

Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., chief editor comment CEC1
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Comment from the NHESS Executive Editors and Copernicus Publications

Bruce D. Malamud

Chief editor 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-CEC1>, 2022

I am writing this as an NHESS executive editor, on behalf of and after consulting with Copernicus Publications the publishing house for all EGU journals, along with consultation with the other NHESS executive editors. Copernicus Publications and the EGU journals are aware that disputed territories are a sensitive topic for all current and historical parties involved. Finding the optimal solution is, therefore, often a delicate topic.

In most cases, Copernicus Publications follows the guidance of the United Nations. Concerning Kosovo, the Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo in Pristina declared on 17 February 2008 the country's independence from the Republic of Serbia. Since then, 114 countries, including Germany and the majority of the EU Member States, have recognized Kosovo as an independent state. The EU lists Kosovo as a potential candidate for membership. Before the declaration of independence, Kosovo had been administered by the United Nations since 1999 as an autonomous territory (UN Resolution 1244). Although many UN member states have not accepted Kosovo's sovereignty, Copernicus Publications follows the German governmental perspective and accepts the sovereignty of Kosovo.

Therefore, Copernicus Publications on behalf of the EGU journals, kindly asks the authors to respect the borders of Kosovo by adjusting their maps for the revised submission. We thank all involved parties for their careful consideration and understanding.

Bruce Malamud on behalf of all NHESS Executive Editors

Martin Rasmussen (Copernicus Publications)