

Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies
Paulstraße 3
D-50676 Cologne

te@mpifg.de
<https://tergen.org>
@tmrergen

TIMUR ERGEN

Academic positions

since 2015	Senior Researcher, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies (MPIfG), Cologne.
09/2022– 07/2023	John F. Kennedy Memorial Fellow, Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies (CES) at Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.
2022–2023	Affiliate. Weatherhead Research Cluster on Comparative Inequality and Inclusion. Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.
2014–2015	Post-doc, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Cologne.

Education

2023–2024 (planned)	Habilitation »Organizing Decline: Deindustrialization in Germany and the United States«.
2014	Dr. rer. pol., University of Cologne (<i>summa cum laude.</i>) 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

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| 2023 | Socio-economic Review Best Article Award Shortlist. Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE). |
| 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

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| 2022–2023 | <i>SASE Early Career Workshop Faculty</i> . Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE.) |
| 2022–2023 | Graduate Grant Review Committee. Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies (CES). Harvard University. |
| 2021–2022 | <i>Socio-economic Review</i> 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

- 2023
(planned) *Sociology of markets*. Seminar for master and doctoral students. MPIfG Cologne. With O. Pilmis.
- 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

- 2024
(planned) *Organizing Decline: Deindustrialization in Germany and the United States* (First draft planned for Fall 2023).
- 2015 *Große Hoffnungen und brüchige Koalitionen. Politik, Industrie und die schwierige Durchsetzung der Photovoltaik*. Frankfurt am Main/New York, Campus.

Journal Articles

- 2023 No Strings Attached: Corporate Welfare, State Intervention, and the Issue of Conditionality. *Competition & Change* 27, 2, 253–276 (with F. Bulfone and M. Kalaitzake.)
- 2023 The Silicon Valley Imaginary: U.S. Tax Reform in the 1980s. *Socio-economic Review* 21, 2, 935–957 (with I. Rademacher.)
- 2023 Firm Foundations: The Statistical Footprint of Multinational Corporations as a Problem for Political Economy. *Competition & Change* 27, 1, 44–73 (with B. Braun & S. Kohl.)

- 2022 Rival Views of Economic Competition. *Socio-economic Review* 20, 3, 937–965 (with S. Kohl.)
- 2022 Contested Futures: Reimagining energy infrastructures in the first oil crisis. *Historical Social Research* 47, 4, 242–266 (with L. Suckert.)
- 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.)
- 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

- (in print) Imagined Futures and Social Innovation. In: Jürgen Howaldt und Christoph Kaletka (eds.), *Encyclopedia of Social Innovation*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.
- 2023 The Future in the Economy. In: Milan Zafirovsky (Hg.), *The Routledge International Handbook of Economic Sociology*. New York: Routledge, 583–600 (mit M. Seeliger).
- 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

- 2023 (under review) The Sunshine Problem: Climate Change and Managed Decline in the European Union. *MPIfG Discussion Paper Series* (with L. Schmitz).
- 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

- 2023 *The new industrial policy and the political economy of conditionality*. 34th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, 20–22 July 2023.
- 2023 *Imaginarities of industrial change in Germany and the U.S.* 34th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, 20–22 July 2023.
- 2023 *Deindustrialization as Structural Fact and Political Idea*. New Research in Europe Seminar. Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, 22 March.
- 2023 *Deindustrialization as Fact and Fiction*. Weatherhead Research Cluster on Comparative Inequality. Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, 1 February.
- 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 *Imaginations 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.