

Jakob J. Ortmann

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<https://jakobortmann.com>

Professional Experience

Academic

2024 – *today* **Doctoral Research Fellow**, Centre for Ethics and Law in the Life Sciences, Philosophische Fakultät, Leibniz University of Hannover.

Associate Member, SOCRATES - Social Credibility and Trustworthiness of Expert Knowledge and Science-Based Information, Leibniz University of Hannover.

2020 – 2021 **Tutor** in Philosophy of Science, University of Bayreuth.

Industry

2024 – *today* **Fellow Policy & Tech**, goal100.org, an open data project to boost the German energy transition.

2016 – *today* **Fullstack Webdeveloper**, Freelance. Customers include Leibniz Institute for Education (LifBi), Bayreuth InnovationLab for Ethics and Management (i-em), Fundmate GmbH.

2021 – 2022 **Management Consultant**, Internship at Ramboll (formerly civity Management Consultants). Assessing public transport policies for European rail infrastructure and on-demand ridepooling.

Other

2020 – 2022 **Co-Founder & Head of Negotiations**, Klimaentscheid Bayreuth. Built up a team of 60+ local volunteers to aid the municipality of Bayreuth in achieving Paris climate goals. Negotiated terms for a local "Bürgerbegehren". National coverage due to a precedent lawsuit against the municipality.

2018 – 2019 **Project Lead**, bayreuther dialoge. Strategic planning and execution of a conference with 250+ visitors on topics of philosophy, economics, and society. Worked in a team of 45 volunteers with agile best practices.

Conference Partner, Evangelische Akademie Tutzing, "Young Political Philosophy".

Education

2023 – 2024 **University of Cambridge (UK), M.Phil. History and Philosophy of Science and Medicine.**

Supervisors: *Anna Alexandrova, Marta Halina, Stephen John.*

Grade: Distinction

2018 – 2023 **University of Bayreuth (DE), B.A. Philosophy and Economics.**

Published in *Environmental Values*.

Supervisor: *Patricia Rich*

02/22 – 08/22 **Universidad de los Andes (CO), Semester abroad.**

Focus on advanced econometrics, industrial policy and theories of asset management.

Publications

1 **J. Ortmann**, "Of opaque oracles: Epistemic dependence on ai in science poses no novel problems for social epistemology," *Synthese*, 2025.  DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-025-04930-x>

2 **J. Ortmann**, "Performative paternalism," *European Journal of Philosophy of Science*, 2025.  DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13194-025-00651-7>

Presentations

- 2026 **Science and its effects - an overview on performativity of science debates**, Kolloquium des Interdisziplinären Zentrums für Wissenschafts- und Technikforschung (IZWT), Bergische Universität Wuppertal.
- 2025 **Performative Paternalism**, EPSA25, Groningen.
- What's the Deal with Performativity?**, Institute Colloquium of the Institute of Philosophy, Leibniz University of Hannover.
- Not even wrong - Performativity of Science as an Edge Case for Uncertainty Talk**, SOCRATES Workshop: Making Sense of Uncertainty in Science and Policy, Hannover.
- Not even wrong - Performativity of Science as an Edge Case for Uncertainty Talk**, Workshop on Social Epistemology of Science, Cambridge.
- But what is 'Performativity of Science'?**, CamPoS (Cambridge, Department of History and Philosophy of Science), Cambridge.
- But what is 'Performativity of Science'?**, MAPS Symposium, Hannover.
- Performative Paternalism**, SOCRATES Seminar, Hannover.
- Performative Paternalism**, GWP.2025, Erlangen.
- Positivism and Economics: a Questionable Tale of Hidden Politics (or: Intersections of Spontaneous Order and Performativity)**, Adverse Allies: Logical Empiricism and Austrian Economics (Workshop), Vienna.
- 2024 **Of Opaque Oracles: Epistemic Dependence on AI in Science Poses No Novel Problems for Social Epistemology**, CELLS Research Colloquium, Hannover.
- Evolution, Lineages and Human Kinds: on the requirements of evolutionary social constructivism**, Fifth Conference of the East European Network for Philosophy of Science, Krakow.
- Models as Memes: Understanding and Hedging Performativity in Science**, Third INEM Lake Como Philosophy of Economics Summer School, Como.
- Of Opaque Oracles: Epistemic Dependence on AI in Science Poses No Novel Problems for Social Epistemology**, Tenth Biennial SPSP, Columbia. *Cancelled*.
- 2022 **Theory Roulette: Choosing that Climate Change is not a Tragedy of the Commons**, Klimakonferenz.net, Online.
- 2021 **Theory Roulette: Choosing that Climate Change is not a Tragedy of the Commons**, LSE-UBT Student Conference, Online.

Service to the Profession

Journal Reviewing: *Philosophy of Science*; *Journal for General Philosophy of Science*.

Workshop Organization: Organizer, Phil-Econ-Model-Lab, an international workshop on value judgements in economic modelling.

Other

Scholarships

2023 – 2024: **German Exchange Service (DAAD)**, Postgraduate Grant, awarded to students with outstanding academic merit. Total value: 36.900 EUR.

Other (continued)

2018 – 2024: **Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes**, scholarship awarded to <0.5% of students in Germany, based on continuous academic merit. Total value: 26.000 EUR.

Grants

2024: **Travel Grant**, awarded by the Department of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Cambridge. Value: 300 GBP.

2024: **Travel Grant**, awarded by Darwin College, University of Cambridge. Value: 300 GBP.

Awards

2017: **Geschichtswettbewerb des Bundespräsidenten (Körber-Stiftung)**, national competition for historical research projects. Awarded for the documentary movie "Freiburger Kreis" and associated research.

2017: **Denkt@g**, 2nd place in the Germany-wide competition by Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung.

2017: **History competition of "Freiburg Netzwerk Geschichte"**, 2nd place.

2017: **Scheffel Award**, awarded by the Society of Literature Karlsruhe.

2017: **School Award Economics**, awarded by Südwestmetall.

2016: **Youth Movie Award Baden-Württemberg**, nominated for "Best Documentary".

Media Coverage

2023: **National Media Coverage of Klimaentscheid**, *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, covered the Klimaentscheid initiative and its legal developments ([read article](#)).

2017: **Portrait**, *Badische Zeitung*, featured article on my achievement as the state winner in the national history competition organized by the Bundespräsident ([read article](#)).

2017: **Portrait**, *Badische Zeitung*, featured article on my achievement as the state winner in the Denkt@g competition organized by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung ([read article](#)).

References

Available on Request.