

# CHRISTOPH SAJONS

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## PERSONAL INFORMATION

Date of birth: 16.07.1979  
Citizenship: German  
Legal status: Married, 5 wonderful children

## ACADEMIC CAREER

### *Current positions*

Since 2020 Head of research unit "Labor market and self-employment" at the Institute for SME Research, University of Mannheim  
Since 2019 Affiliated researcher at the Mannheim Centre for European Social Research

### *Previous positions*

2018 - 2019 Senior researcher at the Institute for SME Research, University of Mannheim  
2015 - 2017 Senior researcher at the Walter Eucken Institute, Freiburg  
2015 - 2017 Senior researcher at the Chair for Economic Policy and Institutional Economics (Prof. Lars P. Feld), University of Freiburg  
2012 - 2015 Senior researcher/lecturer at the Chair for Applied Economic Research and Econometrics (Prof. Bernd Fitzenberger), University of Freiburg  
2008 - 2012 Ph.D. in Economics, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona; Thesis topic: "Essays in Immigration Economics and Political Economy" (Supervisor: Libertad Gonzalez)  
2007 - 2008 Master of Research in Economics, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona  
2006 - 2007 Parental leave  
2005 - 2006 Master of Science in Economics, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona  
2003 - 2005 Diplom in Economics, University of Freiburg  
2002 - 2003 Exchange year in the Master program in Economics, Yale University, USA  
2000 - 2002 Vordiplom in Economics and Political Science, University of Freiburg

## FIELDS OF INTEREST

Labor Economics, Political Economy, Experimental Economics, Applied Econometrics

## **PUBLICATIONS IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS**

- Keusch, F., M. Leonard, S. Steiner, and C. Sajons (2021). Using smartphone technology for research on refugees – Evidence from Germany. *Sociological Methods and Research* 50 (4): 1863-1894.
- Sajons, C. (2019). Birthright citizenship and parental labor market integration. *Labour Economics* 57: 1–22.
- Sajons, C. (2016). Does granting citizenship to immigrant children affect family outmigration? *Journal of Population Economics* 29: 395–420.

## **OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

- Sajons, C., C. Hartmann, and R. Philipp (2022). *Selbständigkeit von Zugewanderten und Geflüchteten - Alternativer Weg in den Arbeitsmarkt oder berufliche Sackgasse?.* Policy Brief, Institut für Mittelstandsforschung der Universität Mannheim, Mannheim.
- Felfe, C., L. Kagerbauer, M. Müller, C. Sajons, J. Saurer, and T. Zwick (2022). *Mehr Ausbildung wagen! Barrieren und Chancen für die Einstellung von Geflüchteten in deutschen Unternehmen.* Policy Brief, Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg, Würzburg.
- David, A., C. Dienes, A. García Schmidt, R. Kay, T. Rosenberger, C. Sajons, R. Sänger, S. Schäfer, and J. Terstriep (2022). *Unternehmerisches Handeln und staatliche Unterstützungsmaßnahmen in der COVID-19-Pandemie.* ReCOVery Policy Brief, Institut Arbeit und Technik, Gelsenkirchen.
- Müller, B., and C. Sajons (2020). *Evaluation des Integrationsmanagements in Baden-Württemberg.* Report to the Ministry of Social Affairs and Integration of the state of Baden-Württemberg.
- Hartmann, C., R. Leicht, and C. Sajons (2018). *Potenziale und Hemmnisse der Integration von Geflüchteten in den baden-württembergischen Arbeitsmarkt.* GesellschaftsReport Nr. 4 | 2018, Statistisches Landesamt Baden-Württemberg.
- Dörr, A., O. Flayyih, F. Keusch, S. Steiner, and C. Sajons (2018). *Die Arbeitsmarktsituation von Flüchtlingen – Empirische Evidenz auf Basis einer Umfrage unter geflüchteten Menschen in Baden-Württemberg.* Report for Mangold Consulting.
- Feld, L.P., A. Dörr, P. Hirsch, and C. Sajons (2017). *Fakten statt Stimmungslage - Malteser Migrationsbericht 2017.* Report for Malteser Hilfswerke e.V.
- Sajons, C., and I. Clots-Figueras (2014). *Birthright citizenship and educational integration – Do immigrant children need a passport to thrive?* Report for the Fritz-Thyssen-Foundation.
- Sajons, C. (2011). *Essays in Immigration Economics and Political Economy.* Ph.D. thesis. Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona.

## WORKING PAPERS

Mehltretter, J., F. Keusch, and C. Sajons. *The (mis)use of Google Trends data in the social sciences - A systematic review, critique, and recommendations*. Status: Submitted to *Social Science Research*.

Dörr, A., C. Hartmann, and C. Sajons. *Unregistered work among refugees - Findings from a list experiment in Germany*. WWZ Discussion paper 2022-01. Status: Preparation for submission.

Hartmann, C., and C. Sajons. *Boost or penalty? The effect of entrepreneurial experience on subsequent employment prospects of migrants*. Status: Preparation for submission.

Felfe, C., C. Hartmann, C. Sajons, and J. Saurer. *Refugees' willingness to invest in host-country specific skills – Evidence from a discrete-choice experiment in Germany*. Status: Preparation for submission.

Fitzenberger, B., M. Furdas, and C. Sajons (2016). *'End-of-year' spending and the long-run employment effects of training programs for the unemployed*. IZA Discussion Paper No. 10441. Status: Reject and resubmit at the *Journal of Political Economy*

Sajons, C. *Information on the ballot and voter satisfaction in open list elections - Evidence from an exit-poll experiment*. Status: Preparation for submission

Sajons, C., J. Meyer, and S. Wolf. *Electing parents*. Status: Preparation for submission

## WORK IN PROGRESS

Felfe, C., L. Kagerbauer, M. Müller, C. Sajons, J. Saurer, and T. Zwick. *Skills and Policies: What drives companies' decision to hire refugees? An experimental approach*.

Petriashvili, N., J. Vincent, M. Leonard, and C. Sajons. *Using voting advice applications for social science research – A systematic review of topics, methods, and pitfalls*.

Laub, N., and C. Sajons. *Reduced retirement age - Off we go!?*

Sajons, C., and J. de Lazzer. *Candidates' professions and the gender gap in parliaments – Experimental evidence from Germany*.

Sajons, C., O. Flayyih, and M. Leonard. *The conservatism paradox - Why conservative migrants vote for progressive parties*.

## GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2023-2025                      Research grant from the Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) for the project “*Resilience of SMEs and public support measures in times of crises – The case of Ukraine*”, joint with Bettina Müller and Maksym Samoiliuk (350,000 Euro)

2023-2024                      Study “*Masterplan Mittelstand Baden-Württemberg*” for the Ministry of Economics, Labor, and Tourism of the state of Baden-Württemberg, joint

- with Christian Rammer and Bernhard Boockmann (250,000 Euro)
- 2023 Seed funding from the Mannheim Centre for European Social Research for the project "*New market, same old inequality? Experimental evidence on the gender pay gap on social media platforms*" (35,000 Euro)
- 2022-2023 Seed funding from the University of Mannheim for the project "*Prevalence and potential determinants of unregistered work in Germany*" (20,000 Euro)
- 2021-2023 Research grant from the Fitz-Thyssen-Foundation for the project "*Integration research 2.0 – Harnessing the power of new data sources to advance knowledge on behavior and attitudes of migrants and natives*", joint with Florian Keusch (190,000 Euro)
- 2021-2022 Seed funding from the German Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) for the project "*Demographic, Societal, and Economic Consequences of East-West Migration in Europe (EUMIG)*", joint with Daniel Auer (40,500 Euro)
- 2020-2022 Research grant from the Mercator Foundation for the project "*Fachkräfte der Zukunft oder langfristig marginalisiert? Möglichkeiten der Integration von geringfügig qualifizierten Geflüchteten*", joint with Christina Felde (240,000 Euro)
- 2020-2021 Seed funding from the Mannheim Centre for European Social Research for the project "*Aspiring migrant entrepreneurs in Germany - Potentials and pitfalls in the start-up process*", joint with Bettina Müller (35,000 Euro)
- 2019 Seed funding from the University of Mannheim for the project "*Is active case management the key to the successful integration of refugees? Evidence from a field experiment in Germany*", joint with Bettina Müller (11,000 Euro)
- 2018-2020 Study "*Evaluation des Integrationsmanagements in Baden-Württemberg*" for the Ministry of Social Affairs and Integration of the state of Baden-Württemberg, joint with René Leicht (310,500 Euro)
- 2018 Study "*Potenziale und Hemmnisse der Integration von Geflüchteten in den baden-württembergischen Arbeitsmarkt*" for the Ministry of Social Affairs and Integration of the state of Baden-Württemberg, joint with René Leicht (100,000 Euro)
- 2016-2017 Research grant from the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Science Foundation) for the project "*Life and Integration in Germany*" (24,000 Euro)
- 2015-2017 Research grant from the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Science Foundation) for the project "*The effect of information cues on the*

- ballot on voter satisfaction and behavior in open-list elections"* (130,000 Euro)
- 2014 Seed funding from the University of Freiburg for the project "*The effect of information cues on voting behavior and voter satisfaction in open-list elections*" (12,500 Euro)
- 2013-2014 Research grant from the Fritz-Thyssen-Foundation for the project "*Birthright citizenship and education - Do immigrant children need a passport to thrive?*" (55,000 Euro)
- 2012 Ph.D. prize from the Catalan Agency for the Administration of University and Research Grants (AGAUR) (3,000 Euro)
- 2008-2011 Ph.D. scholarship from the Catalan Agency for the Administration of University and Research Grants (AGAUR) (55,000 Euro)
- 2003-2005 Scholarship from the Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation (5,000 Euro)
- 2002-2003 Scholarship from the Landesstiftung Baden-Württemberg for an academic stay at Yale University (8,000 Euro)

## **PRESENTATIONS**

- 2022 Mannheim Centre for European Social Research (MZES), Mannheim, Germany; Congress "Wege zur erfolgreichen Arbeitsmarktintegration von Geflüchteten - Lehren aus der jüngeren Vergangenheit für die Zukunft", Berlin
- 2021 Conference "Refugee Migration and Integration Revisited: Lessons from the Recent Past", Institute for Employment Research (IAB), Nuremberg, Germany; Annual meeting of the European Society of Population Economics (ESPE), Barcelona, Spain
- 2020 Workshop "Immigration, Integration and Attitudes", Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW), Mannheim, Germany
- 2019 ESPE, Bath, UK; 2nd Conference on Integration, Lobbach, Germany
- 2018 MZES, Mannheim, Germany; Congress "Labor market integration of refugees", Stuttgart, Germany; University of Applied Sciences Schwäbisch Gmünd, Germany
- 2017 Institute for the future of labor (IZA), Bonn, Germany; Ministry for Social Affairs and Integration, Stuttgart, Germany; ZEW, Mannheim, Germany
- 2016 Workshop on Microeconomics, Lüneburg, Germany; Annual Meeting of the European Public Choice Society (EPCS), Freiburg, Germany; ESPE,

	Berlin, Germany; Workshop “New Insights into Political Economy”, Berlin, Germany, University of Hamburg, Germany
2015	7 <sup>th</sup> Economic Workshop, Trier, Germany; “The German labor market in a globalized world”, Nürnberg, Germany; Annual Meeting of the European Economic Association (EEA), Mannheim, Germany; University of Konstanz, Germany, Free University Berlin, Germany
2014	Annual Meeting of the European Association of Labor Economists (EALE), Ljubjana, Slovenia; Annual Meeting of the Verein für Socialpolitik, Hamburg, Germany; ESPE, Braga, Portugal; Workshop on “Family Policy”, ZEW, Mannheim, Germany
2013	University of Passau, Germany; ifo Institute, Munich, Germany
2012	EALE, Bonn, Germany; Annual Meeting of the European Political Science Association (EPSA), Berlin, Germany; Spring Meeting of Young Economists (SMYE), Mannheim, Germany; University of Heidelberg, Germany
2011	Symposium of the Spanish Economics Association (SAE), Malaga, Spain; Annual Meeting of the Spanish Association of Law and Economics (AEDE), Barcelona, Spain; “Migration: Economic Change, Social Challenge”, London, UK; Berlin Network of Labor Economists (BeNA), Germany; ZEW, Mannheim, Germany; University of Freiburg, Germany
2010	SAE, Madrid, Spain; AEDE, Madrid, Spain; ESPE, Essen, Germany

## **REFEREE ACTIVITIES**

Journal of Labor Economics, The Leadership Quarterly, Scandinavian Journal of Economics, International Migration Review, European Journal of Political Economy, Population Research and Policy Review, International Journal of Manpower, Journal of Economics and Statistics, B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Summer 2024	Advances in Entrepreneurship and Management Research – Experiments (Ph.D.), University of Mannheim
Summer 2023	Advances in Entrepreneurship and Management Research (Ph.D.), University of Mannheim (guest lecture)
Summer, 2015	Intermediate Econometrics (graduate), University of Freiburg
Winter, 2014	Applied Labor Economics (undergraduate), University of Basel
Summer, 2013	Labor Economics (graduate and undergraduate), University of Freiburg
Winter, 2012	Econometrics (undergraduate), University of Freiburg, Coordinator

Summer, 2012	Labor Economics (graduate), University of Freiburg
Winter, 2011	Thesis project (graduate), Barcelona Graduate School of Economics
Fall, 2010	Introduction to Stata (graduate), Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF)
Winter, 2010	Public Economics (undergraduate), UPF, Teaching Assistant (TA)
Winter, 2008-2010	Labor Economics (undergraduate), UPF, TA
Winter, 2009	Econometric Methods (graduate), UPF, TA
Summer, 2008	Economic Theory I (undergraduate), UPF, TA
Summer, 2004	Macroeconomics I (undergraduate), University of Freiburg, TA
Summer, 2002	Introduction to Programming (undergraduate), University of Freiburg, TA

### **OTHER ACADEMIC SERVICES AND POSITIONS**

2020 - ongoing	Organization of the ifm Research Seminar at the University of Mannheim
2012 - ongoing	Supervision of Bachelor and Master theses at the Universities of Freiburg and Mannheim
2023	Organization of the session “Applications, potentials, and challenges when using Google Trends in combination or as substitute for surveys” at the Biannual Meeting of the European Survey Research Association in Milan
2022	Program committee for the Annual Meeting of the European Economic Association (EEA) at Bocconi University
2020	Organization of the session “Migrant and refugee entrepreneurship” at the 6th International Research Forum on Mittelstand in Mannheim
2014 – 2017	(Co-)Organization of the internal Applied Economics Seminar at the University of Freiburg
2012 – 2017	(Co-)Organization of the seminar series of the Association of Freiburg Economists
2013 – 2015	President and outgoing president of the Association of Freiburg Economists
2014	Editor of the <i>Zeitschrift für Freiburger Wirtschaftswissenschaftler</i>

### **LANGUAGES**

German (mother tongue), English (fluent), Spanish (advanced)