

LAURA SCHMITZ

Federal Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

laura.schmitz@posteo.de

<https://sites.google.com/view/laura-schmitz>

Updated: September 4, 2026

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics Freie Universität Berlin, Berlin School of Economics	10/2018 – 06/2023
M.Sc. Economics Universidad Carlos III de Madrid Thesis: <i>The Effects of All-Day Schools on Human Capital</i>	09/2017 – 09/2018
M.Sc. Public Policy and Human Development Maastricht University	09/2013 – 12/2014
B.A. European Studies and Economics Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt	09/2009 – 12/2012

EMPLOYMENT

Research Associate (Postdoc) German Federal Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (BAuA) Secretariat of the German Minimum Wage Commission	06/2026 – present
Research Associate (Postdoc) German Institute for Economic Research (DIW Berlin) Department Energy, Transportation, Environment	07/2023 – present
Research Associate (Doctoral researcher) German Institute for Economic Research (DIW Berlin) Education and Family Department	10/2019 – 06/2023
Consultant International Labour Organization (ILO), Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific	06/2017 – 09/2017
Policy Advisor Ministry of Finance, Zambia (joint project with ILO, IMF and UNICEF) Capacity building for simulating the effects of social protection policy reforms on inequality, poverty, and the Zambian economy	10/2016 – 07/2017
Junior Econometrician ILO, Social Protection Department Data analysis on social protection policy design, costing, and financial assessment for elements of Social Protection Floors (SPF) in selected countries	10/2015 – 07/2016
Junior Research Officer ILO, Employment Policy Department Content analysis of all IMF Article IV Consultations published in 2014 with a focus on employment, social protection, and fiscal consolidation	03/2015 – 09/2015
Carlo-Schmid Fellow ILO, Social Protection Department Developed a VBA-based analytical tool for the assessment of the financial affordability of national social protection schemes	10/2014 – 03/2015
Intern Friedrich Ebert Foundation (Colombia, 2013); GIZ (Ecuador, 2012); German Parliament (2012); Micro-credit NGO TWEED (India, 2011)	2011 – 2013

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed

Brehm, J., Pestel, N., Schaffner, S., & Schmitz, L. (2025). From low emission zone to academic track: Environmental policy effects on educational achievement in elementary school. *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, 103165.

Schmitz, L. Heterogeneous effects of after-school care on child development. *Journal of Human Capital*, forthcoming.

Helbig, M., & Schmitz, L. (2024). Socioeconomic differences in private school attendance: How much does the geographical distribution of private schools explain? *Zeitschrift für Soziologie*, 53(3), 314–330. [in German]

Under review

Santonja, A., Schmitz, L., & Vall, J. Understanding the link between heat and intimate partner violence. *Revise and resubmit* (2nd round) at the *Journal of Public Economics*. Working paper version.

Brehm, J., Gruhl, H., Kottmann, R., & Schmitz, L. Environmental regulation and mental health: Evidence from driving restrictions. *Revise and resubmit* at the *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*. Working paper version.

Bohmann, S., Felder, L., Haan, P., Küçük, M., Schmitz, L., & Schupp, J. Information, justice and public support for carbon tax-and-benefit policies: Evidence from Germany. *Reject and resubmit* at the *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists*.

Working papers

Dobkowitz, S., Kemfert, C., Kriwoluzky, A., Maxton, G., Schmitz, L., & Trautmann, K. (2026). Globalized consumption undermines efficiency-driven sustainability gains across planetary boundaries. DIW Discussion Papers, No. 2172.

Ray, N., & Schmitz, L. (2016). The IMF and the social dimension of growth: A content analysis of recent Article IV surveillance reports. Geneva: International Labour Office.

POLICY WORK (selected)

Bohmann, S., Felder, L., Haan, P., Kemfert, C., Küçük, M., Schmitz, L., & Schupp, J. (2025). Mehr Klarheit schaffen: Klimageld als sozialer Ausgleich bei höheren CO₂-Preisen. *DIW Wochenbericht* 6/2025.

Schmitz, L., Brehm, J., Gruhl, H., Kottmann, R., Pestel, N., & Schaffner, S. (2024). Umweltzonen in Deutschland: Emissionsbegrenzungen verbessern Bildung und psychische Gesundheit. *DIW Wochenbericht*, 91(47), 733–741.

Helbig, M., Schmitz, L., & Weinhardt, F. (2022). Selbst wenn Privatschulen in der Nähe sind: Sozial benachteiligte Schüler*innen sind dort kaum vertreten. *DIW Wochenbericht* 51/52/2022, 683–690.

Schmitz, L. (2022). Ganztagschulen fördern die Entwicklung sozialer Fähigkeiten von Grundschüler*innen. *DIW Wochenbericht* 48/2022, 635–642.

Gambaro, L., Kemptner, D., Pagel, L., Schmitz, L., & Spieß, C. K. (2020). Integration of refugee children and adolescents in and out of school: Evidence of success but still room for improvement. *DIW Weekly Report*, 10(34), 345–354.

Huebener, M., & Schmitz, L. (2020). Corona-Schulschließungen: Verlieren leistungsschwächere SchülerInnen den Anschluss? *DIW Aktuell* 30. Berlin: DIW.

AWARDS

Best paper award of 2025, DIW Berlin.

Joachim Herz Add-on Fellowship for Interdisciplinary Science and Transfer, 2025–2027.

Best policy report (*Wochenbericht*) at DIW Berlin in 2022.

Innovative Research Award for the paper “Heterogeneous effects of after-school care on child development” from the Berlin Network for Labour Market Research (BeNA).

Scholarship for Master Studies at the Economics Faculty, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid.

Carlo-Schmid Fellowship, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Studienstiftung, and Mercator Foundation.

MEDIA APPEARANCES

Fakt oder Fake? Weniger Luftverschmutzung verbessert die Gehirnleistung. MDR JUMP, February 2025.

Sinn und Unsinn von Umweltzonen. Kemfert’s Climate Podcast, December 2024.

Studie zu Umweltzonen: Diese Abgase gehen uns auf die Nerven – im Wortsinn. DER SPIEGEL, Issue 36/2024.

Ganztagsschulen fördern Sozialverhalten. Nachgeforscht bei Laura Schmitz, 30 November 2022.

Lasst Kinder und Eltern wählen! Guest contribution in *Bildung.Table*, 30 November 2022.

Weit entfernt von Chancengleichheit. Guest contribution in *Frankfurter Rundschau*, 4 September 2022.

Lernlücken fürs Leben. *Die Welt*, 21 August 2021.

OTHER SKILLS AND ACTIVITIES

Executive Board member, Berlin Network for Labour Market Research (BeNA), 2020–2022.

Mentor and volunteer at *haydee!*, 2021–2022.

IT: Stata, R, $\text{\LaTeX}$, MS Office, QGIS, VBA.

Languages: German (native), English (fluent), Spanish (advanced), French (advanced), Polish (basic).