

Sofía García Durrer

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Education

Doctoral candidate and Research Associate at the Hertie School 09.2025 – Present
DYNAMICS Research Training Group - Humboldt University and Hertie School, Germany

- Main Supervision: Prof. Dr. Michaela Kreyenfeld.

Master of Public Policy 08.2023 – 07.2025
Hertie School, Germany GPA Average: 93% (1.6/5-1 grading scale).

- Policy Analysis Concentration.
- **Relevant Coursework:** Advanced Economics, Statistics II, Policy Process: Employment and Welfare, and Social Inequality.
- **Thesis:** "Till chores tear us apart: Perceived unfairness in household labor division and the risk of union dissolution among German couples." Supervised by Prof. Dr. Michaela Kreyenfeld. Graded 1.3 (5-1 grading scale).

Exchange Semester - Master of Science in Economics 08.2024 – 12.2024
Stockholm School of Economics, Sweden

Bachelor of Science in Economics 09.2019 – 08.2023
University of Mannheim, Germany

- **Relevant Coursework:** Micro- and Macroeconomics (Intermediate and Advanced), Advanced Econometrics, Statistics I and II, Development and Education Economics.
- **Thesis:** "The implications of conditional cash transfer programs for women: A cross-sectional analysis of Familias en Acción." Supervised by Prof. Dr. Markus Frölich. Graded 1.7 (5-1 grading scale).

Exchange Semester - Bachelor of Arts in Political Science 01.2019 – 07.2019
Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with Minor in Sociology 09.2017 – 06.2020
University of Mannheim, Germany

- **Relevant Coursework:** Methods of Data Collection and Analysis, Political Sociology, Concentration Courses on International Relations and Comparative Politics.
- Completed 145 ECTS in Political Science and 35 ECTS in Sociology.
- **Thesis:** "The effect of Chinese foreign policy on the development of Latin American countries." Supervised by Prof. Dr. Thomas Bräuniger.

Allgemeine Hochschulreife and Highschool-completion Certificate 07.2017
Colegio Andino Deutsche Schule, Colombia

- Academic Distinction.
- German High-School Abitur Certificate with Overall GPA of 1.8 (5-1 grading scale).

Teaching Experience

Graduate Teaching Assistant at the Hertie School – 01.2024 – 06.2024 and
Course: Statistics II – Modeling and Causal Inference 01.2025 – 06.2025

- Led two 90-minute weekly lab sessions for two groups (20 students each).
- Graded assignments, including problem sets and midterm exams.
- Received high student evaluations: 9.6/10 (2024), 95/100 (2025).
- **Supervision:** Prof. Asya Magazinnik, PhD; Maria Uttenthal, PhD (2025).

Research Experience

Research Assistant

03.2025 – 08.2025

Berlin Social Science Center - WZB, Germany

- Supported the testing phase of the upcoming wave of the National Educational Panel Study (NEPS) by helping evaluate and refine survey instruments for collecting data on educational and competence development.

Research Consultant

02.2023 – 08.2023

Fundación Interra, Colombia

- Coauthored the "Índice de Inclusión Laboral" (Index of Population Labor Inclusion) for 23 departments in Colombia, a tool designed to evaluate and promote workplace diversity, equity, and inclusion across different territories, providing actionable insights for policy-making and organizational improvement.
- Authored and published technical notes on social policy, decentralization, and labor market strategies.

Research Assistant

07.2021 – 09.2021

German Institute for Global and Area Studies - GIGA, Germany. Assisted Prof. Dr. Belén Rodríguez.

- Authored a comprehensive scientific report analyzing the activities, organizational structures, and socio-political impact of paramilitary groups and semi-official militias in Venezuela.
- Processed qualitative interviews, video, and image material to quantify findings, integrating diverse data sources to enhance the depth and accuracy of the analysis.

Research Assistant

06.2020 – 01.2022

Center Political Economy of Reforms - University of Mannheim, Germany. Assisted Prof. Dr. Lion Behrens.

- Compiled and organized comprehensive datasets integrating electoral events, system characteristics, and survey data for Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Consolidated and enhanced data management processes for the German Internet Panel (GIP).

Other Professional Experience

Part-time Consultant

08.2024 – 12.2024

Frankfurt School-UNEP Collaborating Centre for Climate and Sustainable Energy Finance, Germany

- Facilitated initial meetings with UNEP and the Frankfurt School team to define objectives and outline the foundational steps for developing the State Finance for Nature 2025 report.
- Conducted systematic reviews of secondary and primary information to collect and verify data on nature-based solutions and positive financial flows.

Intern and Working Student

08.2022 – 08.2024

KfW German Development Bank, Department of Latin America and The Caribbean, Germany

- Preparation, implementation, coordination, and monitoring of tendering and awarding processes for projects in Latin America, as well as advising project managers on this topic.
- Coordination of contracts for various financing products of financial cooperation (>400.000 €), along with documents for contract approval and contract signing.

Intern

02.2022 – 06.2022

Social Development Division National Planning Department, Colombia

- Quantification and annual measurement of the impact of social expenditure in Colombia, providing valuable insights into its specific incidence and outcomes.
- Upheld cross-cutting policy work in education, labor, health, poverty reduction and gender equality areas.

Intern and then Junior Project Manager (Financial area)

06.2021 – 08.2022

Stay Stiftung, Germany

- Collected and reviewed normative and financial reports for more than 10 programs and projects in Uganda and Kenya.
- Contributed to the establishment and enhancement of a monitoring and evaluation system for

eight vocational training, womens health and education programs in Uganda, supporting mid-term assessments (6 months to 1 year) to drive program improvements.

Scholarships and Awards

- **Hertie School - 2023:** Tuition waiver. Estimated total value: €13.125.
- **COLFUTURO credit-scholarship beneficiary - 2023:** Covers full living costs for the duration of graduate studies and provides funding up to USD 50,000.
- **KfW Talentship Program - 2022 and 2023:** Recognized for outstanding performance after my time as a Working Student in the Development Bank.

Leadership and Volunteer Activities

CIVICA Ambassador, Hertie School 09.2023 – 06.2025

- Representation of the Hertie School in the CIVICA Alliance, promoting collaboration and research among European universities and fostering student engagement in joint academic and civic initiatives.

Member - Hertie Latin American Club, Hertie School 09.2023 – 06.2025

- Active member of the Hertie Latin American Club, co-organized two international conferences featuring over 30 panelists from diverse global regions, fostering dialogue on key socio-political and economic issues in Latin America.

Publications of past professional projects

- Arias, E., Espinosa, C., Vanegas, P., and **García Durrer S.** *NT 7: Índice de Inclusión Laboral Poblacional-INLAP – Fundación Interra – Repositorio Documental.* 2024.
- Gaitán C. & **García Durrer S.** Fundación Interra. *La descentralización en Colombia: Una mirada desde las diferencias regionales y las capacidades institucionales.* 2023.
- **Observatorio de Familia Departamento Nacional de Planeación. National Planning Department.** *Análisis del Sistema de Subsidio Familiar.* 2022.

Skills

Languages

- Spanish: native speaker.
- German: C2 level. Abitur certificate.
- English: C1 level. IELTS Overall Band Score: 8.0.
- French: B1 level.
- Swedish: A1-A2 level. Certificate of introductory courses at the Stockholm School of Economics.

IT

- Coding: Stata (econometric modeling), R (dplyr, ggplot2), Python (pandas, scikit-learn), SQL (database querying and management), and \LaTeX .
- Data Visualization: Microsoft Power BI and Tableau.
- Data Collection Tools: SurveyCTO and KoboToolBox.
- Microsoft Office Suite: Advanced proficiency in Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

Hobbies and Interests

- Enthusiastic photographer specializing in portraits, landscapes and street photography.