

SOFIE MØLLER

Junior Professor of Kant and German Idealism
Department of Philosophy
Albertus Magnus Platz
University of Cologne
D-50923 Köln
Germany
Email: sofie.moeller@uni-koeln.de
Orcid ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0755-5805>

EDUCATION

2013-17, Ph.D. *European University Institute, Florence, Italy*
2013-14, LL.M. *European University Institute, Florence, Italy*
2011-13, M.A. *University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark*
2010-12, M.A. *University of Bologna, Bologna, Italy*
2006-10, B.A. *University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark*

EMPLOYMENT

2023-present Junior Professor (W1) of Kant and German Idealism, University of Cologne, Germany
2022-2023 Maternity leave
2017-2023 Postdoctoral Research Associate, Research Centre ‘Normative Orders’/Cluster of Excellence “The Formation of Normative Orders,” Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany

EXTENDED SCHOLARLY VISITS

2016 Visiting researcher at *Brown University*, Providence, USA (academic host: Paul Guyer)
2011 Research fellow, *Danish Academy*, Rome, Italy

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2023 German Research Foundation (DFG), “Normativity and Transformation in Immanuel Kant’s Legal Philosophy”
2019 Humboldt Postdoctoral Fellowship, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, Goethe University Frankfurt
I declined this grant in order to accept a position at ‘Normative Orders’
2013-17 Four-year graduate fellowship, Danish Ministry of Science and Education
2011 Research Fellowship, Danish Academy in Rome

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE

Editor	<i>Kant on Freedom and Human Nature – Essays in Honor of Paul Guyer</i> , edited by Sofie Møller and Luigi Filieri (London: Routledge Press, under contract).
Journal Referee	<i>Archiv für Begriffsgeschichte</i> <i>International Journal of Constitutional Law</i> <i>Kantian Review</i> <i>American Political Science Review</i> <i>Philosophical Quarterly</i> <i>Public Reason</i>
Book Referee	Wales University Press
Expert evaluator	YUFE Postdoctoral Programme on “Citizens’ Wellbeing“
Memberships	Women Scholars Network, North American Kant Society North American Kant Society Kant Gesellschaft Deutsche Gesellschaft der Philosophie Dansk Filosofisk Selskab (Danish Philosophical Society)
2021-22	Lecture series co-organizer, <i>Rule of Law and Democracy</i> , Goethe University Frankfurt, Research Centre ‘Normative Orders’
2020	Organizer, <i>Book session for Kant’s Tribunal of Reason</i> , Goethe University Frankfurt, Research Centre ‘Normative Orders’
2019	Conference co-organizer, <i>Political and Legal Regression</i> , Goethe University Frankfurt, Research Centre ‘Normative Orders’ Workshop co-organizer: <i>Civil disobedience and the European Crisis</i> , Goethe University Frankfurt, Research Centre ‘Normative Orders’
2018	Conference co-organizer, <i>Whereto? Critical Reflections on Political Progress</i> , Goethe University Frankfurt, Cluster of Excellence ‘The Formation of Normative Orders’
2017	Conference co-organizer, <i>Reason in Practice. Kantian approaches to Ethics, Law and Politics</i> , European University Institute, Florence, Italy
2016	Workshop co-organizer, <i>Researchers’ Workshop in Legal and Political Theory</i> , European University Institute, Florence, Italy
2014-17	Co-conveyor of the <i>Legal and Political Theory Working Group</i> , European University Institute, Florence, Italy

LANGUAGES

Danish	Native speaker
English	Fluent in speaking, reading and writing
German	Fluent in speaking, reading and writing
Italian	Fluent in speaking, reading and writing
Spanish	Good in speaking and reading, basic in writing
French	Basic in speaking, reading and writing
Latin	Good in reading

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Kant's Tribunal of Reason. Legal Metaphor and Normativity in the Critique of Pure Reason (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, February 2020, paperback edition, 2021). **For book abstract and review blurbs see pp. 10-11.**

Kant on Freedom and Human Nature, edited by Sofie Møller and Luigi Filieri (London: Routledge Press, 2024). **For table of contents see p. 11.**

ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

“Constructing reason”, *Kantian Review*, forthcoming

“What is humanity?” in *Kant on Freedom and Human Nature*, edited by Sofie Møller and Luigi Filieri (London: Routledge Press, 2024), forthcoming

“Kant’s Metaphors and Analogies,” in *Kant on Language*, edited by Konstantin Pollok and Luigi Filieri (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2023), forthcoming

“Onora O’Neill” in *Rawls-Handbuch. Leben – Werk – Wirkung*, edited by Johannes J. Frühbauer, Michael Reder and Thomas M. Schmidt (Wiesbaden: Metzler-Verlag, 2023).

“On law and morality – the case of Nazi legal theory“, *Jurisprudence*, 14:2, 275-281 (2023).

“Hindsight and Foresight in Kant’s Historical Sign.” *Studi Kantiani*, no. 35 (2022)
<https://doi.org/10.19272/202202901008>.

“How Moral Neuroenhancement Impacts Autonomy and Agency,” *Bioethics*, (2022)
<https://doi.org/10.1111/bioe.13040>

“*Honeste vive and legal personality in Kant’s Metaphysics of Morals*”, in *Kant on Moral Worth*, edited by Christoph Horn and Robinson Dos Santos (Berlin: de Gruyter, 2022).

“Quid Juris and Judicial Imputation”, in *Proceedings of the 13th International Kant Congress ‘The Court of Reason’ (Oslo, 6-9 August 2019)*, edited by Camilla Serck-Hanssen and Beatrix Himmelmann (Berlin: de Gruyter, 2022)

“Kant on Non-linear Progress”, *Etica & Politica / Ethics & Politics* Vol. 23:2 (2021): 127-147.

“Zurechnung und Rechtsprechung bei Achenwall“, *Rechtsphilosophie – Zeitschrift für die Grundlagen des Rechts* Vol. 6:4 (2020): 388-98.

“The Politics of Reason,” in *Reason, Rights and Law: New Essays on Kantian Philosophy*, edited by Alice Pinheiro Walla and Mehmet Ruhi Demiray (Cardiff: University of Wales Press, 2020), pp. 61-81.

Sofie Møller: sofie.moeller@uni-koeln.de

“Normative orders in Kantian Thought,” in *Navigating the Frontiers of Normative Orders*, edited by Matthias Kettmann (Frankfurt am Main, Campus Verlag, 2020), pp. 95-105.

“Human Rights Jurisprudence Seen through the Framework of Kant’s Legal Metaphors,” in *Kantian Theory and Human Rights*, edited by Reidar Maliks and Andreas Føllesdal (London: Routledge, 2013), pp. 52–69.

“The Court of Reason in Kant’s Critique of Pure Reason,” *Kant-Studien* Vol. 104:3 (2013): 301-20.

BOOK REVIEWS

Review of *Zur Positivität des Rechts in der kritischen Naturrechtslehre Immanuel Kants: Eine Studie zum metaphysischen Begriff des provisorisch-rechtlichen Besitzes* by Heuser, Martin in *Zeitschrift für Rechtsphilosophie* (forthcoming).

Review of *Das Verhältnis von Recht und Ethik in Kants praktischer Philosophie*, edited by Bernd Dörflinger, Dieter Hüning, and Günter Kruck in *Studi Kantiani* (forthcoming).

Review of *The Emergence of Autonomy in Kant’s Moral Philosophy*, edited by Stefano Bacin and Oliver Sosen in *Studi Kantiani* Vol. 33 (2020): 217-220.

Review of *The Faculties of the Human Mind and the Case of Moral Feeling in Kant’s Philosophy* by Falduto, Antonino. *Studi Kantiani* Vol. 30 (2017): 249.

“Rethinking Kant as a Public Intellectual,” review essay on *Kant’s Politics in Context* by Reidar Maliks in *European Journal of Political Theory* Vol. 16:1 (2017): 100–108.

PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY

“Tyskland misbruger juridiske kneb, så de slipper for at give migranter rettigheder” (“Germany is abusing legal tricks to avoid granting migrants rights”), *Dagbladet Information*, 20 Aug 2018.

“Normative Orders in Kantian Thought”, Youtube video 2020
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EnI6uLcT1AU>

“Kant in 5 Minuten: Jun.-Prof. Dr. Sophie Møller über die Aufklärung”, youtube video 2023
<https://youtu.be/wbE3b0A-mEU>

DISSERTATION

‘The Nomothetics of Pure Reason. A Juridical Account of Immanuel Kant’s *Critique of Pure Reason*’, PhD diss., European University Institute, 2017: Dennis Patterson, director, Paul Guyer, external co-director.

My dissertation research was supported by a four-year doctoral fellowship from the Danish Ministry of Science and Education. At the European University Institute I worked with Dennis Patterson and at Brown I worked with Paul Guyer. In my dissertation I investigated Kant’s account of self-legislation as

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a legal and political theme applied in theoretical philosophy and argued that we must understand reason's authority as a conferral of power to perform certain acts legitimately.

TALKS GIVEN

- 2023 “Synthetic a priori in Kant’s *Doctrine of Right*”, Kant on the Norms of Action, University of Mainz, Mainz, Germany
- 2022 Response to “Exactitude and Indemonstrability in Kant’s Doctrine of Right: On the Limits of Kant’s Legal Philosophy,” by Katrin Flikschuh, *Law and Morality in Kant*, University of Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany (postponed due to covid)
- “Kant on social agency and humanity’s collective development,” invited for *Social agency, political power, and legal boundaries in Classical German Philosophy*, Purdue University, USA (postponed due to covid)
- “Whose Progress? Kant on Cultural Hierarchy and Human Development” Philosophy and Social Science Conference, University College Dublin
- 2021 “Progress and the State of Nature”, invited for Conference *Kant in Progress*, University of Bayreuth, Germany
- “Kant on Progress and Hierarchies of Culture and Race”, invited for the lecture series *Kantian Conversations*, ECPR Kantian Standing Group, online
- Invited Response to “The Democratic Case for Judicial Review: A Participatory interpretation of the internal relation between the Rule of Law and Democracy” by Cristina Lafont, *Rule of Law and Democracy*, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany
- “Kant on Reason, Law and Normativity,” invited for Lecture series *Kantian Rationality Lab* at the Academia Kantiana, University of Kaliningrad, Russia, online
- 2020 “Kant on Non-Linear Progress,” invited for the Lecture series *Homo Zoomenon*, University of Bristol, UK, online
- Book Session on “Kant’s Tribunal of Reason,” Goethe University Frankfurt, online.**
Respondents, Marcus Willaschek (GU Frankfurt), Susan Shell (Boston College), and Martin Sticker (University of Bristol)
Recording available on youtube: <https://youtu.be/FAznGChVHzU>
- “Kant’s Tribunal of Reason,” invited for *History of Philosophy Roundtable*, Brown University, Providence, USA (cancelled due to Covid)
- “Kant’s Tribunal of Reason,” invited talk, Yale University, New Haven, USA (cancelled due to Covid)

2019

“Natural Right Theory in Kant’s Legal Metaphors”, invited talk, New School for Social Research, NYC, USA

“Zurechnung und Rechtsprechung bei Achenwall“, invited for *Göttinger Naturrecht*, University of Göttingen, Germany

“*Sui juris* und der Wert des Menschen als Rechtssubjekt,” invited for *Moralischer Wert bei Kant*, Bonn University, Germany

“Hindsight and Foresight in Kant’s Opposition to Revolution”, invited talk, *Political Theory Colloquium*, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany

“Hindsight and Foresight in Kant’s Opposition to Revolution”, invited for *Kant on Revolution*, University of Oslo, Norway

“Neuroenhancement, Agency, and Law”, invited for *Maastricht Law and Philosophy Platform*, University of Maastricht, Netherlands

“*Quid juris* and juridical imputation,” *13th International Kant Congress*, University of Oslo, Norway

Invited Response to “Constitutivism, Constructivism, or Both?” by Miriam Ronzoni, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany

Invited Response to “Mere Means and Ends in Themselves,” Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany

Invited Response to “Constructing Reason in ‘The Architectonic of Reason: Teleology and Systematic Unity in Kant’s Critique of Pure Reason’” by Lea Ypi, LSE, London, UK

Invited Response to “Constituent Power and Civil Disobedience” by William Scheuerman, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany

“Natural Right Theory in Kant’s Legal Metaphors,” invited for *Oxford Political Thought Seminar*, University of Oxford, UK

“Progress in Law,” invited for *Political Theory Colloquium*, University of Hamburg, Germany

- 2018 “Hindsight and Foresight in Kant’s Opposition to Revolution,” invited for *Normative Orders Annual Conference*, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bFk7JnbWwhc>
- “The Public Structure of The Personal: Kant on Moral Conscience,” invited talk, Roskilde University, Denmark
- “Kant on Non-Linear Progress,” invited for *Whereto? Critical Reflections on Political Progress*, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany
- “On the Limits of Kantian Political Obligation,” *Florence Legal Theory Workshop*, European University Institute, Florence, Italy
- “Politisk forpligtelse ifølge Kant” (“Political Obligation according to Kant”) *Annual Meeting of the Danish Philosophical Society*, Roskilde University, Denmark
- Invited Response to “The Evolution of Moral Progress” by Allen Buchanan, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany
- Invited Response to “Political Independence, Territorial Integrity and Private Law Analogies” by Arthur Ripstein, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany
- 2017 “Legal Elements in Kant’s Critical Philosophy,” invited for *Reason in Practice. Kantian approaches to Ethics, Law and Politics*, European University Institute, Florence, Italy
- “Reason’s Negative Legislation,” *International Kant Summer School in Mainz*, University of Mainz, Germany
- 2016 “Lawfulness and Rule Following,” *Berlin Kant Workshop*, Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany
- “Dialectic Reasoning at Reason’s Inner Tribunal,” *Dialectic and the Ends of Reason*, University of Pisa, Italy
- 2015 “Die rechtlichen Metaphern Kants,” invited for *Marburg Schlosstreffen*, Marburg, Germany
- “The Politics of Reason”, *Kant on religion and politics, UK and North American Kant Society*, University of Keele, UK
- “Love and Striving,” *Kant Reading Party*, University of St. Andrews, UK
- “The Juridification of Reason,” *The Annual Conference of the British Society for the History of Philosophy*, University of York

Sofie Møller: sofie.moeller@uni-koeln.de

- 2014 Response to “Kant and Legal Subjects” by Sari Kisilevski, *Kantfest*, University of Keele, UK
- 2013 “Juridical metaphors in Kant’s *Critique of Pure Reason*,” invited for Copenhagen Seminar in Intellectual History, University of Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2012 “Human Rights Jurisprudence Seen through the Framework of Kant’s Legal Metaphors,” *Kantian Theory and Human Rights*, University of Oslo, Norway

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ACADEMIC TEACHING AND SUPERVISION

GOETHE UNIVERSITY FRANKFURT – COURSES TAUGHT

Kant's Doctrine of Right (MA seminar)

Onora O'Neill's Political Philosophy (MA seminar)

Kant's Philosophy of History (BA seminar)

Enlightenment and Progress (BA seminar)

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE – COURSES TAUGHT

Wittgenstein on Rule Following (PhD seminar)

PASSAU UNIVERSITY – COURSES TAUGHT

History of Modern Political Thinking (lecture series)

TEACHING TRAINING

2021	Certificate “Gender-Diversity in Teaching,” Mentoring Hessen
2020 – present	Certificate “Teaching in Higher Education,” Goethe University Frankfurt
2015	Certificate “Teaching in Higher Education,” European University Institute, Florence

SUPERVISED THESES

2021	Maximilian Strietholt (M.A. Thesis Director, Goethe University Frankfurt)
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THIRD-PARTY FUNDS

- 2022 “Normativity and Transformation in Immanuel Kant’s Legal Philosophy,”
36 months, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft
- 2019 “Kantian Social Progress,” 24 months, Humboldt Postdoctoral Fellowship, Alex-
ander von Humboldt Foundation
I declined this fellowship in order to accept a position at ‘Normative Orders’

KANT'S TRIBUNAL OF REASON

Kant's Tribunal of Reason. Legal Metaphor and Normativity in the Critique of Pure Reason (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, February 2020, paperback edition, 2021).

Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason*, his main work of theoretical philosophy, frequently uses metaphors from law. In this first book-length study in English of Kant's legal metaphors and their role in the first Critique, Sofie Møller shows that they are central to Kant's account of reason. Through an analysis of the legal metaphors in their entirety, she demonstrates that Kant conceives of reason as having a structure mirroring that of a legal system in a natural right framework. Her study shows that Kant's aim is to make cognisers become similar to authorised judges within such a system, by proving the legitimacy of the laws and the conditions under which valid judgements can be pronounced. These elements consolidate her conclusion that reason's systematicity is legal systematicity.

Blurbs and reviews of *Kant's Tribunal of Reason*:

“The simplest objection to Kant's Critical project – the claim that reason cannot critique itself – is one that Kant himself not only anticipated but largely answered. Møller shows how Kant's extensive legal metaphors throughout the Critique of Pure Reason form a coherent whole intended to explain the basis of reason's self-critique. She provides the best explanation yet of how Kant defended his critical project, one that also reveals Kant's deep understanding of natural law theory.” Frederick Rauscher, Michigan State University

“Møller's book is a wonderful antidote to the sense one sometimes has, even when one reads Kant in the original, that one is still reading a slightly different and distant language.” – *Kantian Review*

“*Kant's Tribunal of Reason* develops an original perspective in the line of interpretation that encounters an intrinsically practical dimension inside Kant's theoretical philosophy, which has been defended by renowned interpreters over the last years.” *Revista de Estudios Kantianos* [my translation]

Look inside *Kant's Tribunal of Reason* on cambridge.org:

https://assets.cambridge.org/97811084/98494/frontmatter/9781108498494_frontmatter.pdf

KANT ON FREEDOM AND HUMAN NATURE – ESSAYS IN HONOR OF PAUL GUYER

Kant on Freedom and Human Nature – Essays in Honor of Paul Guyer, edited by Sofie Møller and Luigi Filieri (London: Routledge, under contract).

Introduction: Sofie Møller and Luigi Filieri

1. Allen Wood, “How Should a Kantian Think About Human Nature?”
2. Marcus Willaschek, “Does Kant Answer the Question ‘What is the Human Being?’”
3. Luigi Filieri, “Kant and the Moral Responsibility to be Human”
4. Sofie Møller, “What is Humanity?”

Sofie Møller: sofie.moeller@uni-koeln.de

5. Heiner F. Klemme, “From a Human Point of View: Kant on Why We Should Care About Our Reason”
6. Herlinde Pauer-Studer, “Kant’s Concept of Reflective Judgement: A Possible Solution to the Problem of Moral Relevance?”
7. Rolf-Peter Horstmann, “The Role of Imagination in Kant’s Aesthetic Theory”
8. Konstantin Pollok, “The Problem of Intersubjectivity in Kant’s Critical Philosophy”
9. Gabriele Gava, “Kant on Conviction and Persuasion”
10. Reed Winegar, “The Final End of Creation, the Ultimate End of Nature, and the Highest Good”
11. Rachel Zuckert, “Is Kant’s Philosophy of History a Natural History of the Human Species?”
12. Melissa Merritt, “Mendelssohn and Kant on Human Progress: A Neo-Stoic Debate”
13. Anne Pollok, “Does Art Form Us or Do We Form Art? Mendelssohn and Kant on the Impact of the Sublime, the Naïve, and the Ugly”

Postscript: Paul Guyer

(last updated, 16 August 2023)