

Rita Schmutz

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EDUCATION

University of Lausanne <i>Ph.D. in Social Sciences</i> <i>Policy-Driven (In)Equality: The Role of Education Policies</i>	Lausanne, Switzerland October 2025
University of Neuchâtel <i>Master of Science in Applied Economics (cum laude)</i> <i>Major: Public Finance and Regulation</i>	Neuchâtel, Switzerland January 2020
University of São Paulo <i>BSc in Public Policy Management</i>	São Paulo, Brazil December 2011

VISITING

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) <i>Sponsor: Prof. Jennie E. Brand</i>	April – June 2024
Harvard University <i>Sponsor: Prof. Dana C. McCoy</i>	January – March 2024
Brazilian Center for Early Child Development (CPAPI), Insper	August 2023

PRIZES AND GRANTS

2024	Young Talents Award, Swiss Society for Research in Education	CHF 1 000
2023	Mobi.Doc Fellowship, University of Lausanne	CHF 37 250
2023	Early Career Grant, University of St. Gallen	CHF 4 100
2023	Data Re-use Award, Swiss Centre of Expertise in the Social Sciences (FORS)	CHF 1 000
2020	Henri Grandjean Prize, University of Neuchâtel	CHF 500

PUBLICATIONS

- Schmutz, R. (2024). Inequality of Educational Opportunity in Switzerland: Exploring Regional Differences and Institutional Factors. *International Journal of Educational Research*.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijer.2024.102495>
- Vacchiano, M., Fernandez, G., & Schmutz, R. (2024). What's going on with teleworking? A scoping review of its effects on well-being. *PLoS ONE*.
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0305567>
- Schmutz, R. (2024). Is Universal Early Childhood Education and Care an Equalizer? A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Evidence. *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rssm.2023.100859>
- Schmutz, R. (2023). Infrastructure-Driven Development: The Local Social Impact of a Large Hydropower Plant in the Amazon. *The Journal of Development Studies*.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/00220388.2023.2197545>

WORK IN PROGRESS

Schmutz, R. A Material Typology of AI-Development Governance. *Submitted*.

Schmutz, R., & McCoy, D. Quality vs. Quantity: Assessing the Impact of ECEC Expansion in Brazil. R&R, *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*.

UNITED NATIONS – PUBLICATIONS

- World Investment Report 2022. UNCTAD, 2022
- How exchanges can advance gender equality. UNCTAD SSE, 2022
- World Investment Report 2021. UNCTAD, 2021
- Policy brief: The Net Zero Movement. UNCTAD SSE, 2021
- Action Plan to Make Markets Climate Resilient. UNCTAD SSE, 2021
- Model Guidance on Climate Disclosure. UNCTAD SSE, 2021
- Policy brief: Stock exchange guidance on human rights disclosure. UNCTAD SSE, 2021
- How Derivatives Exchanges can Promote Sustainable Development. UNCTAD SSE, 2021
- World Investment Report 2020. UNCTAD, 2020

TEACHING

University of Lausanne

Lausanne, Switzerland

Teaching assistant

2020–2023

BA level, Social Policy

MA level, Social Policy in the Life Course

INVITED TALKS

- Workshop – Data ReUse in den Sozialwissenschaften, Eidgenössische Hochschule für Berufsbildung EHB, May 2024
- 1st Brazil Switzerland Conference, University of Zürich, September 2023

CONFERENCES

PAA Annual Meeting (2025); RC28 Brown University (2024); Annual LIVES Conference (2023); Annual Conference of the Swiss Society for Research in Education (2023); Annual Meeting of the Brazilian Econometric Society (2022); Annual LIVES Conference (2022); International Week of Education and Training (2022); Swiss Society for Early Childhood Research (2021); Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness (2021); Network for European Social Policy Analysis (2021); Interdisciplinary Academy for Early Childhood Researchers (2021).

LANGUAGE AND TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages Portuguese · French · English · Spanish · German

Software Stata · R · Python

Methods Causal identification · Supervised and unsupervised machine learning · Meta-analysis and systematic review · Longitudinal and multilevel modeling

PH.D. TRAINING

- Harvard University: Early Childhood Development in Global Contexts; Educational Technologies and Public Policy
- ETH Zürich: NETHIKE – Social Networks
- University of Fribourg: Predictive and Causal Machine Learning
- Università della Svizzera italiana: Structural Equation Modeling (SEM); Data Mining; Causal Analysis
- HCEO–IESR Summer School on Socioeconomic Inequality
- FORS: Panel Event Designs and Panel Regression Models
- University of Trento: Causal inference based on non-experimental data; Difference-in-Differences Methods (Prof. Pedro H. C. Sant’Anna)
- Paris School of Economics: Microeconometrics and Policy Evaluation
- University of Zürich: Economics of Child Well-being and Development
- FBK-IRVAPP: Advanced Methods for Impact Evaluation
- LIVES Doctoral Program

MEMBERSHIPS IN SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES

Swiss Sociological Association (SSA)

Swiss Society for Early Childhood Research (SSECR)

Swiss Society for Research in Education (SSRE)

SELECTED WORK EXPERIENCE

Canton of Neuchâtel

Department of Education, Finance, and Digitalization

Collaboratrice scientifique

Neuchâtel, Switzerland

July 2024 – present

United Nations, UNCTAD

Consultant

Geneva, Switzerland

March 2020 – September 2022

United Nations, UNECE

Economic Affairs

Geneva, Switzerland

January 2020 – February 2022

São Paulo State Government

Secretary of Finance, Evaluation, and Internal Control

Monitoring & Evaluation Officer

São Paulo, Brazil

February 2014 – July 2018

São Paulo State Government

Secretary of Culture

Project Assistant

São Paulo, Brazil

September 2009 – August 2011