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Öffentlicher Sektor, Finanz- und Sozialpolitik
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Education

- 07/2004 **Habilitation**, *Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*
- 02/1998 **Dr. rer. pol.**, *Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, summa cum laude*
- 1992–1994 **M.A. in Economics**, *George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, USA*
- 1986–1992 **Diplom-Volkswirt**, *Technische Universität Berlin*

Current position and affiliations

- 2012– **Professor of Economics**, *Universität Potsdam*
Faculty member, *Berlin School of Economics*
Research fellow, *CESifo*
Member, *Verein für Socialpolitik, Ausschuss für Regionaltheorie und -politik, Ausschuss für Sozialpolitik, Finanzwissenschaftlicher Ausschuss*
Member, *Prize committee, August-Lösch prize*

Previous positions

- 2008–2012 **Professor**, *Universität Passau*
- 2006–2008 **Fixed-term professor**, *Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München*
- 2002–2006 **Research associate**, *DIW Berlin*
- 2001–2002 **Consultant**, *KPMG, Transfer pricing unit, Frankfurt*
- 1999–2001 **Lecturer**, *Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*
- 1994–1999 **Research assistant**, *Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*

Research visits

- 04-05/2024 **IEB**, *Universitat Barcelona, Spain*
- 11-12/2014 **University of Tokyo**, *Japan*

03/2011 Ifo Institut, München
11/2010 UC Irvine, Irvine, CA, USA
03/2010 IEB, Universitat Barcelona, Spain
1995-1996 George Mason University, Fairfax, VA

Publications

Articles in refereed journals

- [1] R. Borck, N. Gohl, and O. Krebs. Gentrification and affordable housing policies. **European Economic Review**, 188, 105387, 2026.
- [2] R. Borck, J. Oshiro, and Y. Sato. Property tax competition: A quantitative assessment. **Journal of Urban Economics**, 153, 103861, 2026.
- [3] R. Borck and P. Mulder. Energy policies and pollution in two developing country cities: A quantitative model. **Journal of Development Economics**, 171, 103348, 2024.
- [4] R. Borck and P. Schrauth. Urban pollution: A global perspective. **Journal of Environmental Economics and Management**, 126, 103013, 2024.
- [5] R. Borck and P. Schrauth. Population density and urban air quality. **Regional Science and Urban Economics**, 86, 103596, 2021.
- [6] R. Borck and T. Tabuchi. Pollution and City Size: Can Cities be too Small? **Journal of Economic Geography**, 19(5), 995–1020, 2019.
- [7] R. Borck. Public transport and urban pollution. **Regional Science and Urban Economics**, 77, 356 – 366, 2019.
- [8] R. Borck and M. Pflüger. Green cities? Urbanization, trade, and the environment. **Journal of Regional Science**, 59(4), 743–766, 2019.
- [9] R. Borck and M. Wrede. Spatial and social mobility. **Journal of Regional Science**, 58(4), 688–704, 2018.
- [10] R. Borck and J. K. Brueckner. Optimal energy taxation in cities. **Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists**, 5(2), 481–516, 2018.
- [11] R. Borck. Will skyscrapers save the planet? Building height limits and urban greenhouse gas emissions. **Regional Science and Urban Economics**, 58, 15–26, 2016.
- [12] S. Bauernschuster and R. Borck. Formal child care and family structure: Theory and evidence. **CESifo Economic Studies**, 62(4), 699, 2016.
- [13] R. Borck, F. M. Fossen, R. Freier, and T. Martin. Race to the debt trap? – Spatial econometric evidence on debt in German municipalities. **Regional Science and Urban Economics**, 53, 20–37, 2015.
- [14] R. Borck, S. Uebelmesser, and M. Wimbersky. Political economics of higher education finance with mobile students. **FinanzArchiv/Public Finance Analysis**, 71, 82–105, 2015.
- [15] R. Borck. Adieu rabenmutter – culture, fertility, female labour supply, the gender wage gap and childcare. **Journal of Population Economics**, 27(3), 739–765, 2014.

- [16] R. Borck and M. Wimbersky. Political economics of higher education finance. **Oxford Economic Papers**, 66(1), 115–139, 2014.
- [17] R. Borck, H.-J. Koh, and M. Pflüger. Inefficient lock-in and subsidy competition. **International Economic Review**, 53(4), 2012.
- [18] R. Borck and K. Wrohlich. Preferences for childcare policies: Theory and evidence. **European Journal of Political Economy**, 27(3), 436–454, 2011.
- [19] R. Borck. Federalism, fertility and growth. **Scandinavian Journal of Economics**, 113, 30–54, 2011.
- [20] R. Borck, M. Pflüger, and M. Wrede. A simple theory of industry location and residence choice. **Journal of Economic Geography**, 10, 913–940, 2010.
- [21] R. Borck and M. Wrede. Subsidies for intracity and intercity commuting. **Journal of Urban Economics**, 66(1), 25 – 32, 2009.
- [22] R. Borck. Voting on redistribution with tax evasion. **Social Choice and Welfare**, 32, 439–452, 2009.
- [23] R. Borck and M. Wrede. Commuting subsidies with two transport modes. **Journal of Urban Economics**, 63(3), 841 – 848, 2008.
- [24] R. Borck. Central versus local education finance: a political economy approach. **International Tax and Public Finance**, 15(3), 338–352, 2008.
- [25] R. Borck. Voting, inequality, and redistribution. **Journal of Economic Surveys**, 21, 90–109, 2007.
- [26] R. Borck. On the choice of public pensions when income and life expectancy are correlated. **Journal of Public Economic Theory**, 9, 711–725, 2007.
- [27] R. Borck, M. Caliendo, and V. Steiner. Fiscal competition and the composition of spending: Theory and evidence. **FinanzArchiv**, 63, 264–277, 2007.
- [28] R. Borck. Consumption and social life in cities: Evidence from Germany. **Urban Studies**, 44(11), 2105–2121, 2007.
- [29] R. Borck and M. Pflüger. Agglomeration and tax competition. **European Economic Review**, 50, 647–668, 2006.
- [30] R. Borck, B. Frank, and J. R. Robledo. An empirical analysis of voluntary payments for information goods on the internet. **Information Economics and Policy**, 18(2), 229–239, June 2006.
- [31] R. Borck and M. Wrede. Political economy of commuting subsidies. **Journal of Urban Economics**, 57(3), 478–499, 2005.
- [32] R. Borck. Fiscal competition, capital skill complementarity and the composition of public spending. **FinanzArchiv**, 61, 488–499, 2005.
- [33] R. Borck. Stricter enforcement may increase tax evasion. **European Journal of Political Economy**, 20, 725–737, 2004.

- [34] P. Baake, R. Borck, and A. Löffler. Complexity and progressivity in income tax design: Deductions for work-related expenses. **International Tax and Public Finance**, 11, 299–312, 2004.
- [35] R. Borck. Income tax evasion and the penalty structure. **Economics Bulletin**, 8(5), 1–9, 2004.
- [36] R. Borck. Tax competition and the choice of tax structure in a majority voting model. **Journal of Urban Economics**, 54, 173–180, 2003.
- [37] R. Borck and S. Owings. The political economy of intergovernmental grants. **Regional Science and Urban Economics**, 33, 139–156, 2003.
- [38] R. Borck, D. Engelmann, W. Müller, and H.-T. Normann. Tax liability side equivalence in experimental posted-offer markets. **Southern Economic Journal**, 68(3), 672–692, 2002.
- [39] R. Borck. Jurisdiction size, political participation, and the allocation of resources. **Public Choice**, 113, 251–263, 2002.
- [40] R. Borck. Investment and the tragedy of the commons. **Economics Bulletin**, 4(2), 1–6, 2001.
- [41] P. Baake and R. Borck. Pareto efficiency and majority voting: Why high taxes on the middle class may be desirable. **Public Choice**, 102, 77–91, 2000.
- [42] S. Owings and R. Borck. Legislative professionalism and government spending: Do citizen legislatures really spend less? **Public Finance Review**, 28, 210–225, 2000.
- [43] R. Borck. Centralization of public good supply with majority voting. **FinanzArchiv**, 55, 21–40, 1998.
- [44] R. Borck. Ideology and interest groups. **Public Choice**, 88(1-2), 147–60, July 1996.
- [Working papers](#)
- [45] R. Borck, T. Morita, and Y. Sato. Optimal city system with endogenous fertility. CESifo Working Paper No. 12595.
- [46] R. Borck, M. Kalkuhl, and K. Lessmann. Is work from home good for the environment? CESifo Working Paper Series 12300, CESifo, 2025.
- [47] R. Borck, R. Gold, and M. Meister. Populism: The urban-rural divide. Work in progress.
- [48] R. Borck, M. Jégard, E. Kyriakopoulou, and P. Picard. The environmental impact of working from home. Work in progress.
- [49] A. Kröll and R. Borck. The Influence of Child Care on Maternal Health and Mother-Child Interaction. CESifo Working Paper Series 4289, CESifo Group Munich, 2013.
- [Books](#)
- [50] P. Baake and R. Borck, editors. *Public Economics and Public Choice: Contributions in Honor of Charles B. Blankart*. Springer, Heidelberg, 2007.
- [51] R. Borck. *The Political Economy of Democratic Federalism*. Shaker, Aachen, 1998.
- [Miscellaneous](#)
- [52] R. Borck. Energy policies, agglomeration, and pollution. In K. F. Zimmermann, editor, *Handbook of Labor, Human Resources and Population Economics*. Springer, 2023.

- [53] R. Borck. Bevölkerungsdichte, Stadtstruktur und Umweltverschmutzung. *Zeitschrift für Immobilienökonomie*, 5, 161–171, 2019.
- [54] R. Borck. Political participation and the welfare state. In R. Congleton, B. Grofman, and S. Voigt, editors, *Oxford Handbook of Public Choice*, volume 2, chapter 27, pages 542–558. Oxford University Press, 2019.
- [55] R. Borck. Kinderbetreuung, Fertilität und Frauenerwerbstätigkeit. *Vierteljahrshefte zur Wirtschaftsforschung / Quarterly Journal of Economic Research*, 79(3), 169–180, 2010.
- [56] R. Borck. The political economy of urban transit. In OECD, editor, *ITF Round Tables Privatisation and Regulation of Urban Transit Systems*. OECD, Paris, 2008.
- [57] P. Baake and R. Borck. Political support for tax complexity: A simple model. In P. Baake and R. Borck, editors, *Public Economics and Public Choice: Contributions in Honor of Charles B. Blankart*, pages 147–156. Springer, Berlin and New York, 2007.
- [58] C. B. Blankart and R. Borck. Local public finance. In J. G. Backhaus and R. E. Wagner, editors, *Handbook of Public Finance*, pages 441–476. Springer US, 2005.
- [59] R. Borck. Führt fiskalische Äquivalenz zu einer effizienten Allokation?: Die Rolle von Mehrheitsabstimmungen. *Vierteljahrshefte zur Wirtschaftsforschung / Quarterly Journal of Economic Research*, 72(3), 444–457, 2003.
- [60] S. Bach and R. Borck. Föderalismusreform aus ökonomischer Sicht: Editorial. *Vierteljahrshefte zur Wirtschaftsforschung / Quarterly Journal of Economic Research*, 72(3), 345–348, 2003.
- [61] A. Vögele and R. Borck. Quantifizierung von Risiken zur Verrechnungspreisbestimmung. *Internationales Steuerrecht*, 11, 176–180, 2002.
- [62] R. Borck. Ökonomische Theorie der Steuerhinterziehung. *WiSt*, 30, 404–408, 2001.
- [63] R. Borck. Erhöhen Privatisierungen das Staatsvermögen? *Staatwissenschaften und Staatspraxis*, 7, 491–504, 1996.
- [64] R. Borck. Die Verfassung von Utopia. *List Forum*, 20, 154–167, 1994.

Refereeing

Journals (selection) *American Political Science Review, Economic Journal, European Economic Review, International Economic Review, Journal of Economic Geography, Journal of Economic Growth, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, JPE: Microeconomics, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Urban Economics, Regional Science and Urban Economics*

Publishers and research foundations MIT Press, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, Leibniz-Gemeinschaft, Schweizerischer Nationalfonds, Thyssen-Stiftung, DAAD, Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt, Czech Science Foundation

Conferences Verein für Socialpolitik, European Public Choice Society

Keynote lectures

French Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (2026), Workshop "Location Choices and Environmental Economics", Pau (2017), International conference "Industrial Organization and Spatial Economics", St. Petersburg (2014)

Presentations at conferences (incl. scheduled)

Osaka conference on spatial and urban economics (2016), European Economic Association (1998, 1999, 2004, 2008), Royal Economic Society (2004), Verein für Socialpolitik (1998, 1999, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2021, 2023), IIPF (2003, 2004, 2007, 2010), European Public Choice Society (1994, 1997, 2000, 2003), European Association of Labour Economists (2011, 2012), ERSA (2013), European Meeting of the Urban Economics Association (2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023), Urban Economics Association (2013, 2016, 2017, 2019, 2021), European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (2023), Association for Public Economic Theory (2002), Young Economists' Meeting (2000), OECD Roundtable Privatisation and Regulation of Urban Transit, Paris (2007), Federalism Conference Regensburg (2005), Verein für Socialpolitik, Ausschuss für Regionaltheorie und -politik (2007, 2009, 2013, 2015), Verein für Socialpolitik, Ausschuss für Sozialpolitik (2009, 2012), Verein für Socialpolitik, Ausschuss für Finanzwissenschaft (2013), German-Norwegian Seminar on Public Economics (2007), CESifo Area conference Public Sector Economics (2009, 2010), CESifo Area conference Employment and Social Protection (2011)

University seminars (incl. scheduled)

Universität Würzburg, IEB Barcelona, Universitat Autònoma Barcelona, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences Uppsala, University of Leipzig, SWEET seminar (online), Max Planck Institute for Tax Law and Public Finance, MCC Berlin, VU Amsterdam/Tinbergen Institute, Universität Duisburg, Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Tohoku University, ADBI Tokyo, University of Tokyo, TU Berlin, TU Dresden, Universität Kiel, DIW Berlin, Ifo München, UC Irvine, Universität Linz, Universität Marburg, Universität Augsburg, Universität Regensburg, Universität Innsbruck, Universität Dortmund, Universität Rostock, Universität Mannheim, RWTH Aachen, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Europa-Universität Viadrina Frankfurt/Oder

Conference organization

- 2025/2026 Program committee, European UEA meetings, Berlin/Barcelona
- 2019 Verein für Socialpolitik Regional Economics section, annual conference, Potsdam
- 2018 DFG workshop "Cities and the environment", Potsdam

Grants, awards and fellowships

- 2016-19 Green Cities – Economic Analysis, project financed by Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (co-principal investigator)
- 2008-10 Political economy of decentralized education finance, project financed by Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (co-principal investigator)
- 2006 The political economy of urban transit, background report commissioned by OECD
- 2003 VdF-prize for best publication in refereed journal, DIW Berlin
- 1995/1996 Research fellowship, German Marshall Fund of the United States
- 1993/1994 Doctoral fellowship, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA