

ABOUT ME

Dr. Kainat Iftikhar is a postdoctoral researcher at the School of Management, Xiamen University, China. She holds a PhD in Economics (Finance) from the Central University of Finance and Economics (CUFE), China, with a research focus on sustainable finance, risk management, and corporate finance. Awarded the prestigious CSC Scholarship, her dissertation explored Essays on Litigation Implications for Firms' Reputation, Corporate Innovation, and ESG Disclosure. Her work is published in top-tier SSCI, ABS, and Scopus-indexed journals. Dr. Iftikhar is committed to advancing innovative financial models that support sustainable economic growth and informed policy decisions. Her expertise spans financial economics, litigation risk, ESG strategies, and climate-related financial risk, aiming to bridge the gap between academic research and real-world financial challenges. She actively seeks collaboration with scholars, industry experts, and policymakers to deliver impactful, solution-driven research.

WORK EXPERIENCE

POST DOCTORAL RESEARCHER – XIAMEN UNIVERSITY – 15/09/2025 – Current – XIAMEN, CHINA

Conduct advanced research in corporate finance and risk management, focusing on regulatory enforcement, ESG, and financial reporting quality.
Design empirical models, perform data analysis using large-scale datasets, and publish findings in peer-reviewed journals.
Collaborate with academic teams, contribute to grant-funded projects, and mentor graduate students.
Present research at international conferences and support teaching and academic service activities.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT – QUAID-E-AZAM UNIVERSITY – 2021 – 2022 – ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN

- Conducted comprehensive reviews of published literature on assigned research topics to support project development and ensure the inclusion of relevant information.
- Supported lab work by performing experiments and managing research materials to ensure the smooth operation of ongoing studies.
- Collected and organized data meticulously to ensure reliable and valid results for subsequent analysis and interpretation.

TEACHER ASSISTANT – PAKISTAN INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS – 2019 – 2020 – ISLAMABAD , PAKISTAN

- Supported the lead teacher in delivering classroom instruction by preparing materials and assisting with lectures to enhance the learning experience
- Managed and maintained accurate records of student performance and attendance to ensure effective tracking of academic progress.
- Aided in grading assignments and exams, providing timely feedback to students to facilitate their understanding and improvement.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

09/2021 – 06/2025 Beijing, China

PHD ECONOMICS (FINANCE) Central University of Finance and Economcis

Thesis Essays on Litigation Risk: Implications for Reputation, Innovation, and ESG Disclosure

2020 – 2022 Islamabad, Pakistan

MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY (M.PHIL) Quaid-e-Azam University

Thesis Exploring the impact of trade openness on total factor productivity: Evidence from BRICS and D-8 countries

● SKILLS

Stata | Microsoft Office | Reference management software | Python | Data Analysis | Data Management | Data Visualization | Machine Learning

● PUBLICATIONS

2025

[The dichotomy of corporate litigation risk in shaping ESG disclosure: Does green innovation matter?](#)

Authors: Kainat Iftikhar; Tanveer Bagh; Muhammad Nadir Shabbir | **Journal Name:** Research in International Business and Finance

2024

[The role of Corporate Governance in the nexus between Litigation Risk and Corporate Innovation](#)

Authors: Kainat Iftikhar; Tanveer bagh; Muhammad Asif Khan | **Journal Name:** Borsa Istanbul Review

2025

[Corporate reputation gains from green innovation: Moderating effects of subsidies and eco-friendly products](#)

Authors: Kainat Iftikhar, Tanveer Bagh, Muhammad Nadir Shabbir | **Journal Name:** Research in International Business and Finance | **Volume, Issue and Pages:** 80

2025

[Litigation risk and corporate reputation in emerging market: the role of green innovation](#)

Authors: Kainat Iftikhar, Can Yang, & Tanveer Bagh | **Journal Name:** Risk Management: An International Journal | **Volume, Issue and Pages:** 28 | **Publisher:** Springer Nature Link

2025

[Relationship between trade openness, innovation, and total factor productivity in BRICS and D-8 countries](#)

Authors: Kainat Iftikhar; Muhammad Asif Khan; Muhammad Nadir Shabbir; Tanveer Bagh; Judit Oláh | **Journal Name:** Equilibrium. Quarterly Journal of Economics and Economic Policy

2024

[Does financial flexibility drive a firm's risk-taking in emerging markets? The moderating role of investment efficiency](#)

Authors: Tanveer Bagh, Mirza Muhammad Naseer, and Kainat Iftikhar | **Journal Name:** Managerial and Decision Economics

2026

[Corporate Sustainability Practices, Governance, and Risk-Taking: Global Evidence](#)

Authors: Tanveer Bagh, Elie Bouri, Hammad Riaz, Kainat Iftikhar | **Journal Name:** International Journal of Finance & Economics | **Publisher:** Wiley

2026

[Navigating energy poverty under policy uncertainty: The interaction of geopolitical risk and energy transition](#)

Authors: Farid Ullah, Qianjin Lu, Chen Jie, Kainat Iftikhar, Degong Ma | **Journal Name:** Energy Policy | **Volume, Issue and Pages:** 213

2026

[Does Financial Stability Withstand Economic Policy Uncertainty? Insights From Linear and Nonlinear Patterns](#)

Authors: Muhammad Nadir Shabbir, Kainat Iftikhar, Tanveer Bagh, Mirza Muhammad Naseer | **Journal Name:** Journal of Public Affairs | **Volume, Issue and Pages:** 26 | **Publisher:** Wiley

2025

Does green innovation pay off in China? Market valuation, investor sentiment, and risk-taking in A-listed firms

Authors: Fatima Batool, Kainat Iftikhar & Muhammad Nadir Shabbir | **Journal Name:** Risk Management: An International Journal
| **Volume, Issue and Pages:** 27

2025

Autocracy, Inc.: The Dictators Who Want to Run the World July 23, 2024 By Anne Applebaum, Doubleday, 2024. 224 pp. ISBN: 978-0-385-54993-6

Authors: Muhammad Nadir Shabbir, Kainat Iftikhar, Duong Thuy Linh | **Journal Name:** Governance: An International Journal of Policy, Administration, and Institution | **Volume, Issue and Pages:** 38

2023

Impact of Trade Policy Uncertainty and Sustainable Development on Medical Innovation for Developed Countries: An Application of DID Approach

Authors: Muhammad Nadir Shabbir, Muhammad Usman Arshad, Muhammad Amir Alvi, Kainat Iftikhar | **Journal Name:** Sustainability

2023

Firm's Climate Change Risk and Firm Value: An Empirical Analysis of the Energy Industry

Authors: Mirza Muhammad Naseer; Tanveer Bagh; Kainat Iftikhar | **Journal Name:** 10.21272/fmir.7(2).1-11.2023 | **Publisher:** Financial Markets, Institutions and Risks

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Awards and Scholarships

Fully Funded Chinese Government Scholarship for PhD Studies at the Central University of Finance and Economics (CUFE), Beijing, China.

Professional Contributions

Journal of Applied Economics, Borsa Istanbul Review, Risk Management, Research in International Business and Finance, International Review of Economics & Finance, Business Strategy and Environment, Sustainable Development, International Review of Financial Analysis, and Journal of Environmental Management.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Understanding the Theoretical Context of Green Finance. 2024

Authors: Tanveer Bagh and Kainat Iftikhar
https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-031-65756-6_3
Publisher: Palgrave Handbook of Green Finance for Sustainable Development.

Digital Assets in Disarray: Unraveling Herd Behavior Amidst COVID-19 and the Russian-Ukraine War. 2024

Authors: Tanveer Bagh and Kainat Iftikhar
https://doi.org/10.1142/9781800616257_0009
Digital Banking and Finance: A Handbook.

Financial Crises in South Asia Caused by COVID-19 Disruption

Authors: Muhammad Nadir Shabbir, Kainat Iftikhar, and Tanveer Bagh
Book, Geo-economics in South Asian Environment, <https://doi.org/10.1142/13990>
World Scientific Publisher

● **REVISION SUBMITTED PAPERS**

Pathways to Sustainable Development: An Examination of Innovation and Institutional Quality's Role in Green GDP Outcomes Using QCA

Environment, Development and Sustainability
Muhammad Nadir Shabbir, Kainat Iftikhar, and Mirza Muhammad Naseer

● **WORKING PAPERS/ IN PROCESS**

Do Corporate Valuations Reflect Climate Change Risk in Global Markets? What Does Corporate Climate Governance Have to Do with It?

This study analyzes the extent to which climate change risks and corporate climate governance impact firm valuation globally.
International Review of Financial Analysis

● **REFERENCES**

Professor Zhang Guoqing, Accounting Department, School of Management, Xiamen University

Email: qzhang@xmu.edu.cn

Prof Yuchao Peng, School of Finance, Central University of Finance and Economics

PhD Supervisor: Email: yuchao.peng@cufe.edu.cn

Prof. Muhammad Asif Khan, Department of Commerce, University of Kotli, Azad Jammu Kashmir.

Email: khanasif82@uokajk.edu.pk

Prof Kai WU, School of Finance, Central University of Finance and Economics, Beijing, China

Email: wukai8759@cufe.edu.cn

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Email: muhammadnadir948@gmail.com