

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 (B2))

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

Regional Energy Transition Vulnerabilities and Adaptation Strategies (RENOVATE)

Funded by the Research Council of Norway (2025–2029)

- Project lead on the successful application, which was awarded nearly 12 million NOK under the Energi og transport programme.

- Lead for WP3: Development of the Regional Energy Transition Vulnerability Index (RET-VI), combining labour market data, socio-economic indicators, and spatial analysis to identify and visualise regional exposure, sensitivity, and adaptive capacity.
- The project focuses on supporting inclusive and regionally grounded adaptation strategies in Norway's oil and gas specialised regions through co-creation with local stakeholders.

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. **Smart Specialisation or Smart Following? A Study of Policy Mimicry in Priority Domain Selection**
Regional Studies
Pylak, K., Deegan, J., & Broekel, T.
2025 | pp. 1–14
DOI: [10.1080/00343404.2024.2429626](https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2024.2429626)
2. **How Regions Diversify into New Jobs: From Related Industries or Related Occupations?**
Regional Studies
Deegan, J., Broekel, T., Haus-Reve, S., & Fitjar, R. D.
2024 | pp. 1–16
DOI: [10.1080/00343404.2024.2335265](https://doi.org/10.1080/00343404.2024.2335265)
3. **One Size Fits Most: On the Emergence of Differentiated Regional Policy in Poland**
Miscellanea Geographica
Deegan, J., & Dabrowska, A.

2024

DOI: [10.2478/mgrsd-2023-0042](https://doi.org/10.2478/mgrsd-2023-0042)

4. **Translating in Practice: On the Role of Translation in Entrepreneurial Discovery Processes in Norway**
Norsk Geografisk Tidsskrift – Norwegian Journal of Geography
Jordahl, A. P., Reistad, R., Deegan, J., & Solheim, M. C. W.
2023 | 77(2), pp. 98–113
DOI: 10.1080/00291951.2023.2168567
5. **One Coast, Two Systems: Regional Innovation Systems and Entrepreneurial Discovery in Western Norway**
Growth and Change
Deegan, J., Solheim, M. C. W., Jakobsen, S. E., & Isaksen, A.
2022 | 53(2), pp. 490–514
DOI: 10.1111/grow.12595
Top Cited Paper Award, Growth and Change (2024)
6. **Searching Through the Haystack: The Relatedness and Complexity of Priorities in Smart Specialisation Strategies**
Economic Geography
Deegan, J., Broekel, T., & Fitjar, R. D.
2021
DOI: 10.1080/00130095.2021.1967739
7. **Corrupting Perceptions: The Impact of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption on Corruption Perceptions Index Scores**
Journal of Anti-Corruption Law
Deegan, J.
2019 | 3(2), pp. 169–192
8. **The Self and Other: Portraying Israeli and Palestinian Identities on Twitter**
Irish Communication Review
Deegan, J., Hogan, J., Feeney, S., & O'Rourke, B. K.
2018 | 16(1), Article 8

Non-Peer-Reviewed Publications

- **Regional Transformation: Between Policy Intervention and Knowledge Dynamics**
Doctoral Thesis, University of Stavanger
Deegan, J. | 2023
- **Vi snakker om industriomstilling, men ikke om folkene som skal gjøre jobben**
Energi & Klima
Deegan, J. | 2025
- **Hvor kommer de nye jobbene fra?**
Dagens Næringsliv
Deegan, J., Broekel, T., Haus-Reve, S., & Fitjar, R. D. | 2024
- **Rogaland står ved et kritisk veiskille**
Rogalands Avis
Deegan, J. | 2024
- **Tidene endrer seg, og det må Stavanger også**
Stavanger Aftenbladet
Deegan, J., & Solheim, M. C. W. | 2022

- **Is Smart Specialisation Helping Regions to Support the Right Activities?**
RSA Blog
Deegan, J., Broekel, T., & Fitjar, R. D. | 2021
 - **It'll All Come Out in the Wash: A No-Deal Brexit and Ireland's Regional Imbalances**
RSA Blog
Deegan, J. | 2021
 - **Corruption in the Balkans Remains a Stubborn Thing – It's Not Helped by Difficult Counting**
Respublika.Edu.Mk
Deegan, J., & Amelung, F. | 2021
 - **Portraying Israeli and Palestinian Identities on Twitter**
Political Studies Association Blog
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
Deegan, J., Hogan, J., Feeney, S., & O'Rourke, B. K. | 2018
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Conferences and Presentations

- **Norway's Energy Transition: The Role of State Intervention in Shifting from Oil and Gas to Renewables**
Presentation to the Scottish Affairs Committee (British MPs), Energy Transition Norway, Stavanger | 13 March 2025
- **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 | 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 | 2024
- **Blessing or a Curse? Relatedness, Green Diversification, and the Enduring Influence of the Oil and Gas Sector**
NORCE Presentation | 2024
- **The Digital Transformation and Regional Inequality Around the Globe**
Trial Lecture, Public Thesis Defence | 2023
- **How Regions Diversify into New Jobs: From Related Industries or Related Occupations**
Regions in Recovery
Deegan, J., Broekel, T., Haus-Reve, S., & Fitjar, R. D. | 2022
- **Lost in Translation: Entrepreneurial Discovery Processes Outside the EU**
Geography of Innovation 2022 (GEOINNO 2022)
Deegan, J., Solheim, M. C. W., Jordahl, A. P., & Reistad, R. | 2022
- **In the Beginning Was the Word: A Text-Based Perspective on Regional Development**
Global Conference on Economic Geography, Dublin
Deegan, J., & Broekel, T. | 2022
- **How Regions Diversify into New Jobs: From Related Industries or Related Occupations?**
Regional Innovation Policies Conference
Deegan, J., Broekel, T., Haus-Reve, S., & Fitjar, R. D. | 2022

- **Lost in Translation: Entrepreneurial Discovery Processes in a Non-EU State**
Geography of Innovation (GEOINNO 2022)
Deegan, J., Solheim, M. C. W., Jordahl, A. P., & Reistad, R. | 2022
- **Diversification and Regional Structural Change**
NORSA-ESPOON Conference
Mewes, L., Deegan, J., & Broekel, T. | 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., Haus-Reve, S., & Fitjar, R. D. | 2021
- **Rethinking Clusters**
III International Conference on Cluster Research
Deegan, J., Broekel, T., & Fitjar, R. D. | 2020
- **Regional Development and Innovation in Europe**
European Policies Research Centre Webinar Series
Deegan, J., Broekel, T., & Fitjar, R. D. | 2020
- **The Self and Other: Portraying Israeli and Palestinian Identities on Twitter**
Critical Media Literacy Conference, Dublin
Deegan, J., Hogan, J., Feeney, S., & O'Rourke, B. K. | 21 October 2017
- **Communicating Identity Through Twitter in the Israel/Palestine Conflict**
Annual Conference of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA
Deegan, J., Hogan, J., Feeney, S., & O'Rourke, B. K. | 2 September 2017

Advanced Research Training

- 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

Supervision

- Supervised 7 Master's theses, University of Stavanger.
 - External examiner on 7 Masters theses
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Skills

Technical Skills

- **Programming Languages:** R, Python, SQL
- **Data Analysis:** Econometric modelling (OLS, panel data, logit/probit), spatial regression, machine learning, text mining, GIS-based analysis
- **Analytical Methods:** Spatial econometrics, input–output modelling, labour market analysis, network analysis

Research Skills

- Design and implementation of quantitative research, including regression modelling, forecasting, and statistical inference
- Design and conduct of qualitative research, including semi-structured interviews, survey design, and thematic analysis
- Integration of mixed methods for comprehensive evaluation of regional development and innovation policy

Professional Competencies

- Translating research insights into actionable policy recommendations for regional innovation, smart specialisation, and green transition strategies
 - Leading interdisciplinary research projects and stakeholder consultations involving government, academia, and industry
 - Communicating findings to diverse audiences through reports, briefings, workshops, and public talks; skilled in academic writing, research coordination, and policy engagement
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Core Metrics (as of 20.06.25)

- **Citations:** 108
 - **h-index:** 4
 - **i10-index:** 2
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Professional Service & Membership

- 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.

- Main opponent, PhD defence committee, John Eugene Chrisman at University of Inland Norway, on March 11 2025
- Rapporteur, project evaluation panel for the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA), 2025
- Member of the European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) Action: Pan-European Network for Sustainable Hydropower (PEN@Hydropower), contributing to working groups on Clean Energy Transition and policy measures, as well as Holistic assessment and stakeholder interaction.