

Timo Seidl

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Theoretical: Institutional Political Economy, Politics of Public Policymaking, Ideational Approaches

Substantive: Technological Change, European Integration, Industrial Policy, Geopolitics

Methodological: Multi-Method Approaches, Computational Text Analysis, Discourse Network Analysis

CURRENT POSITION

Technical University of Munich, School of Politics and Public Policy

Assistant Professor

2025-

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

University of Vienna, Department of Political Science

Post-Doctoral Researcher

2021-2025

WZB Berlin

Visiting Researcher (1 month)

2023

Alexander von Humboldt Institute for Internet and Society

Visiting Researcher (4 months)

2020

Humboldt University Berlin

Visiting Researcher (5 months)

2020

EDUCATION

European University Institute

PhD in Political and Social Sciences

Thesis: Ideas, Politics, and Technological Change: Essays on the Comparative Political Economy of Digital Capitalism

2017-2021

Committee: Dorothee Bohle, Anton Hemerijck, Anke Hassel, Andrea Herrmann

European University Institute

Master of Research

2018

Goethe University of Frankfurt

Master of Arts, Sociology (final grade: 1.0)

2015-2017

University of Toronto

Semester abroad

2016

University of Augsburg

Bachelor of Arts, Social Sciences (final grade: 1.14)

2011-2015

University of Oslo

Semester abroad

2014

March 2025

1/8

Journal Articles

- Schmitz, L., **Seidl, T.**, & Wuttke, T. (2025). The costs of conditionality. IPCEIs and the constrained politics of EU industrial policy. *Competition & Change*, 1–25. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10245294251320675>
- Nachtwey, O., & **Seidl, T.** (2024). The Solutionist Ethic and the Spirit of Digital Capitalism. *Theory, Culture & Society*, 41(2), 91–112. <https://doi.org/10.1177/02632764231196829>
- Seidl, T.**, & Schmitz, L. (2024). Moving on to not fall behind? Technological sovereignty and the ‘geo-dirigiste’ turn in EU industrial policy. *Journal of European Public Policy*, 31(8), 2147–2174. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13501763.2023.2248204>
- Seidl, T.** (2023). Commodification and Disruption: Theorizing Digital Capitalism. *Weizenbaum Journal of the Digital Society*, 3(1), 1–35. <https://doi.org/10.34669/wi.wjds/3.1.2>
- Obendiek, A. S., & **Seidl, T.** (2023). The (False) promise of solutionism: Ideational business power and the construction of epistemic authority in digital security governance. *Journal of European Public Policy*, 1–25. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13501763.2023.2172060>
- Schmitz, L., & **Seidl, T.** (2023). As Open as Possible, as Autonomous as Necessary: Understanding the Rise of Open Strategic Autonomy in EU Trade Policy. *JCMS: Journal of Common Market Studies*, 61(3), 834–852. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jcms.13428>
- Seidl, T.** (2023). Investing in the knowledge economy: The comparative political economy of public investments in knowledge-based capital. *European Journal of Political Research*, 62(3), 924–944. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1475-6765.12546>
- Seidl, T.** (2022). The politics of platform capitalism: A case study on the regulation of Uber in New York. *Regulation & Governance*, 16(2), 357–374. <https://doi.org/10.1111/rego.12353>
- Marenco, M., & **Seidl, T.** (2021). The discursive construction of digitalization: A comparative analysis of national discourses on the digital future of work. *European Political Science Review*, 13(3), 391–409. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S175577392100014X>
- Laurer, M., & **Seidl, T.** (2020). Regulating the European Data-Driven Economy: A Case Study on the General Data Protection Regulation. *Policy & Internet*, 13(2), 257–277. <https://doi.org/10.1002/poi3.246>
- Roos, U., & **Seidl, T.** (2015). Im »Südwesten« nichts Neues? Eine Analyse der deutschen Namibiapolitik als Beitrag zur Rekonstruktion der außenpolitischen Identität des deutschen Nationalstaates. *Zeitschrift Für Friedens- Und Konfliktforschung*, 4(2), 182–225. <https://doi.org/10.5771/2192-1741-2015-2-182>

Special Issues

- Falkner, G., Heidebrecht, S., Obendiek, A., & **Seidl, T.** (2024). Digital sovereignty—Rhetoric and reality. *Journal of European Public Policy*, 31(8), 2099–2120. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13501763.2024.2358984>

¹Links to additional materials (data, code, etc.) can be found at <https://www.timoseidl.com/publications>

Working Paper & Work in Progress

- Seidl, T.**, & Lopes-Valença, H. (2024). Waking a Dormant Legal Resource. Institutional Activation and the Origins of Important Projects of Common European Interest. <https://doi.org/10.31219/osf.io/9r67c>
- Seidl, T.** (2024). Polanyi and List Meet in Brussels. Digital Sovereignty and EU Digital Policymaking. Unpublished Manuscript.
- Bremer, B., Bürgisser, R., Bulfone, F., & **Seidl, T.** (2024). Are people willing to pay for the twin transitions? Media discourse and citizen attitudes towards green and digital industrial policies. Unpublished Manuscript.
- Bulfone, Fabio, Donato Di Carlo, and **Timo Seidl**. 2024. "Regulatory Means for Interventionist Ends? Regulatory Statecraft and the Evolution of the EU State Aid Regime." Unpublished Manuscript.
- Seidl, T.**, Wuttke, T., & Schmitz, L. (2024). What is Strategic? IPCEIs and the Constrained Politics of EU Industrial Policy. Unpublished Manuscript.

Book Chapters

- Nachtwey, O., Truffer, J., & **Seidl, T.** (2023). Der solutionistische Geist des digitalen Kapitalismus. In T. Carstensen, S. Schaupp, & S. Seignani (Eds.), *Theorien des digitalen Kapitalismus. Arbeit, Ökonomie, Politik und Subjekt* (pp. 458–475). Suhrkamp.
- Nachtwey, O., & **Seidl, T.** (2020). Ideologie und der Geist des digitalen Kapitalismus. In W. Nienhäuser & W. Matiaske (Eds.), *Ökonomie und Ideologie* (pp. 235–265). Metropolis.
- Seidl, T.** (2017). Kompatibilität statt Reduktion: Zur Idee einer Interdisziplinären Anthropologie als soziologischem Selbst- und Fremdver(un)sicherungsraum. In G. Wagner (Ed.), *Die Provokation der Reduktion: Beiträge zur Wissenschaftstheorie der Soziologie* (pp. 201–232). Harrassowitz.
- Laurer, M., & **Seidl, T.** (2017). Eine Stabilitäts- und Wettbewerbsunion der Regierungen: Zur Rekonstruktion grundlegender Handlungsregeln deutscher Eurokrisenpolitik. In U. Roos (Ed.), *Deutsche Außenpolitik: Arenen, Diskurse und grundlegende Handlungsregeln* (pp. 13–47). Springer VS.

Book Reviews & Review Essays

- Seidl, T.** (2024). Charting the Contours of the Geo-Tech World. *Geopolitics*, 29(5), 2033–2045. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14650045.2024.2333358>
- Seidl, T.** (2022). Lehdonvirta, Vili (2022). *Cloud Empires: How digital platforms are overtaking the state and how we can regain control*. MA, USA: The MIT Press. *Regulation & Governance*, 16(4), 1424–1425. <https://doi.org/10.1111/rego.12493>
- Seidl, T.** (2020). Appadurai, Arjun & Alexander, Neta (2020). *Failure*. Cambridge: Polity Press. *Economic Sociology: European Electronic Newsletter*. https://econsoc.mpifg.de/40764/06_BookReviewsEconsoc-NL_21-2_March2020.pdf

Other Academic Publications

- Schmitz, L., & **Seidl, T.** (2022). Protecting, Transforming, and Projecting the Single Market. Open Strategic Autonomy and Digital Sovereignty in the EU's Trade and Digital Policies. <https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/wjb64>
- Seidl, T.** (2021). Commodification and Disruption: Theorizing Digital Capitalism. EIF Working Paper. <https://eif.univie.ac.at/downloads/workingpapers/wp2021-02.pdf>
- Seidl, T.** (2021). Ideas, Politics, and Technological Change: Essays on the Comparative Political Economy of Digital Capitalism [Dissertation, European University Institute]. <https://cadmus.eui.eu/handle/1814/69757>
- Nachtwey, O., & **Seidl, T.** (2020). The Solutionist Ethic and the Spirit of Digital Capitalism. <https://doi.org/10.31235/osf.io/sgjzq>
- Nachtwey, O., & **Seidl, T.** (2017). Die Ethik der Solution und der Geist des digitalen Kapitalismus. Institute for Social Research Working Paper (11). <http://www.ifs.uni-frankfurt.de/wp-content/uploads/IfS-WP-11.pdf>
- Laurer, M., & **Seidl, T.** (2014). Das doppelte Ziel der deutschen Eurokrisenpolitik. *Welttrends*, 22(99), 120–126.

Policy Briefs

- Schmitz, L., **Seidl, T.**, & Wuttke, T. (2024). The Costs of Conditionality: Lessons from IPCEIs. LUHNIP Policy Brief 2/2024. https://leap.luiss.it/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/LUHNIP-PB2.24-Costs_of_conditionality.pdf

Newspaper Articles & Blog Posts

- Obendiek, A., Falkner, G., Heidebrecht, S., & **Seidl, T.** (2024, September 25). Zwischen Rhetorik und Realität. Makronom. <https://makronom.de/digitale-souveraenitaet-zwischen-rhetorik-und-realitaet-47420>
- Heidebrecht, S., Falkner, G., Obendiek, A., & **Seidl, T.** (2024, August 1). Digitale Souveränität: Rhetorik und/oder politische Realität? DER STANDARD. <https://www.derstandard.at/story/3000000228700/digitale-souveraenitaet-rhetorik-undoder-politische-realitaet>
- Marenco, M., & **Seidl, T.** (2021). Opportunity or threat? How discourses on digitalisation vary across European countries. LSE EUROPP Blog. <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/europpblog/2021/08/23/opportunity-or-threat-how-discourses-on-digitalisation-vary-across-european-countries/>
- Seidl, T.** (2020). The Techlash in Times of Corona. HIIG Blog. <https://www.hiig.de/en/the-techlash-in-times-of-corona/>
- Seidl, T.** (2018). Die Linke und der Geist des digitalen Kapitalismus. *Oxi Magazin*.
- Roos, U., & **Seidl, T.** (2015). Time to Call Things as They Are. *The Namibian*.

GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Disruptive Innovation—Early Career Seed Money (ÖAW/FWF)

TRANSFORM: Advancing ideational social science through transformer-based (language) models: a pilot study on the imagined futures of Web3. (26.187€) 2024

CAIS Working Group (with Salih Bora & Fabio Bulfone)

Doing Digital Industrial Policy. Europe in a Geo-Tech World (9.858€) 2024

Erasmus Scholarship

for studies at Humboldt University (~1500€) 2021

DAAD PhD Grant

for studies at the European University Institute (~55.000€) 2017-2020

DAAD Strategic Partnership Stipend

for studies at the University of Toronto (~4500€) 2017

Young Scholar Research Grant, University of Augsburg

for fieldwork in Namibia (~1000€) 2015

Eramus Scholarship

for studies at the University of Oslo (~1500€) 2014

Scholarship of the German National Academic Foundation

awarded to ~0,5% of German students 2013-2017

HONORS & AWARDS

Thesis of the month

European University Institute 2021

TEACHING

Courses

European Political Economy An Integrated, Hands-on Approach Using R

M.A. Course, University of Vienna, *Evaluation: 1.3 (1-5 scale)* Winter 2024/ 25

Key Controversies in European Integration

B.A. Course, University of Vienna, *Evaluation: 1.4 (1-5 scale)* Winter 2024/ 25

Digital Capitalism and (EU) Digital Policymaking

M.A. Course, University of Vienna, *Evaluation: 1.3 (1-5 scale)* Summer 2024

Key Controversies in European Integration

B.A. Course, University of Vienna, *Evaluation: 1.3 (1-5 scale)* Summer 2024

The Twin Transitions: The EU's Climate and Digital Policies

B.A. Course, University of Vienna, *Evaluation: 1.7 (1-5 scale)* Winter 2023/ 24

Key Controversies in European Integration

B.A. Course, University of Vienna, *Evaluation: 1.7 (1-5 scale)* Winter 2023/ 24

CPE - An Integrated, Hands-on Introduction Using R

B.A. Course, University of Vienna, *Evaluation: 1.2 (1-5 scale)* Summer 2023

Key Controversies in European Integration

B.A. Course, University of Vienna, *Evaluation: 1.2 (1-5 scale)* Summer 2023

The Twin Transitions: The EU's Climate and Digital Policies

B.A. Course, University of Vienna, *Evaluation: 1.2 (1-5 scale)* Winter 2022/ 23

Key Controversies in European Integration B.A. Course, University of Vienna, <i>Evaluation: 1.3 (1-5 scale)</i>	Winter 2022/ 23
Digitalization and the EU: Ideas, Politics, and Policy B.A. Course, University of Vienna, <i>Evaluation: 1.3 (1-5 scale)</i>	Summer 2022
Key Controversies in European Integration B.A. Course, University of Vienna, <i>Evaluation: 1.3 (1-5 scale)</i>	Summer 2022
The Twin Transitions: The EU's Climate and Digital Policies B.A. Course, University of Vienna, <i>Evaluation: 1.5 (1-5 scale)</i>	Winter 2021/ 22
Key Controversies in European Integration B.A. Course, University of Vienna, <i>Evaluation: 1.4 (1-5 scale)</i>	Winter 2021/ 22
Politics of Platform Capitalism M.A. Course, University of Vienna, <i>Evaluation: 1.1 (1-5 scale)</i>	Summer 2021
Digital Power Europe M.A. Course, University of Vienna, <i>Evaluation: 1.5 (1-5 scale)</i>	Summer 2021
Key Controversies in European Integration B.A. Course, University of Vienna, <i>Evaluation: 1.2 (1-5 scale)</i>	Summer 2021
Introduction to Comparative Political Economy B.A. Course, Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf,	Summer 2020

Teaching Training

Teaching Competence Plus Advanced Teaching Training, University of Vienna (15 ECTS)	2022-2023
Introduction to Teaching in Higher Education, Basic Teaching Training, European University Institute (4 days)	2018-2019

Supervision

Master's thesis, University of Vienna Title: 'The Politics of EU Industrial Policy: The Case of the Net Zero Industry Act'	2024
Master's thesis, University of Vienna Title: 'The potential and risks of cryptocurrency donations in development cooperation'	2023
Master's thesis, University of Vienna Title: 'The Policy Debate Surrounding the Digital Markets Act: A discourse network analysis'	2023
Master's thesis, University of Vienna Title: 'Collective organization of workers in the platform economy. An analysis of the actors and strategies of worker representation in food delivery services in Austria and Germany'	2023

Resources

- What makes a good term paper? Five Hitchcock Rules. Available at <https://www.timoseidl.com/blog/what-makes-a-good-term-paper>
- Artificial Intelligence Guidelines. Available at <https://www.timoseidl.com/misc/seidl-ai-course-policy.pdf>

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks/Workshops (Selection)

Sciences Po, 2024
Austrian Council for Sciences, Technology, and Innovation, 2024

Austrian Institute Of Technology, 2024
University of Erfurt, 2023
University of Cambridge, 2023
WZB Berlin, 2023
University of Oxford, 2023
University of Vienna, 2022
University of Duisburg-Essen, 2022
Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, 2021
Virtual EU Seminar, 2021
European University Institute, 2021
University of Zurich, 2021
Humboldt University of Berlin, 2020
LABORA19 Berlin, 2019
University of Cologne, 2018
University of Milan, 2018

Academic conferences

CES: 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024
DGS: 2018
DVPW-IB: 2023
ECPR: 2018, 2020, 2022
ECPR-SGEU: 2022
GIG-ARTS: 2019
SGS: 2017
ÖGS: 2017
SASE: 2022, 2024
UACES: 2024

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Reviewer

Big Data & Society, Comparative Political Studies, Competition & Change, Digital, Environmental Innovation and Societal Transitions, European Policy Analysis, Internet Policy Review, Journal of Common Market Studies, Journal of Contemporary European Studies, Journal of European Integration, Journal of European Public Policy, Industrial Relations, Information, Communication & Society, New Media & Society, Politics & Governance, Regulation & Governance, Review of International Political Economy, Review of Policy Research, Socio-Economic Review, Swiss Journal of Sociology, Zeitschrift für Politikwissenschaft

Organizer

Politics and Culture of Digital Capitalism (PCDC) Reading Group	2022-
Co-founder and co-convenor	
SASE Panel 'With Great Power Comes Great Responsibility. Tech Power and Tech Ideology in Digital Capitalism'	2022
Co-Organizer	
Workshop 'What is Social Democracy and what is it good for?', European University Institute	2019
Co-Organizer	

COMPETENCES

Programming & Formatting Languages.

R (advanced), Python (intermediate), Stata (basic), Quarto (advanced), Typst (intermediate), Latex (basic)

Languages

German (native), English (TOEFL: 118 of 120 points), Italian (basic), Latin & Ancient Greek (basic reading proficiency)

Further Training

Web Scraping and Text Mining (with Paulo Serodio), Causal Inference (with Elias Dinas), Interviewing (with Jennifer Welsh), Qualitative Comparative Analysis (with Claudius Wagemann), Network Analysis (with Paulo Serodio), Text Analysis (with Inaki Sagarzazu), The Political Economy of Public Policy (with Christel Koop), Evolutionary Anthropology (with Daniel Haun and Peter Kappeler)

REFERENCES

Dorothee Bohle

Professor of Comparative Politics

University of Vienna Dept. of Political Science

dorothee.bohle@univie.ac.at

Anton Hemerijck

Professor of Political Science and Sociology

European University Institute

Dept. of Political and Social Sciences

anton.hemerijck@eui.eu

Oliver Nachtwey

Professor of Social Structure Analysis

University of Basel

Dept. of Social Science

oliver.nachtwey@unibas.ch