

Curriculum vitae

Prof. Dr. Heike Solga

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1. Academic career

05/2008–present	Director of the research unit “Skill Formation and Labor Markets” at the WZB – Berlin Social Science Center
05/2008–present	Professor (S-W3) of Sociology at the Freie Universität Berlin
10/2020–present	Spokesperson Task Area 1 (Community Participation), KonsortSWD, German National Research Data Infrastructure Initiative (NFDI)
09/2019–present	LfBi Research Affiliate, Bamberg
03/2019–present	ROA Fellow, University Maastricht
01/2018–present	Member, Enquete Commission "Vocational Training in the Digital World of Work" of the German Parliament
01/2018–present	Member, Zentrum für Inklusionsforschung (Center for Research on Inclusion), Humboldt University Berlin
02/2016–present	Faculty, Berlin Graduate School of Social Sciences (BGSS), Humboldt University Berlin
07/2012–present	Member, Spokesperson group, Leibniz Education Research Network (LERN; http://www.leibniz-education.de/network.html)
08/2008–present	PI of the National Education Panel Study (NEPS)
9/2020–8/2022	Global Chair, University of Bath, UK
05–7/2012	Visiting researcher, SOFI, University of Stockholm, Sweden
2006–2010	Member of the Board of Directors, Sociological Research Institute (SOFI) Göttingen
2007–2008	Visiting professor, WZB – Berlin Social Science Center
2005–2008	Professor (W3) of Sociology, Georg August University Göttingen
2004–2005	Professor (C3) of Sociology, University of Leipzig
Spring term 2004	Visiting professor, Department of Sociology, and Visiting Fellow, Center for Research on Inequality and the Life Course, Yale University, USA
Summer term 2003	Visiting professor, ETH and University of Zurich, Switzerland
1999–2005	Head (C3-equivalent) of the Independent Research Group “Lack of Training: Employment and Life Chances of the Less Educated“, Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin
03–10/1997	Visiting research fellow, Harvard University, USA
1995–1999	Senior research fellow and co-director of the project “East German Life Course Trajectories in the Process of Transformation“, Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin

- 1992–1995 Doctoral research fellow, Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin
 1991 Junior research fellow, WZB – Berlin Social Science Center

2. Academic degrees

- 2003 Habilitation, Freie Universität Berlin, *venia legendi* for sociology
 1994 Dr. phil., Freie Universität Berlin, *summa cum laude*
 1991 M.A. in Sociology, Stanford University, USA
 1988 “Diplom” (German M.A.-equivalent) in Sociology, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

3. Awards, honors, and appointments

- 2013 Berlin Science Award 2013 of the Governing Mayor of Berlin
 1996 Otto Hahn Medal, awarded by the Max Planck Society
 1988 Kurt-Braunreuther-Medal, awarded Institute for Sociology, Humboldt-Universität Berlin (prize for the best diploma thesis)
- 2020-22 Global Chair, University of Bath, UK
- 2018 Member, Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities (BBAW)
- 2018 Member, German Council of Science and Humanities (Wissenschaftsrat) (appointed by Federal President/Bundespräsident)
- 2014 Member, “Bundesjugendkuratorium” (Advisory Board on Youth Policy of the Federal Government) (appointed by Federal Ministry for Family Affairs)
- 2014 Member, Board of Trustees, Volkswagen Foundation (appointed by State Government of Lower Saxony)
- 2011, 2015 Member, scientific advisory board, “Performance of Germany’s Education Sector in International Comparison” (appointed by Federal Ministry of Education and Research/BMBF)
- 2013–2018 Research fellow of the DIW (German Institute for Economic Research, Berlin)
- 2010, 2013 Member, Senate and Joint Committee, German Research Foundation (DFG)
- 2007, 2010 Member, DFG Senate Committee and Grants Committee on Research Training Groups
- 2009 Member, Scientific Advisory Board, OECD Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC) Germany (appointed by BMBF)
- 2005, 2009 Member, Scientific Advisory Board, German Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB) (appointed by BMBF)
- 2004, 2006 Member, German Data Forum (RatSWD) (appointed by BMBF)
- 2000–2005 Founding member, “Young Academy” at the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Science and Humanities and the National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina
- 2004 Fellow at the Center for Research on Inequality and the Life Course (CIQLE), Yale University, New Haven, USA
- 1991 Offer for PhD scholarship, Stanford University, USA (declined)
- 1990 Fulbright Scholarship, Stanford University, USA

4. Selected Scientific Committee Appointments

Currently 20; total: 62 (in addition: non-scientific advisory committees – currently 1; total: 16)
 (For a complete listing, go to <http://www.wzb.eu/de/personen/heike-solga>)

Board of Trustees and similar:

President, European Consortium for Sociological Research (ECSR, since 2021)
Member, Leibniz Institute for Science and Mathematics Education (IPN) (2016–present)
Volkswagen Foundation (2014–2019)
Chairperson, Sociological Research Institute Göttingen (SOFI) (2014–2018)
Member, Member, “Bundesjugendkuratorium” (Advisory Board on Youth Policy of the Federal Government) (2014–2017)

German Council of Science and Humanities (Wissenschaftsrat)

Chairwoman Scientific Commission
Member, German Council of Science and Humanities (Wissenschaftsrat) (2018–present)
External member, Working group „Skill development and demographic change“ („Qualifizierung von Fachkräften vor dem Hintergrund des demographischen Wandels“) (2013–2017)
External member, Coordination Group “Research Infrastructure” (2011–2012)
External member, Review Panel “Sociology Research Rating” (2005–2008)
External member, Review Panel “Evaluation of the Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB)” (2005)

German Research Foundation (DFG):

Member, Senate and Joint Committee (2010–2016)
Member, Senate Committee on Strategic Planning (2010–2015)
Member, “Research-Oriented Standards on Gender Equality” working group (2011–present)
Member, Senate Committee and Grants Committee on Research Training Groups (2007–2010)

International scientific advisory boards:

Member, Scientific advisory boards, TREE: Transitions from Education to Employment, University of Bern, Switzerland (2008–present)
Member, Research Council, European University Institute (EUI), Fiesole, Italy (2016–2021)
Member, Scientific advisory board, Danish National Centre for Social Research (SFI) (2009–2016)
Member, Scientific advisory boards Leading House “Quality of Vocational Education and Training”, University of Fribourg, Switzerland (2011–2012)

National scientific advisory boards:

Member, PIAAC Cycle 2 Background Questionnaire Expert Group, OECD (2018 – present)
Member, Bremen International Graduate School of Social Sciences (BIGSSS, 2015–present)
Member / vice-chairperson (2014–2016), NEPS [National Educational Panel Study] steering committee (2014–2018)
Member, Verbund Forschungsdaten Bildung [Education Research Data Center] (VFDB), DIPF, IQB, GESIS (2016–present)
Member, “eLabour” (Interdisziplinäres Zentrum für IT-basierte qualitative Forschung der Soziologie der Arbeit), Göttingen (2016–2020)
Member, Center for Research on education and School Development (IFS), Technical University Dortmund (2015–2022)
Member, “Performance of Germany’s Education Sector in International Comparison” (a Joint Responsibility according to Art. 91b of the German Constitution) (BMBF/KMK, 2011–2018)
Member, Institute for Employment Research (IAB, 2009–2018)

Chairperson, Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies/Germany (PIAAC, 2009–2013)

Member, German Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB, 2005–2013)

National professional organizations:

Member, Council of the German Sociological Association (2003–2010, 2013–2021)

Vice-president, Gesellschaft für Empirische Bildungsforschung (GEBF, Society for Empirical Educational Research) (2012–2014)

(Vice-)Chairperson, German Data Forum (RatSWD) (BMBF, 2004–2008)

Max Planck Society (MPG):

Member, commission of the president of the MPG for “Promotion of young researchers” (2013–2017)

Senator, MPG Senate (1999–2002)

Member, Senate Planning Committee for Research (1999–2002)

Mediator (1997–2000)

Research Fellows’ Representative, Humanities Section of the MPG (1996–2002)

Scientific journals:

Co-editor, *Kölner Zeitschrift für Soziologie und Sozialpsychologie* (2005–2014)

Member, editorial board, *Longitudinal and Life Course Studies* (2008–present)

Member, editorial advisory board, *Empirical Research in Vocational Education and Training* (2013–present)

Guest editor:

Special Issue for *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*: “Experimental methods in social stratification research”, together with Carlo Barone (Science Po, France), forthcoming.

Special Issue *Journal of European Social Policy*: Education as social policy: Institutions, public support and outcomes over the life course, together with Valentina Di Stasio (University of Utrecht), vol. 27, 2017.

Special Issue for *Longitudinal and Life Course Studies*: “Transition to young adulthood: The Significance of Inequalities of Resources and Contextual Variations”, together with Marlis Buchmann (University of Zurich) and Tina Malti (University of Toronto), vol. 8(1), 2017.

Special Issue for *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*: “School-to-Work Transitions across Time and Place”, together with Marlis Buchmann (University of Zurich), vol. 46, 2016.

Numerous reviews for national and international periodicals and grant-making organizations.

5. Support for young researchers

Advisor for doctoral dissertations (first advisor/supervisor): 8 ongoing, 25 completed

Inter/national dissertation awards: 14

Member, Dissertation committee, international universities: 9

Initiator of the Postdoc-college „College for Interdisciplinary Educational Research“ (www.ciderweb.org, 2012–present)

6. External grants

Total external funding: approx. 20.2 Mio. EUR

EU Projects

- “MAPPING INEQUALITIES THROUGH THE LIFE COURSE (MAPINEQ)” (Lead: Jani Erola, Univ. Turku, Finland), 1/2023–9/2025, 435,000 EUR
- Technological inequality - understanding the relation between recent technological innovations and social inequalities (TECHNEQUALITY) (Lead: Mark Levels, ROA University Maastricht), 2019–2021, EU, 384 000 EUR

German Research Foundation

- Soziale Ungleichheit beim Zugang zu prestigereichen Studienfächern: Das Zusammenspiel von Bewerbungsstrategien und Auswahlverfahren [Social inequality in access to prestigious fields of study: The interplay of students’ application behavior and universities’ recruitment procedures], 2018–2021, DFG, 300 600 EUR
- New opportunities or reinforced disadvantages? Variation in returns to low-achieving school leavers’ participation in pre-vocational training measures – Extension: Dropping out of VET programs (Short: N.O.R.D. 2), 2018–2020, DFG priority programme 1646, 201 300 EUR
- Understanding NEETS. Individual and institutional factors in in France, Germany, the Netherlands, and the UK (Short: NEETS), 2016–2019, DFG-ORA-Call 2015, 307 000 EUR (German part) (in collaboration with University of Burgundy, France; ROA, Netherlands, Oxford University, UK)
- New opportunities or reinforced disadvantages? Variation in returns to low-achieving school leavers’ participation in pre-vocational training measures (N.O.R.D.), 2015–2017, DFG priority programme 1646, 328 000 EUR
- Internationalization and Vocational Education Systems in Transition (INVEST), 2009–2012, 275 000 EUR

Other competitive research project grants

- Berliner Studienberechtigten Panel [Intervention and Panel Study of Berlin School leavers with Higher Education Entrance Qualification] (with Prof. C.K. Spieß, DIW), 2012–2016, Einstein Foundation Berlin, 1.7 Mio. EUR
- Zusammenhang von Kompetenzen und Arbeitsmarktchancen von gering Qualifizierten in Deutschland [Competencies and Labor Market Opportunities of Less Educated Adults in Germany], 2009–2014, BMBF, 278 300 EUR
- Betriebliche Arbeitszeit- und Qualifizierungspolitik im Lebensverlauf [Time for Lifelong Learning in German Companies: New Approaches and Institutional Requirements], 2009–2012, Hans-Böckler-Stiftung, 273 000 EUR
- The “Discovery” of Youth’s Learning Potential Early in the Life Course, 2007–2011, Jacobs Foundation, 229 000 EUR
- Gemeinsam Karriere machen. Realisierungsbedingungen für Doppelkarrieren in Akademikerpartnerschaften [Linked Lives of Academic Dual Career Couples], 2007–2010, BMBF, 314 760 EUR

Network grants

- Konsort SWD, Nationale Forschungsdateninfrastruktur-Ausschreibung 2020 (NFDI), Spokesperson Task Area 1 „Community Participation“, 10/2020–9/2025, DFG, 3.8 Mio. EUR
- College for Interdisciplinary Educational Research: 2012–2019, BMBF, 1.61 Mio. EUR
2012–2019, Jacobs Foundation, 1.26 Mio. EUR
(in collaboration with 6 other Leibniz Institutes: DIPF, DIW, IPN, GESIS, LIfBi, ZEW)
- “Längsschnittwerkstatt Berlin-Brandenburg“ (LWBB) [Berlin-Brandenburg Longitudinal Study Lab], 1997–2000, BMBF, approx. 135 000 EUR

National Educational Panel Study (NEPS), Stage 6: “Vocational Training and Transitions into the Labor Market” (WZB)

- 2014–2027, Leibniz Institute for Educational Trajectories (LifBi/Bamberg), 4.74 Mio. EUR (w/o survey costs)
- National Educational Panel Study (NEPS), Stage 6: “Vocational Training and Transitions into the Labor Market” (WZB), 2008–2013, BMBF, 1.1 Mio. EUR (w/o survey costs)

Federal Employment Agency

- Evaluations “Abschlussquote erhöhen – Berufsfähigkeit steigern (1 and 2)” [Increasing Graduation Rates – Increasing Trainability] and “Vertiefte Berufsorientierung und Praxisbegleitung an Hauptschulen” [Providing In-Depth Career Guidance and Practical Support at Lower Secondary Schools] in Lower Saxony, 2007–2011, Federal Employment Agency, 901 200 EUR
- Evaluation: “Werkstatt-Schule” project [Reintegrating Disadvantaged Young People in Institutional Education] in Saarland, 2008–2010, Federal Employment Agency, 386 000 EUR

Conference grants

- Annual conference, European Consortium of Sociological Research (ECSR), “Social Inequalities in Europe – are we on the Rise again?”, 2014, ECSR (co-funding), 9 000 EUR
- Symposium Castle Herrenhausen “Challenges in the Third Decade of Life in the 21st Century: Individual Development and Health, Social Opportunities and Inequalities” (with M. Buchmann, Zürich; A. Fasang, HUB/WZB; R. M. Lerner, Boston/USA, I. Litt Stanford/USA), 2014, Volkswagen Foundation, 35 000 EUR
- Conference organization: (1) Promoting Equality of Opportunity and Excellence in Education and Vocational Training: Challenges for Political and Administrative Decision-Makers; (2) Competence Development and Reforms in Vocational Education and Training, 2004–2005, Jacobs Foundation, approx. 250 000 EUR
- EURESCO Conference “Causes and Consequences of Low Education in Contemporary Europe”, 2004, European Science Foundation/European Commission, 25 000 EUR

Various expert opinions and reports, approx. 55 000 EUR