

Curriculum Vitae (as of 27th of June 2026)

Personal data:

Name: Dr. Patrick Mellacher
Nationality: Austrian
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Main areas of research

Agent-based models; Diffusion processes; Economic epidemiology; Political economy; Economic, social and political dynamics; Quantitative methods; Economics of inequality

Teaching experience

Full lectures:

University of Graz:

2026 Advanced Public Finance (Bachelor level)
2024- Microeconomics (Bachelor level)
2024-2025 Growth, Innovation and Distribution (Bachelor level)
2021-2023 Applied Agent-based Modelling (Bachelor level)
2017-2023 Public Finance (Bachelor level)
2018 History of Economic Thought (Master level)

University of Bamberg:

2022 Agent-based Modeling of Political Polarization (PhD level)

Guest lectures:

FU Berlin (Jan. & Nov. 2025): Schumpeterian Economics

RU Bochum (2024): Agent-based Modelling

ZU Friedrichshafen (2024): Agent-based Modelling

Academic professional experience

10/2025- **Deputy Head of the Graz Schumpeter Centre**
University of Graz, Graz Schumpeter Centre

10/2023- **Assistant Professor** (*Universitätsassistent mit Doktorat*),
University of Graz, Graz Schumpeter Centre

02/2022-10/2023 **Postdoctoral Researcher**, University of Graz, Graz Schumpeter Centre

06/2018-01/2022 **Research and Teaching Associate** (*Universitätsassistent ohne Doktorat*),
University of Graz, Graz Schumpeter Centre

01/2021-06/2021 **Parental leave**

11/2018-01/2019 **Parental leave**

10/2017-05/2018 **Lecturer**, University of Graz, Institute of Public Economics

Research & Teaching visits

2025	Lausanne University (Research)
2024	Zeppelin University Friedrichshafen (Research)
2022	University of Bamberg (Teaching a PhD level course)
2022	Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna (Pisa) (Research)
2022	Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Milan) (Research)

Other professional experience

12/2011-06/2015	Programmer , TIP Group
05/2010-01/2011	Alternative civilian service , Mosaik GmbH
2009-2011:	Freelancer (IT)

Academic education

10/2016-01/2022	Doctoral Program in Social and Economic Sciences (Economics) (graduated with distinction) University of Graz Dissertation: <i>Innovation, Inequality and Polarization</i> Advisor: Univ.-Prof. Dr. Richard Sturn Second advisor: Ao. Univ.-Prof. Dr. Christian Gehrke
2021/08	Summer School: Behavioral Macro and Complexity Tinbergen Institute Lecturer: Cars Hommes
2018/09	Graz Schumpeter Summer School 2018: Smart Technologies - a New Industrial Age? Graz Schumpeter Centre/University of Graz
10/2014-09/2016	Master Political and Empirical Economics , University of Graz
10/2009-09/2014	Bachelor Economics , University of Graz

Awards

- **“SOWI im Dialog” award** for the best thesis at the Institute of Economics 2021/22
- **EAEPE-Herbert Simon Young Scholar Prize 2021** for the best conference paper by a young scholar at the annual conference of the *European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy*
- **Scholarships for academic excellence** in 2016, 2017 and 2022
- **“SOWI im Dialog” award** for the best thesis at the Institute of Public Economics 2016/17

Grants

Principal Investigator:

- Economic Decision-MAKING and GENDER Norms: Investigating the Impact of the Familienbonus Plus (EDMAGEN) (2026-28, Austrian Academy of Sciences – ÖAW, 349 884 €), PI joint with Theresa Hager & Magdalena Rath

Proposal writing & named researcher:

- Agent-based Economic Epidemiology (2022-26, Austrian Science Fund – FWF, 398 883 €), Project leader: Prof. Christian Gehrke

Smaller grants:

Four Erasmus+ travel grants (EU, total > 2000€) to

- i) teach at the University of Bamberg, and conduct research
- ii) at the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna (Pisa) and
- iii) at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Milan)
- iv) at the Zeppelin University Friedrichshafen

Service to the profession

Member of the board of ESPAnet (Network for European Social Policy Analysis) Austria (2026-*)

Research Area Coordinator for Evolutionary Economic Simulation at the European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy (2025-*)

Member of the Board of Management of the International Schumpeter Society (2022-*)

Co-Spokesperson of the cluster “Social Policy and Distribution” of the research network “Heterogeneity and Cohesion” at the University of Graz (2026-*)

Spokesperson of the cluster “Social Policy and Distribution” of the research network “Heterogeneity and Cohesion” at the University of Graz (2022-2026)

Member of the Faculty Board of the School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences of the University of Graz (2024-*)

Replacement member of the Faculty Board of the School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences of the University of Graz (2022-2024)

Editorial Assistant: *European Journal of the History of Economic Thought* (2020-2022)

Journal Referee (in alphabetical order):

Applied Economics, BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making, Cogent Economics & Finance, Computational Economics, Computational Management Science, Economics Letters, Economics of Innovation and New Technology, Frontiers in Sociology, Government and Opposition, Industrial and Corporate Change, Journal of Computational Social Science, Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, Journal of Economic Growth, Journal of Economic Interaction and Coordination, Journal of Economics and Statistics (Jahrbücher für Nationalökonomie und Statistik), Journal of Evolutionary Economics, Metroeconomica, PLOS Computational Biology, PLOS One, Review of Evolutionary Political Economy, Structural Change and Economic Dynamics, Technology in Society

Conference Referee (in alphabetical order):

EAEPE Conference 2026, EAEPE Conference 2025, International Schumpeter Society 2024, Social Simulation Conference 2022

Event Organization + Session Chairing:

- *Graz Schumpeter Winter School 2025*, 1.-5.12.2025
- *Graz Schumpeter Winter School 2024*, 15.-19.01.2024
- *Workshop Modelling the Covid-19 Pandemic*, Online, 23./24.11.2022

- *Current challenges for distribution policy (Aktuelle Verteilungspolitische Herausforderungen)*, Online, 15.03.2022
- Workshop *Modelling the Spread and Impact of the Coronavirus*, Online, 09.12./10.12.2020
- Workshop *Agent-based Economics*, University of Graz, 29./30.11.2019

Session Chair (only):

- Research day of the School of Business, Economics and Social Sciences of the University of Graz 2023, Graz, 17.01.2023
- Workshop *How Smart Machines Will Revolutionize the World*, Online, 17.07.2021

Membership in academic associations:

European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy, European Social Simulation Association, German Network for New Economic Dynamics, Graz Schumpeter Society, International Network for Social Network Analysis, International Schumpeter Society

Science to Public

Own contributions to popular media:

- Patrick Mellacher: Corona nach Omikron: Quo vadis, Virus?, Die Presse, 12.01.2022 (comment in a major Austrian daily newspaper summarizing my paper “Endogenous viral mutations, evolutionary selection, and containment policy design”)

Podcasts:

- Nikolaus Forgó & Patrick Mellacher: „Ars Boni 401 Covid Skeptizismus - Covid Populismus“, 28.04.2023 (podcast about my paper “The Impact of Corona Populism: Empirical Evidence from Austria and Theory”)
- Gerhild Leljak & Patrick Mellacher: “Wohin entwickelt sich das Virus?“, HörSaal: 15 Minuten Forschung, 17.2.2022 (podcast about my paper “Endogenous viral mutations, evolutionary selection, and containment policy design” and my Covid-19 research in general)

Media mentions:

- [FPÖ-Mandatarin Belakowitsch bricht ORF-Interview ab: „Weiß nicht, was Sie von Biontech bezahlt kriegen“](#), Die Presse, 26.02.2025
- [Frage zu Corona störte. „Schas“: FPÖ-Politikerin bricht ORF-Interview ab](#), Kronen Zeitung, 26.02.2025
- [FPÖ-Politikerin Belakowitsch unterstellt ORF "von Biontech bezahlten" "Report"-Beitrag](#), Der Standard, 26.02.2025 (link to my [BlueSky post](#))
- [Report: Fünf Jahre Corona – warum die Pandemie immer noch nachwirkt](#), ORF 2, 25.02.2025
- [Corona spielt im Wahlkampf kaum eine Rolle mehr, außer für FPÖ-Wähler](#), Kurier, 12.02.2025
- [Corona-Pandemie für FPÖ-Wähler immer noch Thema](#), vol.at, vienna.at, 12.02.2025
- [Wirtschaft steckt im Teufelskreis der Lockdown-Müden fest](#), Der Standard, 30.12.2020

Science to Public panel discussions:

- “Corona: Was kommt im Herbst auf uns zu?“ (“Corona: What’s in store for autumn?”) joint with Peter Klimek, Oliver Fritz and Jana Lasser, 12.10.2022

Science to Public talks:

- Patrick Mellacher: Covid-Simulationsmodelle (Talk at the “Uni Graz Pop-Up Store”), 02.05.2022

Selected Talks

Since 2017, I have given **more than 50 scientific talks** on various papers. Please find a full list on my website: <https://homepage.uni-graz.at/de/patrick.mellacher/presentations/>

Invited talks and seminar presentations: Catholic University of Milan, Umeå University, University of Kassel, University of Lausanne, University of Linz, Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies, Zeppelin University Friedrichshafen

Conference presentations: Regular presentations at conferences organized, among others, by the *European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy*, the *International Schumpeter Society*, the *Austrian Political Science Association*, the *Society for Computational Economics*, the *European Society for the History of Economic Thought*, as well as the *Social Simulation Conference*, the *Young Economists Conference* and the *Workshop on Economic Science with Heterogeneous Interacting Agents*.

List of publications

Articles in peer-reviewed journals:

- Mellacher, P. (2026): Growth, Inequality and Declining Business Dynamism in a Unified Schumpeter Mark I + II model, *Industrial and Corporate Change* 35(2), 387–434, <https://doi.org/10.1093/icc/dtaf012>
- Hager, T., Mellacher, P., & Rath, M. (2025). Gender Norms and Network Structure: A Model of the Intrahousehold Division of Labor. *Feminist Economics*, 31(3), 237–274. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13545701.2025.2549406>
- Lackner, T., Luca, F., Mellacher, P. (2025): Opinion Dynamics meet Agent-based Climate Economics: An Integrated Analysis of Carbon Taxation. *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization* 229, 106816. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jebo.2024.106816>
- Mellacher, P. (2023): The Impact of Corona Populism: Empirical Evidence from Austria and Theory. *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization* 209, 113-140. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jebo.2023.02.021>
- Mellacher, P. (2022): Endogenous viral mutations, evolutionary selection, and containment policy design, *Journal of Economic Interaction and Coordination* 17, 801–825. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11403-021-00344-3>
- Mellacher, P. & Scheuer T. (2021): Wage Inequality, Labor Market Polarization and Skill-Biased Technological Change: An Evolutionary (Agent-Based) Approach. *Computational Economics* 58, 233-278. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10614-020-10026-0>
- Mellacher, P. (2021): What if Merkel had acted like Johnson against Covid-19?. *Investigación Económica*, 80(317), 82-108. <http://dx.doi.org/10.22201/fe.01851667p.2021.317.79301>

Articles in edited volumes:

- Mellacher, P. (2019): Die politische Ökonomik der (Re-)Privatisierung der Altersvorsorge. In: Richard Sturn, Nenad Pantelic (Hg.): *Dem Markt vertrauen? Beiträge zur Tiefenstruktur neoliberaler Regulierung*. Marburg. Metropolis, 73-90 ([download](#)).

Working papers:

- Mellacher, P. (2025). Science and Ideology. An Evolutionary Model of Science. [GSC Discussion Paper No. 37](#).
- Mellacher, P., & Plakolb, S. (2025). Global Inequality in Vaccine Access, Mortality and Economy: An Agent-based Exploration. Graz Economics Paper 2025–12 ([download](#)). Revision resubmitted to *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*.
- Asemota, E., Mellacher, P., & Rossi, S.P.S. (2025). Covid-19 and Right-wing Vote Share: Evidence from the European Elections in Austria, Italy, and Sweden. Graz Economics Paper 2025–10, 1-51 ([download](#)).
- Mellacher, P. (2025): Recovering the Original Downs Model of Spatial Party Competition. *GSC Discussion Paper No. 34*, 1-20 ([download](#)).
- Plakolb, S. and Mellacher, P. (2025): Complex evolution of viral respiratory pathogens can be an unintended consequence of social distancing, Research Square.
- Rath, M. and Mellacher, P. (2025): Long-term effects of COVID-policies on intra-household care work division, *GSC Discussion Paper No.33*. ([download](#)). Revision resubmitted to *Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation*.
- Geyer, L. and Mellacher, P. (2024): Simulating Party Competition in Dynamic Voter Distributions, *GSC Discussion Paper No. 32*. ([download](#)).
- Mellacher, P. and Lechner, G. (2023): Predicting Voter Ideology Using Machine Learning. *GSC Discussion Paper No. 29*, 1-48 ([download](#)).
- Mellacher, P. (2021): Opinion Dynamics with Conflicting Interests. *GSC Discussion Paper No. 28*, 1-20 ([download](#)).
- Mellacher, P. (2020): COVID-Town: An Integrated Macroeconomic-Epidemiological Agent-Based Model. *GSC Discussion Paper No. 23*, 1-50 ([download](#)).

Translations:

- Schumpeter, J.A. (2020), *Kapitalismus, Sozialismus und Demokratie*, 10., vervollständigte Auflage. Mit einer Einführung von Heinz D. Kurz; übersetzt von Susanne Preiswerk (Teil I-IV) und Theresa Hager, Philipp Kohlgruber und Patrick Mellacher (Teil V). Tübingen. Narr Francke Attempto Verlag.
- Sturn, R. & Dujmovits, R. (2020), *Public Finance*, Graz. ÖH Skripten.

Open Source Models:

- *Endogenous viral mutations, evolutionary selection, and containment policies*. Online at github: <https://github.com/patrickmellacher/viralmutations>
- *Opinion Dynamics with Conflicting Interests*. Online at github: <https://github.com/patrickmellacher/opiniondynamicswithconflictinginterests>
- (joint with T. Hager and M. Rath) *Gender Norms and Network Structure: A Model of the Intra-Household Division of Labor*. Online at github: <https://github.com/patrickmellacher/gendernorms>

- *Growth, Inequality and Declining Business Dynamism in a Unified Schumpeter Mark I + II model.* Online at github: <https://github.com/patrickmellacher/schumpetermark1plus2>
- (joint with L. Geyer) *Simulating Party Competition in Dynamic Voter Distributions.* Online at github: <https://github.com/patrickmellacher/dynamicpartycompetition>
- (joint with T. Lackner and L. Fierro) *Opinion Dynamics meet Agent-based Climate Economics: An Integrated Analysis of Carbon Taxation.* Online at github: <https://github.com/teresa-lackner/OpinionDynamicsMeetAgentBasedClimateEconomics>
- (joint with S. Plakolb) *Complex evolution of viral respiratory pathogens can be an unintended consequence of social distancing* Online at github: <https://github.com/pinselimo/complex-viral-evolution>