

Benjamin Braun

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Academic appointments

<i>LSE</i> , European Institute: Assistant professor of political economy	From Sept. 2024
<i>Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies</i> : Senior researcher	Since 2016
<i>Institute for Advanced Study</i> , Princeton: Member, School of Social Science	2019-2020
<i>Harvard University</i> , Cambridge: JFK Memorial Fellow, Center for European Studies	2016-2017
<i>Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies</i> : Postdoctoral fellow	2014-2016

Academic and professional affiliations

Hertie School, Fellow

Dezernat Zukunft, Policy fellow with the European Macro Policy Network (EMPN)

Education

<i>University of Warwick</i> & <i>Université Libre de Bruxelles</i> , Ph.D.	2014
<i>University of Munich</i> , Diplom (B.A. + M.A.) Economics	2010
<i>University of Munich</i> , Magister Artium (B.A. + M.A.) Political science	2009

Publications

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2024 | [Structure, agency, and structural reform: The case of the European Central Bank](#). (with D. Di Carlo, S. Diessner and M. Düsterhöft). *Perspectives on Politics*, Advance Online Publication.
- 2024 | [Asset manager capitalism: An introduction to its political economy and economic geography](#) (with B. Christophers). *Environment and Planning A: Economy and Space*, 56(2), 546-557. Introduction to the theme issue 'Taking stock of asset manager capitalism'.
- 2023 | [Firm foundations: The statistical footprint of multinational corporations as a problem for political economy](#) (with T. Ergen & S. Kohl). *Competition & Change*, 27(1), 44-73.
- 2022 | [Exit, Control, and Politics: Structural Power and Corporate Governance under Asset Manager Capitalism](#). *Politics & Society*, 50(4), 630-654.
- 2022 | [Planning laissez-faire: Supranational central banking and structural reforms](#) (with D. Di Carlo & S. Diessner). *Zeitschrift Für Politikwissenschaft*, 32(3), 707-716.
- 2022 | [Fueling financialization: The economic consequences of funded pension](#), *New Labor Forum*, 31(1), 70-79.
- 2021 | [Financial globalization as positive integration: monetary technocrats and the Eurodollar market in the 1970s](#) (with Arie Krampf and Steffen Murau), *Review of International Political Economy*, 28(4), 794-819.

- 2020 | [Central banking and the infrastructural power of finance: The case of ECB support for repo and securitization markets](#), *Socio-Economic Review*, 18(2), 395–418.
- 2020 | [Strong firms, weak banks: The financial consequences of Germany’s export-led growth model](#) (with Richard Deeg), *German Politics*, 29(3), 358-381.
- 2019 | [Rethinking agency in International Relations: Performativity, performances, and actor-networks](#) (with Sebastian Schindler & Tobias Wille), *Journal of International Relations and Development*, 22, 787-807.
- 2018 | [Governing through financial markets: Towards a critical political economy of Capital Markets Union](#) (with Daniela Gabor & Marina Hübner), *Competition & Change*, 22(2), 101-116.
- 2018 | [Fiscal fault, financial fix? Capital Markets Union and the quest for macroeconomic stabilization in the euro area](#) (with Marina Hübner), *Competition & Change*, 22(2), 117–138.
- 2016 | [Speaking to the People? Money, Trust, and Central Bank Legitimacy in the Age of Quantitative Easing](#), *Review of International Political Economy*, 23(6), 1064-1092.
- 2016 | [From Performativity to Political Economy: Index Investing, ETFs, and Asset Manager Capitalism](#), *New Political Economy*, 21(3), 257-273.
- 2016 | [Gross, Greed, and ETFs: The Case for a Micro-Founded Political Economy of the Investment Chain](#), *Economic Sociology: European Electronic Newsletter*, 17(3), 6-13.
- 2015 | [Governing the Future: The European Central Bank’s Expectation Management During the Great Moderation](#), *Economy and Society*, 44(3), 367-391.
- 2015 | [Preparedness, Crisis Management and Policy Change: The Euro Area at the Critical Juncture of 2008–2013](#), *British Journal of Politics and International Relations*, 17(3), 419-441.
- 2014 | [Why Models Matter: The Making and Unmaking of Governability in Macroeconomic Discourse](#), *Journal of Critical Globalisation Studies*, 7 (2014), 48-79.

EDITED VOLUMES

- 2022 | [Capital claims: The power of global finance](#). Edited with Kai Koddenbrock. Routledge.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- 2022 | [The three phases of financial power: Leverage, infrastructure, and enforcement](#) (with Kai Koddenbrock). In *Capital claims: The power of global finance*. Edited by B. Braun and K. Koddenbrock. Routledge.
- 2022 | [Zentralbanken, \(De-\) Kommodifizierung und \(De-\) Globalisierung](#). In *De-Globalisierung: Forschungsstand und Perspektiven*, edited by S. Schirm, A. Busch, S. Lütz, S. Walter, and K. Zimmermann. Nomos.
- 2021 | [American asset manager capitalism as a corporate governance regime](#). In: *The American Political Economy: Politics, Markets, and Power*, edited by J. Hacker, A. Hertel-Fernandez, P. Pierson, & K. Thelen. Cambridge University Press.
- 2021 | [Central bank planning for social purpose](#). In: *Pandemic Exposures Economy and Society in the Time of Coronavirus*, edited by D. Fassin & M. Fourcade. HAU Books.
- 2020 | [Central banking, shadow banking, and infrastructural power](#) (with Daniela Gabor). In: *International Handbook of Financialization*, edited by P. Mader, D. Mertens, and N.v.d. Zwan. Routledge.

2018 | [Central bank planning? Unconventional monetary policy and the price of bending the yield curve](#). In: *Uncertain Futures: Imaginaries, Narratives, and Calculation in the Economy*, edited by J. Beckert and R. Bronk. Oxford University Press.

POLICY REPORTS

2021 | [Under new management: Share ownership and the growth of UK asset manager capitalism](#) (with Adrienne Buller). London: *Common Wealth*.

2021 | [Central banking beyond inflation](#). Berlin: *Finanzwende & Heinrich Böll Stiftung*.

2020 | [Against amnesia: Re-imagining central banking](#) (with Leah Downey). Zurich: Council on Economic Policies.

2019 | [Vanishing Act: The Eurogroup's Accountability](#). Brussels: *Transparency International EU*.

2017 | [Two sides of the same coin? Independence and accountability of the European Central Bank](#). Brussels: *Transparency International EU*.

MEDIA: SELECTED WRITING & INTERVIEWS

[Interview about the pillars of post-neoliberal finance](#). 2023. The Syllabus.

[Interview about pension funds and financialization](#). 2023. Follow the Money.

[Interview about monetary policy and finance](#). 2022. Tercera Dosis.

Braun, B. and A. Buller. 2021. [Titans: Tracing the rise and the politics of asset manager capitalism](#), Phenomenal World.

Lemoine, B., E. Monnet and B. Braun. 2021. [Beware the low-hanging fruit](#), IPS Journal.

Braun, B. and P. Sigl-Glöckner. 2020. [Die Finanzialisierung der Pflege](#), Makronom.

Braun, B. 2020. [Socialize central bank planning](#). Progressive International.

Braun, B., D. Gabor and B. Lemoine. 2020. [Enlarging the ECB mandate for the common good and the planet](#), Social Europe.

Braun, B. 2018. [Wie kommt das Geld in die Welt?](#) Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung.

Braun, B. 2018. [How central bankers shape financial markets](#). Financial Times.

Honors and Prizes

Member of the *Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton*, School of Social Science 2019-20

Best Journal Article Prize, *Society of Friends and Former Associates of the MPIfG* 2018

John F. Kennedy Memorial Fellowship, Center for European Studies, *Harvard University* 2016-17

Sir Walter Bagehot Best Dissertation Prize, awarded by the *Political Studies Association* 2016

Erasmus Mundus Joint Doctorate Fellowship, *European Research Council* 2011-14

Fellow of the *German National Academic Foundation* ('Studienstiftung') 2005-09

Funded Research Projects

'Central banking in hard times: Knowledge, legitimacy, and politics' (KNOWLEGPO), *German Research Foundation* (DFG). Duration: 2023-2026. Amount: €370,875.

Co-coordinator, with Kai Koddenbrock, of the research network 'Politics of Money', *German Research Foundation* (DFG). Duration: 2018-2021.

Teaching

HERTIE SCHOOL OF GOVERNANCE BERLIN, PUBLIC POLICY

International Political Economy of Money and Finance; M.A. Spring 2022 & 2023

UNIVERSITY OF COLOGNE, SOCIOLOGY

Economic Institutions and Organizations; M.A. Fall 2020

GOETHE UNIVERSITY FRANKFURT, POLITICAL SCIENCE

The Political Economy of Financial Markets and Financialization; M.A. Spring 2018

ZEPPELIN UNIVERSITY FRIEDRICHSHAFEN, SOCIAL SCIENCE

History of Economic Thought; B.A. Fall 2011 & 2012, Spring 2012 & 2013

LUDWIG MAXIMILIAN UNIVERSITY MUNICH, POLITICAL SCIENCE

Introduction to Comparative Political Economy; B.A. Spring 2011

Constructivist International Political Economy; B.A. & M.A. Spring 2010 & 2011

The state-market relationship in economic theory and practice; B.A. & M.A. Spring 2010 & 2011

Talks and presentations

CONFERENCE KEYNOTES

Monetary innovations and reconfigurations, MSH Paris Nord, Paris, 21 October 2021

INVITED TALKS

University of Geneva, Political Economy Seminar, 10 October 2023

Copenhagen Business School, Political Economy Group, 16 November 2022

UCL, Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose, London, 19 October 2022

UCLA, Center for Social Theory and Comparative History, webinar, 9 May 2022

Hertie School, Work, Economy & Social Policy Group, 10 March 2022

Cambridge University, Cambridge Society for Economic Pluralism, webinar, 8 December 2021

Goethe University Frankfurt, LawFin Research Seminar, webinar, 13 September 2021

University Duisburg-Essen, Institute for Socio-Economics, webinar, 23 June 2021

Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals, webinar, 16 November 2020

Sciences Po Paris, Centre for European Studies and Comparative Politics, webinar, 3 November 2020

University of California, Berkeley, Inaugural summer school in 'American Political Economy', convened by J. Hacker, A. Hertel-Fernandez, P. Pierson and K. Thelen, webinar, 11 August 2020

George Washington University, Institute for International Economic Policy, Lecture Series 'Facing Inequality', webinar, 1 July 2020

Columbia University, Department of Sociology, Science, Knowledge, and Technology Workshop, New York, 20 November 2019

Harvard University, Center for European Studies, Seminar on the State and Capitalism Since 1800, Cambridge, 4 October 2019

Berlin Social Science Center (WZB), Lecture Series 'Great Crisis of Capitalism – A Second Great Transformation?', Berlin, 13 December 2018

PUBLIC & POLICY TALKS

Forschungsnetzwerk Alterssicherung, annual research conference, 1 February 2024

European Commission, DG FISMA, webinar, 20 October 2022

Deutsche Rentenversicherung, webinar, 9 March 2022

German Trade Union Association, webinar, 22 September 2021

Finanzwende & Heinrich Böll Foundation, 5 February 2021

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (SELECTION)

Central banking and its discontents, *Heinrich Böll Stiftung*, Berlin, 11-13 July 2022

Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, Amsterdam, 9-11 July 2022

Beyond normal central banking, *University of Ghent*, 25-26 May 2022

Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, online, 19 July 2021

Council for European Studies, online, 21 June 2021

Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, online, 19 July 2020

Corporate Governance in the Era of Digital Capitalism, *Brown University*, Providence, 1 November 2019

Council for European Studies, Madrid, 20-22 June 2019

'Accumulating capital', *Dauphine University*, Paris, 6-7 June 2019

'Frontiers of accumulation', *Copenhagen University*, 13-14 May 2019

'The political economy of American capitalism', *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*, Cambridge, 3-4 May 2019

'Futures of Finance and Society', *University of Edinburgh*, 6-7 December 2018

Deutsche Vereinigung für Politikwissenschaft Bi-Annual Conference, Frankfurt, 26-28 September 2018

'FINGEO Global Seminar: European Spaces of Financialization', *Vrije Universiteit Brussel*, 28-29 May 2018

‘The European political economy of finance’, *LSE*, London 24-25 May 2018
Council for European Studies, Chicago, 28-30 March 2018
‘Intersections of Finance and Society’, *City University London*, 2-3 November 2017
‘Transformations in Global Economic Governance’, *University of Cambridge*, 28-29 September 2017
‘Geographies of Markets/Marketization’, *Karl Polanyi Institute, Concordia University*, Montreal, 15-17 June 2017
PPE Society, New Orleans, LA, 16-18 March 2017
International Studies Association, Baltimore, 22-25 February 2017
Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, Berkeley, CA, 24-26 June 2016
European Consortium for Political Research Joint Sessions, Pisa, 25-27 March 2016
International Studies Association, Atlanta, 16-19 March 2016
Council for European Studies, Paris, 8-10 July 2015
International Studies Association, San Francisco, 3-6 April 2013
European Consortium for Political Research Joint Sessions, Antwerp, 10-15 April 2012

Workshops Organized

‘The Political Economy of Wealth’, MPI for the Study of Societies, Cologne, 22-23 November 2023 (with J. Beckert).
‘The Politics of Central Banking’, MPI for the Study of Societies, Cologne, 1-2 June 2023 (with B. Bremer).
‘Managing Wealth: The political economy of institutional capital pools’, MPI for the Study of Societies, Cologne, 13-14 January 2022 (with S. Kohl)
‘Investment chain developments and the political economy of corporate governance’, MPI for the Study of Societies, Cologne, 25-26 July 2019
‘The evolving ecology of the financial system’, MPI for the Study of Societies, Cologne, 16-17 June 2019 (with K. Koddenbrock)
‘Studying the Politics of Money through Balance Sheets’, Hamburger Institut für Sozialforschung, 22-23 November 2018 (with A. Saar & K. Koddenbrock)
‘Governing through financial markets: The European Capital Markets Union’, MPI for the Study of Societies, Cologne, 8-9 June 2017 (with D. Gabor & M. Hübner)
‘Financial Innovation, Diffusion and Institutionalization: The Case of Securitization’, MPI for the Study of Societies, 9-10 June 2016 (with T.V. Gunten & M. Hübner)
‘Performativity and agency in international politics’, Frankfurt University, 21-22 February 2014 (with S. Schindler & T. Wille)

Committee Work

Chair of the professional development committee, MPIfG (2020 - 2024)
Deputy chair of the publication committee, MPIfG (2018 - 2022)

Editorial Positions

Competition and Change, editorial board (2021 -)

Finance and Society, editorial advisory board, (2021 -)

Referee

American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, Business and Politics, Cambridge Review of International Affairs, Comparative Political Studies, Competition and Change, Economy and Society, Environment and Planning A: Economy & Space, European Journal of International Relations, European Journal of Sociology, Finance and Society, Governance, Journal of Common Market Studies, Journal of European Public Policy, Kölner Zeitschrift für Soziologie und Sozialpsychologie, New Political Economy, Organization Science, Perspectives on Politics, Politische Vierteljahresschrift, Regulation & Governance, Review of International Political Economy, Socio-Economic Review, World Politics, Zeitschrift für internationale Beziehungen

Languages

German (native),

French (speaking: ●●● reading: ●●● writing: ●●●),

Spanish (speaking: ●●● reading: ●●● writing: ●●●))

Coding

R, Quarto, LaTeX