

BASTIAN BECKER

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Academic Positions

05/2018–	Postdoctoral Researcher ERC-Project “Legacy of Colonialism” University of Bremen, Germany
07/2017–06/2018	Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow Bard College Berlin (BCB), Germany

Professional Experience

2022–	Consultant, German International Cooperation (GIZ), Germany
2011–12	Researcher, German Development Institute (DIE), Bonn, Germany
2008–09	Research Fellow, German International Cooperation (GIZ), Philippines

Education

2017	Ph.D. in Political Science (summa cum laude) Central European University (CEU) , Budapest, Hungary Major: Political Economy Minor: Research Methodology Dissertation: <i>Opportunity Matters: Economic Inequality and Redistribution across Western Democracies</i> Committee: Thilo Bodenstein (supervisor), Achim Kemmerling, Levente Littvay, David Rueda (University of Oxford)
2011	Master in Public Policy (first in class) University of Erfurt, Germany
2008	University Diploma in Business Economics Saarland University, Germany
<i>Non-degree</i>	
2015	Visiting Doctoral Student GESS, University of Mannheim, Germany
2013 & 2014	ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods for Social Science Research University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, U.S.A.

2010 | Spring School on Transformation Policy
Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia

Teaching

Winter 2020/21 | Political Economy of Colonialism and Development (BA), University of Bremen

Summer 2020 | Inequality and Public Opinion (MA), University of Bremen

Summer 2019 | Experimental Methods for Social Science Research (MA), University of Bremen

Spring 2018 | Introduction to Statistics (BA), BCB
Public Policy Analysis from an Economic Perspective (BA), BCB

Fall 2017 | Introduction to Statistics (BA), BCB
Experimental Methods for Social Science Research (BA), BCB

Short courses

Spring 2017 | Introduction to Statistics using SPSS (PhD), Andrassy University, Budapest

Summer 2016 | Introduction to SPSS, ECPR Summer School, Budapest

Assistance

Summer 2016 | Advanced Bayesian Statistics, ECPR Summer School, Budapest

Fall 2014 | Introduction to Quantitative Methods (MA), CEU

Fall 2013 | Political Economy II (MA), CEU

Publications

Articles

Forthcoming | The Empire Within: Longitudinal Evidence on the Expansion of Christian Missions in Colonial Africa. *Journal of Historical Political Economy*.

Caught in the Middle! Wealth Inequality and Conflict over Redistribution (with Hanna Lierse, Davy-Kim Lascombes), *Social Justice Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11211-021-00384-x>

2022 | The Colonial Struggle over Polygamy: Consequences for Educational Expansion in sub-Saharan Africa, *Economic History of Developing Regions*, 37(1), 27–49. <https://doi.org/10.1080/20780389.2021.1940946>

2021 | Significant Others? Social Groups, Income Expectations, and Redistributive Preferences. *Social Science Research*, 100. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssresearch.2021.102612>

Temporal Change in Inequality Perceptions and Effects on Political Attitudes, *Political Research Exchange*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/2474736X.2020.1860652>

2020 | Mind The Income Gaps? Experimental Evidence of Information's Lasting Effect on Redistributive Preferences, *Social Justice Research*, 33(2), 137–194. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11211-019-00343-7>

2018	Behind the Curve and Beyond: Calculating Representative Predicted Probability Changes and Treatment Effects for Non-Linear Models, <i>Advances in Methodology and Statistics</i> , 15(1), 43–58.
2013	Promoting Renewable Electricity Generation in Emerging Economies (with Doris Fischer). <i>Energy Policy</i> , 56, 446–55. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enpol.2013.01.004
<i>Book chapters</i>	
2020	Colonial Legacies in International Aid: Policy Priorities and Actor Constellations, in Carina Schmitt (ed.), <i>From Colonialism to International Aid</i> , Palgrave Macmillan. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-38200-1_7
	Critical Assessment and Outlook (with Carina Schmitt, Judith Ebeling, and Amanda Shriwise), in Carina Schmitt (ed.), <i>From Colonialism to International Aid</i> , Palgrave Macmillan. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-38200-1_14
2014	Implementing Green Industrial Policy (with Anna Pegels), in A.Pegels (ed.), <i>Green Industrial Policy in Emerging Economies</i> , Routledge: London.
<i>Working papers</i>	
2019	Introducing COLDAT: The Colonial Dates Dataset, <i>SOCIUM SFB 1342 WorkingPapers</i> , 2019(2). https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/T9SDEW
<i>Book reviews</i>	
2017	Philipp Rhem, Risk Inequality and Welfare States: Social Policy Preferences, Development, and Dynamics, <i>The Journal of Politics</i> , 79(1), e13-e14. https://doi.org/10.1086/689943
2013	Morten Jerven, Poor Numbers: How We Are Misled by African Development Statistics and What to Do about It, <i>Society & Economy</i> , 35(2), 268-71. https://doi.org/10.1556/SocEc.35.2013.2.8
	Atul Kohli, Poverty Amid of Plenty in the New India, <i>Acta Oeconomica</i> , 63(4), 228–33. https://doi.org/10.1556/AOecon.63.2013.4.7
<i>In progress</i>	
	The Colonial Labour Question: Trade and Social Policy in Interwar Africa (with Carina Schmitt). [under review]
	License to Educate: The Role of National Networks in Colonial Empires (with Carina Schmitt). [under review]
	For God and Country: British Protestant Missions and the Foundations of Democracy in Africa (with Dean Dulay). [under review]
	Public Trade-off Concerns over Redistributive Taxes (with Hanna Lierse and Bruno Castanho Silva).
	Historical sources of wealth and preferences over taxation (with Nora Waitkus).

Project Involvement

2015-2016	Project coordinator, CEU <i>Innovations in political science research</i> (Budget: € 5,350)
2013–15	Research Assistant, CEU

2012	<p><i>EU development aid and regional public support in Sub-Saharan Africa</i></p> <p>Research Consultant, Institute for Development Studies (IDS), U.K.</p> <p><i>Who are the poor?</i></p>
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Academic Service

2019–	Organizer, Political Economy Workshop series University of Bremen, Germany
2020–21	Co-organizer, Virtual Comparative Political Economy Working Group (with André Walter, Cecilia Bruzelius, and Philip Rathgeb)
2013–14	Student chair, Political Economy Research Group (PERG) CEU, Budapest, Hungary
2010–11	Student representative, Faculty council University of Erfurt, Germany

Conferences

<p>APSA General Conference (P, 2016, Philadelphia), BAGSS Conference (P, 2015, Bamberg), CEU-PERG Doctoral Workshop CEU (OP, 2014, Budapest), CRC Global Dynamics of Social Policy Conference (P, 2018, Bremen), EPCS Annual Meeting (DP, 2017, Budapest), EPSA Annual Meeting (DP, 2018, Vienna; P, 2016, Brussels; P, 2015, Vienna; P, 2021, online), ECPR Annual Conference (P, 2016, Prague), Graduate Network Conference (P, 2015, Florence), MPSA Annual Meeting (DP, 2018; P, 2015, Chicago), Nordwel Summer School (D, 2019, Bremen) SASE Annual Meeting (P, 2015, London; CP, 2017, Lyon; CDP, 2021, online), SFB Political Economy of Reforms Conference (P, 2016, Mannheim), SPSA Annual Conference (DP, 2019, Zürich).</p>

[Role: **P**resenter, **D**iscussant, **C**hair, **O**rganizer]

Invited talks

<p>“License to Educate: The Role of National Networks in Colonial Empires” <i>University of Oslo, Department of Political Science, 2022</i></p> <p>“The Empire Within: Longitudinal Evidence on the Expansion of Christian Missions in Colonial Africa” <i>University of Southern California, Bedrosian Center on Governance, 2022</i></p> <p>“Social Policy and Welfare in the Global South: Historical Legacies and Contemporary Challenges” <i>University of Erfurt, Willy Brandt School of Public Policy, 2020</i></p> <p>“Continuity and Change in Social Policy Priorities throughout 20th-century Africa” (with Carina Schmitt) <i>University of Heidelberg, IPW Colloquium, 2019</i></p> <p>“Group Inequality and Redistributive Preferences in Western Democracies” <i>University of Geneva, Unequal Democracies Seminar, 2019</i></p> <p>“Mind The Income Gaps? Experimental Evidence of Information’s Lasting Effect on Redistributive Preferences”</p>
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Paris School of Economics/University Paris 1 Pantheon-Sorbonne, Political Economy Seminar, 2017

“Conducting Online Survey Experiments Using mTurk”

CEU Summer School, Political Psychology course, 2015; Experimental Political Science course (CEU, MA), 2016, 2017

Reviewer for

American Journal of Political Science, American Politics Research, East European Politics, International Journal of Public Opinion Research, Journal of European Public Policy, Journal of International Relations and Development, PS: Political Science & Politics, Societies, Political Science Research and Methods, Public Opinion Quarterly, Review of International Political Economy, Social Justice Research, Sustainability, The Journal of Economic Inequality, World Development.

Awards

2017

Early-Career Workshop Award, Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics

2016

Award for Advanced Doctoral Students, CEU (€ 800)

Funding and Scholarships

2017

Dissertation Write-Up Grant, CEU

2015

Doctoral Research Support Grant, CEU

2014–15

Annual Doctoral Stipend, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)

2014

“Innovations in Political Science Research” Project, CEU Research Support Scheme (€ 4,650, with PI Levente Littvay)

2013

Summer School Grant, CEU

2013

Clifford C. Clogg Scholarship, ICPSR, University of Michigan

2013 & 2014

Summer Research Grant, PERG, CEU

2011–2016

CEU Doctoral Fellowship, CEU (paused in 2014–15)

Travel grants

APSA Annual Meeting Travel Grant (2016), BAGSS Travel Grant (2015), CEU Political Science Departmental Travel Grant, CEU Travel and Research Grant (2x).

Other skills

Languages

German (native), English (fluent), French (basic).

Methods training

OLS, MLE, Hierarchical models, Causal inference, Experimental research design, Bayesian statistics, Missing data, Game theory, Survey Design.

Analytical software

R, ArcGIS/QGIS, SPSS, BUGS/JAGS/STAN.

Technical software | Latex, MS Office, mTurk, Qualtrics.

References

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Associate Professor, School of Public Policy
Central European University