

Maarit Olkkola

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Current positions

2/2025– Senior researcher, **VATT Institute for Economic Research**

2/2025– Visiting researcher, **Aalto University School of Business**

Previous positions

12/2023–1/2025 **VATT Institute for Economic Research**, Researcher

8/2018–6/2019 **Industrial Relations Section, Department of Economics, Princeton University, United States**, Visiting Student Research Collaborator

9/2013–8/2018 **Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare**, Visiting researcher

Education

1/2025 Doctor of Science (Economics), **Aalto University School of Business**
Dissertation: Essays on Health Policy and Human Capital

7/2016 Master in Economics and Finance, **Barcelona School of Economics**

6/2015 Master of Social Sciences, **University of Helsinki**
(Economic and Social History)

Research fields

Labor Economics, Health Economics, Population Economics, Economic History

Publications

[Mass Vaccination and Educational Attainment: Evidence from the 1967–1968 Measles Eradication Campaign](#)

with Philipp Barteska, Sonja Dobkowitz & Michael Rieser

Journal of Health Economics, Volume 92, 2023, 102828

Research in progress

Public Policy and the Child Mortality Transition

Universal Child Health Services and the Educational Attainment and Adult Income of Rural Children

Intergenerational Effects of Forced Displacement

(with Elias Dinas, Dominik Hangartner, Ilona Lahdelma & Matti Sarvimäki)

Peer-reviewed publications prior to the PhD

Maiju Mikkonen, Minna K. Salonen, Antti Häkkinen, Maarit Olkkola, Anu-Katriina Pesonen, Katri Räikkönen, Clive Osmond, Johan G. Eriksson & Eero Kajantie. The Lifelong Socioeconomic Disadvantage of Single Mother Background – The Helsinki Birth Cohort Study 1934–1944. *BMC Public Health*. 2016 Aug 18;16(1):817.

Policy work (in Finnish)

Lapsiin kohdistuvan terveystalouden vaikutukset inhimilliseen pääomaan. Kansantaloudellinen aikakauskirja 2/2025

Tuhkarokkorokotuksella on yllättäviä pitkäaikaishyötyjä yhteiskunnalle. VATT Policy Brief 1/2025

Conference and seminar presentations (including scheduled)

2026 *Alp-Pop* (Italy), *Nobel Prizes in Economics and the Future of Finnish Economy* (Think Corner, University of Helsinki)

2025 *VATT seminar, Finnish Health Economics Seminar, INVEST conference, Väinö Kannisto award lecture* (The Finnish Demographic Society seminar)

2024 *Finnish Center of Excellence in Tax Systems Research (FIT) workshop*

2023 *VATT Institute for Economic Research* (job talk)

2022 *Social Science History Association conference* (Chicago, United States, online), *University of Turku Economics seminar, Helsinki Graduate School of Economics Labor & Public PhD seminar*

2019–2021 *Princeton University Labor lunch* (Princeton, United States), *Princeton University Health and Development lunch seminar* (Princeton, United States), *Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare Health Economics seminar, Helsinki Graduate School of Economics Economic History seminar, Helsinki Graduate School of Economics Labor & Public Economics workshop*

2013–2018 *World Economic History Congress* (Cambridge, United States), *Norwegian School of Economics* (Norway), *World Congress on Developmental Origins of Health and Disease* (The Netherlands), *Essen Health Conference* (Germany), *Helsinki Graduate School of Economics Lunch Seminar, Helsinki Graduate School of Economics Economic History Seminar, Sound Economic History Workshop, Frontier Research in Economic and Social History* (Spain), *The Human Development and Capabilities Association* (Greece), *World Congress on Developmental Origins of Health and Disease* (Singapore)

Referee work

Journal of Human Resources, Journal of the Finnish Economic Association, Economics and Human Biology

Research visits

8/2018–6/2019 Industrial Relations Section, Department of Economics, Princeton University, New Jersey, United States

5/2018 Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen, Norway

Research funding and awards

2025–2029 Research Council of Finland project: “Social inequality and labor markets under public vs private provision of services” (*co-applicant*, PI: Tuomas Kosonen), 500 000 euros

12/2025 Project grant: 22 000 euros, Yrjö Jahnnsson Foundation

11/2025 Väinö Kannisto award for a doctoral thesis (*sole recipient*): 1000 euros, Väinö Kannisto fund, the Family Federation of Finland (11/2025)

5/2024 Award for a publication: 2500 euros, HSE support foundation

Grants for data and research expenses 2017–2022 (*sole applicant*): 47 988 euros (Yrjö Jahnnsson foundation, OP research foundation, Otto A. Malm foundation)

Grants for research visits and conferences 2017–2018 (*sole applicant*): 44 400 euros (Alfred Kordelin foundation, Yrjö Jahnnsson foundation, Otto A. Malm foundation, HSE support foundation)

Grants for dissertation work 2016–2022 (*sole applicant*): 97 500 euros

(Yrjö Jahnnsson foundation, OP research foundation, The Finnish Cultural foundation, Alfred

Kordelin foundation)

Service

2025–2029 Deputy board member, Child Advisory Board (Lapsiasianeuvottelukunta)

Software

Stata, R (data.table, ggplot2, some tidyverse), Latex, Git, Python (basics of programming and machine learning)

Language skills

Finnish (native), English (fluent), Swedish (proficient), French (intermediate), German (intermediate)

Teaching experience

2019–2024 Teaching assistant, History of Economic Growth and Crises (Master's level)

2020, 2018 Teaching assistant, Advanced Econometrics 3: Microeconometrics (PhD level)

2020 Teaching assistant, Development Economics 1 (Master's level), including preparing and teaching a mini course on causal inference