

# ALEXANDER REISENBICHLER

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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### University of Toronto

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science	2025–present
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science	2017–2025
M.A. Program Director, Department of Political Science	2024–present
Research Director, Joint Initiative in German and European Studies (JIGES), Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy	2018–present

### Harvard University

John F. Kennedy Memorial Fellow, Center for European Studies	2021–2022
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## EDUCATION

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Ph.D., Political Science, George Washington University	2018
M.A., Political Science, George Washington University	2013
B.A., Social Sciences & Philosophy, University of Leipzig, Germany	2010

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Political Economy; Housing Policy; European Politics; Social Policy; Financial Markets; Labor Markets

## BOOK

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Alexander Reisenbichler. *Through the Roof: Housing, Capitalism, and the State in America and Germany* (Cambridge University Press, September 2025). Comparative Politics Series.

\* Coverage in [Deutsche Welle](#), [Die Zeit](#), [Frankfurter Rundschau](#), [Surplus Magazine](#)

## ACADEMIC ARTICLES (IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS)

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Alexander Reisenbichler and Kimberly J. Morgan. "From 'Sick Man' to 'Miracle': Explaining the Robustness of the German Labor Market During and After the Financial Crisis 2008-09." *Politics & Society* vol. 40 no. 4 (2012).

\* Coverage in the [Washington Post](#).

Alexander Reisenbichler. "The Domestic Sources and Power Dynamics of Regulatory Networks: Evidence from the Financial Stability Forum." *Review of International Political Economy* vol. 22 no. 5 (2015).

Alexander Reisenbichler. "The Politics of Quantitative Easing and Housing Stimulus by the Federal Reserve and the European Central Bank, 2008-2018." *West European Politics* vol. 43 no. 2 (2020).

\* Reprinted in: Alison Johnston & Paulette Kurzer, eds., *Bricks in the Wall: The Politics of Housing in Europe* (Routledge, 2021).

Kimberly J. Morgan and Alexander Reisenbichler. "Riding the Tiger: Managing Risk in U.S. Housing Finance and Health Insurance Welfare Markets." *Socio-Economic Review* vol. 20 no. 3 (2022).

Alexander Reisenbichler. "Entrenchment or Retrenchment: The Political Economy of Mortgage Debt Subsidies in the United States and Germany." *Comparative Politics* vol. 54 no. 4 (2022).

\* Winner, APSA Best Paper Award, European Politics & Society Section

Alexander Reisenbichler and Pascal König, "Cause for Celebration or Concern? Voter Reactions to Rising House Prices." *Comparative Political Studies* vol. 58 no. 7 (2025).

Alexander Reisenbichler and Pascal König, "Not So Different After All? Household Attitudes Toward Financialisation in Germany and the United Kingdom." *New Political Economy* (2025).

Pascal König, Sebastian Kohl, and Alexander Reisenbichler. "Housing and Party Politics in Germany and its Länder: The New Social Question?" *German Politics & Society* vol. 43 no. 2 (2025).

Randall Hansen and Alexander Reisenbichler. "From Merkelmania to Malaise: Germany in the Twilight of Atlanticism." *German Politics & Society* vol. 43 no. 2 (2025).

## SPECIAL ISSUE

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Alexander Reisenbichler (ed.), *Germany at a Turning Point: Political and Economic Challenges in Historical Perspective*, *German Politics & Society* vol. 43 no. 2 (2025).

## **OTHER PUBLICATIONS (BOOK CHAPTERS, POLICY ANALYSIS & BOOK REVIEWS)**

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Alexander Reisenbichler and Kimberly J. Morgan. “How Germany Won the Euro Crisis: And Why Its Gains Could Be Fleeting.” *Foreign Affairs*. Web. June 20, 2013.

Alexander Reisenbichler. “Safe as Houses: Comparing Housing Finance Policies in the U.S. and Germany.” *Transatlantic Perspectives*. Web. Johns Hopkins University: American Institute of Contemporary German Studies (AICGS). September 26, 2014.

Alexander Reisenbichler. Review of *The Political Construction of Business Interests: Coordination, Growth, and Equality* (Cambridge University Press, 2012) by Martin, Cathie Jo, and Duane Swank, in: *Perspectives on Politics* vol. 12 no. 4 (December 2014).

Alexander Reisenbichler and Kimberly J. Morgan. “The German Labor Market: No Longer the Sick Man of Europe.” In: Brigitte Unger (ed.), *The German Model: Seen by Its Neighbors* (London: Social Europe Publishing, 2015).

Alexander Reisenbichler. “A Rocky Path to Homeownership: Why Germany Eliminated Large-Scale Subsidies for Homeowners.” *Cityscape* vol. 18 no. 3 (2016).

Alexander Reisenbichler. “The Sustainability of Transatlantic Growth.” Web. *AICGS Notizen Blog*. Johns Hopkins University: American Institute of Contemporary German Studies (AICGS). December 7, 2016.

Alexander Reisenbichler. “American Capitalism in Comparative Perspective: Insights from the Politics of Housing Finance Markets.” *CP: Newsletter of the Comparative Politics Organized Section of the American Political Science Association* vol. 24 no. 1 (2019).

Alexander Reisenbichler. “Housing Finance Markets Between Social Welfare and Growth Strategies.” In: Anke Hassel and Bruno Palier, eds., *Growth and Welfare Reforms in Advanced Capitalist Economies: How Growth Regimes Evolve* (Oxford University Press, 2021).

Alexander Reisenbichler and Andreas Wiedemann. “Credit- and Consumption-led Growth Models in the U.S. and UK,” in: Lucio Baccaro, Mark Blyth, and Jonas Pontusson (eds.), *The New Politics of Growth and Stagnation* (Oxford University Press, 2022).

Alexander Reisenbichler. “How Germany’s Housing Crisis is Making Europe’s Sick Man Even Sicker,” *LSE EUROPP Blog*, October 31, 2025.

Alexander Reisenbichler. “Warum Deutschlands Wirtschaftsmodell von der Lösung der Wohnungskrise abhängt,” *Makronom*, November 6, 2025.

Alexander Reisenbichler, “Assessing the First Year of the Merz Government.” Web. Johns Hopkins University: American-German Institute (AGI). May 6, 2026.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

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Daniel Mertens and Alexander Reisenbichler, “Europe’s New Geoeconomic Cleavages: From Capitalist Diversity to International Vulnerability in European Political Economy.” *Revise & resubmit.*

Pascal König, Sebastian Kohl, and Alexander Reisenbichler, “Sub-National Variation in German Housing Politics.” *Under review.*

Pascal König, Sebastian Kohl, and Alexander Reisenbichler, “The Affordability-Climate Tradeoff in Housing Policy: Evidence from Germany and Its Länder.”

Sebastian Kohl and Alexander Reisenbichler. “Explaining Variation in Public Flood Insurance Programs for Homes in the United States and Germany.”

## AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

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UTM Annual Research Prize in the Social Sciences (CAD2,000)	2025
SSHRC Insight Development Grant (Principal Investigator, CAD65,000) <i>Housing, Climate Change, and Public Policy in the US and Germany</i>	2024-2026
Munk-Cambridge Visiting Fellowship, Cambridge University	May 2023
Visiting Scholarship, Center for European Studies, Harvard University * John F. Kennedy Memorial Fellowship	2021–2022
Research and Scholarly Activity Fund, UTM (CAD10,000)	2020
Research Grant, CERES, Munk School (CAD24,000)	2019
APSA Best Paper Award, European Politics & Society Section	2017
Hoffman Dissertation Fellowship, IERES, GWU	2016
Summer Dissertation Fellowship, GWU	2016
Council for European Studies (CES) Conference Travel Grant	2015
Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, Free University Berlin * Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies	2014–2015
Research Grant, Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy * Robert K. Merton Award	2014
DAAD/AICGS Research Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University	2014

Doctoral Student Fellowship, IERES, GWU	2013–2014
Visiting Scholar Grant, Max Planck Institute, Cologne	2011
Graduate Student Fellowship, GWU	2010–2017
DAAD Semester Grant, University of Miami	2008

#### **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

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“Housing: The Social Question of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century?” Annual Research Prize Award Ceremony, **University of Toronto Mississauga**, March 26, 2026.

Book talks: “Through the Roof: Housing, Capitalism, and the State in America and Germany,” **University of Regensburg**, June 24, 2025; **American-German Institute (AGI)**, webinar, November 12, 2025; **Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy**, November 21, 2025.

“Lessons from Germany’s housing market and policy,” School of Cities, **University of Toronto**, April 16, 2025.

“Housing and *Modell Deutschland* After Reunification,” Trinity Hall, **Cambridge University**, May 11, 2023.

“The Federal Reserve in the American Political Economy,” theme panelist, Annual Research Conference of the **Consortium on the American Political Economy**, August 1-3, 2022.

“Through the Roof: Housing, Capitalism, and the State in American and Germany,” New Research on Europe Seminar, Center for European Studies, **Harvard University**. May 23, 2022.

“Entrenchment or Retrenchment: The Political Economy of Mortgage Debt Subsidies in the United States and Germany.” Seminar on the State and Capitalism Since 1800. Center for European Studies, **Harvard University**. April 16, 2021.

“The Politics of Homeownership Subsidies in the United States and Germany.” **WZB Berlin Social Science Center**, Berlin, November 6, 2015.

“Safe as Houses: Comparing Housing Finance Policies in the United States and Germany.” American Institute for Contemporary German Studies, **Johns Hopkins University**, Washington, D.C., September 11, 2014.

“Whither Germany? Reflections on the German Election and Its Consequences for Europe.” Institute for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies, Elliott School of International Affairs, **George Washington University**, September 27, 2013.

## SELECT PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

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Panelist, “Canada-EU Roundtable,” panel discussion with EU Director-General for Trade Sabine Weyand, and Canada’s Deputy Minister of Trade Rob Stewart, and others, Toronto, March 4, 2026.

Podcast, *Cityspace by the Globe and Mail*. Season 5, Episode 2: “Is expropriation the solution to a housing crisis? The majority of Berliners think so.” February 2025.

Podcast, *The Rhodes Center Podcast with Mark Blyth*. Theme: “The New Politics of Growth and Stagnation (part 3): Houses, Micro States, Finance, Carbon.” With Mark Blyth (host), Alexander Reisenbichler, Aidan Regan, Oddný Helgadóttir, and Jonas Nahm, October 2023.

Moderator & introductory remarks, *Forged in Fire: The European Union in a World of Permacrisis*, lecture by Luxembourg’s Finance Minister Yuriko Backes, December 1, 2022.

Panelist, *30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of German Unity*, panel discussion with former Prime Minister of Canada, Brian Mulroney; Senator Ratna Omidvar; German Ambassador Sabine Sparwasser; Moderator: Peter Mansbridge, October 2, 2020.

Panelist, *Where Is the EU Headed?* Address by Volker Bouffier, Minister President of Hesse; followed by panel discussion with Randall Hansen, Carolina de Miguel Moyer, and Birgitta Wolff, July 10, 2019.

## ACADEMIC CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

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Discussant for panel on “Financial Systems and Social Citizenship in the American Political Economy,” at the **American Political Science Association Annual Meeting**, Philadelphia, September 4-8, 2024.

Discussant for panel on “Historical Developments of Political Economies,” at the **American Political Science Association Annual Meeting**, Philadelphia, September 4-8, 2024.

“Explaining Variation in Public Flood Insurance Programs for Homes in the United States and Germany” (with Sebastian Kohl), presenter at the **American Political Science Association Annual Meeting**, Philadelphia, September 4-8, 2024; presenter at the Political Development Workshop, University of Toronto, May 4-5, 2025.

Discussant for panel on “The Politics of Sustainable Finance,” at the **Council for European Studies Annual Meeting**, Lyon, July 3-5, 2024.

“Party Competition, House Prices, and Housing Policy: Evidence from German Federal and Regional Elections” (with Pascal König & Sebastian Kohl), presenter at the **Council for European Studies Annual Meeting**, Lyon, July 3-5, 2024.

Discussant at the Consortium on the American Political Economy – Junior Working Group, “Varieties of Crisis Response: Welfare Regimes and Emergency Spending on COVID-19,” presented by Angie Jo, November 15, 2023.

“European (Dis-)Unity in the New Geoeconomic Order: From Capitalist Diversity to International Vulnerability” (with Daniel Mertens), presenter at the **Council for European Studies Annual Meeting**, Reykjavik, June 27-29, 2023.

“Cause for Celebration or Concern? Voter Reactions to Rising House Prices” (with Pascal König), presenter at the **Council for European Studies Annual Meeting**, Reykjavik, June 27-29, 2023; presenter at the **American Political Science Association Annual Meeting**, Los Angeles, CA, September 2, 2023.

“Through the Roof: Housing, Capitalism, and the State in American and Germany,” presenter at the conference “A Fragile Hegemony: Germany in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” **Cambridge University**, October 20-22, 2022.

Chair for panel on “Germany and Beyond in Comparison” at the **Council for European Studies Annual Meeting**, Reykjavik (virtual), June 21-25, 2021.

“Governing Housing Finance: State Activism in America, Limited Government in Europe,” presenter at the **Council for European Studies Annual Meeting**, Reykjavik (virtual), June 21-25, 2021.

“Monetary Policy, Wage Bargaining, and Credit Regimes” (with Andreas Wiedemann), panel co-organizer & presenter at the **American Political Science Association Annual Meeting**, Washington, D.C., August 29-September 1, 2019; presented at the workshop “The New Politics of Growth and Stagnation” at **Brown University**, August 27-28, 2019.

Chair for panel at the workshop “The Politics Central Banks Make,” **University of Oxford**, February 21-22, 2019.

Chair for panel on “1968 and the End of Rhenish Capitalism: Left-Wing Anti-Capitalism and Long-Term Changes in the (West-)German Work Society,” at the **German Studies Association Annual Meeting**, Pittsburgh, PA, September 27-30, 2018.

“Riding the Tiger: Managing Risk in the U.S. Housing Finance and Health Insurance Welfare Markets” (with Kimberly J. Morgan), panel co-organizer, chair & presenter at the **American Political Science Association Annual Meeting**, Boston, MA, August 30-September 2, 2018; presented at the workshop “American Political Development & Social Policy,” **Northwestern University**, May 24, 2019.

Chair & discussant for panel on “Homes Alone: How Housing Markets Shape Welfare States and Welfare States Shape Housing,” at the **Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics Annual Meeting**, Kyoto, Japan, June 23-25, 2018.

“Entrenchment or Retrenchment: The Political Economy of Mortgage Debt Subsidies in the United States and Germany,” presented at the **American Political Science Association Annual Meeting**, Philadelphia, PA, September 1-4, 2016; at the Comparative Politics Workshop, **George Washington University**, December 16, 2016; at the **Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics Annual Meeting**, Lyon, France, June 29-July 1, 2017; presented at the **Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics Annual Meeting**, Kyoto, Japan, June 23-25, 2018; at the workshop “The Politics of Credit Markets” at the **University of Oxford**, May 9-11, 2019.

“The Politics of Quantitative Easing and Housing Stimulus by the Federal Reserve and the European Central Bank, 2008-2017,” presented at the **Council for European Studies Annual Meeting**, Chicago, March 28-30, 2018.

Discussant at the Comparative Politics Workshop, “Does Democracy Promote Capital Account Liberalization,” presented by David Steinberg, **George Washington University**, January 19, 2017.

“Tax Breaks on the Chopping Block: Explaining Path Shifting of Homeownership Subsidies in Germany,” presented at the Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies Colloquium, **Free University Berlin**, June 2, 2015; at the **Council for European Studies Annual Meeting**, Paris, July 8-10, 2015; at the workshop “Fiscal Welfare in Europe,” **Sciences Po**, Paris, May 26-27, 2016.

“Subsidizing Homeowners or Renters? Federalism and the Politics of Large-Scale Social Housing Programs in Germany,” presented at **Council for European Studies Annual Meeting**, Philadelphia, PA, April 14-16, 2016.

Discussant for a panel on “Finance and Monetary Policy” at the workshop, “Transnational Relations and the Transatlantic Relationship,” **Georgetown University**, February 4-5, 2016.

Roundtable participant on “Varieties of Euroskepticism” at the **Council for European Studies Annual Meeting**, Paris, July 8-10, 2015.

Moderator for a panel on “Civil Disobedience in West Germany” at the Berlin Program Workshop, “Violence, Oppression, and Civil Disobedience: From the Cold War Past to the Neoliberal Present,” **Free University Berlin**, June 18-19, 2015.

“Pump It Up: What Drives Housing Finance Policy in the United States?” Presented at the **American Political Science Association Annual Meeting**, Washington, D.C., August 28-31, 2014.

“The Domestic Sources and Power Dynamics of Regulatory Networks: Evidence from the Financial Stability Forum,” presented at the **Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics Annual Meeting**, Cambridge, MA, June 28-30, 2012; at the Comparative Politics Workshop, **George Washington University**, December 6, 2013.

“From Sick Man to Miracle: Explaining the Robustness of the German Labor Market During and After the Financial Crisis 2008-09,” with Kimberly J. Morgan, presented at the workshop, “Germany and the Financial Crisis,” **Georgetown University**, December 3-4, 2010; at the **NordWel Summer School**, “State, Society, and Citizen,” Sigtuna, Sweden, August 21-26, 2011; at the **American Political Science Association Annual Meeting**, Seattle, WA, September 1-4, 2011; at the workshop, “Varieties of Capitalism and Varieties of Responses to the European Crisis,” **University of Denver & University of Colorado Boulder**, June 1-2, 2012.

Discussant at the European Politics Speaker Series, “Global Crisis, European Cooperation, and the Political Economy of National Unity in Modern Greece,” presented by Orfeo Fioretos, Institute for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies, **George Washington University**, November 10, 2011.

## TEACHING

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### University of Toronto

UTM campus:

- POL112H: Democracy in Theory and Practice (undergraduate)
- POL218H: Introduction to Comparative Politics (undergraduate)
- POL302Y: Politics of Western Europe and the European Union (undergraduate)
- POL313H: European Politics I (undergraduate)
- POL314H: European Politics II (undergraduate)

St. George campus:

- POL438H/POL2321H: Political Economy of Europe (graduate/undergraduate)
- POL2780H: Housing, capitalism, and climate change in advanced democracies (graduate)

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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Referee, *American Political Science Review*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Electoral Studies*, *European Journal of Political Research*, *European Political Science Review*, *German Politics*, *International Journal of Housing Policy*, *Journal of International and Comparative Social Policy*, *New Political Economy*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Regulation & Governance*, *Review of International Political Economy*, *Socio-Economic Review*, *World Politics*, W.W. Norton.

Last updated: May 8, 2026.