

ROBERT VIEF

CURRICULUM VITAE

Last Update: September 20, 2025

PERSONAL INFORMATION

AFFILIATION: Goethe University Frankfurt (Main)
Faculty of Social Sciences, Institute of Sociology

FORMER AFFILIATION: Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Institute for Social Sciences, Urban and Regional Sociology
Georg-Simmel Center for Urban Studies (GSZ)

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GOOGLE SCHOLAR: [Robert Vief](https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=RobertVief)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Social Inequality & Segregation
- Social Stratification within the Educational System
- Neighborhood & Spatial Area Effects
- Spatial Data / GIS / Mapping / Spatial Statistics
- Covid19 Restrictions and Their Social Implications
- Intersection of Institutional & Residential Segregation
- (Unequal) Access to Education and Schools in the City / School Choice
- Social Networks and Their Spatial Dimension(s)

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

SINCE 2025	Postdoctoral Research Fellow GOETHE UNIVERSITY FRANKFURT (MAIN), FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, INSTITUTE OF SOCIOLOGY Project: Upward mobility or status maintenance? Status aspirations and educational decisions according to social origin and immigrant background (Lead: Prof. Dr. Birgit Becker and Dr. Thomas Zimmermann) <i>funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG)</i>
2022 - 2024	Ph.D. Research fellow (Pre-Doc) HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN, INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, DEPARTMENT OF URBAN AND REGIONAL SOCIOLOGY
01/24 - 09/24	Research fellow HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN, INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, DEPARTMENT OF URBAN AND REGIONAL SOCIOLOGY

	Project: Police presence and the perception of safety (Lead: Dr. Andrej Holm) <i>funded by Berlin's State Office for Citizens' and Regulatory Affairs</i>
05/18 - 03/22	Ph.D. Research fellow (Pre-Doc) HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH CENTRE 1265 "RE-FIGURATION OF SPACES" Project C04: The World Down My Street: Resources and Networks Used by City Dwellers (Lead: Prof. Dr. Talja Blokland) <i>funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG)</i>
05/20 - 12/21	Research fellow HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN GEORG-SIMMEL CENTER FOR METROPOLITAN STUDIES (GSZ) Project: Getting things done in a City on hold. How SARS-COV-2 affected Practices of Urban Care (Lead: Prof. Dr. Talja Blokland) <i>funded by the Berlin University Alliance ("Special Call: Pandemic Research")</i>

EDUCATION

2024	Ph.D. (Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Talja Blokland) Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin Committee (Professors): Talja Blokland, John Mollenkopf, Anette Fasang Submitted: May, 16, 2024 / Defended: July, 4, 2024 Grade: Summa cum Laude
10/15 - 04/18	Master of Arts (M.A.), SOCIAL SCIENCES Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
08/16 - 06/17	Visiting student Ph.D. program, SOCIOLOGY AND POLITICAL SCIENCE GRADUATE CENTER at City University of New York , United States
10/11 - 09/15	Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), SOCIAL SCIENCES Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

PUBLICATIONS

2025	Durchmischte Nachbarschaften, polarisierte Schulen. Dynamiken von Schul- und Nachbarschaftssegregation in Berlin In <i>sub/urban</i> , accepted and forthcoming. (with T.Blokland)
2025	Does Rent Control Turn Tenants Into NIMBYs? In <i>Journal of Politics</i> , Online ahead of print. DOI: 10.1086/738581 (with A.Hager & H.Hilbig)
2025	Living Small in the Big City Under Lockdown: Urban Amenities, Housing Conditions, and 'Feeling Depressed Because of COVID19' in Berlin, Germany In <i>Housing, Theory and Society</i> , 24 (4), pp. 429-450. DOI: 10.1080/14036096.2025.2450380 (with T.Blokland & A.Holm)

2024	Talking while walking but not with the locals: Social support and domesticity in public space before and during COVID-19 in Berlin, Germany In <i>Journal of Urban Affairs</i>, OnlineFirst. DOI: 10.1080/07352166.2024.2326498 (with D.Krüger & T.Blokland)
2023	Roots and routes in neighbourhoods. Length of residence, belonging and public familiarity in Berlin, Germany In <i>Urban Studies</i> 60 (10), pp. 1949–1967. DOI: 10.1177/00420980221136960 (with T.Blokland, D.Krüger & H.Schultze)
2022	Exploring latent neighbourliness: Does turning locally for support in major challenges matter and if it doesn't, then what may? In L. Cheshire (Ed.), <i>Neighbours Around the World. An International Look at the People Next Door</i> (pp. 207–229). Emerald Publishing Limited. DOI: 10.1108/978-1-83909-476-720221012 (with T.Blokland, D.Krüger, H.Schultze, V.Regnauld & J.Benz)
2021	Making Sense of Segregation in a Well-Connected City: The Case of Berlin. In M. van Ham, T. Tammaru, R. Ubarevičienė, & H. Janssen (Eds.), <i>The Urban Book Series. Urban Socio-Economic Segregation and Income Inequality</i> (pp. 249–270). Springer International Publishing. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-030-64569-4_13 (with T.Blokland)
2021	Where we Turn to. Rethinking networks, urban space and research methods. In A. Million, C. Haid, I. C. Ulloa, & N. Baur (Eds.), <i>Spatial Transformations: Kaleidoscopic Perspectives on the Refiguration of Spaces</i> (pp. 258–268). Routledge. DOI: 10.4324/9781003036159-23 (with T.Blokland, D.Krüger & H.Schultze)
2021	Städtisches Leben während Corona In P. Misselwitz & J. Hoerning (Eds.), <i>Räume in Veränderung - ein visuelles Lesebuch: Ein- und Ausblicke des interdisziplinären Forschungsverbundes zur Refiguration von Räumen</i> (pp. 26–37). jovis Verlag. (with T.Blokland, D.Krüger, H.Schultze & J.Benz)

SCIENTIFIC BLOGPOSTS

07/2021	Digital care: How social support during the Covid-19 pandemic shifted to the digital and our worries became “surplus value” Blog Post CRC 1265 “Re-Figuration of Spaces” (with D.Krüger, N.Margies & T.Blokland)
12/2020	Leaving the house to talk in private. How COVID19 restrictions affected how and where we find someone to talk to Blog Post CRC 1265 “Re-Figuration of Spaces” (with T.Blokland & D.Krüger)
05/2020	Just because we have to do it, it doesn't mean it is right: why #stayathome should not become a moral imperative and social isolation not a habituation Blog Post CRC 1265 “Re-Figuration of Spaces” (with T.Blokland & D.Krüger)

ONGOING PROJECTS

- [Integrated neighborhoods, polarized schools. The patterns of residential and school segregation in Berlin, Germany \(Ph.D. thesis, monograph\)](#)
- The Rising and Falling of Students' Occupational Aspirations: Macro-Conditions and the Re-configuration of Status Striving
(with T.Zimmermann & B.Becker)
- Does Institutional Segregation Follow Residential Segregation Trends? Social Inequality and Health Care Accessibility Amid Physician Segregation in Berlin, Germany
(with M.Steenken, N.Bittner & D.Krüger)
- Redistribution Gone Wrong: How Rent Control Sparks Opposition to State Intervention in the Economy?
(with A.Hager & H.Hilbig)
- Does a neighborhood have a certain size? Neighborhood measurement in survey research and its deviations from institutional definitions
(with M.Sprengholz)
- When Suddenly 'The eyes on the street' Disappear: Functional Diversity, Public Familiarity, and Neighborhood Resilience in Berlin under COVID-19
(with T.Blokland)

CONFERENCES / TALKS

10/2025	Students' Occupational Aspirations: Macro-Conditions and the Re-configuration of Status Striving <i>5th conference of the Academy of Sociology (AS), "Societal Challenges – Sociological Answers?"</i> Mainz, Germany. (with T.Zimmermann & B.Becker)
09/2025	The Pursuit of Upward Social Mobility Among Adolescents from Low Socioeconomic Backgrounds: An International Comparison Using PISA 2018 <i>Annual Conference of the European Consortium of Sociological Research (ECSR) "Demography and Social Inequality"</i> Cologne, Germany. (with T.Zimmermann & B.Becker)
09/2025	From Policy to Practice: Health Care Accessibility and the Segregation of Doctors in Berlin, Germany, after a Policy Shift in 2013 <i>Annual Conference of the European Consortium of Sociological Research (ECSR) "Demography and Social Inequality"</i> Cologne, Germany. (with M.Steenken, N.Bittner & D.Krüger)
01/2025	The effect of rent control laws on political attitudes: Does Rent Control Turn Tenants Into NIMBYs? <i>Meeting of the Progressive Politics Research Network (PPRN) at CEU Vienna, Austria</i> (invited).
11/2024	Integrated neighborhoods, polarized schools. The patterns of residential and school segregation in Berlin, Germany <i>Sektionstagung Stadt- und Regionalsoziologie der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Soziologie (DGS)</i> Bochum, Germany.

10/2024	Integrated neighbourhoods, polarized schools? The patterns of residential and (primary) school segregation in Berlin, Germany <i>"Unravelling pathways of school segregation: A global perspective", Meeting at the Fritz Thyssen Stiftung Cologne, Germany (invited).</i>
06/2024	Integrated neighborhoods, polarized schools? The patterns of residential and (primary) school segregation in Berlin, Germany <i>Institut für Qualitätsentwicklung im Bildungswesen (Institute for Educational Quality Improvement) Berlin, Germany (invited).</i>
01/2024	School Choice and School Segregation: the impact of gentrification and housing affordability <i>University College London, Faculty of Education and Society (IOE) London, UK (invited).</i>
10/2023	The entanglement of gentrification, housing affordability and school segregation in limited school choice settings <i>Gentrification & Displacement. What Can We Do About it? An International Dialogue Boston, US.</i>
06/2023	Rent Increases, Mobility Patterns and School Segregation <i>XX World Congress of Sociology of the International Sociological Association (ISA) Melbourne, Australia.</i>
02/2023	Der Zusammenhang von Wohnungskrise, Gentrifizierung und Schulsegregation am Beispiel von Berlin <i>Dortmunder Konferenz Raum- und Planungsforschung Dortmund, Germany.</i>
10/2022	Increasing the 'odds' for medical encounters in underserved neighborhoods in Berlin: Does a new distribution logic for out-patient practices bring more healthcare into neighborhoods with fewer doctors? <i>European Sociological Association, Research Network 37 (Urban Sociology). Midterm Conference "Seeing Like a City / Seeing the City Through" Berlin, Germany. (with D.Krüger)</i>
08/2022	The interrelation of housing affordability, gentrification, and school segregation – insights from Berlin, Germany <i>Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA) Los Angeles, US.</i>
03/2022	The development of the neighborhood-school segregation gap – how neighborhood change influences school segregation <i>ECSR Spring School on "Geography, Mobility and Social Stratification" Torino, Italy.</i>
10/2021	Refiguring neighbourhood relations - rethinking neighbourhood expectations <i>Spatial Refiguration: Dynamics, Challenges, and Conflicts (Third International Conference of the Collaborative Research Centre "Re-Figuration of Spaces"). Berlin, Germany. (with T.Blokland, H.Schultze & D.Krüger)</i>
08/2021	Was spielt es für eine Rolle für Unterstützungsnetzwerke, wenn die Stadt alles schließt? Der Einfluss von Corona-Maßnahmen auf Sozialkapital und sozialen Support am Beispiel von Berlin <i>Gemeinsamer Kongress der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Soziologie (DGS) und Österreichischen Gesellschaft für Soziologie (ÖGS). Digital Meeting. (with H.Schultze, D.Krüger & T.Blokland)</i>

07/2021	Do Neighbourhoods Have Shapes? Studying Urban Practices and the Contours of the Imagined Neighbourhood <i>Research Committee 21 of the International Sociological Association (RC21)</i> . Digital Meeting, organized in Antwerp, Belgium. (with T.Blokland, D.Krüger & H.Schultze)
03/2021	Talking it Through in the Street – How Berlin Residents Organize Social Support During COVID-19 Restrictions <i>Soziologische Perspektiven auf die Coronakrise, Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin (WZB)</i> . Digital Meeting. (with D.Krüger & T.Blokland)
09/2020	Führen Gentrifizierungsprozesse zu mehr oder weniger Schulsegregation? <i>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Soziologie (DGS)</i> . Digital Meeting, organized in Berlin, Germany.
09/2019	Breaking up the Ground: Fluidity and Boundedness in Social Networks of Support <i>Research Committee 21 of the International Sociological Association (RC21)</i> . New Delhi, India. (with D.Krüger, H.Schultze & T.Blokland)
08/2019	Profits of Trans/locality? Spatial Segregation and Practices of Organizing Resources in Times of Translocal Mobility and Communication. <i>European Sociological Association (ESA)</i> . Manchester, UK. (with D.Krüger, H.Schultze & T.Blokland)
07/2019	Trans/local: Spatial Variability within Ego-Centered Social Support Networks. <i>European Survey Research Association (ESRA)</i> . Zagreb, Croatia. (with D.Krüger, H.Schultze & T.Blokland)
02/2019	Taking Urbanity Beyond Place: Thoughts on Translocal Networks, Space, and Research Methods. <i>Re-Figuration of Spaces: Mediatization, Mobility, Globalization and Social Dislocation (First International Conference of the SFB 1265)</i> . Berlin, Germany. (with D.Krüger, H.Schultze & T.Blokland)
04/2018	Stacking the Odds: The Intersection of Neighborhood and School Segregation for New York City Schools. <i>American Educational Research Association (AERA)</i> . New York City, US. (with S.Catsambis)

TEACHING

SUMMER 24	Think and Drink Colloquium B.A. SOCIAL SCIENCES, HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN (co-teaching with C.Barwick)
FALL 23/24	Introduction to Scientific Research Methods B.A. SOCIAL SCIENCES, HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN
SUMMER 23	Spatial Dimensions of Inequalities: Causes, Developments and Consequences of Segregation B.A. SOCIAL SCIENCES (VERTIEFUNGSEMINAR / ADVANCED EMPIRICAL SEMINAR), HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN

FALL 22/23	Urban Theory B.A. SOCIAL SCIENCES (PRO-SEMINAR), HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN
SUMMER 22	Mapping social inequalities: Introduction to GIS software and spatial data B.A. SOCIAL SCIENCES (METHODS III SEMINAR), HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN
FALL 21/22	Introduction to Scientific Research Methods B.A. SOCIAL SCIENCES, HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN
FALL 20/21	Sociological Theory B.A. SOCIAL SCIENCES, HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN
FALL 20/21	Introduction to Scientific Research Methods B.A. SOCIAL SCIENCES, HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN
FALL 19/20	Mapping the city (and more): sozialwissenschaftliche Kartierungen in ArcGIS B.A. SOCIAL SCIENCES (METHODS III SEMINAR), HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN
07/18	Workshop: Introduction to ArcGIS B.A. SOCIAL SCIENCES, HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

01/17 - 05/17	Data fellow COMMUNITY AFFAIRS UNIT, NEW YORK CITY
06/13 - 07/16	Student Assistant HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN Department of Urban and Regional Sociology (Prof Dr. Talja Blokland)
10/13 - 04/16	Tutor & Teaching Assistant HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN Department of Empirical Social Research (Prof Dr. Johannes Giesecke)

IN MEDIA

- **Radio-Interview:** [Schulsegregation und Stadtentwicklung](#)
In: rbb 88.8. March, 31, 2025. (interviewed by Ingo Hoppe)
- **Video-Interview:** [Neue Trennlinien in der Stadt](#)
In: Television, rbb24 der Tag. January, 27, 2025.
- **Interview/Report:** [Wo die Mauer immer noch spürbar ist](#)
In: Berliner Morgenpost. November, 10, 2023, p.12.
- **Interview (Radio):** [Warum an Berliner Schulen die Segregation nicht abnimmt](#)
In: Deutschlandfunk, Campus & Karriere. May, 3, 2024.
- **Interview:** [Sozialforscher: Soziale Segregation an Berliner Schulen nimmt zu](#)
In: nd DIE WOCHE. February, 10, 2024, p.26.

- **Interview:** Soziale Diversität ist an Berliner Schulen nur schwer herstellbar
In: Presseportal Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. January, 24, 2024.
- **Guest editorial and data visualization:** Die Stadt wird durchmischer, die Schulen polarisierter
In: Der Tagesspiegel. January, 7, 2024.
- **Newspaper article:** Zuhause im Kiez: Wo sich Berliner wohlfühlen
In: Berliner Morgenpost. March 5, 2023, p.18-19.
- **Newspaper article:** Zu Hause im Kiez: Je länger, desto vertrauter? Gilt nicht mehr
In: Der Tagesspiegel. January 16, 2023.
- **Podcast:** Berlins Chance auf Neuwahlen und gute Nachbarschaft
In: Berliner und Pfannkuchen, Der Tagesspiegel (with Ann-Kathrin Hipp & Lorenz Maroldt). May 20, 2022.
- **Video-Interview:** Armen- vs. Reichenviertel: Das kann die Spaltung aufhalten
In: Youtube/Television, rbb24 series JETZT MAL KONKRET (moderated by Jafaar Abdul Karim). April, 2022.
- **Report:** „Es ist wichtig, dass wir Schulen haben, wo sich Menschen mit verschiedenen Lebenshintergründen begegnen.“
In: Humboltds17 - Expeditionen - Nachbarschaft (protocolled by Kristina Vailant). October, 2021.
- **Podcast:** #35 - Robert Vief über Sozialleben im Lockdown und Feiern als (Berliner) Grundbedürfnis
In: SHOW DOWN - Der Feierkultur Podcast (interviewed by Leonie Gerner & Julian Krohn). January 27, 2021.
- **Newspaper article:** Großsiedlungen: Hier treffen Ausgangsbeschränkungen die Berliner besonders hart
In: Berliner Zeitung. April 8, 2020.
- **Newspaper article:** AKADEMISCHES SPRUNGBRETT
In: Die ZEIT (protocolled by Astrid Herbold). Nr. 10/2020. February 27, 2020.

ORGANISATORIAL WORK

07/2024	Session Organizer: School segregation across the North and South: exploring the interplay between households' choice and public policy <i>International Sociological Association, Research Network 21 (RC 21).</i> Conference "The politics and spaces of encounters: advancing dialogues between and within the Global North and the Global South", Santiago, Chile. (with C.Caciagli, M.Cordini, C.Pacchi, A.Parma & Q.Ramond)
10/2022	Session Organizer: Housing affordability and segregational developments: New Perspectives on neighborhood change <i>European Sociological Association, Research Network 37 (Urban Sociology).</i> Midterm Conference "Seeing Like a City / Seeing the City Through", Berlin, Germany. (with K.Zapatka)
02/2021	Session Organizer: Urban Practices and Urban Institutions: Thoughts on Segregation and the Spatiality of Everyday Resource Organization, Social Networks and Social Capital <i>European Sociological Association, Research Network 37 (Urban Sociology).</i> Midterm Conference, Digital Meeting. (with T.Blokland & D.Krüger)

2020 - 2021	Editorial Team: Blog of the Collaborative Research Centre 1265 “Re-Figuration of Spaces” (with M.Schinagl, J.Fülling, F.Gülzau & V.Sayman)
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GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

01/17 - 05/17	Fellowship, Center for Urban Studies, Graduate Center, City University of New York
2016 - 2018	Fellow of the German Academic Scholarship Foundation (“Stiftung des deutschen Volkes”)
08/16 - 12/16	PROMOS Grant of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)

PRICES & AWARDS

2024	First-Price at “Deutscher Lokaljournalistenpreis 2023” (German Local Journalism Award 2023) <i>For articles/data journalism on Berlin schools (together with H.Lehmann, K.Demirci and other journalists from Tagesspiegel)</i>
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SKILLS & OTHER INFORMATION

SOFTWARE (STATISTICAL)	STATA, R
SOFTWARE (GIS)	ArcGIS, QGIS, R
SOFTWARE (OTHER)	L ^A T _E X, MS Office (Word, PowerPoint, Excel), MAXQDA
QUESTIONNAIRE PROGRAMMING	LimeSurvey, UniPark, VOXCO, OfflineSurveys
MEMBERSHIPS	American Sociological Association (ASA), Research Committee 21 (RC21) of the International Sociological Association (ISA), European Sociological Association (ESA), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Soziologie (DGS), Georg-Simmel Center for Metropolitan Studies (GSZ)
ASKED FOR REVIEW	European Sociological Review, Urban Studies, Journal of Urban Affairs, Journal of Politics, Housing Studies, Tijdschrift voor economische en sociale geografie, Novos Estudos CEBRAP
LANGUAGES	German (Native), English (Fluent), French (Fluent)