

Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies (CES) te@mpifg.de
Harvard University https://tergen.org
27 Kirkland Street @tmrergen
Cambridge, MA 02138

TIMUR ERGEN

Academic positions

- since 2022 John F. Kennedy Memorial Fellow, Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies (CES) at Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.
- since 2015 Senior Researcher, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies (MPIfG), Cologne.
- 2014–2015 Post-doc, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Cologne.

Education

- 2014 Dr. rer. pol., University of Cologne (*summa cum laude.*)
Committee: Jens Beckert, Wolfgang Streeck, Mark Ebers.
- 2010–2014 International Max Planck Research School on the Social and Political Constitution of the Economy (IMPRS-SPCE), Cologne.
- 2010 M.A., Sociology and Political Science, RWTH Aachen (with distinction.)
- 2008 B.A., Sociology, Economics, and Economic History, RWTH Aachen.

Visiting Positions

- 02/2019–07/2019 Visiting scholar, Department of Sociology, Columbia University, New York City.
- 08/2012–01/2013 Visiting student, Department of Political Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge.

Awards

- 2015 Theodor-Wessels-Preis. EWI Cologne. For research contributions in energy economics and energy policy.
- 2010 Springorum Coin. RWTH Aachen. For outstanding final exams.
- 2010 Dean's List. RWTH Aachen. (3% university-wide.)

2010 Thesis award. Department of Sociology, RWTH Aachen. Thesis title:
“Wirtschaftlicher Wettbewerb und soziale Ordnung.”

Service to the profession

2022–2023 *SASE Early Career Workshop Faculty*. Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE.)

2021–2022 *Socio-economic Review* Best Article Prize Committee. Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE.)

since 2020 Member of the Executive Council. Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE) (elected for two terms.)

2019–2020 First Generation Doctorate Mentoring+. University of Cologne.

since 2018 Co-founder and co-organizer of the Research Network “Digital Economy.” Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE.)

2018–2022 Member of the Works Council. Max-Planck-Institute for the Study of Societies, Cologne.

2016–2022 Ombudsperson. Max-Planck-Institute for the Study of Societies, Cologne (elected for two terms.) Organized annual workshops on Good academic practice for MPIfG-researchers.

2015–2021 Responsible for the organization of public lectures and institute seminars. Max-Planck-Institute for the Study of Societies, Cologne.

2011–2013 Spokesperson of the doctoral students. International Max Planck Research School on the Social and Political Constitution of the Economy (IMPRS-SPCE), Cologne.

Teaching

2021 *Green energy transitions*. Seminar for undergraduate students. University of Wuppertal.

2019 *Foundations of institutional theory*. Seminar for master and doctoral students. University of Cologne.

2018 *Organisationssoziologie multinationaler Unternehmen*. Seminar for undergraduate students. University of Duisburg-Essen.

2018 *Innovation & society*. Seminar for master and doctoral students. University of Cologne.

2018 *Economy & society II*. Seminar for master and doctoral students. MPIfG Cologne.

- 2017 *Economy & society II*. Seminar for master and doctoral students. MPIfG Cologne. With Jens Beckert.
- 2016 *Economy & society II*. Seminar for master and doctoral students. MPIfG Cologne. With Jens Beckert.
- 2014–2015 Teaching assistant for *Economy & society I & II*, Seminars for master and doctoral students, by Jens Beckert. MPIfG Cologne.

Publications

Books

- 2015 Große Hoffnungen und brüchige Koalitionen. Politik, Industrie und die schwierige Durchsetzung der Photovoltaik. Frankfurt am Main/New York, Campus.

Journal Articles

- 2022 Contested Futures: Reimagining energy infrastructures in the first oil crisis. *Historical Social Research* 47, 4, 242–266 (with L. Suckert.)
- 2022 No Strings Attached: Corporate Welfare, State Intervention, and the Issue of Conditionality. *Competition & Change* (with F. Bulfone and M. Kalaitzake.)
- 2022 Firm Foundations: The Statistical Footprint of Multinational Corporations as a Problem for Political Economy. *Competition & Change* (with B. Braun & S. Kohl.)
- 2021 The Silicon Valley Imaginary: U.S. Tax Reform in the 1980s. *Socio-economic Review* (with I. Rademacher.)
- 2021 Shifting Patterns of Expectations Management in Innovation Policy: A Comparative Analysis of Solar Energy Policy in the United States, Japan and Germany. *Energy Research and Social Science* 79, 102177 (with M. Umemura.)
- 2021 Is More *Mittelstand* the Answer? Firm Size and the Crisis of Democratic Capitalism. *Analyse & Kritik* 43, 1, 41–70 (with S. Kohl.)
- 2020 Rival Views of Economic Competition. *Socio-economic Review*. (with S. Kohl.)
- 2019 Wirtschaftliche Untergangsszenarien und neoliberale Reformen. *Leviathan* 47, 2, 144–168.
- 2019 Varieties of Economization in Competition Policy: Institutional Change in German and American Antitrust, 1960–2000. *Review of International Political Economy* 26, 2, 256–286 (with S. Kohl.)

Book chapters

- 2021 Die moralische Ökonomie des Schutzzolls: Der Fall der Solarindustrie. In: Klaus Kraemer and Sascha Münnich (eds.), *Ökonomischer Nationalismus:*

Soziologische Analysen wirtschaftlicher Ordnungen. Frankfurt/Main: Campus, 147–167.

- 2021 Transcending History's Heavy Hand: The Future in Economic Action. In: Andrea Maurer (ed.), *Handbook of Economic Sociology for the 21st Century*. London, Springer Nature, 79–94 (with J. Beckert.)
- 2021 Eine pragmatistische Theorie technologischer Innovation. In: Felix Petersen, Martin Seeliger and Hauke Brunkhorst (eds.), *Pragmatistische Sozialforschung: Für eine praktische Wissenschaft gesellschaftlichen Fortschritts*. Stuttgart, JB Metzler, 245–258.
- 2021 Unsichere Zukünfte und die Entstehung von Kooperation. In: Felix Petersen, Martin Seeliger and Hauke Brunkhorst (eds.), *Pragmatistische Sozialforschung: Für eine praktische Wissenschaft gesellschaftlichen Fortschritts*. Stuttgart, JB Metzler, 259–280 (with M. Seeliger.)
- 2018 The Dilemma between Aligned Expectations and Diversity in Innovation: Evidence from Early Energy Technology Policies. In: Jens Beckert and Richard Bronk (eds.), *Uncertain Futures: Imaginaries, Narratives, and Calculation in the Economy*. Oxford, Oxford University Press, 298–318.
- Others*
- 2022 No Strings Attached: Corporate Welfare, State Intervention, and the Issue of Conditionality. *MPIfG Discussion Paper 22/2* (with F. Bulfone & M. Kalaitzake.)
- 2022 Review of “Veblen: The Making of an Economist Who Unmade Economics” by Charles Camic. *Economic Sociology: Perspectives and Conversations* 23.2, March 2022, 40–41.
- 2021 Firm Foundations: The Statistical Footprint of Multinational Corporations as a Problem for Political Economy. *MPIfG Discussion Paper 21/5* (with B. Braun & S. Kohl.)
- 2021 Deindustrialisierung als Fakt und Fiktion. *Gesellschaftsforschung* 1/2021, 8–11.
- 2021 Der Mittelstand als Retter des demokratischen Kapitalismus? *Makronom*, 24 February 2021 (with S. Kohl.)
- 2021 “Crises” as catalysts for more sustainable futures? The case of the First Oil Crisis and the role of multilayered interpretative struggles. *Economic Sociology: The European Electronic Newsletter* 22, 2, 15–23 (with L. Suckert.)
- 2020 Transcending History's Heavy Hand: The Future in Economic Action. *MPIfG Discussion Paper 20/3* (with J. Beckert.)
- 2020 Von Manchester über Detroit ins Silicon Valley. Rezension zu “Democratic Capitalism at the Crossroads” von Carles Boix. *Soziopolis*, 29 January 2020.

- 2019 Review of “Democracy and Prosperity” by Torben Iversen and David Soskice. *Economic Sociology: The European Electronic Newsletter* 21, 1, 56–59.
- 2019 Mit Kreuztabellen gegen Rechts. Jenaer Splitter IV. *Soziopolis*, 26 September.
- 2019 Crisis? What Crisis? Rezension zu “Democracy and Prosperity” von Torben Iversen and David Soskice. *Soziopolis*, 11 June 2019.
- 2019 The Symmetric Fallacy: The Dangers of Symmetric Reasoning in the Social Sciences. *CES Open Forum Series*, no. 32. Center for European Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA (with L. Haffert).
- 2018 Unsichere Zukünfte und die Entstehung von Kooperation. Wie Erwartungen kollektives Handeln ermöglichen. MPIfG Discussion Paper 18/8. Cologne: MPIfG (with M. Seeliger.)
- 2018 Zwischen Offenheit und Festlegung. Ein Dilemma in der Förderung von Innovationen. *Gesellschaftsforschung* 1.18, 14–15.
- 2017 Die Zukunft im Forschungsprogramm des Max-Planck-Instituts für Gesellschaftsforschung. *Gesellschaftsforschung* 2.17, 12–15 (with J. Beckert).
- 2017 Varieties of Economization in Competition Policy: A Comparative Analysis of German and American Antitrust Doctrines, 1960–2000. MPIfG Discussion Paper 17/18. Cologne: MPIfG (with S. Kohl.)
- 2017 Coalitional Cohesion in Technology Policy: The Case of the Early Solar Cell Industry in the United States. MPIfG Discussion Paper 17/7. Cologne: MPIfG.
- 2016 Große Hoffnungen und brüchige Koalitionen: Industrie, Politik und die schwierige Durchsetzung der Photovoltaik. *MPIfG Jahrbuch* 2015–2016, 37–42.
- 2015 Die ökonomische Theorie in Zeiten systemischer Krisen: Zur analytischen und sozialen Geschichte der Makroökonomie. Die Scholar in Residence Lectures von Robert Boyer. *Gesellschaftsforschung* 1.15, 24.

Selected Presentations

- 2022 *Free Markets à la Carte: Infrastructural Power in the European Green Deal.* Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, European University Institute, Florence, 12 December (with L. Schmitz.)
- 2022 *The Political Role of Industrial Policy in Green Energy Transitions.* 33rd Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, 9–11 July 2022 (with L. Schmitz.)
- 2022 *The first oil crisis and the role of multi-layered interpretative struggles in bringing about alternative futures.* Conference ‘Governing (by) expertise. The politics of social scientific knowledge production.’ ENS Paris-Saclay, 28–29 April 2022 (with L. Suckert.)

- 2022 *The political role of industrial policies in green energy transitions.* International Studies Association Annual Convention, 29 March.
- 2021 *Can “crises” promote transitions toward sustainable infrastructures? The case of the first oil crisis and the role of multilayered interpretative struggles.* Conference ‘Ruptures, Transformations, Continuities: Rethinking Infrastructures and Ecology.’ University of Hamburg, 25–26 November (with L. Suckert.)
- 2021 *The political economy of corporate welfare.* Conference ‘Public investment policies in Europe.’ Sciences Po, Centre for European Studies and Comparative Politics, Paris, 6–7 September (with F. Bulfone & M. Kalaitzake.)
- 2021 *The return of the state in digital industries: Reassertion or escalation?* 32nd Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, 2–5 July.
- 2021 *The political bases of the rise of the postindustrial imaginary.* 32nd Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, 2–5 July.
- 2020 *Imagining the Age of the Entrepreneur: U.S. Tax Reform in the 1980s.* 31st Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, 18–21 July. (with I. Rademacher.)
- 2020 *Deindustrialisierung als Fakt und Fiktion: US-Unternehmensbesteuerung in den 1980er Jahren.* Hamburger Institut für Sozialforschung, 13 January.
- 2019 *Verschwundet unsere Industrie? Ursachen, Verlauf und gesellschaftliche Folgen von Deindustrialisierung.* Seminar für nichtwissenschaftliche Mitarbeitende, Max-Planck-Institut für Gesellschaftsforschung, 3 December.
- 2019 *Das Auf und Ab der Solarförderung: Die Rolle von Zukunftserwartungen.* Volkshochschule Viersen, 27 November.
- 2019 *Deindustrialization as Fact and Fiction: U.S. Corporate Taxation in the 1980s.* Economic History Colloquium. University of Bayreuth, 18 September.
- 2019 *Die soziale Konstruktion von Critical Junctures.* Panel *Selbsttransformationen des Kapitalismus – Schocks, Brüche, Potenziale.* DGS-Regionalkonferenz “Great Transformation: Die Zukunft moderner Gesellschaften.” Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena, 23–27 September.
- 2019 Invited Critic. *Author Meets Critics: “The Future of the World: Futurology, Futurists, and the Struggle for the Post Cold War Imagination”* by Jenny Andersson. 30th Anniversary Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, New School for Social Research, 27–29 June.
- 2019 *Imaginaries of National Decline and U.S. Tax Policy in the 1980s.* Mini-Conference *Futures and Visions of Global Orders.* 30th Anniversary Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, New School for Social Research, 27–29 June.

- 2018 *Nationale Spielarten multinationaler Konzernaktivität – Der Fall Schwedens.* Ad-hoc Gruppe Komparative Wirtschaftssoziologie auf dem 39. Kongress der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Soziologie. Universität Göttingen, 24–28 September.
- 2018 *Unsicherheit über die Zukunft als strategisches Mittel im Wandel von Märkten.* Sektionsveranstaltung der Sektion Wirtschaftssoziologie auf dem 39. Kongress der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Soziologie. Universität Göttingen, 24–28 September.
- 2018 *Wirtschaftliche Untergangsszenarien und die Durchsetzung neoliberaler Politik.* Frühjahrstagung der DGS-Sektion Wirtschaftssoziologie Ökonomischer Nationalismus? “Nation” und “Nationalismus” in der soziologischen Analyse wirtschaftlicher Ordnungen. Universität Graz, 1–2 July.
- 2017 *The Symmetric Fallacy in Political Economy.* 29th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, Université de Lyon 1, 29 June–1 July.
- 2016 *The Impaired Economization of European Antitrust: The Quarrel over the “Effects-Based Approach” in European Competition Policy.* 28th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, University of California, Berkeley, 24–26 June.
- 2016 *Commercial Countermovements: The Case of Alternative Energy Support.* 28th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, University of California, Berkeley, 24–26 June.
- 2016 *The American Industrial Policy Debate and the Politics of the Future Economy.* Industrial Decline and the Rise of the Service Sector? International conference by the Institut für Zeitgeschichte, Munich and the German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C, Munich, 16–17 June.
- 2016 *Die kurze amerikanische Energiewende: Lehren aus der frühen amerikanischen Solarförderung für Deutschland.* Wissenschaft in Kölner Häusern, Leskanpark, Köln, 12 May.
- 2015 *“Energiewende” avant la lettre: The rise and decline of photovoltaics commercialization in the 1970s.* Invited Lecture, Max-Planck-Institut für chemische Energiekonversion. Mülheim an der Ruhr, 12 November.
- 2015 *Policy Feedback, Sectoral Fragmentation and Germany’s Elusive Solar Economy.* 22nd International Conference of Europeanists, Sciences Po Paris, July 8–10.
- 2015 *Big Promises and Fragile Coalitions – The Political Economy of the Early Photovoltaic Industry.* 27th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, London School of Economics and Political Science, 2–4 July.
- 2015 *The Politics of Competition in the German Photovoltaics Industry.* 13e Congrès de l’Association Française de Science Politiques. Sciences Po Aix en Provence, 22–24 June.

Media appearances

- 2020 Corona und die Gesellschaft. Zukunftsvorstellungen in der Krise. .
Radiointerview. Deutschlandfunk, *Aus Kultur- und Sozialwissenschaften*, 15.
November 2018 (with L. Suckert.)
- 2018 Brexit, Nationalismus, Abstiegsängste: Soziologen untersuchen
Zukunftserwartungen. Radiointerview. Deutschlandfunk, *Aus Kultur- und
Sozialwissenschaften*, 15. November 2018 (with L. Suckert.)
- 2015 In der Solarbranche kämpfte jeder für sich. Interview mit Hartmut Steiger. *VDI-
Nachrichten* 2015.15, p. 11.

Conference organization

- 2021 *The Role of the State in Digital Transitions*. Panel series. 33rd Annual Meeting of
the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics. 2–5 July.
- 2018 *Marketization and the Digital Economy*. Mini-Conference. 30th Annual Meeting
of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, Doshisha University,
Kyoto, 23–25 June.
- 2018 *Revisiting Nonliberal Capitalism: Germany and Japan Ten Years After the Great
Financial Crisis*. Mini-Conference. 30th Annual Meeting of the Society for the
Advancement of Socio-Economics, Doshisha University, Kyoto, 23–25 June.
- 2017 *The Making of Neoliberalism*. Conference at the MPIfG Cologne, 13–14 July.
With Ariane Leendertz.
- 2017 *Competition in Digital Capitalism: New Patterns and New Rules*. Mini-
Conference. 29th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-
Economics, Université de Lyon 1, 29 June–1 July.