

## Author biographies

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**Aleo Susan Arndt** is a professor for English literature and Intersectionality Studies – and spokesperson of the Doctoral College for Intersectionality Studies at Universität Bayreuth. Pillaring on the agenda of political intersectionality, they have worked on the history of racism as white supremacy as well as sexism as heteronormative patriarchal supremacy.

**Arash Beidollahkhani** holds a Ph.D. in Political Science and is a Research Fellow at the Global Development Institute, University of Manchester. His research interests focus on Middle Eastern politics and society, as well as the political sociology of non-democratic and authoritarian regimes in the Middle East and Central Asia. He is also affiliated research fellow at the Hannah Arendt Institute for Totalitarianism Studies, TU Dresden.

**Safia Dahani** is a political scientist and sociologist. Postdoctoral researcher at Sciences Po Paris (CSO), she obtained her PhD in political science from Sciences Po Toulouse. For the past ten years, her research has focused on the sociology of political parties, political professionals, and political behavior on the far right.

**Konrad Moussa Ibrahima Erben** holds a B.A. in Social Work and an M.A. in International Criminology. He is currently a lecturer at the Department of Social Work, Ernst Abbe University of Applied Sciences in Jena. His research interests are intersections of race, gender and class in the construction, perception and prosecution of crime, as well as political radicalization. He is also an active field social worker in the area of child welfare in the city of Hamburg.

**Guillermo Fernández-Vázquez** holds a PhD in Political Science and teaches at Carlos III University in Madrid. His work focuses on Europe's radical right, with particular attention to the cases of France, Spain, and Italy. He has written extensively on the political agendas and strategies of these movements and is the author of a

monograph on France's Rassemblement National. He also contributes regularly to Spanish media.

**Tobias Ginsburg** is a writer, journalist, and theater director. For his research, he goes undercover in fanatical and extremist movements. Among other, he lived amid Neonazis, conspiracy theorists, and in a cult, infiltrated militant settlers, Alt-Right activists and an international network of influential clerical fascists. His books *Die Reise ins Reich. Unter Reichsbürgern, Rechtsextremisten und anderen Verschwörungstheoretikern* (Journey to the Reich: Among Reichsbürger, Neonazis, and Other Conspiracy Theorists, 2018/2021) and *Die letzten Männer des Westens. Antifeministen, rechte Männerbünde und die Krieger des Patriarchats* (The Last Men of the West: Anti-Feminists, Right-Wing Men's Groups, and the Warriors of Patriarchy, 2021) were published with Rowohlt. His new book, *Nie Wieder und andere Lügen. Unter neuen Faschisten und vergesslichen Deutschen* (Never Again and Other Lies: Among New Fascists and Forgetful Germans), will be published in early 2026.

**Puja Kaur Matta** is a doctoral researcher at the Doctoral College of Intersectionality Studies and the Institute for Religious Studies at the University of Bayreuth. Trained as an ethnographer, Puja Kaur takes a transdisciplinary and intersectional approach to research. Their current project focuses on Afghan Sikh and Hindu communities who have experienced religious discrimination in Afghanistan and continue to navigate questions of belonging, memory, and identity in the diaspora, particularly in Germany. The research explores how religious practices, displacement, and embodied memory shape everyday life and communal continuity across borders.

**Ruby Rebelde** is sex worker and author in Hamburg. Ruby published her book “Why they hate us – sexworkphobia” (Edition Assemblage) in May 2025 to counter resentment and discrimination against sex workers with analysis and a call for solidarity. Since 2021 Ruby monitors networks, strategies and ideologies of anti sex work-alliances in Germany and Europe, with a special focus on the intersection between the far right, Christian right and the reactionary part of the international women's rights movement. Ruby is co-founder of FundiWatch, an interdisciplinary research collective on Christian Fundamentalism.

**Mario Faust-Scalisi** is a postdoctoral researcher at and coordinator of the Doctoral College for Intersectionality Studies at Universität Bayreuth. Academic work focusses on comic studies and activism, civil society activism, minorities, queer studies and activism and intersectionality with works on Europe, the Americas and beyond.

**Natascha Strobl** studied Scandinavian Studies and Political Science in Bergen, Norway, and at the University of Vienna. She is a political scientist and journalist and is considered an expert on right-wing extremism and the New Right. She writes for newspapers including Der Standard, Zeit online and taz and for Momentum Institute publications. Recipient of the Bruno Kreisky Prize for the Political Book 2021.

**Daniel Trilling** is a journalist who has been writing about the far right in Britain and elsewhere since 2009. He is the author of books including “Bloody Nasty People: The Rise of Britain’s far right” (Verso, 2012). This is an expanded version of a piece originally published in the “London Review of Books” (Trilling, D., 2024, 06. August. This time it’s worse. London Review of Books. <https://www.lrb.co.uk/blog/2024/august/this-time-it-s-worse>).

## Editorial

Authoritarian political projects are gaining immense popularity. Right-wing movements instrumentalize societal insecurities triggered by multiple crises in order to increase existing social polarization. They stage identitarian communities as the answer to complex global problems – provocation, deception, intimidation, violence and terror are the means of their politics. With our series **Right-Wing Extremism and Populism**, we provide an editorial space for research that analyzes the ideology and composition of the right-wing spectrum and highlights threats to the liberal and democratic society from authoritarian forces. Its main foci are the intertwining of culture and politics, of economy and social structure, media and language as well as the regional and global references of the far right and its historical predecessors.

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