

Curriculum Vitae

Kirsten Sehnbruch

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Academic Career

- 2026 Deputy Director of Impact and Engagement of the International Inequalities Institute, **London School of Economics**.
- 2024 – Distinguished Policy Fellow at the International Inequalities Institute, **London School of Economics**.
- 2024 Acting Director, International Inequalities Institute Distinguished Policy Fellow at the International Inequalities Institute, **London School of Economics**. (6 months)
- 2019 – 2024 British Academy Global Professor and Distinguished Policy Fellow at the International Inequalities Institute, **London School of Economics**.
- 2018 – 2019 **Academic Sabbatical** based at the Centre for Public Systems, Department of Industrial Engineering, Faculty of Physical and Mathematical Sciences, Universidad de Chile
- 2016 – 2018 **Director, Department of Public Policy**, Faculty of Economics and Business, Universidad Diego Portales (Santiago, Chile).
- 2015 – 2018 Associate Professor, Institute for Public Policy, Faculty of Economics and Business, **Universidad Diego Portales** (Santiago, Chile)
- 2015 – 2018 Visiting Senior Fellow at the Department of International Development, **London School of Economics**
- 2015 – 2019 Affiliated Lecturer at the Centre for Latin American Studies, **University of Cambridge**. Lecturer on Latin American development, public policy and political economy.
- 2013 – 2019 Founding Board Member and Associate Researcher of the research hub **Centre for Social Conflict and Cohesion** Faculty of Economics and Business, Universidad de Chile. (www.coes.cl: COES was established with a USD 17m Grant from the Chilean National Science Council, which I coordinated. Fondap Number 15130009),
- 2012 – 2017 Director and founding member of the **Centre for New Development Thinking** (www.dev-out.cl)
- 2011 – 2015 Research Fellow, Faculty of Economics and Business, **Universidad de Chile**
- 2010– 2011 Assistant Professor, Instituto de Asuntos Públicos, **Universidad de Chile**
- 2005– 2009 Part-time Senior Scholar and Lecturer, Latin American Studies, **University of California at Berkeley**

Education

- 1998-2003** **PhD in Social and Political Sciences, University of Cambridge**
Thesis: *From the Quantity of Employment to the Quality of Employment: An Application of the Capability Approach to the Chilean Labour Market*. PhD approved without corrections.
PhD and Fieldwork funded by the ESRC, Grant Reference Number: R00429924395.
- 1997-1998** **Research MPhil in Latin American Studies, University of Cambridge**
- 1990-1994** **Modern and Medieval Languages: French & Spanish MA Hons, University of Cambridge**

Academic Activity

• Publications: Journal articles (since 2014)

- 2026 “When Economic Growth is not Enough: Poor-quality Employment in Egypt, 1988-2018 (with Mauricio Apablaza, Rocío Méndez and Samer Atallah); [Oxford Development Studies](#).
- 2025 “Multi-dimensional Quality of Employment (QoE) Dynamics: Longitudinal Insights from Chile, 2004-2020” (with Joaquín Prieto and Diego Vidal); [Social Science Research](#) Volume 131, September 2025, 103206, (WoS 91st percentile in Sociology).
- 2025 “Job loss and earnings inequality: Distributional effects from re-employment in Chile” (with Joaquin Prieto and Rafael Carranza), [Economic Analysis and Policy](#) Volume 86, June 2025, Pages 1020-1036, (WoS Top 2% in Economics).
- 2024 “Introduction to the Special Issue on Labour Markets and Social Policy” (with Andrés Velasco); [Public Policy Review](#), Vol. 3 (2).
- 2024 “Poor-Quality Employment: Who is deprived in our labour markets?” (with Mauricio Apablaza and James Foster); [Public Policy Review](#), Vol. 3 (2).
- 2024 “A dynamic counting approach to measure multidimensional deprivations in jobs over time” (with Joaquin Prieto and Diego Vidal); [Applied Economic Letters](#), Vol. 31: 10. DOI: 10.1080/13504851.2022.2156460
- 2023 “Regional Inequality in Multidimensional Quality of Employment (QoE): Insights from Chile, 1996-2017” (with Mauricio Apablaza, Pablo González, and Rocío Méndez); [Regional Studies](#), 57:3, 416-433. (WoS Top 10% in Geography)
- 2022 “Designing Unemployment Insurance Systems in Developing Countries: Moral Hazard vs Liquidity Constraints in Chile” (with Rafael Carranza and Dante Contreras); [Journal of Development Studies](#) Vol. 58:10, 2089-2109
- 2022 “Public Appointments as Informal Institutions: Lessons from the *Cuoteo* in Chile, 1990-2017” (with Peter Siavelis, Emmanuelle Barozet and Valentina Ulloa); [Revista Chilena de Ciencias Políticas](#), Vol. 42 (3)
- 2021 “The Quality of Employment in Central America: A Multidimensional Indicator” (with Pablo González, Mauricio Apablaza, Rocío Mendez and Verónica Arriagada) [Social Indicators Research](#) Vol. 158:107–141.
- 2020 “The Quality of Employment (QoE) in Nine Latin American Countries: a Multidimensional Perspective” (with Mauricio Apablaza, Pablo Gonzalez, Rocío Mendez and Veronica Arriagada) [World Development](#), Vol. 127, 104738 (WoS Top 10% in Economics and Development).

- 2019 "Pension Regimes Built on Precarious Foundations: Lessons from a Longitudinal Study of Pension Contributions and Employment Trajectories in Chile"(with Ignacio Madero-Cabib, Fabio Bertranou, Andres Biehl, and Esteban Calvo) [*Research on Aging*](#), Vol. 41, 10: pp. 961-987
- 2019 "Job Quality in the European Employment Strategy: One Step forward, two Steps back?" [*The European Review of Labour and Research*](#), (with Agnieszka Piasna, Brendan Burchell, and Nurjk Agloni) Vol. 25(2): 165-180
- 2019 "Unemployment Insurance based on Individual Savings Accounts: Lessons for other Latin American and Developing Countries from Chile" (with Rafael Carranza and Joaquín Prieto); [*Development and Change*](#), Vol. 50(4): 948–975
- 2017 Special Issue Editor and Introduction on the 2010 Chilean Earthquake "The Impact of the Chilean Earthquake of 2010: Challenging the Capabilities of the Neoliberal State", [*Latin American Perspectives*](#), Vol. 44(4): 4-9
- 2017 "The Social Policy Responses to the Chilean Earthquake and Tsunami of 2010", [*Latin American Perspectives*](#), Vol. 44(4): 24-40 (with Nurjk Agloni, Walter Imilan and Claudia Sanhueza)
- 2015 Editor of a Special Issue and Introduction on the Quality of Employment, "The Quality of Employment in the Development Literature", [*The International Labour Review*](#), Vol. 154(2): 167-170 (with José Antonio Ocampo)
- 2015 "More but not better Jobs in Chile? The Fundamental Importance of Open-ended Contracts", [*The International Labour Review*](#), Vol. 154(2): 171-194_(with Jaime Ruiz-Tagle)
- 2015 "The Quality of Employment in the Latin American Development Literature: Theory and Evidence", [*The International Labour Review*](#), Vol. 154, 2: 227-252 (with Joseph Ramos and Jürgen Weller)
- 2015 "Human Development and Decent Work: Why some Concepts succeed and others fail to impact the Development Agenda", [*Development and Change*](#), 46 (2): 197-224 (with Brendan Burchell, Agnieszka Piasna, and Nurjk Agloni)
- 2014 "The Quality of Employment and Decent Work: Definitions, Methodologies, and Ongoing Debates", [*Cambridge Journal of Economics*](#), 38 (2): 459-477._(with Brendan Burchell, Agnieszka Piasna, and Nurjk Agloni)
- This article was nominated the editor's choice by the *Cambridge Journal of Economics* that year and has now become one of the most cited articles on job quality in the academic literature.

• **Publications: Books**

- 2014 [*El Balance: Política y Políticas de la Concertación, 1990-2010*](#), co-edited with Peter Siavelis, Santiago: Catalonia (ISBN: 978-956-32-4329-1). This book is the Spanish translation of *Democratic Chile*.
- 2013 [*Democratic Chile: The Politics and Policies of a Historic Coalition, 1990-2010*](#), co-edited with Peter Siavelis, published by Lynne Rienner Publishers (ISBN: 978-158-82-6873-0).

2006 [*The Chilean Labor Market: A Key to Understanding Latin American Labor Markets*](#). New York and Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan (ISBN: 978-140-39-7230-9).

• **Publications: Book chapters (since 2013)**

- 2026 “Building Houses on Sand: Employment and Social Policies in Latin America” (with Mauricio Apablaza). Chapter for the *Oxford Handbook of Social Policies in the Global South*, Eds. Armando Barrientos, Matthew Carnes, Huck-Ju Kwon, Herbert Obinger, Leila Patel and Carina Schmitt. *Forthcoming* Oxford University Press.
- 2026 “Interpersonal Comparisons: From Job Quality to Poor-quality Employment” (with Mauricio Apablaza). Chapter for [*Job Quality in a Turbulent Era*](#). Eds.: Agnieszka Piasna and Janine Leschke. Edward Elgar Publishing.
- 2020 [*Decent Work: Conceptualisation and Policy Impact*](#) (with Agnieszka Piasna and Brendan Burchell), Chapter for the *Encyclopedia of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals*, Ed. Walter Leal Filho, Springer. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-319-71058-7_107-1
- 2017 [*“Job quality: conceptual and methodological challenges for comparative analysis”*](#) in Damian Grimshaw, Colette Fagan, Gail Hebson and Isabel Tavora (eds.) *Making Work more Equal: A New Labour Market Segmentation Approach*, University of Manchester Press.
- 2014 “La calidad del empleo” in Antonio Stetcher and Lorena Godoy (eds.) [*Transformaciones del Trabajo. Subjetividad e Identidades. Lecturas psicosociales desde Chile y América Latina*](#), Ril Editores, Santiago de Chile (ISBN: 978-956-01-0087-0).
- 2013 "Political and Economic Life under the Rainbow" In K. Sehnbruch and P. Siavelis (eds.), [*Democratic Chile: The Politics and Policies of a Historic Coalition, 1990-2010*](#), Lynne Rienner Publishing. With Peter Siavelis.
- 2013 "From Social Debt to Welfare State?" In K. Sehnbruch and P. Siavelis (eds.), [*Democratic Chile: The Politics and Policies of a Historic Coalition, 1990-2010*](#), Lynne Rienner Publishing. With Dante Contreras.
- 2013 "Reducing Poverty: Real or Rhetorical Success?" In K. Sehnbruch and P. Siavelis (eds.), [*Democratic Chile: The Politics and Policies of a Historic Coalition, 1990-2010*](#), Lynne Rienner Publishing. With Silvia Borzutzky and Claudia Sanhueza.
- 2013 "The Labour Market under the Concertación" In K. Sehnbruch and P. Siavelis (eds.), [*Democratic Chile: The Politics and Policies of a Historic Coalition, 1990-2010*](#), Lynne Rienner Publishing.
- 2013 "The Future of the Rainbow Coalition" In K. Sehnbruch and P. Siavelis (eds.), [*Democratic Chile: The Politics and Policies of a Historic Coalition, 1990-2010*](#), Lynne Rienner Publishing. With Peter Siavelis.
- 2013 "La calidad del empleo en Chile: Entre teoría y medición" In Stefano Farné *La Calidad del Empleo en América Latina*, Colombia (ISBN: 978-958-71-0844-6).

• **Publications: Outreach and Dissemination Material (since 2019)**

- 2023 “Migrants in the Chilean Labour Market: A Story of Successful Integration?” (with Mauricio Apablaza, and Verónica Arriagada), British Academy project on the Quality of Employment, Policy Brief, No. 6

- 2023 “Regional Inequality in Multidimensional Quality of Employment (QoE): Insights from Chile, 1996-2017” (with Mauricio Apablaza, Pablo González, and Rocío Méndez), British Academy project on the Quality of Employment, Policy Brief, No. 5
- 2023 "Job Quality in the European Employment Strategy: One Step forward, two Steps back?" (with Agnieszka Piasna, Brendan Burchell, and Nurjk Agloni), British Academy project on the Quality of Employment, Policy Brief, No. 4
- 2023 “The Quality of Employment and Decent Work: Definitions, Methodologies, and Ongoing Debates” (with Brendan Burchell, Agnieszka Piasna, and Nurjk Agloni), British Academy project on the Quality of Employment, Policy Brief, No. 3
- 2023 “The Quality of Employment in Central America: A Multidimensional Indicator” (with Pablo González, Mauricio Apablaza, Rocío Mendez and Verónica Arriagada), British Academy project on the Quality of Employment, Policy Brief, No. 2
- 2021 Alternative Policy Solutions Policy Paper: *Multidimensional Quality of Employment (QoE) Index in Egypt: The Importance of an Employment Quality Approach to Policy*, [Policy Paper](#), American University of Cairo (with Rocío Méndez and Samer Atallah)
- 2021 Quality of Employment in Egypt and a Multidimensional Approach to Labor Market Policy, [Policy Brief](#), American University of Cairo (with Rocío Méndez and Samer Atallah)
- 2021 27th May: *Chile’s political establishment has been swept away – now there’s hope for change*, The Guardian, Op-ed
- 2020 28th October: *Chile's latest steps towards true democracy are a beacon for the world*, The Guardian, Op-ed
- 2020 Some inconvenient truths about Latin America’s poster child: What recent social protests have revealed about Chile, by invitation of the *Global Labour Journal*, Vol. 11 No. 1: January 2020 (with Sofia Donoso)
- 2020 *The Quality of Employment (QoE) in Nine Latin American Countries: a Multidimensional Perspective*, British Academy project on the Quality of Employment, Policy Brief, No. 1
- 2019 International Inequalities Institute Annual Report: British Academy Global Professorship Research Project: *Measuring the Quality of Employment (QoE) in Middle Income Countries*
- 2019 29th October: LSE Blog: *The cost of multidimensional inequalities in Chile underlines the need for a new social pact*
- 2019 30th October: *How Pinochet's economic model led to the current crisis engulfing Chile*, The Guardian, Op-ed
- 2019 International Inequalities Institute: Interview on Job Quality, produced by Davy Nougarede

• **Publications: Working Papers (since 2020)**

- 2024 Apabalaza, M.; González, P.; Sehnbruch, K.; Villatoro, P.; & Mancero, X. (2024) “Índice de mala calidad del empleo: una mirada de la última década en América Latina”, serie [Estudios Estadísticos](#), N°107 (LC/TS.2019/xx). Santiago, Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe (CEPAL), 2024.
- 2021 “When Economic Growth is not Enough: A Multidimensional Approach to the Quality of Employment (QoE) in Egypt, 2006-2018 (with Rocío Méndez and Samer Atallah), [Background Paper](#)

- 2021 “Regional Inequality in Multidimensional Quality of Employment (QoE): insights from Chile, 1996-2017” with Mauricio Apablaza, Pablo González and Rocío Méndez Pineda. International Inequalities Institute, [Working paper 61](#)
- 2021 “Unemployment insurance in Chile: lessons from a high inequality developing country” with Rafael Carranza and Dante Contreras. International Inequalities Institute, [Working paper 54](#)
- 2020 “Designing Unemployment Insurance Systems in Developing Countries: Moral Hazard vs Liquidity Constraints in Chile” (with Rafael Carranza and Dante Contreras). SSRN [Working Paper No. 3607058](#).

Teaching

- 2021 – Supervision of LSE PhD and Master level students
- 2015 – 2019 MPhil in Latin American Studies, Department of Political Science and International Studies, University of Cambridge. Latin American Development module. Seminars, and supervisions.
- 2013 – 2020 Master’s thesis supervisor for students at the Universidad de Chile (MA in Public Policy, MA in Applied Economics and MA in Economics).
- 2010 – 2018 Research methods and Public Policy at undergraduate and graduate level at the Faculties of Economics and Business, Universities of Chile and Diego Portales. PhD teaching and supervision at the Department of Sociology, Universidad de Chile.
- Teaching at the Universidad de Chile included course design innovation as part of the implementation the CORE curriculum development effort, led by Prof. Wendy Carlin and funded by INET. In Chile, this effort was led by Oscar Landerretche.
- 2006 – 2008 Latin American Development: Economic history and public policy, Course for advanced level undergraduates and graduates, UC Berkeley

Major Research Grants (excluding grants under £80,000)

- 2021 Exceptional Supplementary Grant from the British Academy that extends my Global Professorship by one year to compensate for Covid related delays. £212,000.
- 2021 Emirates Foundation: Academic Collaboration with Arab Universities Programme. *Researching the Quality of Employment in the Middle East*. £80,000 over two years.
- 2018 Awarded a Global Professorship by the British Academy (PI): *The Quality of Employment (QoE) in Middle Income Countries*. £749,816 over three years (2019-2023). Grant number: GP1\100170.
- 2017 PI of Fondecyt Project Number 1171025 *“Expanding Research on Social Indicators and Work: The Quality of Employment in Developing Countries, 2017-2020”* (approx. US\$360,000 at 2017 exchange rates)
- 2016 Co-PI of Fondecyt Project Number 1160984 *“¿Malas prácticas” o “aceitar la máquina”? Las instituciones informales en tiempos de cambios políticos y su impacto en la democracia chilena (2016-2019)*. ”Research Project on “Bad practices or oiling the political machine?”

- Informal institutions during times of political change and their impact on Chilean democracy” (approx. US\$340,000 at 2016 exchange rates)
- 2013-2018 Grant Coordinator of the ANID/FONDAP Project (Grant Number 15130009) that establishes the Centre for Social Conflict and Cohesion at the Department of Economics at the University of Chile.
- Fondap projects are awarded by the Chilean equivalent of the National Science Foundation (US) or of the Economic and Social Research Council (UK) to establish research hubs on issues that are considered a priority for Chile’s development process. Their mandate is to operate according to the highest international standards of academic excellence.
- The grant awarded US\$8.5m for five years and was renewed in September 2018 for another US\$8.5m for a further 5 years to total US\$17m.
- 2013-2015 PI of Domeyko II – URedes research grant awarded by the Academic Vice-chancellor’s office of the University of Chile and by the Dean of the Faculty of Economics of the University of Chile to be used as seed money for the institutional development of the Centre for New Development Thinking. (USD 190,000).
- 2012-2017 PI of Chilean research team participating in the Seventh Framework Pro-gramme Grant from the European Union (Theme SSH.2011.1, Grant Agreement No. 290752, Funding: €8m) for *Enhancing Knowledge for Renewed Policies against Poverty* (Nopoor).

Media

- Frequent spokesperson for the Institute of Public Policy of the Universidad Diego Portales and for the Centre for Social Conflict and Cohesion Studies (COES) on development policy for almost all print, internet, TV and radio outlets in Chile: 2015 - 2019.
- Contributor of Op-ed Columns, interviews and other articles to *The Guardian*, *Financial Times*, *BBC* (World and Latin America); to Chile's main newspapers (*La Tercera*, *La Segunda* and *El Mercurio*), *The Clinic* (satirical newspaper), *Pulso* and *Diario Financiero* (Chilean financial newspapers),
- Other Radio and TV: BBC, Telemundo TV, Univision, KPFA radio (PBS station), Deutsche Welle, Al Jazeera TV.
- Articles published by *Open Democracy* and *The Monkey Cage* (the political science blog of the Washington Post) on Chilean Politics

Other Work Experience

- 1997 **European Commission**, Brussels, Directorate General IB (External Relations): Mexico Desk. Working on EU Trade Agreement with Mexico.
- 1994 – 1997 **Goldman Sachs International**, London, Equity Analyst, Asset Management Division focused on Italy, Belgium and Germany.
- Professional Qualification: Associate of the IIMR (Equivalent of Chartered Financial Analyst – CFA).
- 1992 – 1993 **Price Waterhouse**, Buenos Aires and Manchester, UK: trainee auditor.

Languages

Trilingual: English, German, and Spanish

Fluent: French

Basic: Italian and Portuguese