

Jason Deegan, Ph.D.

Contact Information

Prof. Olav Hanssensvei 15, 4021 Stavanger, Norway

Relevant Public Profiles

[ORCID](#)

[Personal Profile](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

Languages: **English** (Native), **Norwegian** (Full Professional Proficiency)

Research Profile

Dr. Jason Deegan is an early-career researcher specialising in economic geography, regional economic development, and innovation. With a focus on Smart Specialisation, regional transformation, and how regional innovation drives economic development and growth, he combines advanced quantitative methods with theoretical insights to address complex societal challenges. His work has been published in leading journals and featured at prominent international conferences.

Education

Ph.D. in Innovation and Regional Studies

University of Stavanger Business School, Norway (2023)

Thesis: Regional transformation: Between policy intervention and knowledge dynamics

Master of Public Policy

University College Dublin, Ireland (2019)

Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Marketing

Technological University Dublin, Ireland (2016)

Academic Positions

Senior Researcher (Forsker II)

NORCE Norwegian Research Centre, Stavanger, Norway (2023–Present)

Research Fellow

University of Stavanger, Norway (2019–2023)

Research Projects

Innovative Storage Technology and Operations in Hydropower (STOR-HY)

Horizon Europe Programme (2024–2028)

- Contribute to two work packages focusing on quantifying and analysing the social acceptance of pumped storage hydropower across European countries.
- NORCE lead on the social science contribution to this project.

Offshore Norge Project

Funded by Offshore Norge (2022–Present)

- Analysed the role of oil and gas incumbents in sustainability transitions.
- Examined system-level dynamics influencing transitions.
- Analysed proprietary LinkedIn data to assess labour mobility between oil and gas and green sectors.

Regional Resilience and Sustainable Industrial Restructuring (RegReSir)

Funded by the Research Council of Norway (2021–2022)

- Contributed to WP4: Innovation policy for sustainable restructuring. This contribution culminated in the paper "One coast, two systems," which explored the differences between regional innovation systems in Western Norway and their role in entrepreneurial discovery processes.

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Articles

1. Pylak, K., Deegan, J., & Broekel, T. (2025). Smart Specialisation or smart following? A study of policy mimicry in priority domain selection. *Regional Studies*, 1–14.
2. Deegan, J., Broekel, T., Haus-Reve, S., & Fitjar, R. D. (2024). How regions diversify into new jobs: From related industries or related occupations? *Regional Studies*, 1–16.
3. Deegan, J., & Dabrowska, A. (2024). One size fits most: On the emergence of differentiated regional policy in Poland. *Miscellanea Geographica*.
4. Jordahl, A. P., Reistad, R., Deegan, J., & Solheim, M. C. W. (2023). Translating in practice: On the role of translation in entrepreneurial discovery processes in Norway. *Norsk Geografisk Tidsskrift*, 77(2), 98–113. DOI: 10.1080/00291951.2023.2168567
5. Deegan, J., Solheim, M. C. W., Jakobsen, S. E., & Isaksen, A. (2022). One coast, two systems: Regional innovation systems and entrepreneurial discovery in Western Norway. *Growth and Change*, 53(2), 490–514. DOI: 10.1111/grow.12595
 - *Top Cited Paper Award, Growth and Change (2024).*
6. Deegan, J., Broekel, T., & Fitjar, R. D. (2021). Searching through the Haystack: The relatedness and complexity of priorities in Smart Specialisation Strategies. *Economic Geography*. DOI: 10.1080/00130095.2021.1967739
7. Deegan, J., (2019). Corrupting Perceptions: The impact of the United Nations Convention against Corruption on Corruption Perceptions Index scores. *Journal of Anti-Corruption Law*, 3(2), 169–192.
8. Deegan, J., Hogan, J., Feeney, S., & O'Rourke, B. K. (2018). The self and other: Portraying Israeli and Palestinian identities on Twitter. *Irish Communication Review*, 16(1), 8.

Non-Peer-Reviewed Publications

- Deegan, J. (2023). *Regional transformation: Between policy intervention and knowledge dynamics (Doctoral thesis)*. University of Stavanger.
 - Deegan, J., Broekel, T., Haus-Reve, S., og Dahl Fitjar, R. (2024). Hvor kommer de nye jobbene fra? *Dagens Næringsliv*.
 - Deegan, J. (2024). Rogaland står ved et kritisk veiskille. *Rogalands Avis*.
 - Deegan, J. (2022)., Solheim, M.C.W. Tidene endrer seg, og det må Stavanger også. *Stavanger Aftenbladet*.
 - Deegan, J., Broekel, T., Dahl Fitjar, R. (2021). Is smart specialisation helping regions to support the right activities? *RSA Blog*.
 - Deegan, J. (2021). It'll all come out in the wash: A no-deal Brexit and Ireland's regional imbalances. *RSA Blog*
 - Deegan, J., Amelung, F. (2021) Corruption in the Balkans remains a stubborn thing, it's not helped by difficult counting. *Respublika.Edu.Mk*
 - Deegan, J., Hogan, J., Feeney, S., & O'Rourke, B. K. (2018). Portraying Israeli and Palestinian identities on Twitter. *Political Studies Association*.
 - Deegan, J., Hogan, J., Feeney, S., & O'Rourke, B. K. (2018). Portraying Israeli and Palestinian identities on Twitter. *Jerusalem Post*.
 - Deegan, J., Hogan, J., Feeney, S., & O'Rourke, B. K. (2018). Portraying Israeli and Palestinian identities on Twitter. *LSE Middle East Blog*.
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Conferences and Presentations

- Deegan, J. (2024). Blessing or a Curse? Relatedness, Green Diversification, and the Enduring Influence of the Oil and Gas Sector. Workshop on Regional Development, Technology and the Green Transition.
- Deegan, J. (2024). An insight into Green Skills Development in Norway. Presentation to Irish delegation of the Department of Higher Education and Skills. Centre for Innovation Research.
- Deegan, J. (2024). Blessing or a Curse? Relatedness, Green Diversification, and the Enduring Influence of the Oil and Gas Sector.
- Deegan, J. (2023). The Digital Transformation and Regional Inequality around the Globe. Trial Lecture, Public Thesis Defense.
- Deegan, J., Broekel, T., Haus-Reve, S., & Fitjar, R. D. (2022). How regions diversify into new jobs: From related industries or related occupations. Regions in Recovery.
- Deegan, J., Solheim, M. C. W., Jordahl, A. P., & Reistad, R. (2022). Lost in Translation - Entrepreneurial discovery processes outside the EU. Geography of Innovation 2022 (GEOINNO 2022).

- Deegan, J., & Broekel, T. (2022). In the beginning was the word - a text based perspective on regional development. Global Conference on Economic Geography, Dublin, 2022.
- Deegan, J., Broekel, T., Haus-Reve, S., & Fitjar, R. D. (2022). How regions diversify into new jobs: From related industries or related occupations? Regional Innovation Policies Conference.
- Deegan, J., Solheim, M. C. W., Jordahl, A. P., & Reistad, R. (2022). Lost in Translation: Entrepreneurial discovery processes in a non-EU state. Geoinno 2022.
- Mewes, L., Deegan, J., & Broekel, T. (2021). Diversification and regional structural change. NORSA-ESPON Conference.
- Deegan, J., Broekel, T., Haus-Reve, S., & Fitjar, R. D. (2021). What we do, or where we work? – The impact of occupational and industrial relatedness on regional diversification. 60th ERSA Congress.
- Deegan, J., Broekel, T., & Fitjar, R. D. (2020). Rethinking Clusters - III International Conference on Cluster Research.
- Deegan, J., Broekel, T., & Fitjar, R. D. (2020). European Policies Research Centre Webinar Series.
- Deegan, J., Hogan, J., Feeney, S., and O'Rourke, B. K. (2017). The self and other: portraying Israeli and Palestinian identities on Twitter. *Presented at the Critical Media Literacy Conference, Dublin. 21 October.*
- Deegan, J., Hogan, J., Feeney, S., and O'Rourke, B. K. (2017). Communicating identity through Twitter in the Israel/Palestine conflict. Presented at the Annual Conference of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, United States of America, 2 September.

Professional Courses Taken

- Advances in Strategic Management. *Copenhagen Business School* / May 2022
- Research Design. *University of Stavanger* / January 2022
- Regression Analysis for Spatial Data. *Global School in Empirical Research Methods - St Gallen* / August 2021
- Machine Learning with R. *Global School in Empirical Research Methods - St Gallen* / January 2020
- Applied Analytics in Strategy and Management. *Norwegian School of Economics (NHH)* / December 2020
- Text Mining. *Global School in Empirical Research Methods - St Gallen* / January 2020
- Philosophy of Science. *University of Stavanger* / December 2019
- Problem-Oriented Innovation Policy: Key Organisational Dynamics and Issues. *Copenhagen Business School* / October 2019

Teaching Experience

University of Stavanger, Norway

- *Perspectives on Strategic Innovation* (MØA305-1 20V) | Seminar Leader | Spring 2020–2021
 - *Business Development and Innovation: Introduction* (MSB305-1 21H) | Seminar Leader | Autumn 2021
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Supervision

- Supervised 7 Master's theses, University of Stavanger.
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Skills

Technical Skills

- Programming Languages: R, Python, SQL
- Data Analysis: Spatial analysis, Spatial Regression, Machine learning, natural language processing, data mining and GIS
- Methodologies: Spatial econometrics, input-output modeling, labour market analysis, and network analysis

Research Skills

- Economic modeling and policy analysis for regional development
- GIS applications for regional and spatial economics
- Quantitative and qualitative research design

Professional Competencies

- Designing and developing policy interventions to promote regional economic development, drive economic growth, and support innovation ecosystems.
 - Facilitating collaboration among public and private partners, fostering interdisciplinary cooperation, and promoting social acceptance in regional economic interventions.
 - Experience in effectively communicating research findings to a broad audience, including academic peers, policymakers, and industry stakeholders. Demonstrated expertise in academic writing, project management, and the coordination of interdisciplinary teams to achieve clear outcomes.
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Core Metrics (as of 21.01.25)

- **Citations:** 83
- **h-index:** 3
- **i10-index:** 2

Professional Memberships

- Member, European Regional Science Association (ERSA) (2022–Present)
- Member, Regional Studies Association (2021–Present)
- Member, Nordic branch of ERSA, and designed and developed [their website](#). (2022-present)
- Former Digital Media Editor for Regional Studies Regional Science.