

Sascha Riaz

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Academic Appointments

European University Institute

Peter Mair Assistant Professor in Comparative Politics, 09/2024–present

Nuffield College, University of Oxford

Postdoctoral Prize Research Fellow in Politics, 11/2022–08/2024
Associate Member, 09/2024–present

Education

Harvard University

Ph.D. Government, 2022
M.A. Statistics, 2020

Freie Universität Berlin

M.A. International Relations, 2017
B.A. Political Science, 2014

Publications

15. **Shielding Voters? How Partisanship Shapes the Placement of Refugee Housing Facilities** (with Jeremy Ferwerda). Forthcoming, *Journal of Politics*.
14. **Limited Backlash? Assessing the Geographic Scope of Electoral Responses to Refugees** (with Jeremy Ferwerda). Conditionally accepted, *Political Science Research and Methods*.
13. **Racial Threat in Public Social Spaces** (with Tobias Roemer). Forthcoming, *Journal of Politics*.
12. **Anti-immigrant Bias in the Choice between Punitive and Rehabilitative Justice** (with Maik Hamjediers). Forthcoming, *British Journal of Political Science*.
11. **The Gendered Persistence of Authoritarian Indoctrination** (with Daniel Ziblatt, Hanno Hilbig, and Nourhan Elsayed). Forthcoming, *British Journal of Political Science*.
10. **Do Autocrats Respond to Citizen Demands? Petitions and Housing Construction in the GDR** (with Hans Lueders and Hanno Hilbig). Forthcoming, *Comparative Political Studies*.

9. **After the Genocide: Proximity to Victims and Support for Punishing Ingroup Crimes** (with Volha Charnysh). Forthcoming, *Comparative Political Studies*.
8. **Out-group Threat and Xenophobic Hate Crimes** (with Daniel Bischof and Markus Wagner). *Journal of Politics*, 86(4): 1147–1161.
7. **Local Newspaper Decline and Political Polarization – Evidence from a Multi-Party Setting** (with Fabio Ellger, Hanno Hilbig, and Philipp Tillmann). *British Journal of Political Science*, 54(4): 1256–1275.
6. **War and Nationalism: How WWI Battle Deaths Fueled Civilians’ Support for the Nazi Party** (with Felix Haass, Alexander De Juan, Carlo Koos, and Thomas Tichelbaecker). *American Political Science Review*, 118(1): 144–162. *Honorable Mention for APSA Democracy & Autocracy section Best Article Award*.
5. **Natural Disasters and Green Party Support** (with Hanno Hilbig). *Journal of Politics*, 86(1): 241–256.
4. **Does Inequality Foster Xenophobia? Evidence from the German Refugee Crisis**. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 50(2): 359–378.
3. **Refugee Labor Market Access Increases Support for Immigration** (with Anselm Hager and Hanno Hilbig). *Comparative Political Studies*, 57(5): 749–777.
2. **Local News Monopolies Increase Misperceptions about Immigration** (with Hanno Hilbig). *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 49(17): 4536–4558.
1. **Freedom of Movement Restrictions Inhibit the Psychological Integration of Refugees** (with Hanno Hilbig). *Journal of Politics*, 84(4): 2288–2293.

Working Papers

- **Revisiting History, Reshaping Memory: The Effects of Confronting Ingroup Atrocities** (with Alexander De Juan, Julian Voß, and Anton Peez). R&R, *American Journal of Political Science*.
- **Type I Error Inflation in Unexpected Event During Survey Designs** (with Joris Frese).
- **Null by Design: Statistical Dilution in Immigration–Crime Research**.
- **Experimental Evidence on the (Limited) Influence of Reputable Media Outlets** (with Gary King, Bharat Anand, and Kiran Misra).
- **Regime Loyalty During Wartime – Evidence from Nazi Germany** (with Alexander De Juan, Felix Haass, and Julian Voß).

Work in Progress

- **The Police as Gatekeepers of Information: Immigration Salience and Selective Crime Reporting** (with Ashrakat Elshehawy, Violeta Haas, Arun Frey, and Tobias Roemer)
- **Healing Democracy: Psychological Distress, Democratic Erosion, and the Promise of AI-Based Therapy** (with Chagai Weiss)
- **Mitigating the Rural-Urban Political Divide through Public Transport Investment** (with Alex Duni and Givi Silagadze)
- **Ethnic Diversity and Team Performance: Evidence from Amateur Football** (with Heike Klüver and Maurice Baudet von Gersdorff)

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

RESEARCH GRANTS

Institute for Humane Studies Research Grant (\$ 30,000), 2025
EUI Research Council Grant (€ 9,430), 2025
Oxford University Press John Fell Fund (£ 10,000), 2023
Oxford DPIR Research Support Fund (£ 1,700), 2023
Nuffield College Research Grant (£ 7,000), 2023
Oxford Social Science Division Researcher Support Fund (£ 500), 2023
Weatherhead Center for International Affairs graduate research grants (\$ 16,855 in total), 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
Institute for Quantitative Social Science graduate research grants (\$ 7,150 in total), 2019, 2020, 2021

FELLOWSHIPS

Dartmouth College Harris Distinguished Visiting Professorship (\$ 22,000, *declined*), 2025
Civica Faculty Travel Grants to visit IE University and Hertie School Berlin (€ 1,793), 2025
OX|BER Early Career Researcher Mobility Grant (€ 6,850), 2022, 2023
Krupp Foundation Dissertation Research Fellowship (\$ 29,000), 2020–2021
Weatherhead Center for International Affairs dissertation writing grant (\$ 14,500, *declined*), 2020–2021
Harvard Graduate Society Predissertation Fellowship (\$ 3,000), 2020
Harvard Immigration Initiative Fellowship (\$ 5,000), 2020–2021
Institute for Humane Studies Fellowship (\$ 24,000), 2019–2022
Oskar Morgenstern Fellowship, Mercatus Center (\$ 7,250), 2018–2020
Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Ph.D. Fellowship (~ \$ 300,000), 2017–2022
German Academic Scholarship Foundation (Studienstiftung), 2014–2017

AWARDS

Harvard Bok Center Award for Distinction and Excellence in Teaching, 2019, 2020

Teaching

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE

Causal Inference (graduate)
Comparative Politics Field Seminar (graduate)

OXFORD UNIVERSITY

Causal Inference (graduate)

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Quantitative Social Science Methods I (graduate; TA for Gary King)
Data (undergraduate; TA for David Kane)

Service

EUI Comparative Politics Seminar Series (co-organizer), 2024–present
EUI Political Economy Applied Research Lab (co-organizer), 2025–present

EUI Ethics Committee, 2024–present
EUI Working Group on External Relations and Partnerships, 2025
EUI Departmental ECPR Jean Blondell Prize Nomination Committee, 2025

Conferences, Workshops, and Invited Talks

- 2025:** IE University Madrid; PolMeth Europe 2025 (LSE); Political Behaviour and Institutions Conference (CEU, Vienna); Aarhus University; Large Language Models (pre-EPISA) Workshop; EPISA; WZB Junior Scholars Workshop; University of Mannheim; University of Münster; University of Oxford; Hertie School Berlin.
- 2024:** New York University Abu Dhabi; Yale–Barcelona Historical Political Economy Workshop; IAST–Oxford–Sciences Po Political Economy Conference; CP & Political Economy Workshop (King’s College London); University College London Migration Cluster Research Seminar; DVPW Convention; EPISA.
- 2023:** PolMeth Europe; ZEW–ifo Political Economy Workshop; QPE Brownbag Seminar (King’s College London); EPISA; WZB Berlin IPI/TD Brownbag Seminar; Challenging Inequalities Workshop (University of Konstanz); Humboldt University Politics Lecture Series; American University; University of Texas at Austin; University of Southern California; European University Institute.
- 2022:** EPISA; EuroWEPS; Inequality Conference (University of Konstanz); Political Violence and Democratic Backsliding Conference (WZB Berlin).
- 2018–2021:** EPISA; APSA; EuroWEPS; NEWEPS; Asian PolMeth (Doshisha University, Kyoto); Kiel Institute for the World Economy (IfW) Brownbag Seminar; External Democracy Promotion Workshop (Leuphana University).

Academic Visits & Affiliations

Hertie School Berlin (CIVICA Faculty Visit), 2025
IE University (CIVICA Faculty Visit), 2025
Nuffield College, University of Oxford (Associate Member), 2024–present
WZB Berlin Social Science Center (Visiting Researcher), 2020–2022
Harvard Weatherhead Center for International Affairs (Graduate Student Affiliate), 2019–2022
Harvard Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies (Graduate Student Affiliate), 2019–2022
Harvard Institute for Quantitative Social Science (Graduate Student Affiliate), 2018–2022
German Institute for Global and International Studies (Visiting Researcher), 2018
Duke University, Department of Political Science (Visiting Graduate Student), 2015–2016