

Hannover Finance Symposium 2023: Paper topics

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Organisation

- The central topic of the Hannover Finance Symposium (HFS) is the emergence of and adaptation to climate risks within the financial and insurance sector
- The Institute for Risk and Insurance offers topics for students to write term papers (Hausarbeit) on this matter
- The focus of these papers is the the impact of climate change on insurance companies and financial decision-making
- **For all topics, empirical analyses will be required! A literature review will not be sufficient!**

- We will follow the schedule as also found on the [website of the Institute of Finance and Commodity Markets](#):
 - You will need to contact Koen van Boxel latest by **30.11.2023** (koen.vanboxel@insurance.uni-hannover.de)
 - When you do, please indicate your preference for a topic, or give your own proposal for a topic
 - You will be given 6 weeks to write the paper
 - The last date for hand-in of the paper is on 31.03.2024
 - Submission will be done by email
 - Formal requirements can be found in our [Guidelines for Scientific Work](#), also found on our website

Topics

■ Task

- Investigate the effect of company-specific variables on the ESG performance of insurance companies
- Analyze potential differences between insurance companies in the European Union and the USA

Base Literature

- Pedersen, L. H., Fitzgibbons, S., & Pomorski, L. (2021). Responsible investing: The ESG-efficient frontier. *Journal of Financial Economics*, 142(2), 572–597. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jfineco.2020.11.001>
- Friede, G., Busch, T., & Bassen, A. (2015). ESG and financial performance: Aggregated evidence from more than 2000 empirical studies. *Journal of Sustainable Finance & Investment*, 5(4), 210–233. <https://doi.org/10.1080/20430795.2015.1118917>
- Di Tommaso, C., & Mazzuca, M. (2023). The stock price of European insurance companies: What is the role of ESG factors? *Finance Research Letters*, 56, 104071. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fr1.2023.104071>

■ Data

- Refinitiv *Eikon* and *Datastream*

■ Task

- Investigate the amount of damages caused by natural disasters over time
- Compare the degree of which damages were insured to say something about insurance demand in relation to climate change

■ Base Literature

- Kunreuther, H. (1996). Mitigating disaster losses through insurance. *Journal of risk and Uncertainty*, 12, 171-187.
- Botzen, W. W., & van den Bergh, J. C. (2009). Bounded rationality, climate risks, and insurance: is there a market for natural disasters?. *Land Economics*, 85(2), 265-278.
- Kousky, C. (2019). The role of natural disaster insurance in recovery and risk reduction. *Annual Review of Resource Economics*, 11, 399-418.

■ Data

- *EM-DAT*

■ Task

- Investigate people's perceptions of types of natural risks occurring over time
- Look at how these expectations relate to insurance purchase behavior

■ Base Literature

- Kunreuther, H., & Pauly, M. (2004). Neglecting disaster: Why don't people insure against large losses?. *Journal of Risk and Uncertainty*, 28, 5-21.
- Dumm, R. E., Eckles, D. L., Nyce, C., & Volkman-Wise, J. (2017). Demand for windstorm insurance coverage and the representative heuristic. *The Geneva Risk and Insurance Review*, 42, 117-139.
- Liu, X., Tang, Y., Ge, J., & Miranda, M. J. (2019). Does experience with natural disasters affect willingness-to-pay for weather index insurance? Evidence from China. *International Journal of Disaster risk reduction*, 33, 33-43.

■ Data

- *TVSEP*