

Dr. Renke Schmacker

PERSONAL INFORMATION	DIW Berlin Anton-Wilhelm-Amo-Str. 58 D-10117 Berlin	WZB Berlin Reichpietschufer 50 D-10785 Berlin
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INTERESTS	Behavioral and Experimental Economics; Public, Health, and Environmental Economics	
CURRENT POSITION	Berlin Social Science Center (WZB), Berlin <i>Research Fellow</i> (50%), Department “Market Behavior”	<i>since 11/23</i>
	German Institute for Economic Research (DIW), Berlin <i>Research Associate</i> (50%), Department “Public Economics”	<i>since 11/23</i>
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	University of Lausanne <i>Post-doc (SNF Senior Researcher)</i> , Department of Economics	<i>08/20-10/23</i>
	German Institute for Economic Research (DIW), Berlin <i>Research Associate</i> , Department “Public Economics”	<i>10/16-07/20</i>
EDUCATION	Berlin School of Economics (FU Berlin and DIW Berlin) Dr. rer. pol. in Economics (summa cum laude) • Dissertation Topic: “Essays in Behavioral Public Economics” • Supervisors: Peter Haan, Dorothea Kübler	<i>10/15-06/20</i>
	Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin M.Sc., Economics (Grade: 1.3)	<i>10/12-05/15</i>
	University of Copenhagen Exchange Semester	<i>09/13-01/14</i>
	Leuphana University Lüneburg B.Sc., Economics (with distinction, Grade: 1.2) B.Sc., Business Psychology (Grade: 1.2)	<i>10/09-09/12</i> <i>10/08-09/12</i>
RESEARCH VISITS	New York University , CESS (Host: Andrew Schotter) <i>Short Visits</i> CEBI and IFRO at University of Copenhagen, FAIR at NHH Bergen, IFS London	<i>09/18-12/18</i>
PUBLICATIONS	Earn More Tomorrow: Overconfident Income Expectations and Consumer Indebtedness (with Antonia Grohmann, Lukas Menkhoff and Christoph Merkle), Journal of Money, Credit and Banking , 57(5), 2025, pp. 1071-1102. Sin Taxes and Self Control (with Sinne Smed), American Economic Journal: Economic Policy , 15(3), 2023, pp. 1-34. Protecting the Ego: Motivated Information Selection and Updating (with Alessandro Castagnetti), European Economic Review , 142, 2022, 104007. Do prices and purchases respond similarly to soft drink tax increases and cuts? (with Sinne Smed), Economics and Human Biology , 37, 2020, 100864. Social Image Concerns and Welfare Take-Up (with Jana Friedrichsen and Tobias König), Journal of Public Economics , 168, 2018, pp. 174-192.	

WORKING PAPERS	<p>Confidence and college applications: Evidence from a randomized intervention (with Rustamdjjan Hakimov and Camille Terrier), <i>QMUL Working Paper No. 962</i>, August 2023.</p> <p>Fairness in Matching Markets: Experimental Evidence (with Tobias König, Dorothea Kübler and Lydia Mechtenberg), WZB Discussion Paper SP II 2023–204, July 2023.</p> <p>Preferences for Sin Taxes (with Tobias König), <i>CESifo Working Paper, 10046</i>, October 2022.</p>
MEDIA COVERAGE	RBB Radio Eins (radio, 06/24), RTL News/ntv (tv, 06/24), Spiegel Online (06/24), taz (newspaper, 06/24), ARD Mittagsmagazin (tv, 03/24), tagesschau “mal angenommen” (podcast, 01/21), hr-Info (radio, 03/20), RND (newspaper, 03/20), NDR Info (radio, 06/18), WDR (TV, 04/18), Die Welt (newspaper, 04/18)
POLICY REPORTS	<p>Regional Climate Dividend Provides Relief to Rural Households, but Hardship Cases Remain (with Bach, Engelhardt, Felder, Haan), DIW Weekly Report 07/2025.</p> <p>Zuckersteuer: Reaktion der Konsument*innen hängt stark von deren Selbstkontrolle ab, DIW Wochenbericht 06/2024.</p> <p>Confiance en soi et choix d'orientation sur Parcoursup : Enseignements d'une intervention randomisée (with Camille Terrier and Rustamdjjan Hakimov), Note IPP No 93, July 2023.</p> <p>Zuckersteuern können zu einer gesünderen Ernährung beitragen: Kommentar, DIW Wochenbericht 12/2020, March 2020.</p> <p>Wie sinnvoll ist eine Zuckersteuer? Op-ed, Redaktionsnetzwerk Deutschland, 14.03.2020.</p> <p>Fear of Stigmatization Prevents Individuals from Claiming Benefits (with Jana Friedrichsen), DIW Weekly Report 26-27/2019, June 2019.</p> <p>Softdrinksteuer: Proportionale Steuer ist der vielversprechendste Ansatz, DIW Aktuell 10, May 2018.</p> <p>Eine Softdrinksteuer zur fiskalischen Konsumsteuerung, DIW Roundup 103, November 2016.</p>
PRESENTATIONS	<p>2025: Innovations in Field and Survey Experiments Workshop Berlin, SET Brown Bag Seminar at DIW Berlin, Aarhus University</p> <p>2024: University of Wuppertal, BSoE Applied Micro & Behavioral Economics Workshop, 14th Retreat of the CRC TRR 190 “Rationality and Competition,” University of Rostock</p> <p>2023: ESA World Meeting Lyon, Matching in Practice Workshop Lausanne, MPI Bonn, University of Innsbruck, DIW Berlin, ES Winter Meeting Berlin</p> <p>2022: KRTK-KTI Seminar Budapest, BSE Workshop on Empirical Public Economics Berlin, VfS Annual Congress Basel, EEA-ESEM Annual Congress Milan, IIPF Linz, NGE Seminar Hohenheim, ASFEE Conference Lyon, ESA World Meeting Boston, Workshop on Economic Theory Lausanne</p> <p>2021: Workshop on Beliefs, Narratives, and Memory, Matching in Practice Workshop, FETS Summer Experimental Economics Workshop</p> <p>2020: University of Warwick, ZEW Mannheim, MPI for Tax Law and Public Finance Munich, University of Vienna, University of Essex</p> <p>2019: Risky Health Behaviors Workshop Hamburg, CEBI at University of Copenhagen, FAIR at NHH Bergen, EEA-ESEM Annual Congress Manchester, IIPF Glasgow, Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) London, Applied Micro Workshop at Hertie School Berlin, Retreat of the CRC TRR 190 “Rationality and Competition”</p> <p>2018: Food and Health Economics Workshop Toulouse, DIW Berlin Cluster Seminar</p> <p>2017: Behavioral Welfare Economics Workshop at DIW Berlin, EEA-ESEM Annual Congress Lisbon, (Ce)2 Workshop Warsaw, University of Copenhagen, IMEBESS Meeting Barcelona</p> <p>2016: ESA European Meeting Bergen, Micro Reading Group at DIW Berlin</p>

TEACHING	Econometrics II: Advanced Applied Econometrics (PhD level, Berlin School of Economics, 2023) Experimental Methods (Master level, University of Lausanne, 2021) Tax & Transfer System - Empirical Policy Evaluation (Master level, FU Berlin, 2019) TA for Mathematics 2 for Economists (Undergraduate level, Leuphana University Lüneburg, 2011) TA for Academic Research and Writing (Undergraduate level, Leuphana University Lüneburg, 2010)
GRANTS AND AWARDS	DFG Individual Research Grant “Preferences over policy instruments to correct externalities: an experimental approach”, 02/25 (EUR 72,200) Joachim Herz Add-on Fellowship for Interdisciplinary Economics, 09/24 (EUR 12,500) HEC Lausanne Research Fund, 12/20 & 12/21 & 12/22 (in total CHF 20,114) Fondation pour l’Université de Lausanne, 07/22 (CHF 3,500) Warwick University PhD Conference Grant for “Protecting the Ego” (with Alessandro Castagnetti), 03/19 (GBP 2,970) PhD Studies Scholarship of German Institute for Economic Research, 10/15-09/16 (EUR 14,400) Basic Studies Scholarship (“Deutschlandstipendium”), 04/13-05/15 (EUR 7,800) Scholarship of Lower Saxony for excellent course achievements, 12/09 & 12/10 (EUR 1,000)
REFEREEING	Contemporary Economic Policy, Economic Journal (2x), Economics of Education Review, European Economic Review (2x), Experimental Economics, Fiscal Studies, Health Economics (2x), International Economic Review, International Journal of Health Economics and Management, Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization (2x), Journal of Political Economy: Microeconomics, Journal of the Economic Science Association
WORKSHOP ORGANIZATION	Workshop “Expectation of climate change – households, firms, and the labor market,” July 17-18, 2025, WZB Berlin (joint with Peter Haan, Davide Pace, Georg Weizsäcker) Workshop “Innovations in Field and Survey Experiments” June 5-6, 2025, WZB Berlin (joint with Francesco Capozza and Mira Fischer) BSoE Applied Micro & Behavioral Economics Workshop, November 8, 2024, Hertie School Berlin (joint with Lavinia Kinne, Jonas Radbruch, Egon Tripodi, and Christian Traxler) 18th “Matching in Practice” Workshop, May 15-16, 2023, University of Lausanne (joint with Rustamdján Hakimov) Workshop “Eating Meat 2019 - Determinants, Consequences, and Interventions”, October 8-9, 2019, DIW Berlin (joint with Jana Friedrichsen, Manja Gärtner, and Steffen Huck)
LANGUAGES	Languages: German (native), English (Fluent)
REFERENCES	<p>Prof. Dr. Rustamdján Hakimov Associate Professor of Economics University of Lausanne rustamdján.hakimov@unil.ch</p> <p>Prof. Dr. Dorothea Kübler Head of Unit “Market Behavior” WZB Berlin kuebler@wzb.eu</p> <p>Prof. Dr. Peter Haan Head of Department “Public Economics” DIW Berlin phaan@diw.de</p>