

Dr. Dana Schmalz, LL.M. (Cardozo)

Education

2017	Ph.D. in law at the University of Frankfurt, topic: “World Citizens at the Border. Democratic Theory, International Law, and the Figure of the Refugee” (supervisor: Prof. Dr. Armin von Bogdandy)
2016–2017	LL.M. in Comparative Legal Thought, Cardozo Law School, New York
2011	First State Examination in Law, University of Mainz
2009–2013	Studies of philosophy at the Universities of Mainz and Heidelberg
2006–2011	Studies of law at the Universities of Bonn, Mainz, and Paris II (Panthéon-Assas)

Academic positions and professional career

since 08/2020	Senior Research Fellow, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, group of Armin von Bogdandy, Heidelberg (paused during maternity leave)
2021–2022	Visiting Professor for Public International Law (<i>Lehrstuhlvertretung</i>), University of Jena
2019–2020	Visiting Scholar, Columbia Law School, New York; Senior Fellow at the Columbia Center for Contemporary Critical Thought
04–09/2019	Visiting Professor for Public Law (<i>Lehrstuhlvertretung</i>), University of Bremen
2018–2019	Visiting Scholar at the Zolberg Institute on Migration and Mobility, The New School, New York
2017–2018	Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, group of Ayelet Shachar, Göttingen
10/2015	Visiting Researcher at the European University Institute, Florence
2014–2015	Associate Fellow at the Research Group “Multilevel Constitutionalism. European Experiences and Global Perspectives”, Humboldt-University Berlin
02–06/2014	Visiting Fellow at the Research Project “Global Trust”, led by Eyal Benvenisti, Tel Aviv University
2013–2016	Associated Researcher at the Cluster of Excellence “Normative Orders”, University of Frankfurt
2011–2016	Research Fellow, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, group of Armin von Bogdandy, Heidelberg/Berlin

Academic activities

- since 2025: Associated researcher of the DFG Research Group “Human Rights Discourse in Migration Societies” (MeDiMi)
- since 2022: Member of the Advisory Board of Völkerrechtsblog, 2014–2022: Co-founder and Co-editor-in-chief
- since 2020: Member of the Advisory Board of the Heidelberg Journal of International Law (HJIL)
- since 2019: Co-editor of the journal Kritische Justiz
- 2023–2024: Fellow and Co-Convenor of the Research Group “Internalizing Borders. The Social and Normative Consequences of the European Border Regime”, Center for Interdisciplinary Research, University of Bielefeld
- 2023–2024: Visiting Lecturer, Katholische Hochschule Mainz

- 2022–2025: External Supervisor of Master Theses, University of Amsterdam (UvA)
- 2022: Visiting Lecturer at the Hertie School, Berlin
- 2021–2023: Associate Editor for the International Journal of Constitutional Law (ICON)
- 2020–2024: Fellow of the Cooperation Group “Normative Challenges of the European Asylum System”, Center for Interdisciplinary Research, University of Bielefeld
- 2017/2018: Visiting Lecturer at the University of Göttingen
- 2017: Visiting Lecturer at the Freie Universität Berlin
- 2016–2022: Associate Editor for Verfassungsblog

Awards and prizes

2018–2023	Member of the Zukunftsfakultät (future faculty), Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin/Recht im Kontext
2019–2021	Feodor Lynen postdoctoral research fellowship, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation
2018–2019	Research scholarship for postdoctoral scholars (6 months), German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)
2018	Finalist for the German Study Award, Körber-Foundation (round of 10 dissertations selected in the humanities)
2015/2016	Dean’s Merit Scholarship, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law
2015/2016	LL.M. Scholarship, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)
2015/2016	Bucerius Scholarship for research at a foreign institution, German National Academic Foundation and ZEIT-Foundation
2012–2015	Doctoral scholarship, German National Academic Foundation
2006–2011	Student scholarship, German National Academic Foundation

Experience in third-party funding

2023–2024	Center for Interdisciplinary Research, University of Bielefeld, Research Group “Internalizing Borders. The Social and Normative Consequences of the European Border Regime”; Co-convenor with Frank Wolff, Sabine Hess, and Volker M. Heins
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Publications

a) Representative publications

- (2025) Das Bevölkerungsargument. Wie die Sorge vor zu vielen Menschen Politik beeinflusst, Berlin: Suhrkamp.
- (2025) Demographic Projections and Migration Governance. How Law Shapes the Perception of “Too Many”, *Society*, 62, <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s12115-025-01104-w>.
- (2025) The Population Growth Discourse in the First Decades of the United Nations. Interpretations of Global Economic Inequality and the Struggles for a Just International Legal Order, *Leiden Journal of International Law*, 38, 1–17, <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0922156524000621>.
- (2025) The Role of Proximity for States’ Obligations towards Persons Seeking Protection, in: Benhabib, Seyla/Shachar, Ayelet (ed.) *Lawless Zones, Rightless Subjects. Migration, Asylum and Shifting Borders*, Cambridge: CUP, 75–89.
- (2024) “Virtuelle Repräsentation” von Migrant:innen durch Gerichte und unabhängige Stellen, in: Thym, Daniel (ed.) *Deutschland als Einwanderungsland*, Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 319–339.
- (2020) A Counterbalancing Exception. The Refugee Concept as a Normative Idea, *Inter Gentes*, 2(2), <https://intergentes.com/a-counterbalancing-exception-the-refugee-concept-as-a-normative-idea/>.

- (2020) *Refugees, Democracy and the Law. Political Rights at the Margins of the State*. London: Routledge.
- (2019) *Social Freedom in a Global World. Axel Honneth's and Seyla Benhabib's Reconsiderations of a Hegelian Perspective on Justice*, *Constellations*, 26(2), 301–317.

b) Further project-related publications

- (2022) *Digging Holes and Building Walls. Spatial Imaginations of the Law in Stories by Franz Kafka and Rachel Shihor, Polemos*. *Journal of Law, Literature and Culture*, 16(1), 121–138.
- (2022) *The Disparate State of Refugee Protection in the European Union*, *Zeitschrift für ausländisches öffentliches Recht und Völkerrecht/Heidelberg Journal of International Law*, 82(3), 529–540.
- (2021) *Menschenrechtliche Einlassgebote. Die aktuelle Rechtsprechung des EGMR zu widerrechtlichen Zurückweisungen an der Grenze*, *Zeitschrift für Ausländerrecht und Ausländerpolitik (ZAR)*, 41(10), 360–365.
- (2021) *Recht, Politik und die Bedingungen der Ko-Präsenz. Das „Recht Rechte zu haben“ im Lichte gegenwärtiger Migrationsfragen*, *Rechtsphilosophie. Zeitschrift für Grundlagen des Rechts (RphZ)*, 7(1), 32–46.
- (2020) *Beyond an Anxiety Logic. A Critical Examination of Language Rights Cases Before the European Court of Human Rights*, *Human Rights Law Review*, 20(1), 101–119.