

PIA PINGER

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German citizen
three children

CURRENT POSITIONS AND AFFILIATIONS

2019 - PRESENT	Professor (W3), Department of Economics, University of Cologne
2025 - PRESENT	Director of the Reinhard Selten Institute
2024 - PRESENT	Principal Investigator, ERC Starting Grant OPPORTUNITY: Inequalities in decision-making at critical junctions in life (€1.5 million)
2023 - PRESENT	Principal Investigator, Cluster of Excellence ECONtribute: Markets & Public Policy, University of Bonn and University of Cologne
2018 - PRESENT	Principal Investigator, collaborative research centre (SFB) TR 224
2020 - PRESENT	Member, Center for Social and Economic Behavior, University of Cologne
2021 - PRESENT	Editorial board member of the <i>Review of Economic Studies</i>
2025 - PRESENT	MPI for Behavioral Economic Research, Research Fellow
2015 - PRESENT	Elected member of the “Ausschuss für Bildungsökonomie”
AFFILIATIONS	IZA, HCEO, CESifo, CEPR

PUBLICATIONS

- [16] The Impact of Higher Education on Employer Perceptions (with L. Ehrmantraut, R. Stans, and M. Siemers), *The Economic Journal*, 136(674), 2026: 602-625.
- [15] Mentoring and Schooling Decisions: Causal Evidence (with A. Falk and F. Kosse), *Journal of Political Economy*, 134(1), 2026: 366-396.
- [14] Gender Differences in Wage Expectations and Negotiation (with L. Kiessling, P. Seegers, and J. Bergerhoff), *Labour Economics*, 87, 2024: 102505.
- [13] Socio-Economic Status and Inequalities in Children’s IQ and Economic Preferences (with T. Deckers, A. Falk, F. Kosse and H. Schildberg-Hörisch), *Journal of Political Economy*, 129(9), 2021: 2504-2545.
- [12] The Formation of Prosociality: Causal Evidence on the Role of Social Environment (with T. Deckers, A. Falk, F. Kosse and H. Schildberg-Hörisch), *Journal of Political Economy*, 128(2), 2020: 434-467.
- [11] Re-Revisiting the Marshmallow Test: A Direct Comparison of Studies by Shoda, Mischel, and Peake (1990) and Watts, Duncan, and Quan (with A. Falk and F. Kosse), *Psychological Science*, 31(1), 2020: 100-104.
- [10] Paternal Grandfather’s Access to Food Predicts All-cause and Cancer Mortality in Grandsons (with V. Aronsson, G. van den Berg, and D. Vågerö), *Nature Communications*, 9, 2018: 5124.

- [9] Locus of Control and Consistent Investment Choices (with S. Schäfer and H. Schumacher), *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics*, 75, 2018: 66-75.
- [8] Predicting Experimental Choice Behavior and Life Outcomes from Survey Measures of Present Bias, *Economics Bulletin*, 37(3), 2017: 2162-2172.
- [7] Instrumental Variable Estimation of the Causal Effect of Hunger Early in Life on Health Later in Life (with G. van den Berg and J. Schoch), *The Economic Journal*, 126(3), 2016: 465-506.
- [6] Early-onset Paternal Smoking and Offspring Adiposity (with D. Carslake, G. Davey Smith and P. Romundstad), *PLOS ONE*, 11(12), 2016: e0166952.
- [5] Maintaining (Locus of) Control? Data Combination for the Identification and Inference of Factor Structure Models (with R. Piatek), *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, 31(3), 2016: 734-755.
- [4] Transgenerational Effects of Childhood Conditions on Third Generation Health and Education Outcomes (with G. van den Berg), *Economics and Human Biology*, 23, 2016: 103-120.
- [3] The Compromise Effect in Action: Lessons from a Restaurant's Menu (with I. Ruhmer-Krell and H. Schumacher), *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, 128, 2016: 14-34.
- [2] Contexts, Compliance and Imperfect Recall - Using Two-sample IV to Estimate Average Causal Effects of Child Human Capital Investments, *Bonn Journal of Economics*, 3(2), 2014: 119-128. (non-refereed)
- [1] Come Back or Stay? Spend Here or There?, *International Migration*, 48(5), 2010: 142-173.

2,200+ Google Scholar citations

WORKING PAPERS

How to Attract Talent? Field-Experimental Evidence on Emphasizing Flexibility and Career Opportunities in Job Advertisements (with L. Fuchs, M. Heinz, and M. Thon), CRC 224 DP No. 683

The Expected (Signaling) Value of Higher Education (with L. Ehrmantraut, and R. Stans), IZA DP No. 13729, reject and resubmit, *Review of Economic Studies*

Mental Models of High School Success (with T. Hübsch, R. Mahlstedt, S. Settele, and H. Willadsen), CESifo Working Paper No. 12497

Relative Grades and Gender Differences in STEM Enrollment (with L. Fuchs and P. Seegers)

Understanding the Mechanisms behind Intergenerational Effects of Economic Distress

WORK IN PROGRESS

The Childhood Origins of Wellbeing Inequality (with A. Falk and F. Kosse)

Intrahousehold Inequality in Parental Investment (with X. Lin and K. Kaufmann)

Position Effects and Menu Pricing (with M. Heinz, H. Schumacher and M. Thon)

EDUCATION

2013	PhD in Economics (summa cum laude), University of Mannheim
2008 and 2011	Visiting Scholar, University of Chicago
2006 - 2007	Advanced Studies Program in International Economic Policy Research, Kiel Institute for the World Economy

2006	Master in International Economic Studies, Maastricht University, the Netherlands, grade pt. average: 8.4 (top 3%)
2004 - 2005	Erasmus exchange, Institut d'Etudes Politiques (Sciences Po), Paris

PAST POSITIONS

2016 - 2023	briq Research Associate
2013 - 2019	Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Bonn
2010 - 2015	IZA Research Affiliate
2009 - 2013	Researcher, Professor Gerard van den Berg, University of Mannheim
2008 - 2013	Researcher, Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW)
2007	Research assistant, James Heckman, University of Chicago

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF COLOGNE, 2019 – PRESENT

Graduate and Doctoral Teaching

- Applied Econometrics (lecture), MSc Business, WS 2019/20, WS 2022/23, WS 2024/25, WS 2025/26
- Health Economics (seminar), MSc Health Economics, WS 2022/23, WS 2024/25
- Topics in Human Capital Formation (seminar), MSc Economic Research/PhD SS 2023, SS 2025
- Econometrics for Behavioral Economists (lecture), MSc/PhD, SS 2020

Undergraduate Teaching

- Inequality and Intergenerational Mobility (lecture), BSc, SS 2023
- Women and the Labor Market (seminar), BSc, SS 2020

UNIVERSITY OF BONN, 2013 – 2019

Graduate and Doctoral Teaching

- Topics in Intergenerational Mobility (seminar), PhD, SS 2015, SS 2017
- Behavioural Economics of Education (seminar), PhD, SS 2016

Undergraduate Teaching

- Health Economics (lecture), BSc, SS 2014–2018
- Identification of Causal Effects (seminar), BSc, WS 2013/14, WS 2014/15
- Mathematics for Economists (lecture), BSc, WS and SS 2013–2017

DOCTORAL SUPERVISION

Current: Christopher Eusterholz, Vincent Hartmann, Inga Heinze, Philipp Moskopp, Anna Person, Iris Stornik

Completed: Elif Bodur, Laura Ehrmantraut, Sarah Gharbi, Larissa Fuchs, Lukas Kießling, Yana Radeva, Sebastian Riedmiller, Klara Röhl, Renske Stans, Ipek Yükselen

INVITED SEMINARS AND TALKS (SINCE 2016)

- 2026 Victoria University of Wellington, Inequality and Human Capital Workshop at UNSW Sydney (Keynote), University of Sydney, MPI for Behavioral Economics, WZB (scheduled)
- 2025 Gesellschaft für Empirische Bildungsforschung conference (invited session), MPI for Research on Collective Goods, University of Naples Federico II, Catholic University of Milan, Bocconi University, University of Milan, University of Utrecht, University of Konstanz, University of Sussex
- 2024 University of Graz, DICE Düsseldorf, Helsinki Graduate School of Economics
- 2023 NYU Abu Dhabi, Erasmus University Rotterdam, University of Heidelberg, MPI for Research on Collective Goods, Swedish Institute for Social Research (SOFI)
- 2022 European University Institute
- 2021 ifo Center for the Economics of Education, ifw Kiel, Berlin Behavioral Economics Seminar, FAIR Norwegian School of Economics, Helsinki Graduate School of Economics, CESifo conference “Genes, Social Mobility, and Inequalities across the Life-Course” (Keynote), WZB/ifo Workshop “Causal Analyses of School Reforms” (Keynote)
- 2020 CREST Paris, Tinbergen Institute Amsterdam, University of Cambridge, University of Essex, University College Dublin
- 2019 University of Frankfurt, Maastricht University, University of Mainz, Aarhus University, University of Southern Denmark, ReStart Talk Cologne
- 2018 Central European University Budapest, TU Dortmund University, ifo Institute, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, University of Mannheim, DFG-Network 1764 meeting Nuremberg, University of Cologne, University of Konstanz
- 2017 4th Lisbon Research Workshop on the Economics Statistics and Econometrics of Education, German Institute for Employment Research (IAB), Jahrestagung des Bildungsökonomischen Ausschusses (Hannover), RES meeting special session discussant, Verein für Socialpolitik special session on education, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, University of York, University of Cologne
- 2016 University of Lausanne, University of Sheffield, InstEAD

SERVICE

- 2023 - 2025 Co-Spokesperson, Cluster of Excellence ECONtribute: Markets & Public Policy, University of Bonn and University of Cologne
- 2023 - 2025 Member of the Executive Board, Center for Social and Economic Behavior
- 2020 - 2023 Equal opportunity representative of “ECONtribute”
- 2020 - PRESENT Students’ trust professor (Vertrauensdozentin)
- 2019 - PRESENT Member of the standing hiring committee and member of the steering committee of the excellence cluster “ECONtribute”
- 2018 - 2019 Member of the steering committee and equal opportunity representative of the collaborative research center (SFB) Transregio 224
- 2016/2018/2022 Organizer of the SSSI/HCEO summer school in Bonn
- 2019 - PRESENT Member of various hiring committees at UCologne
- 2016/2018 Member of search committee (full/assistant professorships at briq)
- 2015 - 2019 Member of ethics committee (ERC grant on morality)
- 2015 Member of search committee (AP Macroeconomics)
- 2014 - 2025 Interview preparation of candidates for the international job market
- 2014 - 2015 University-wide survey of PhD students at the University of Bonn

REFEREING (SELECTED) AEJ Policy, American Economic Review, European Economic Review, Economic Journal, Economics of Education Review, Labour Economics, Journal of Applied Econometrics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Economic Psychology, Journal of Human Capital, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Political Economy Microeconomics, Journal of Population Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of the European Economic Association, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Studies, Review of Economics and Statistics, Scandinavian Journal of Economics

US National Science Foundation, Spring Meeting for Young Economists, Jahrestagung of the Verein für Socialpolitik, EEA Programme Committee, ERC starting and consolidator grant referee

EXTERNAL RESEARCH FUNDING AND AWARDS

2024 - 2029	ERC Starting Grant OPPORTUNITY: Inequalities in decision-making at critical junctions in life (1,500,000 EUR)
2023 - PRESENT	Principal Investigator, Cluster of Excellence ECONtribute: Markets & Public Policy, University of Bonn and University of Cologne
2019 - 2022	PI for European Regional Development Fund grant no EFRE-08011872: ~ 205,000 EUR for the project FAIR
2018 - PRESENT	Principal Investigator, collaborative research centre (SFB) TR 224, Project A02
2015 - 2018	PI for Swedish Research Council, grant no 2014-2448: 3,000,000 SEK, ~ 327,000 EUR with Gerard van den Berg, Bitte Modin and Denny Vågerö
2017 - 2019	PI for the Research Training Group “The Macroeconomics of Inequality” at the University of Bonn
2015	Prize for the best dissertation in the field of education economics 2013/2014 awarded by the German education committee (Bildungsökonomischer Ausschuss, Verein für Socialpolitik)
2015	Excellence in teaching award, University of Bonn
2014	Karin Islinger dissertation award
2014	Finalist, Leibniz Association’s Young Scientist Prize (“Leibniz-Nachwuchspreis”)
2014	Finalist, German Thesis Award (“Deutscher Studienpreis”)
2014	Dissertation prize “The Future of Labor”, awarded by the ZEW/Volksbank Weinheim Foundation