

# Emily Frank

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW · SOCIOLOGY

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## Professional Experience

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### WZB Berlin Social Science Center

Berlin, Germany

#### POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW

07.2024 - present

- Design and execution of interdisciplinary social science research projects aimed at better understanding mental health in migrant families, as part of the Einstein Center Population Diversity (ECPD)
- Regression analyses, including advanced causal approaches, of longitudinal survey data in STATA
- Interdisciplinary mixed-methods collaboration with qualitative psychology researchers
- Writing scientific papers, funder reports, and policy briefs in English and German

### Hertie School

Berlin, Germany

#### RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

09.2021 - 09.2024

- Doctoral researcher completing a dissertation on German migration policies and refugees' well-being
- Regression analyses of longitudinal survey data in STATA
- Qualitative data collection in English and German (interviews with refugees, policymakers, NGOs, and street-level bureaucrats) and analyses in MAXQDA
- Liaisoned and collaborated with government bodies for data collection and analysis
- Drafted research papers for publication in high-ranking international journals
- Presented at conferences and webinars

### Berlin Institute for Empirical Integration & Migration Research, Humboldt University

Berlin, Germany

#### RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

06.2021 - 06.2024

- Project "Migration and the welfare state: migration models, fiscal effects, acceptance, and institutional adaptability," work package studying attitudes towards immigration and welfare at the EU level
- Statistical analysis of longitudinal and multilevel data in STATA
- Quantitative text analysis of newspaper data in R
- Drafted research papers for publication and presented at conferences and webinars
- Wrote grant proposals and reports to the government funder

### Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research / Population Europe

Berlin, Germany

#### DISSEMINATION COORDINATOR

07.2019 - 08.2021

- Dissemination activities for the Horizon 2020 project VULNER, comparing application of EU asylum law cross-nationally
- Organized international policy expert meetings with academics, politicians, and civil society
- Composed policy briefs to inform stakeholders of findings & provide evidence-based policy recommendations
- Other dissemination materials managed include regular research digests, webinars, a podcast series, and social media

### University of Wisconsin-Madison, Faculty of Law

Madison, WI, United States

#### RESEARCH ASSISTANT

07.2017 - 05.2019

- Cleaned and coded interview transcripts in MAXQDA
- Cleaned, organized, coded, and conducted regression analysis of quantitative data in STATA
- Wrote detailed analytical memos to inform ongoing research

### Bard College Berlin

Berlin, Germany

#### REFUGEE PROGRAMS INTERN

06.2018-08.2018

- Conducted a qualitative program evaluation through interviewing students
- Wrote grant applications
- Created a brochure on higher education opportunities for refugee students

## Safety Net Project, Urban Justice Center

New York, NY, United States

### SENIOR LEGAL ADVOCATE

06.2015-06.2017

- Advocated for English- and Spanish-speaking, low-income clients at administrative hearings
- Liaisoned with local government agencies for benefits reforms
- Trained benefits recipients on their legal rights and educated volunteers
- Litigated \$440,000 total retroactive benefits and \$67,000 total ongoing benefits for clients
- Trained and mentored junior advocates

## New York University, Department of Sociology

New York, NY, United States

### RESEARCH ASSISTANT

01.2012-05.2015

- Organization, cleaning, and anonymization of interview data
- Qualitative coding in Dedoose
- Trained a team of research assistants

## Education

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### Hertie School

Berlin, Germany

#### PHD, GOVERNANCE - MAGNA CUM LAUDE

2021-2024

- Research Training Group "The Dynamics of Demography, Democratic Processes and Public Policy" (DYNAMICS)
- Title: "Bureaucracy as Borders: Refugees' Experiences of Citizenship at Government Offices"
- Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Anke Hassel & Prof. Dr. Markus Promberger

### University of Amsterdam

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

#### GUEST RESEARCHER, POLITICAL SCIENCE

Oct-Nov 2023

- Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Floris Vermeulen

### University of Wisconsin-Madison

Madison, WI, United States

#### MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY & ADMINISTRATION - GPA 3.83 (HIGHEST GRADE IN THE US: 4.0)

2017 - 2019

- Thesis on social benefits program administration in Wisconsin (mixed methods)

### New York University

New York, NY, United States

#### BA, SOCIOLOGY - GPA 3.93

2011 - 2015

- Minors in Politics and Hebrew & Judaic Studies
- Summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa

## Publications

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### PUBLISHED ARTICLES IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS

**Frank, E.** (2025). "Why it's different?": Hierarchies of (Non-) Belonging in German Refugee Categorizations. *Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies*. (Recently accepted for publication)

**Frank, E., & Nivorozhkin, A.** (2024). Legal status and refugees' perceptions of institutional justice: The role of communication quality. *Public Administration Review*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/puar.13898>

**Frank, E.** 2022. Determinants of welfare benefit use of immigrant groups - longitudinal evidence from Germany. *Frontiers in Sociology, Sec. Migration and Society, Special Issue: "The Integration Context of Refugees and Immigrants: Challenges and Opportunities in the Receiving Countries"* (edited by Jasper Tjaden and Zerrin Salikutluk). <https://doi.org/10.3389/fsoc.2022.839352>

### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

**Frank, E.** 2023. Beyond their years: Unaccompanied minors and the social construction of categories. Book Review of *Forever 17* by Ulrike Bialas. *Culture, Practice & Europeanization*, 8(2), 264-266. <https://www.nomos-elibrary.de/10.5771/2566-7742-2023-2-264.pdf>

**Frank, E.** 2020. Vulnerabilities Beyond Age - Filling the gaps in asylum hearing procedures for unaccompanied minors. Policy brief for the EU Horizon 2020 project VULNER.

## UNDER REVIEW

**Frank, E.** (revise & resubmit). Administrative burdens for refugees accessing social benefits. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*.

**Frank, E., & Müller, T.** (under review). Penny for your thoughts: The income divide in media effects on immigration attitudes. *Social Forces*.

## ONGOING PROJECTS

"The Effect of Receiving Asylum on Refugees' Mental Health," with Jan Paul Heisig

"Multimorbidity of Immigrant Groups in the UK," with Lara Bister and Alessandro Ferrara

"Legal Limbo and its Implications for Refugees' Physical and Mental Health," with Julia Zielke

"Not in My Backyard: Unraveling Local Dynamics of Welfare Chauvinism"

## Teaching Experience

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**Summer 2025** Mixed Methods Approaches to Migration and Health Inequalities, Freie Universität Berlin

## GUEST LECTURES

**Winter 2023-24** Social Policy Research, FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg

**Winter 2023-24** Migration & the Welfare State, University of Kassel

**Summer 2023, Winter 2023-24, Winter 2024-25** Conducting Research with Interviews, Hertie School

**Summer 2023** Queer & Feminist Issues in Methodologies, Humboldt University of Berlin

**Winter 2021-22** Work & Immigration from a Welfare State Perspective, Humboldt University of Berlin

## Supervision

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## DISSERTATIONS

- "The Right to Health in Times of Mass Movement: Examine Healthcare Coverage and Access for People on the Move under the Temporary Protection Directive versus the Common European Asylum System," Iman Abdikarim, Global Health, Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin, 2025-

## Awards, Fellowships, & Grants

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2023	Funding for research stay at the University of Amsterdam	3,500€
2018-2019	Foreign Language & Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS) for German, UW-Madison	\$15,000
2018	Summer Internship Funding, UW-Madison	\$5,000
2017-2018	La Follette School Fellowship, University of Wisconsin-Madison	\$15,714
2017-2018	Stone Scholarship, University of Wisconsin-Madison	\$5,000
2014-2015	Eryk Spektor Jewish Studies Scholarship, New York University	

## Selected Presentations

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- 2025 International Sociological Association Annual Conference (*upcoming*)
- 2025 Conference on Irregular Migrants, Federal Office for Migration and Refugees
- 2023 American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Meeting
- 2023 Administrative Burden Workshop, organized by Donald Moynihan & Martin Baekgaard
- 2023 IMISCOE Annual Conference
- 2023 International Research Society for Public Management (IRSPM) Conference
- 2023 ESPAnet doctoral workshop "Social policy and crises - multiple perspectives," WZB Berlin
- 2023 German Sociological Association (DGS), Migration Section
- 2022 DeZIM-Tagung
- 2022 14th International German Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP) User Conference, DIW Berlin
- 2021 FIS-Forum, German Institute for Interdisciplinary Social Policy Research
- 2021 IAB-ECSR Interdisciplinary Conference, "Refugee Migration and Integration Revisited"

## Event Organization

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- 2025 ECPD Ethics Speaker Series, Einstein Center Population Diversity
- 2025 Distinguished Lecture: Prof. Dr. Raj Bhopal, Einstein Center Population Diversity
- 2024 Ethics Workshop, Einstein Center Population Diversity
- 2024 Podium Discussion: "Xenophobic rhetoric in German political discourse," Hertie School

## Skills

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- Quantitative** Stata (advanced regression techniques, data wrangling), R (text processing, web scraping, data wrangling, visualization, statistical modeling), SPSS, survey design
- Qualitative** Interviews, ethnography, MAXQDA, Dedoose, NVivo
- Soft Skills** Grant application writing, presentations, scientific communications, dissemination, event management, strategic outreach
- Languages** English (native), German (C1), Spanish (B2), Hebrew (B2)

## Service & Professional Development

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### PEER REVIEW

Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies, Ethnic and Racial Studies

### ACADEMIC SERVICE

- 2025-present Ethics Committee, WZB Social Science Center
- 2024-present Ethics Taskforce, Einstein Center Population Diversity
- 2023 DYNAMICS Student Representative
- 2022 DYNAMICS Retreat Organizing Committee
- 2018-2019 Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Officer, La Follette School of Public Affairs

### DEVELOPMENT

- **Workshop: Directed Acyclical Graphs**, 2022, Prof. Felix Elwert
- **Essex Summer School: Causal Inference and Experiments in the Social Sciences**, 2022, Dr. Ryan T. Moore

### SELECTED VOLUNTEER WORK

- **Spore Initiative, 2024**, organization of monthly film screening fundraisers for Gazan children
- **BASE Berlin, 2022**, temporary housing of refugees from Ukraine
- **Seebrücke NGO, 2021**, email review to gather information on those needing emergency transport out of Afghanistan
- **New York Cares, 2015**, ESL course for Spanish speakers

## Referees

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- **Prof. Dr. Jan Paul Heisig**, WZB Berlin Social Science Center, Freie Universität Berlin; jan.heisig@wzb.eu
- **Prof. Dr. Anke Hassel**, Hertie School; hassel@hertie-school.org
- **Prof. Dr. Markus Promberger**, Institut für Arbeitsmarkt- und Berufsforschung, FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg; Markus.Promberger@iab.de