Business School, I analyzed how local business actors engage in and reshape disaster response and resilience governance. Building on this foundation, my current research as a postdoctoral fellow focuses on governance and knowledge production in environmental and extractive contexts, particularly deep-sea mining.

## Work Experience

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### **Copenhagen Business School** **since 10.2021**

*Postdoctoral Fellow in the FRONTIERS project (full-time) | Since 04.2026*

- Examining how knowledge, governance, and accountability are shaped across environmental and extractive frontiers under uncertainty.

*Research Assistant in the HUMAC project (full-time) | 10.2024 – 01.2026*

- Developing a practitioner report on business engagement in crisis coordination to provide qualitative insights and guide stakeholder engagement and partnership frameworks.

*PhD Fellow (full-time) | Since 10.2021 – 10.2024*

- Independently designed and delivered a multi-year research project on cross-sector collaboration in disaster contexts.

### **Mercator Fellowship on International Affairs** **10.2020 – 10.2021**

*Research fellow with three international work placements (full-time)*

- Logistics Cluster, World Food Programme, Rome: Conducted an analytical study of private-sector engagement & contributed to developing a partnership integration strategy.
- Connecting Business initiative (CBI), United Nations Development Programme, Istanbul: Supported impact measurement and co-developed indicators & guidance for private-sector and multi-stakeholder networks.
- Harvard Kennedy School, Corporate Responsibility Initiative: Co-authored a practitioner-oriented report on national-level business-society coalitions & cross-sector partnership models.

### **Project Management Agency of the German Aerospace Center** **02.2019 – 10.2020**

*Research Associate (full-time) | 03.2020 – 10.2020*

- Led the design & organization of the Green Talents Virtual Science Forum 2020, coordinating stakeholders across multiple sectors, programme development and communication.

*Student Assistant (Part time) | 02.2019 – 03.2020*

- Provided administrative, logistical, and communication support for the Green Talents Team.

**Deutsche Post DHL – Disaster Response Teams** **08.2018 – 01.2019**

*Intern (full-time)*

- Supporting preparedness workshops with UNDP & UNOCHA, supporting cross-sector collaboration. Managed communication, documentation, and event organization.

**UN Economic & Social Commission for Asia & the Pacific** **02.2018 – 04.2018**

*Intern (full-time)*

- Conducted policy-oriented research on risk governance, climate adaptation, and technology applications, producing briefs for internal and external stakeholders.

## Education

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**PhD in Management Studies, 10.2021 – 10.2025**

**Copenhagen Business School, Department for Management, Society, & Communication, Denmark**

- Dissertation title: Local Business at the Frontlines. Cross-Sector Dynamics in Disaster Response and Resilience.
- Supervisors: Associate Professor Verena Girschik and Associate Professor Lotte Thomsen
- Doctoral course work:
  - Research Methods (Semi-Structured Interviews; Empirical Design in Social Science Research; Case Study Methods for Theory Building)
  - Theoretical Frameworks (Spatial Perspectives in Organization and Management Studies; Critical Management Studies)
  - Pedagogy (Learning to Teach in Higher Education)

**University of Technology Sydney Business School, Centre for Climate Risk and Resilience, Australia**

- Visiting PhD Fellow from 09.2023 – 11.2023, hosted by Professor Martina Linnenluecke
- Focus on single-authored paper on systemic inequalities in organizational resilience research.

**MSc in Geography of Environmental Risk & Human Security, 09.2016 – 11.2019**

**United Nations University (UNU) Bonn and University of Bonn, Germany**

- Thesis: International Disaster Aid as a Challenge to National Sovereignty: Re-shaping Humanitarian Aid and Exploring Potential Benefits of New Partnerships to Accommodate the Sovereign State.
- Supervisor: Professor Detlef Müller-Mahn

**BSc in Geography, 09.2012 – 05.2016**

**University of Bonn, Germany**

- Minor: Economics and International Food Markets (Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Global Food Economy)



## Publications

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### Peer-reviewed articles:

- Nussbruch, D., & Thomsen, L. (2025). Struggles over value, access and positionality: Differentiated dis/association agency in humanitarian aid. *Geoforum*, 161, 104258. (AJG2)
- Nussbruch, D., & Girschik, V. (2024). No Seat at the Table: How Territoriality Constrains Cross-Sector Collaboration in Disaster Response. *Journal of Business Ethics*, 1-24. (AJG3; FT50)

### Under Preparation:

- Nussbruch, D. (in preparation). Rethinking resourcefulness: Tackling systemic inequalities in organizational resilience.

## Teaching Experience

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### Bachelor Level

- Delivered lectures on basic qualitative methods, sustainability, cross-sector partnerships, and critical CSR (Business, Language & Culture program).

### Master Level

- Taught topics including small business responsibility, internationalization strategies, global supply chains, and cross-sector partnerships (Organizations and Society; International Business, Responsibility and Communication).

### Supervision & Assessment

- Supervised first-year Bachelor projects and final theses (BLC program).
- Involved in grading and oral examinations for courses including: Globalisation and Sustainability, Cultural Social Theory, Globalization and Development, International Business: Market and Non-Market Strategies, and Organizations and Society.

## Awards, Grants, & Fellowships

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- **Nominee for the Tietgen Award** (2025) – Award for outstanding research in business-oriented social sciences.
- **Otto Mønsted Foundation Travel Grants** (2023 and 2024) – Research stay at UTS and international conference participation.
- **Mercator Fellowship on International Affairs** (2020 – 2021) – Competitively awarded by Stiftung Mercator, the German Academic Scholarship Foundation, and the German Federal Foreign Office.
- **DAAD Scholarship** (2018) – Funded internship with UNESCAP, Bangkok.

## Social Engagements:

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- Board Member & PhD Representative, CBS and PAC (2021 – 2023)
- Student Representative, UNU/Bonn (2016 – 2018)
- Educational Support, Refugee Center Bonn (2015 – 2016)