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Reply on CEC1

Veit Blauhut et al.

Author comment on "Lessons from the 2018–2019 European droughts: a collective need for unifying drought risk management" by Veit Blauhut et al., Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/nhess-2021-276-AC5>, 2022

Dear NHESS executive editor team, Dear Alban Kuriqi,

again, many thanks for your comment. We the authors fully accept the the sovereignty of Kosovo. There is no discussion on this point and. Our choice was not political motivated. Unfortunately, our study is based on the NUTS-level classification system (and GIS data) as provided by Eurostat for the year 2016. (the study was initiated in 2019). The NUTS-classificaation system and GIS data did not include Kosovo (This is due to issues of the Euroean Comission and Eurostat, see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NUTS_statistical_regions_of_Serbia). Accordingly, we structured our pan-European survey on the NUTS regions and countries as given.

Even though we would like to adjust our maps to the raised issue, we just simply can't. The questionnaires were not suited to this split, and also cannot be repeated. Sad as it is, it does not influence the major scientific outcomes of this study: A collective need for unifying drought risk management.

Nevertheless we will phrase an explicit statement on the issue of Kosovo and Eurostat information provided in the manuscript and hope to please your comments.

Many thanks, Veit Blauhut.