Felix RUSCHE
Ph.D. Candidate in Economics, University of Mannheim

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EDUCATION

present January 2023	**POMPEU FABRA UNIVERSITY,** Barcelona, Spain Research Stay
present September 2019	**UNIVERSITY OF MANNHEIM,** Mannheim, Germany Economics, Ph.D., advisor : Antonio Ciccone, Course Phase GPA : 1.4
February 2019 September 2016	**UNIVERSITY OF MANNHEIM,** Mannheim, Germany Economics, M.Sc., GPA : 1.3
July 2018 February 2018	**BOCCONI UNIVERSITY,** Milan, Italy Visiting Student
March 2016 September 2012	**OSNABRÜCK UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES,** Osnabrück, Germany Applied Economics, B.A., GPA : 1.37
November 2014 July 2014	**NELSON MANDELA UNIVERSITY,** Port Elizabeth, South Africa Visiting Student

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

2021 - present	Research assistant to Antonio Ciccone, University of Mannheim & Fellow at Collaborative Research Center Transregio 224 (Universities of Bonn and Mannheim)
2021	Microeconomics B (B.Sc.), teaching assistant, University of Mannheim
2021	Introduction to Econometrics (B.Sc.), teaching assistant, University of Mannheim
2019	Master's thesis student / intern, Digital Economy Research Department, Leibniz Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW), Mannheim, Germany

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

2019 - 2021	PhD Scholarship, Freudenberg Foundation & ZEW
2020	Second Prize - Goldmedia Award for innovative theses in Media Economics
2014 - 2019	German National Merit Foundation (Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes) - Scholarship for 'academic excellence, interdisciplinary expertise, and social responsibility'
2016	StudyUp-Award for excellent bachelor's theses, Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences

WORK IN PROGRESS

(1) Media for Development : Evidence from India (work in progress)

(2) Discriminiation in Job Network Formation : Evidence from a Field Experiment with Yulia Evsyukova and Wladislaw Mill (work in progress)

(3) Dissecting Media Bias : Daily Stock Market Performance in the News with Antonio Ciccone (work in progress)

PUBLICATIONS

(1) Few Voices, Strong Echo : Measuring Follower Homogeneity of Politicians' Twitter Accounts *(New Media & Society, 2022)*
Politicians have discovered Twitter as a tool for political communication. If information provided by politicians is circulated in ideologically segregated user networks, political polarization may be fostered. Using network information on all 1.78 million unique followers of German Members of Parliament by October 2018, follower homogeneity across politicians and parties is measured. While the overall homogeneity is low, politicians of the AfD - a right-wing populist party - stand out with very homogeneous follower networks. These are largely driven by a small group of strongly committed partisans that make up around 7 percent of the party's but around 55-75 percent of the average AfD politician's followers. The findings add to the literature by showing potentially unequal distributions of network segregation on Twitter. Further, they suggest that small groups of active users can multiply their influence online, which has important implications for future research on echo chambers and other online phenomena.

Professional Activities

Presentations	**2023 :** Pompeu Fabra University (PhD Seminar & Internal Applied Seminar - scheduled), Hei-KaMaXY Workshop (Heidelberg), 10th CRC TR224 Retreat (Bonn & Mannheim), Nordic Conference in Development Economics 2023 (Gothenburg - scheduled), Barcelona School of Economics PhD Jamboree 2023 (scheduled), German Development Economics Conference 2023 (scheduled), London Business School Transatlantic Doctoral Conference (scheduled) ; **2022 :** CRC TR224 10th Young Researchers Workshop (Bonn & Mannheim), 1st Frankfurt-Mannheim PhD Workshop ; **2020 :** Bonn-Mannheim PhD Workshop ; **2019 :** ZEW Conference on the Economics of Information and Communication Technologies
Event Organization	**2023 :** Co-organizer of the 1st Frankfurt-Mannheim-Bonn Ph.D. Conference (90 presentations, 160 participants) **2022 :** Co-organizer of the 1st Frankfurt-Mannheim Ph.D. Workshop (43 presentations, 100 participants)
Summer School	**2022 :** Network Analysis Workshop (LMU Munich), Natural Language Processing for Economists Workshop (Uni Heidelberg), Data Science Summer School 2022 (Hertie School) **2021 :** Unstructured Data in Empirical Economics (CEMFI), Data Science Summer School 2021 (Hertie School)
Discussant	**2022 :** ZEW Political Economy Workshop ; 10th CRC TR224 Retreat (Bonn & Mannheim)
Field Experience	Independent field research on Community Radios in New Delhi and across Northern India (03/2022 - 04/2022)
Referee	Information, Communitcation & Society ; New Media & Society

Professional Experience

03/2015 - 07/2015	Internship, Political Department, German Embassy Beijing, China
07/2013 - 09/2013	Internship, Strategic Finance, Deutsche Börse AG, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
07/2011 - 09/2011	Internship, Various Business Departments, Frimo Inc, Detroit, USA

Languages and Computer Skills

Languages	German (native), English (fluent - TOEFL 2019 : 114 of 120 points / Top 3%), Spanish (B1)
Software	R, Stata, Python, LaTeX, QGIS
Hobbies	Traveling, drawing, reading

Extracurriculars

2019 - today	Elected member of the Department Council and Ph.D. Cohort Representative
2021 - 2022	Mentor, Graduate Applications International Network (GAIN)
2017 - 2019	Two-year Social Science Research Seminar of the German National Merit Foundation - Topic : Digitization, Ethics, and Society : An Integrative Analysis. Lecturers : Rudolf Müller (U Maastricht) and Tamar Sharon (U Nijmegen)