Dr Tobias Schillings

Technical University of Munich | Richard-Wagner-Strasse 1| 80333 Munich | tobias.schillings@tum.de

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political Economy, Social Policy, Development Economics, Inequality, Digital Transformation

ACADEMIC POSITIONS & AFFILIATIONS

Technical University of Munich **Munich, Germany**
Postdoctoral Researcher, TransforM Cluster of Excellence Apr 2026 – present
Affiliated with the Chair of International Relations and the Professorship of Global Health

University of Oxford **Oxford, United Kingdom**
Research Associate, Department of International Development Feb 2026 – present

EDUCATION

University of Oxford **Oxford, United Kingdom**
DPhil (PhD) in International Development Oct 2020 – Dec 2025
Thesis: *The Political Economy of Universal Healthcare: A Global Comparative Perspective*
Viva: Passed with no corrections (highest examination outcome)
Committee: Diego Sánchez-Ancochea, David Rueda, Kenneth Nelson, and Herbert Obinger

University of Oxford **Oxford, United Kingdom**
MPhil in Economics Oct 2016 – Jun 2018
Thesis: *Predicting Sovereign Debt Crises: A Computational Linguistics Approach*
Supervisors: Stephen Hansen and Michael McMahon

University of Münster **Münster, Germany**
BSc in Economics Apr 2013 – Mar 2016
Semester abroad: **University of Strathclyde, Glasgow**

RESEARCH

Journal Publications

- **Schillings, T.**, Sánchez-Ancochea, D. and Mohammed, R. 2023. 'Universalism in Healthcare for Human Security: Policy Considerations'. *Journal of Human Development and Capabilities* 24(2): 294-304. Link.
- Köbe, P., **Schillings, T.** and Schwarz, J. 2023. 'How Superintelligence Affects Human Health: A Scenario Analysis'. *Journal of Futures Studies* 28(2): 79-99. Link.

Working Paper

- **Schillings, T.** and Sánchez-Ancochea, D. 2022. 'The Role of Healthcare Universalism in Advancing Human Security'. *UNDP 2022 Special Report on Human Security Background Paper No. 03-22* (peer-reviewed). United Nations Development Programme (UNDP): New York. Link.
    - New Healthcare Universalism Index featured in flagship report *UNDP Special Report on Human Security*; findings covered in various UN publications and media

Works in Progress

- Segmentation as Strategy: The Political Logic of Unequal Healthcare Expansion in the Global South (invited for Special Issue 'Politics of Healthcare' in *European Political Science Review*)
- Privatisation and the Politics of Universal Health Coverage: A Political Economy Reappraisal (Paper for Special Issue '(Re-)establishing Political Economy in Development Studies', in prep.)
- The Healthcare Universalism Index: Measuring Coverage, Generosity, and Equity of Healthcare Across the World
- Spaces of Equality: A Global Analysis of Universal Healthcare and Social Trust
- Universal versus Segmented Expansion: The Political Economy of Healthcare Reform in the Global South
- From Public Care to Private Markets: Examining the Impact of Healthcare Privatisation on Redistributive Attitudes in the Global South
- The Paradox of Redistribution in the Global South: A Universal Healthcare Perspective
- The Multidimensional Belonging Index: A New Measure of Social Isolation (with S. McQuillen)

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Policy Writing – Selected

- Coupienne, F. and **Schillings, T.** 2024. 'From Insights to Impact: Evaluating 4 Years of Progress with the Inclusive Digital Economy Scorecard'. *UNCDF Blog*. Link.
- Coupienne, F. and **Schillings, T.** 2021. 'Measuring and Tracking Progress of Inclusive Digital Economies'. In UNCDF (eds.) *Inclusive Digital Economies for the SDGs*. Link.
- **Schillings, T.** 2020. 'Evaluating the Cost Effectiveness of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) and its Impact on HIV Transmission in Zimbabwe'. UNAIDS Zimbabwe. Link.
- Jiyad, S., Küçükkeleş, M. and **Schillings, T.** 2020. 'Economic Drivers of Youth Political Discontent in Iraq: The Voice of Young People in Kurdistan, Baghdad, Basra and Thi-Qar'. Global Partners Governance. Link.
- **Schillings, T.** 2018. 'The Macroeconomic Impacts of Syrian Refugee Aid'. *Forced Migration Review* 58: 43-45. Link.
- **Schillings, T.** 2018. 'Jobs Make the Difference - Estimating Job Creation Potential of the 3RP Regional Refugee & Resilience Plan'. *Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy Working Paper No. 46*. American University of Beirut. Link.

AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND GRANTS

Awards & Fellowships

2025 – Visiting Research Fellowship at the Fondation Brocher in Geneva
2025 – German Institute for Interdisciplinary Social Policy Research (DIFIS) Mentoring Programme
2020 – Social Market Economy Fellowship at the Konrad Adenauer Foundation
2016 – Hays Award for best overall performance in BSc in Economics at the University of Münster
2015 – IfG Award for best exams in Economic Policy and Macroeconomics at the Univ. of Münster

Grants & Scholarships – Selected

2026 – Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) Travel Grant
2025 – European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) Conference Grant
2025 – German Political Science Association Conference Grant
2024 – Sir Arthur Pickard-Cambridge Trust Grant, University of Oxford
2024 – Balliol College Graduate Project Grant, University of Oxford
2024 – ODID Publication Grant, Oxford Department of International Development
2023 – ODID Fieldwork Grant, Oxford Department of International Development
2021 – Frances Stewart Bursary, Oxford Department of International Development
2020 – Konrad Adenauer Foundation Scholarship for doctoral studies at Univ. of Oxford
2017 – Vice-Chancellor Scholarship, University of Oxford
2016 – German Academic Exchange (DAAD) Scholarship
2015 – DAAD Scholarship for semester abroad at the University of Strathclyde
2015 – Oliver Wyman Scholarship
2014 – 'Pro Talent/Deutschlandstipendium' Scholarship at the University of Münster

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

Conference Presentations

2026 (including planned) – In_equality Conference, Centre for the Study of African Economies, DIFIS Workshop on Public Opinion and Social Policy, POLECONUK, ISA RC19 Poverty, Welfare and Social Policy
2025 – ESPAnet, ECPR Joint Session of Workshops, German Political Science Association, ISA Forum of Sociology, Development Studies Association, Human Development & Capabilities Association, NordWel Summer School, Nuffield Comparative Political Economy Seminar, Graduate Students in IPE Workshop
2024 – Development Studies Association, Social Policy Association, ISA RC 19, Human Development & Capabilities Association, NordWel Summer School, Nuffield Comparative Political Economy Seminar, Political Studies Association
2023 – Human Development & Capabilities Association, Oxford Health System Symposium, Graduate Inequality Review, UNDP Human Development Report Workshop, KAS Social Market Economy Roundtable

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TEACHING AND SUPERVISION EXPERIENCE

University of Oxford, SDG Impact Lab **Oxford, United Kingdom**
Research Supervisor Apr 2025 – Sep 2025

- Supervised a team of three doctoral students in a research collaboration with the UNDP Independent Evaluation Office, contributing to a synthesis evaluation of UNDP support for global disaster risk reduction.

University of Oxford, Department of Economics **Oxford, United Kingdom**
College Lecturer and Tutor (Mansfield and Exeter College) Oct 2024 – Mar 2025

- Economics for Developing Countries (undergraduate level)

University of Oxford, Department of International Development **Oxford, United Kingdom**
Seminar Leader Jun 2022 – Mar 2024

- Development Economics (postgraduate level)
- Quantitative Research Methods (undergraduate level)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) **Brussels, Belgium**
Results Measurement Specialist May 2020 – Dec 2024

- Developed and implemented the Inclusive Digital Economy Scorecard (IDES), a strategic policy tool to measure digital transformation in 27 least developed countries in Asia, Africa, and the Pacific.
- Drove adoption of IDES as a national monitoring tool by governments of eleven countries; supported and informed over 25 national digital policies and strategies.
- Managed partnerships with stakeholders at global, regional, and country levels, including national governments, UNDP, UNCTAD, UN DESA, GSMA, and the European Commission.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) **New York, United States**
Research Specialist / Consultant Jul 2018 – Dec 2020

- Conducted applied research projects for the UNDP Independent Evaluation Office, UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States, and several country offices in Jordan, Thailand, and Tanzania.
- Led research for global policy reports, including for the 2019/2020 Human Development Reports, *Corporate Evaluation of UNDP Support to Middle-Income Countries,* and *Corporate Evaluation of UNDP Support to the Syrian Refugee Response*.

Schillings Economic Consulting **Oxford, United Kingdom**
Independent Policy Consultant and Economic Researcher Jul 2018 – Mar 2026

- Conducted applied economic research, policy analysis, and evaluation projects for policy organisations, think tanks, and consulting clients, including Chatham House, The Behaviouralist, Global Partners Governance, and the UK Department for International Development.

SERVICES TO THE PROFESSION

Reviewer: *Health Policy, European Journal of Development Research, Acta Politica, Journal of Human Development & Capabilities*

Workshop Organisation: Tracing the Origins of Political Economy in Britain (*KAS Social Market Economy Seminar Series*, Oxford, 22-25 June 2023), Global Health in the Context of Sustainable Development: Opportunities and Challenges (*KAS Politics Seminar Series*, Bonn, 5-8 May 2022)

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

Software: MS Office, Stata, R, Python, NVivo

Languages: German (native), English (C2), French (B2)