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Germany's New Right-wing Populist Party – the Alternative for Germany

Germany's New Right-wing Populist Party – the Alternative for Germany

*A Review Essay of Nine Recent German-Language Books*

**Author(s):** Thomas Klikauer

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**Summary/Abstract:** In the year 2017, a new political party entered Germany's parliament called 'Alternative for Germany' or AfD. Mainstream media labels the party far right, radical-right, right wing, national-conservative, populist, etc. Despite this, the AfD has tendencies towards Nazism. Nine books published between 2016 and 2018 examine the stratospheric rise of the AfD, founded in 2013. The review starts with a conservative view that examines 'what the AfD wants.' The next book discusses the 'AfD-Pegida' link. Pegida is the AfD's East-German and mostly Dresden-based street-fighting movement. The third book presents arguments on the AfD from across Germany's political spectrum. This leads to a book written as a 'letter to AfD voters'. The book outlines many inconsistencies found in the AfD's party programme and its public announcements. Since the AfD claims to protect the occident, Europe and Germany in particular against hordes of Muslims and the Islamic religion, these issues are discussed in the next book. A quick look at the ideological background of the AfD points to an analysis of the party's relationship with the media. The final two books show how the AfD seeks to conquer Germany's political centre, based on a wealth of empirical data. Overall, the nine books provide one of the first comprehensive examinations of Germany's new radical-right party drawn from recent German language books.

Details

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Central and Eastern European Online Library GmbH  
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60487 Frankfurt am Main  
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Amtsgericht Frankfurt am Main HRB 53679  
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Fax: +49 (0)69-20026819  
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In the year 2017, a new political party entered Germany's parliament called 'Alternative for Germany' or AfD. Mainstream media labels the party far right, radical-right, right wing, national-conservative, populist, etc. Despite this, the AfD has tendencies towards Nazism. Nine books published between 2016 and 2018 examine the stratospheric rise of the AfD, founded in 2013. The review starts with a conservative view that examines 'what the AfD wants.' The next book discusses the 'AfD-Pegida' link. Pegida is the AfD's East-German and mostly Dresden-based street-fighting movement. The third book The far-right Alternative for Germany on Saturday elected a decorator from the east backed by a radical wing within the party as one of two co-leaders. Newly-elected chairman of Germany's far-right Alternative for Germany (AfD) party Joerg Meuthen speaks during the AfD party meeting in Braunschweig, Germany, December 1, 2019. - Copyright REUTERS/Fabian Bimmer. Share this article. Supporters of the right-wing populist Alternative for Germany (AfD) party display anti-Merkel placards during a demonstration against the German government's asylum policy organized by the AfD party in Berlin on Nov. 7,

2015.AFP/Getty Images. Oct. Days later, Mueller and the political establishment were left stunned when the Alternative for Germany (AfD) party took 14 percent of the vote. Charlotte Knobloch, the former head of Germany's Jewish community and a Holocaust survivor, was among the voices calling on Germany's mainstream parties to prevent a "brown renaissance." Right-wing politics in Germany has died off long ago. Since then, the political game in Germany is between the center-left and the radical left. The Merkel government made such a mess-up of the immigration crisis with her alt-left open-border policy that the popularity of the center-left is rising in Germany. It would be absurd to interpret it as rising of right-wing populism. After all, their, the so-called right-wing populists, policy on immigration is not far away from Merkel's before she converted to a wholehearted open-border politician. Merkel once said the following to a little girl who Leading members of the right-wing populist Alternative for Germany (AfD) party have often made provocative, if not outright offensive, remarks — targeting refugees or evoking Nazi terminology. German investigators say stabbing may be linked to AfD political ad 14.09.2020. A suspected Islamist knife attack may be linked to local elections in North Rhine-Westphalia, investigators said. Anti-racist protesters clashed with police outside the AfD state party conference, as Germany's biggest far-right party elected a new hardcore leader in Lower Saxony. One-third of people in Germany believe in conspiracy theories: poll 06.09.2020. Lower levels of education and voting for the far-right AfD make people more prone to supporting conspiracy theories, a new poll shows.