

Milena Jessen

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Research Interests

Behavioral Economics, Experimental Economics, Behavioral Finance

Education

2022 - 28 (exp.)	PH.D. IN ECONOMICS, University of Bonn Advisors: Prof. Florian Zimmermann, Prof. Botond Kőszegi
2026	VISITING STUDENT RESEARCHER, California Institute of Technology Host: Prof. Kirby Nielsen
2022 - 24	M.SC. IN ECONOMIC RESEARCH (1.2, <i>with distinction</i>), University of Bonn
2022 - 23	VISITING PH.D. STUDENT, University of California, Berkeley
2019 - 22	B.SC. IN ECONOMICS (1.0, <i>with distinction</i>), University of Bonn
2021 - 22	VISITING UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT, University of Toronto
2018 - 19	B.SC. IN PSYCHOLOGY (<i>not completed</i>), University of Hamburg

Affiliations

2025 -	CONTRACT HOLDER, Cluster of Excellence ECONtribute: Markets & Public Policy
2024 -	CO-OPTED MEMBER, CRC TR 224 Economic Perspectives on Societal Challenges
2022 -	DOCTORAL STUDENT, Bonn Graduate School of Economics
2024 - 25	ASSOCIATED MEMBER, IZA Institute of Labor Economics

Selected Research in Progress

Hierarchical Representations (draft available upon request)
Best Paper Award in Behavioral Economics, 2nd Berlin PhD Conference, 2026

Teaching

Summer 2026	INSTRUCTOR, Academic Research Seminar on Behavioral Economics (Undergraduate, University of Bonn)
Fall 2025/26	TEACHING ASSISTANT, Applied Data Analytics (Undergraduate, University of Bonn)
February 2025	INSTRUCTOR, Short Course on Complexity (Studienstiftung Winter School in Klosters, Switzerland)

Research Positions

2025 -	YEP STUDENT, Cluster of Excellence ECONtribute: Markets & Public Policy
2024 -	RESEARCH ASSISTANT to Prof. Christopher Roth
2021 - 22	RESEARCH ASSISTANT to Prof. Suanna Oh
2019 - 22	STUDENT HELPER, briq Institute on Behavior and Inequality
2020	INTERN, Price and Service Management Group, Fraunhofer Center for International Management and Knowledge Economy
2020	INTERN, International Finance Group, Kiel Institute for the World Economy
2019	UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT, Max Planck Institute on Collective Goods
2019	INTERN, Cognitive Psychology Group, University of Hamburg

Grants

2026	Dr. Hans Riegel-Stiftung Connex-Grant (6500€, with Paul Grass and Robin Musolff)
2026	CRC TR 224 (6220€)
2025	CRC TR 224 (3600€)
2025	Behavioral Finance e.V. Research Grant for Junior Researchers (5000€)
2024	Behavioral Finance e.V. Research Grant for Junior Researchers (5000€, with Paul Grass)
2024	CRC TR 224 (in total 3500€ without VAT, with Paul Grass)
2024	IZA Institute of Labor Economics (1000€ without VAT, with Paul Grass)

Awards and Scholarships

2026	Best Paper Award in Behavioral Economics (2000€) at 2nd Berlin PhD Conference
2022 - 25	Full PhD scholarship, Bonn Graduate School of Economics (BGSE)
2024	Forum Humanum Fellowship
2020 - 24	Merit scholarship, German Academic Scholarship Foundation (Studienstiftung)
2021 - 22	Tuition waiver for Toronto stay, Global Exchange Program, University of Bonn

Summer Schools and Workshops

2026	Russell Sage Foundation Summer Institute in Behavioral Economics (Dedham)
2026	Yale Summer School in Behavioral Finance (New Haven)
2026	Spring School in Behavioral Economics (San Diego)
2025	Summer School and Workshop on Beliefs, Narratives, and Memory (Riederau)
2025	Caltech CTESS Theory-Based Experiments (Pasadena)
2024	The Limits of Intelligence: Meaning and Value (New School, New York)
2024	Survey Data in Economics and Finance (with Michael Weber, Gerzensee)

2023	CRC TR 224 21st Century Applied Micro (with Chris Walters and Magne Mogstad, Annweiler am Trifels)
2020	Topics in Macroeconomics and International Finance (with Matteo Maggiori, Kiel Institute)

Presentations and Conference Participation

2026 (incl. scheduled): BGSE Applied Microeconomics Workshop (Bonn), Spring School in Behavioral Economics (poster, San Diego), CRC TR 224 Young Researchers Workshop (Mannheim), Bonn-Cologne-Frankfurt-Mannheim PhD Conference (Cologne), Applied Micro Coffee (Bonn), 2nd Berlin PhD Conference (Berlin), SITE Experimental Economics (Stanford), Workshop on Cognitive Economics (Herrsching), ESA European Meeting (Barcelona), VfS Annual Conference 2026 (Innsbruck)

2025: IZA Beliefs Workshop (attendance as guest, Bonn), Summer School and Workshop on Beliefs, Narratives, and Memory (poster, Riederau)

2024: Early Career Behavioral Economics Conference (attendance as guest, Bonn), IZA Coffee (Bonn), BGSE Brown Bag (Bonn)

2022: SITE Psychology and Economics (attendance as guest, Stanford)

Professional Service

Refereeing	Journal of the European Economic Association
2025 -	CRC TR 224 Young Researchers Representative
2025 -	Organizer of CRC TR 224 Young Researchers Workshops
2025 -	Coordinator of PhD Lab Meeting
2023 - 24	Co-organizer of first-gen academics initiative, BGSE
2022 - 23	Member of working group on discrimination, Studienstiftung

Miscellaneous

Memberships	Verein für Socialpolitik, griffelkunst-Vereinigung Hamburg e.V.
Programming	Stata, R, Python, L ^A T _E X, Qualtrics (HTML and JavaScript)
Languages	German (native), English (fluent), French (good command), Spanish (basic)