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# Zukunftskolleg Newsletter Issue 03/2020

Dear fellows and friends,

The last months have been filled with dealing with the coronavirus pandemic and we sincerely hope that you are well and have accustomed yourself to the “new normal”. Some of you are already coming regularly to your office at the Zukunftskolleg or to the lab. And although we cannot meet personally, our weekly digital Jour fixe is the best alternative for meeting and exchanging thoughts and ideas with all fellows; we always look forward very much to this event.

This newsletter presents the results of the 2020 ZUKOnnect call as well as our new fellows at the Zukunftskolleg (from the 14th call for applications for 2-year Postdoctoral and 5-year Research Fellowships).

A particularly important piece of news is that the application phase for the 15th call for 2-year Postdoctoral and 5-year Research Fellowships is now open (application deadline: 15 October 2020).

Since the current situation is still new for all of us and updates are coming in rather sporadically, we suggest that you please follow the latest updates regarding the [coronavirus](#). We hope you and your families are staying safe!

Despite the coronavirus: We hope you will enjoy the long

## Launch of European NetIAS lecture series

### Current calls for applications

- › 15th Call for Applications for Postdoctoral and Research Fellowships
- › Constructive Advanced Thinking (CAT) 2020

### Results of the 2020 ZUKOnnect call

### Creative Against Corona - Colouring contest for Zukunftskolleg kids

### New fellows at the Zukunftskolleg

- › We welcome Ariane Bertogg to the Zukunftskolleg
- › We welcome Svetlana Boycheva Woltering to the Zukunftskolleg
- › We welcome Cristina Ruiz Agudo to the Zukunftskolleg

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- › Virtual meeting of European IAS
- › Jour fixe summer semester 2020

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### Careers, distinctions and grants

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- › Professorship for Roxana Halbleib
- › DFG grant for Nina Schneider
- › Assistant professorship for Benjamin Eva

summer days ahead.

Warmest regards,

The Zukunftskolleg Team

# Launch of European NetIAS lecture series

The Zukunftskolleg, as part of the European Network of Institutes for Advanced Studies (NetIAS), has been responsible for co-organizing a **European NetIAS lecture series**. “Borders” is the overarching theme for the series in the 2020 summer semester.

The aim of the lecture series is to respond proactively to the current situation as well as to the restrictions imposed by the coronavirus pandemic and to showcase the quality and diversity of the research conducted in the NetIAS member institutes. NetIAS opens its doors not only to everyone interested in the research conducted at its institutes but also to everyone with an interest in topical discussions. The 25 institutes from 17 European countries participating in the network work together on the basis of common principles of freedom of research and knowledge sharing.

From 4 June to 16 July 2020, NetIAS is staging a series of joint weekly online lectures delivered by renowned scholars. Participation is open to students, researchers and anyone interested in the latest international research and new thinking on borders. Borders are understood here as real and symbolic, political and social, thereby embracing a broad variety of perspectives and approaches.

You can download the full programme from the Zukunftskolleg [website](#). For further information, please visit the website of the [Institute for Advanced Studies of the University of Bologna](#) or [IAS CEU](#).

**Network of European Institutes  
for Advanced Study.**

# Netias.



## Current calls for applications

### 15th Call for Applications for Postdoctoral and Research Fellowships

The Zukunftskolleg has published its 15th call for applications for Postdoctoral and Research Fellowships.

The 2-year Postdoctoral Fellowship is aimed at researchers at the early stage of their careers who plan to develop and implement an independent research project. The 5-year Research Fellowship is attractive for researchers with significant work experience and an established academic profile at postdoctoral level.

The Zukunftskolleg offers:

- **three 5-year Research Fellowships** (any discipline represented at the University of Konstanz) to develop and implement individual research projects and build up their own research group.
- **three 2-year Postdoctoral Fellowships** (any discipline represented at the University of Konstanz) to develop and implement individual research projects. Conditionally on the submission of an external grant, the position can be extended for an additional year.
- Two **Postdoctoral Cluster-Zukunftskolleg Fellowships**: one position related to the study of collective behaviour can be funded by the “Centre for the Advanced Study of Collective Behaviour” directly. An additional Cluster-Zukunftskolleg Fellowship can be funded by the Cluster of Excellence “Politics of Inequality” for projects investigating the political causes and consequences of inequality.

Applications must be submitted via the [online application portal](#). The **deadline for submissions is 15 October 2020 (11:00 Konstanz time)**.

Please find more information on the [Zukunftskolleg's website](#). If you have any additional questions, please contact Anda Lohan by email: [zukunftskolleg-application@uni-konstanz.de](mailto:zukunftskolleg-application@uni-konstanz.de).



**Constructive Advanced Thinking (CAT) 2020**

Together with our sister institutes in Europe, we have launched the 2020 call for funding for research groups - Constructive Advanced Thinking - short CAT.

CAT is an open international call designed to foster interdisciplinary research teams of young promising individuals wishing to address emergent societal issues with fresh ideas.

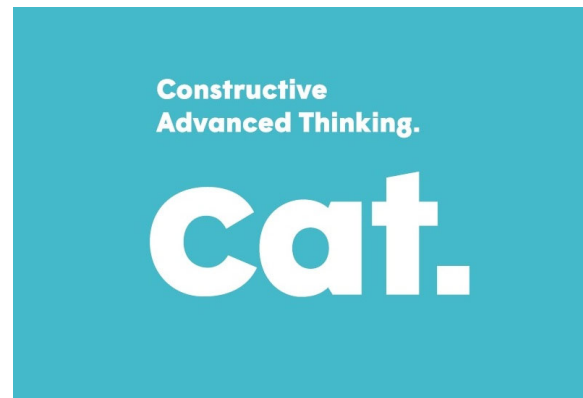
CAT will provide travel funds to teams of early career researchers (three to five persons, possibly including a stakeholder) to advance their constructive thinking and stimulate discussion in the best research environments Europe has to offer.

**Deadline for applications is 1 September 2020, 15:00 CET** via our [online application platform](#).

Successful applications will be notified in the beginning of December, 2020. Invitations start after 1 January 2021.

More information is available in the [call text](#) or [online](#). Questions can be directed to Daniela Kromrey via e-mail: [CAT2020@uni-konstanz.de](mailto:CAT2020@uni-konstanz.de)

We are looking forward to more "cat(s)" at the Zukunftskolleg and around Europe.




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## Results of the 2020 ZUKOnnect call

For the second call for applications for ZUKOnnect Fellowships (application deadline: 28 February 2020), **297 applications were submitted, 205 of which were eligible.**

We received eligible applications from 47 countries – 47.3% from Africa, 33.6% from Asia and 18.7% from Latin America. Applications came from all 13 departments at the University of Konstanz, mostly from the Department of Biology. About one third of applications were from female researchers.

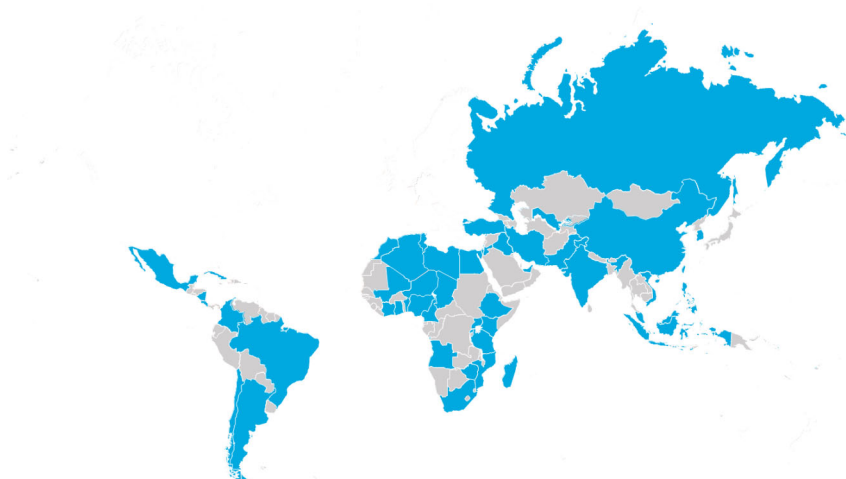
After a peer-reviewed selection process, the Executive Committee awarded six scholarships of three to four months. The following applicants will join the Zukunftskolleg:

- Pedro de Lima (Mathematics and Statistics, lecturer from Brazil, local host: Reinhard Racke)
- Giovanna Rodriguez-Garcia (Politics and Public Administration, Colombian PhD candidate from Mexico, local host: Christian Breunig)

- Krizler Tanalgo (Biology, Filipino PhD candidate from China, local host: Mag Crofoot)
- Josiah Taru (History and Sociology, postdoc from Zimbabwe, local host: Thomas Kirsch)
- Afrasa Mulatu Urge (Biology, PhD candidate from Ethiopia, local host: Erika Isono)
- Vishwanath Varma (Biology, postdoc from India, local host: Iain Couzin)

Their research stay at the Zukunftskolleg will be supplemented by a digital programme starting in October 2020, which will give ZUKOnnect scholarship holders access to [KIM](#) services as well as allow them to participate actively in (digital) events organized by the Zukunftskolleg and enter into contact with their local hosts for a period of 12 months. The 2020 ZUKOnnect Fellows will be on campus from April 2021 onwards.

The ZUKOnnect Fellows will become an integral part of the community at the University of Konstanz, regardless of the rather short duration of their stay. The Zukunftskolleg will benefit greatly from this intercultural exchange. We look forward to welcoming the 2020 cohort to the Zukunftskolleg!



# Creative Against Corona - Colouring contest for Zukunftskolleg kids

Inspired by **Thomas Boettcher's** Jour fixe talk on "**Targeting the Proteases of SARS-CoV-2**", the Zukunftskolleg launched a colouring contest and invited young participants to be "Creative Against Corona".

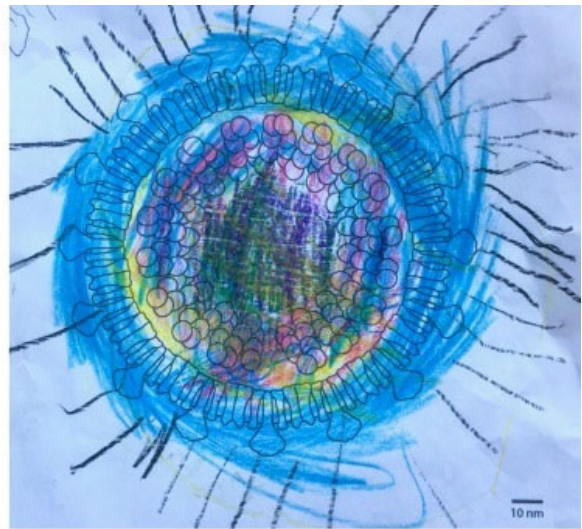
Thomas Boettcher provided a template with the outline of a virus particle for children to colour in. The target group for the contest was especially the under 18's, i.e. the children of Zukunftskolleg Fellows. Eight drawings were submitted.

A high-ranking jury selected the best contributions, which were acknowledged during the Jour fixe on 19 May. The prize was a large bag of jellybeans.

The picture shows the two winning drawings (by children aged 4 and 5).

More information on CreativeAgainstCorona and the template can be found [here](#).





# New fellows at the Zukunftskolleg

## We welcome Ariane Bertogg to the Zukunftskolleg

Ariane Bertogg is one of five new Postdoctoral Fellows from the 14th call for applications. She started her fellowship in April and is affiliated with the Department of History and Sociology.

Ariane earned her PhD in Sociology at the University of Zürich in 2017. Her dissertation focused on the intergenerational relationships of young adults in Switzerland. From May 2017 to March 2020, she was a postdoctoral researcher at the Department of History and Sociology at the University of Konstanz, where she worked with Susanne Strauß and Thomas Hinz. In 2019, she also undertook a research visit at the KU Leuven in Belgium with Wim van Oorschot.

“My research project at the Zukunftskolleg builds on my previous research insofar as it links family, ageing and welfare state research,” says Ariane. “It addresses the “new” reconciliation challenges between employment and providing informal care or grandchild care in the second half of life which arise from the demographic changes (longevity) and their political consequences (increasing pension ages, increasing need for informal care due to welfare retrenchment). My aim is to look at different contextual factors which shape the observed reconciliation strategies, such as path-dependencies in life courses, intra-family bargaining and cultural and



political influence. In so doing, I would like to develop (and subsequently test) a theoretical model which allows us to take into account these multidimensional contextual influences.”



## We welcome Svetlana Boycheva Woltering to the Zukunftskolleg

Svetlana Boycheva Woltering is one of five new Research Fellows from the 14th call for applications. She started her fellowship in April and is affiliated with the Department of Biology.

Svetlana earned her PhD at the Department of Botany and Plant Biology of the University of Geneva where she studied the biosynthesis of vitamin B6 in plants. This was followed by postdoctoral research on the same topic. Svetlana then moved to Plant Insect Interactions and Biocontrol at Agroscope Reckenholz, Zurich, and later to Konstanz to study deubiquitinating enzymes and, after being awarded a Humboldt Fellowship, started researching autophagy. Throughout her graduate studies and postdoctoral work, she has been interested in issues relevant to society, such as the effect of the changing environment on plant growth, productivity and consequently people's nutrition.



“My topic at the Zukunftskolleg focuses on a major recycling pathway, autophagy, seeking to unravel its induction, regulation and natural variations,” explains Svetlana. “Autophagy has been shown to be directly related to stress resistance. Elucidation of the process in model species will help improve growth and productivity in economically important species.”



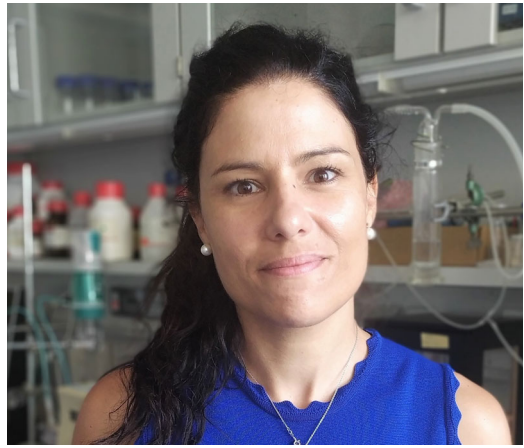
## We welcome Cristina Ruiz Agudo to the Zukunftskolleg

Cristina Ruiz Agudo is one of five new Research Fellows from the 14th call for applications. She started her fellowship in June and is affiliated with the Department of Chemistry.

Cristina completed her PhD at the Institute for Mineralogy of the University of Münster, Germany. She then moved to Konstanz where she became part of Collaborative Research Centre 1214 “Anisotropic Particles as Building Blocks: Tailoring Shape, Interactions and Structures”. “I have been working with designed proteins with the aim of controlling CaCO<sub>3</sub> crystallization, an exciting joint project supervised by Prof. Andreas Marx and Prof. Denis Gebauer,” says Cristina.

Her research project at the Zukunftskolleg

focuses on understanding and controlling the crystallization of magnesium-based cements to overcome the drawbacks associated with them. This will contribute to the development of more sustainable cement with a lower CO2 footprint.



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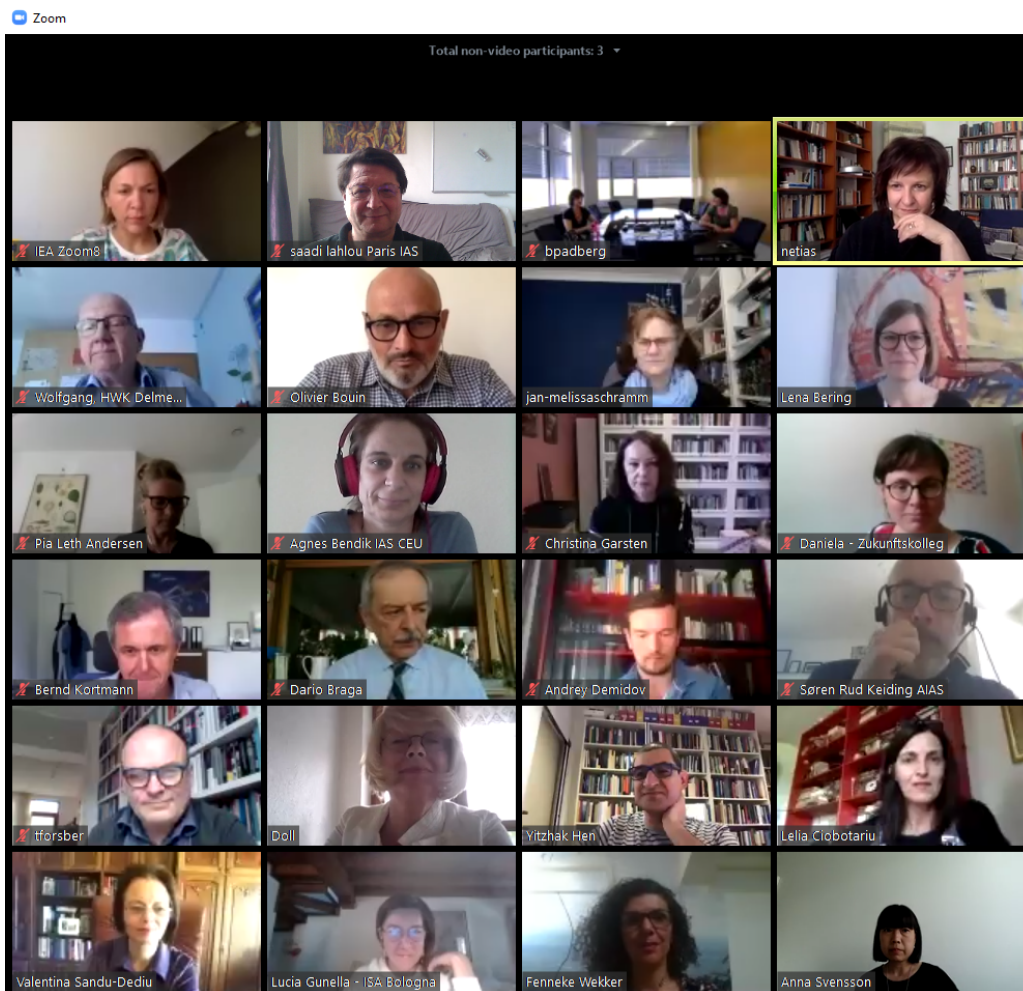
# Review of events

## Virtual meeting of European IAS

At the end of April, a virtual meeting of NetIAS members – the European Network of Institutes for Advanced Studies – took place to exchange ideas and reflect on how the current Covid-19 situation is affecting Institutes for Advanced Study (IAS).

Eighteen IAS from throughout Europe met digitally to discuss the role they can play in these times and for the future. NetIAS supports the World Pandemic Research Network – a global research directory on the societal impacts and aftermath of Covid-19. Moreover, a new call within the Constructive Advanced Thinking (CAT) programme will be launched, which supports the fundamental work of early career research groups. The Zukunftskolleg will be in charge of this year's call.





## Jour fixe summer semester 2020

**Open discussion on “Covid-19 research at the university – What is happening in your department?”**

05 May 2020  
15:15 - 16:15  
virtual

**Open discussion on “Fellows’ e-Learning / e-Teaching experiences”**

12 May 2020  
15:15 - 16:15  
virtual

**“The effect of social and individual information in regulating the foraging behaviour in bumblebee colonies”**

Ebi Antony George (Biology / Research Visit Fellow)

19 May 2020  
15:15 - 16:15  
virtual

**“Open Lab: an open-science platform for online data collection”**

Yury Shevchenko (Psychology / Winner of Interdisciplinary Collaborative Projects Programme 2019)

26 May 2020  
15:15 - 16:15  
virtual

**“Autophagy: My journey to the recycling world”**  
Svetlana Boycheva Woltering (Biology / Research Fellow)

02 June 2020  
15:15 - 16:15  
virtual

**“Reconciliation of employment and family labour in the second half of life - What we (don’t) know about it and why it matters to learn more about it”**  
Ariane Bertogg (History and Sociology / Postdoctoral Fellow)

09 June 2020  
15:15 - 16:15  
virtual

**Discussion on Movie “Holy Trinity”**  
organized by Cornelia Klocker (Law / Postdoctoral Fellow) & Jacob Bloomfield (Literature / new Postdoctoral Fellow)

16 June 2020  
15:15 - 16:15  
virtual



# Forthcoming events

## Executive Committee Meetings

23 June 2020  
13:00 - 15:00  
virtual

and

14 July 2020  
13:00 - 15:00  
virtual



## Jour fixe summer semester 2020

**“Complexity in phototactic behaviour: why “like a bee to a flame” would not work...”**  
Morgane Nouvian (Biology / Research Fellow)

23 June 2020  
15:15 - 16:15  
virtual

**“Controlling crystallization towards developing advanced materials”**  
Cristina Ruiz Agudo (Chemistry / Research Fellow)

30 June 2020  
15:15 - 16:15  
virtual

**“Machine learning for customized quantum state tomography”**  
Violeta Ivanova Rohling (Physics & Computer Sciences / Postdoctoral Fellow)

07 July 2020  
15:15 - 16:15  
virtual

**Assembly of Members: Election of two new members to the Executive Committee**

14 July 2020  
15:15 - 16:15  
virtual

See [all dates](#) for the weekly Jour fixe sessions in the summer semester.



# Careers, distinctions and grants

## DFG grant for Jennifer Randerath

We congratulate Jennifer Randerath (Department of Psychology) on receiving a DFG grant worth up to € 267,252 plus € 58,800 programme allowance for 36 months. The funded project is entitled “Tun oder Nicht Tun: Grundlagen Affordanzbasierter Entscheidungsleistungen” („To do or not to do: Principles of Affordance-based Decision-making“).

Jennifer has been a Research Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg since July 2015.

We wish her every success!





## Professorship for Roxana Halbleib

We congratulate Roxana Halbleib (Research Fellow / Dept. of Economics) who has accepted a professorship (W3) for Statistics and Econometrics at the Institute of Economics of the University of Freiburg. She started there in May 2020.

“I cherish very much the time I spent at the Zukunftskolleg, the interdisciplinary dialogue and the wonderful personal encounters. Moreover, I am very grateful for the generous financial support provided by the Zukunftskolleg, without which I would not have dared to dream and would have achieved much less.”

Besides the W3 position at the University of Freiburg, Roxana was also offered a professorship (W2, with tenure track to W3) for Big Data Analytics in Transportation at the Institute of Transport and Economics at the “Friedrich List” Faculty of Transport and Traffic Sciences of TU Dresden, which she declined.

Roxana Halbleib joined the Zukunftskolleg as a Research Fellow in October 2013. We congratulate her and wish her all the best!



## DFG grant for Nina Schneider

We congratulate [Nina Schneider](#) (alumna /Dept. of History and Sociology), whose application to the DFG for the project “Child Labour Opponents and their Campaigns in the Americas in Global Perspective, 1888-1938” was accepted (Sachmittelbeihilfe).

“The project aims to provide a history of diverse, locally grounded, yet nationally and often globally entangled child labour opponents, their motivations, and campaign in the Americas in a global perspective,” summarizes Nina Schneider. “It focuses on the turn of the twentieth century, the heyday of a struggle for the enduring federal regulation of child labour in many parts of the world. The project’s key outcome (monograph) will be the first history of early twentieth century anti-child labour activism in the Americas in a global perspective.”

Nina is a Senior Research Fellow at the Käte Hamburger Kolleg / Centre for Global Cooperation Research (KHK/GCR21) in Duisburg. The KHK/GCR21 is the youngest and the last of ten Käte Hamburger Kollegs. Established by Prof. Claus Leggewie and headed by Prof. Sigrid Quack, its current research focuses on four broad themes: 1) pathways and mechanisms of global cooperation, 2) polycentric governance (2018-2021), 3) critique, justification and legitimacy in global cooperation, and 4) global cooperation in the context of plural conceptions of world order (2022-2024). The GCR21 analyses and compares four pressing policy fields: climate change, peacebuilding, migration, and internet.

Nina was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Zukunftskolleg from 02/2013 to 01/2015.

We congratulate her and wish her all the best!



## Assistant professorship for Benjamin Eva

We congratulate Benjamin Eva, who will join the Department of Philosophy at Duke University in Durham, USA, as Assistant Professor of Philosophy in the autumn of 2020.

Benjamin completed his PhD in Philosophy at the University of Bristol in 2015. In 2016-2017, he undertook a one-year postdoc at the Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy / LMU Center for Advanced Studies. In 2017, he was awarded an Alexander von Humboldt postdoctoral fellowship (2017-2019) and joined the University of Konstanz.

His main research interests lie in the philosophy of science, epistemology and the theoretical foundations of cognitive science and artificial intelligence research. In the past, his research especially focused on the foundations of probabilistic reasoning and causal inference.

Benjamin's project at the Zukunftskolleg focuses on what he calls the problem of 'theory formation', i.e. "the problem of identifying the basic rules and strategies that rational agents should follow if they hope to successfully develop new theories and concepts for describing the world in a fruitful way. The project's methodology relies heavily on theoretical resources from philosophy and the cognitive science of creativity and also aims to develop new computational models of theory formation in artificial intelligence agents," explains Benjamin.

He joined the Zukunftskolleg as a Research Fellow in April 2019.

We wish him all the best!



