

Dr. Christian König

Curriculum vitae

November 2025

Postdoctoral researcher at the WZB Berlin Social Science Center, Reichpietschufer 50, 10785 Berlin.
Phone: +49 30 25491 516; Email: christian.koenig@wzb.eu; Personal site: <https://christian-koenig.github.io/>; WZB site: <https://wzb.eu/en/persons/christian-koenig>.

Current Position

01/2024– *Postdoctoral Researcher* in the Research Unit on Skill Formation and Labor Markets (head: Heike Solga), WZB Berlin Social Science Center

Research Interests

Socio-spatial inequalities
Environmental Sociology
Urban Sociology
Education & Labor Markets
Quantitative Methods & Causal Inference

Previous Positions

2019–2023 *Doctoral Researcher* in the Research Group on Health and Social Inequality (head: Jan Paul Heisig), WZB Berlin Social Science Center

2019–2021 *Research Assistant* at the Cluster of Excellence "The Politics of Inequality" (supervisors: Guido Schwerdt, Stephan Maurer), University of Konstanz

2018 *Graduate Trainee* in the Directorate General for Innovation and Technology, European Parliament

Education

- 2024 PhD in Sociology (*summa cum laude*), Free University Berlin
Dissertation title: "(Un)healthy Places: Causes, Patterns, and Consequences of Environmental Inequality in Urban Germany"
Commission: Jan Paul Heisig (supervisor, reviewer), Rourke O'Brien (reviewer), Heike Solga, Martin Ehlert, Alessandro Ferrara
- 2019 M.Sc., Economics, University of Konstanz
Thesis Title: "Do Voluntary Environmental Information Programs Affect Individual Transportation Choice?" (Supervisor: Stephan Maurer)
- 2016 B.A., Political Science and Economics, Eberhard Karls University Tübingen
Thesis Title: "Stakeholders and Opportunities in German Fiscal Policy" (Supervisor: Daniel Buhr)

Research Stays Abroad

- 2021 *Visiting PhD Researcher*, Department of Sociology, University of Copenhagen
- 2017 *Visiting Graduate Student*, Department of Economics and Department of Environmental and Resource Economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Administrative tasks

Committee Work

- 2020– Department representative at the Academic Council, WZB Berlin Social Science Center
- 2020 Representative of junior researchers at the flexible funding selection committee, WZB Berlin Social Science Center

Organisation

- 2021 Organisation of Workshop on "Spatial analysis of social, environmental, and health inequalities", WZB Berlin Social Science Center
- 2020 Organisation of EAERE 2020 conference session (panel session on "Transportation and Environment")

Referee Work

Environmental Sociology, European Sociological Review, Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies, Research in Social Stratification and Mobility, Social Forces, Social Science Research, Urban Studies

Memberships

ISA Research Committee 28 on "Social Stratification and Mobility", European Consortium for Sociological Research (ECSR)

Funds

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| 2021 | WZB Berlin Social Science Center seed money for an online survey experiment (10.500 EUR) |
| 2019 | WZB Berlin Social Science Center funds for data purchase (20.000 EUR) |

Awards and Scholarships

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| 2021 | WZB World Merit Fellowship (6.200 EUR) |
| 2017 | Deutscher Akademischer Auslandsdienst (DAAD), PROMOS (2.800 EUR) |

Research

Publications

- König, C., Salomo, K., Helbig, M. (forthcoming) 'Understanding Variation in Neighborhood Environmental Inequalities: The Influence of Residential Segregation, Gentrification, and other City-Level Factors', *Urban Studies*. Preprint: <https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/j4tf2>
- König, C. (2024) 'Neighborhood structure and environmental quality: A fine-grained analysis of spatial inequalities in urban Germany', *Urban Studies*. Available (Open Access): <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/00420980231224224>.
- König, C., Heisig, J. P. (2023). Environmental Inequality and Health Outcomes over the Life Course. In R. Hoffmann (Ed.), *Handbook of Health Inequalities Across the Life Course*. Edward Elgar Publishing.
- Heisig, J.P., König, C. and Solga, H. (2022a) 'Arbeit und Beschäftigung', in *Abschlussbericht Repräsentativbefragung zur Teilhabe von Menschen mit Behinderungen*. Bonn: Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales.
- Heisig, J.P., König, C. and Solga, H. (2022b) 'Bildung', in *Abschlussbericht Repräsentativbefragung zur Teilhabe von Menschen mit Behinderungen*. Bonn: Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales.
- Heisig, J.P., König, C. and Solga, H. (2022c) 'Ökonomische Situation und materielle Sicherheit', in *Abschlussbericht Repräsentativbefragung zur Teilhabe von Menschen mit Behinderungen*. Bonn: Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales.

Heisig J. P., König C. (2021) Dicke Luft - Arme Haushalte und Menschen ohne deutschen Pass leben häufiger in Gegenden mit hoher Umweltbelastung. *WZB Mitteilungen*, Heft 173, September 2021: 16-19

Heisig J.P., König C., Löbl S. (2021) Ängste, Sorgen und psychische Gesundheit in der Corona-Pandemie. In: Badura B., Ducki A., Schröder H., Meyer M. (eds) *Fehlzeiten-Report 2021. Fehlzeiten-Report*, vol 2021. Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg. Available at: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-662-63722-7_8

Heisig, J. P. and König, C. (2020). Das Virus ist nicht demokratisch - Soziale Ungleichheit prägt den Verlauf der Infektion. *WZB Mitteilungen*, Heft 168, Juni 2020: 39-41.

Heisig, J. P. and König, C. (2020). Wie und warum die gesundheitlichen Folgen vom sozialen Status abhängen. *Corona und die gesellschaftlichen Folgen - Schlaglichter aus der WZB-Forschung*.

Work in Progress

Cross-national analysis of the short- and longer-term effects of conditions at labor market entry (*with Thomas Biegert, Jan Paul Heisig, and Heike Solga*)

Working paper available at: <https://doi.org/10.5281/ZENODO.15349521>

Explorative analysis of the short- and longer-term effects of economic conditions at labor market entry on leaving the parental home and family formation (*with Thomas Biegert, Jan Paul Heisig, and Heike Solga*)

Working paper available at: <https://doi.org/10.5281/ZENODO.15585190>

Environmental Quality, local infrastructures, and residential choice: A survey experiment on ethnic differences in neighborhood preferences (*with Jan Paul Heisig, Tobias Rüttenauer, Merlin Schaeffer, and Jonas Wiedner*)

Ethnic differences in environmental quality and educational outcomes in Italy (*with Risto Conte Keivabu, Fabrizio Bernardi, and Jan Paul Heisig*)

Residential environmental quality and health: Effect heterogeneities by SES and origin?

Presentations

** Invited talks*

09/2025	European Consortium for Sociological Research (ECSR), Annual Conference 2025, Department of Sociology and Social Psychology, University of Cologne
06/2025	Mapineq annual meeting, SOFI Stockholm*
09/2024	Austrian Economic Association (NOEG) annual conference, BOKU Vienna
05/2024	ISA Research Committee 28 annual conference, NYU Shanghai
04/2024	Workshop "Exploring the Role of Geography in Educational Inequality Research", UNED Madrid*
09/2023	European Consortium for Sociological Research, Annual Conference 2023, Institute of Sociology at Czech Academy of Sciences
09/2022	Workshop on Environmental Inequality in Europe and Beyond, Technical University of Kaiserslautern
09/2022	British Society for Population Studies (BSPS) Conference 2022, University of Winchester
09/2022	Projektabschlussstagung "Umweltbelastungen und Umweltressourcen: Soziale Ungleichheiten und gesundheitliche Folgen", University of Göttingen*
04/2022	ISA Research Committee 28 annual conference, London School of Economics (LSE)
10/2021	Climate Talk, Center for Sustainability and Society (SUSY), University of Copenhagen*
10/2021	European Consortium for Sociological Research (ECSR) Annual Conference (online)
09/2021	Research Seminar, Department of Sociology, University of Copenhagen*
06/2021	ISA Research Committee 28 spring meeting, Turku (online)
03/2021	Virtual Inequality Brownbag, University of Michigan (online)
02/2021	Workshop on "Spatial analysis of social, environmental, and health inequalities", WZB Berlin Social Science Center (online)
08/2020	Workshop Environmental Social Sciences, University of Bern (jointly organized with University of Oxford, Nuffield College)
06/2020	EAERE 2020 annual conference, Berlin (online)
04/2020	Public Economics Seminar, University of Konstanz*

Teaching

2025	Introduction to causal research designs (Seminar, MA, together with Alessandro Ferrara), Free University Berlin
2024	Mapping inequalities across the Life Course (Seminar, MA, together with Carla Hornberg), Free University Berlin
2022	Inequality and Social Stratification (Seminar, MA, together with Misun Lim), Free University Berlin

Media Appearances

(Background) Interview, quoted in "Die Wege des Virus", *Welt am Sonntag*, April 18, 2021.

(Background) Interview, quoted in "Dritte Welle: Besonders viele Migranten auf Intensivstationen?", *Faktenfuchs Bayerischer Rundfunk*, May 5, 2021.

Languages and Software

Languages	German (native), english (fluent), french (good), spanish (good), Latinum
Software	R, \LaTeX , Markdown, Git, MS Office, Python (basic), Stata (basic)

References

Jan Paul Heisig (WZB Berlin Social Science Center, Freie Universität Berlin)

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Heike Solga (WZB Berlin Social Science Center, Freie Universität Berlin)

Email: heike.solga@wzb.eu

Rourke O'Brien (Yale University)

Email: rourke.obrien@yale.edu

Tobias Rüttenauer (University College London)

Email: t.ruttenauer@ucl.ac.uk