

Virginia Sondergeld

Labor economist and data enthusiast @ Indeed Hiring Lab.

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POSITIONS

Economist, Indeed Hiring Lab SINCE 12/2024
Research Associate, DIW Berlin 10/2020 - 11/2024
Department Public Economics / Research Group Gender Economics
Economic Analyst, NERA Economic Consulting 02/2017 - 07/2019
Energy, Environment and Infrastructure Practice
Promotion from Research Officer in 02/2019, previously Intern in summer 2016
Student Assistant, Goethe University Frankfurt 09/2012 - 07/2015
Chair of International Economic Policy and Chair of Applied Microeconomics
Research Intern, Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW) 08/2014 - 10/2014
Research Group International Distribution and Redistribution

EDUCATION

PhD Economics 10/2019 - 11/2024
DIW Berlin / Free University Berlin, Advisors: Peter Haan and Katharina Wrohlich.
Visiting researcher 03/2023 - 05/2023
Centre for Research in Economics and Statistics, Paris, France
MSc Economics 08/2015 - 06/2016
The London School of Economics and Political Science, GGrade: Distinction
BSc Economics and Business Administration 04/2012 - 08/2015
Goethe University Frankfurt, Grade: 1.1.

WORK IN PROGRESS

“Gender-Inclusive Language in the Corporate Communication of German Companies: Authentic Corporate Activism or Pinkwashing?”, with Samira Ochs, Carolin Müller-Spitzer and Katharina Wrohlich, [DIW Discussion Paper](#). Submitted.

“Meet my family: women in leadership and gender stereotypes in the media”, with Lavinia Kinne. Best paper award at the European Winter Meeting of the Econometric Society 2025. Draft in preparation.

POLICY-RELATED PUBLICATIONS

“Medien berichten geschlechterstereotyp über Vorständinnen und Aufsichtsrätinnen von DAX-Unternehmen”, with Lavinia Kinne, Katharina Wrohlich, DIW Wochenbericht 4/2025, DIW Weekly Report 3/2025. Featured in [tagesschau.de](#), [Deutschlandfunk](#) and [Der Spiegel](#).

“DIW Managerinnenbarometer 2025: DIW Women Executives Barometer 2025: Despite Rising Shares of Women on Executive And Supervisory Boards, Gender Parity Remains A Far-off Goal”, with Katharina Wrohlich, Anja Kirsch, DIW Weekly Report 3/2025.

“Fortschritte bei Frauen in Führungspositionen, doch Geschlechterparität benötigt weitere Anstrengungen von Unternehmen und Politik”, [Wirtschaftsdienst](#), 2/2024: 136-138.

“DIW Women Executives Barometer 2024: Share of women on the executive boards of large

companies has increased, but generally is at most one woman", with Katharina Wrohlich, Anja Kirsch, DIW Weekly Report 3/2024. Featured in [Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung](#) and [Tagesspiegel](#).

"Beste Bedingungen für junge Ökonominen und Ökonomen? Neue Daten und Empfehlungen der Arbeitsgruppe Nachwuchs im Verein für Socialpolitik.", with Christian Bayer, Florian Englmaier, Regina Riphahn, Philipp Schmidt-Dengler, Caren Sureth-Sloane, Jonas v. Wangenheim and Georg Weizsäcker, *Perspektiven der Wirtschaftspolitik* 24.1 (2023): 63-84.

"DIW Women Executives Barometer 2023: Number of women on boards of large companies keeps growing: Momentum from inclusion requirement, however, is waning", with Katharina Wrohlich, Anja Kirsch, DIW Weekly Report 3/2023. Featured in [Deutschlandfunk](#).

"Corporate reporting provides insight into companies' commitment to gender equality", with Katharina Wrohlich, Philipp Thompson and Anja Kirsch, DIW Weekly Report 4/2023.

"DIW Women Executives Barometer 2022: Markedly more women on executive boards of large companies; inclusion requirement seemingly already having an effect", with Katharina Wrohlich and Anja Kirsch, DIW Weekly Report 3/2022. Featured in [Tagesspiegel](#) and [Frankfurter Rundschau](#).

"Mindestbeteiligung von Frauen in Vorständen: Einige Unternehmen sind dem neuen Gesetz bereits zuvorgekommen", with Katharina Wrohlich, DIW Aktuell 65/2021. Featured in [Süddeutsche Zeitung](#).

"Few top positions in economics are held by women", with Jess Palka and Philip Hanspach, *VoxEU Column*, February 2021.

DATA PUBLICATIONS

"DIW Women Executives Barometer: Method Report and Codebook for the Waves 2015-2025", with Katharina Wrohlich, [DIW Data Documentation 107](#), 2025.

"The Women in Economics Index - Monitoring Women Economists' Representation in Leadership Positions", with Jana Schuetz and Insa Weilage, [Discussion Paper 2076](#), March 2024.

ACTIVITIES

Co-founder and Chair of the Board 07/2019 - 10/2024
The Women in Economics Initiative eV, www.women-in-economics.com

Member of the working group "Promotion of young academics" 03/2021 - 12/2022
Verein für Socialpolitik

Co-founder and member of Berlin chapter 08/2017 - 07/2019
Women at Oliver Wyman

HONORS AND GRANTS

Add-on Fellowship of the Joachim-Herz-Foundation (EUR 12,500)	10/2023 - 11/2024
Dieter Schumacher Young Scholar Travel Fund (EUR 1,400)	03/2023 - 05/2023
DIW Graduate Center Travel Grant (EUR 1,000)	03/2023 - 05/2023
1st-year PhD Scholarship, DIW Berlin	10/2019 - 09/2020
Klaus Murmann Fellowship, Foundation of German Business (sdw)	05/2012 - 06/2016
Additional grant by sdw for master's studies abroad (EUR 20,000)	07/2015 - 06/2016
Member of the Dean's List, Goethe University Frankfurt	10/2012 - 08/2015

Last updated: December 28, 2025