

William D. O’Connell

william.oconnell@ualberta.ca

Updated: July 2026

williamdoconnell.com

Academic positions

Izaak Walton Killam Postdoctoral Fellow University of Alberta, Department of Political Science	2026-present
Sessional Lecturer University of Toronto, Department of Political Science	2025-2026
Postdoctoral Research Scholar Columbia University, Center for Political Economy	2024-2025
Visiting Research Fellow Johns Hopkins University, American-German Institute	2023

Education

Ph.D. , Department of Political Science, University of Toronto <i>Committee</i> : Louis Pauly (chair); Alexander Reisenbichler; Phillip Lipsy <i>Fields</i> : International Relations; Public Policy	2024
M.A. , Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University	2019
B.A. , International Political Economy, Bishop’s University	2016

Peer-reviewed publications

O’Connell, William D. “Principals, agents, and the discipline of planning: Evidence from the failure of Credit Suisse”. <i>International Studies Quarterly</i> . 70(2): sqag042. https://doi.org/10.1093/isq/sqag042 .	2026
O’Connell, William D. and Christian Elliott. “States and new markets: The novelty problem in the IPE of finance”. <i>Review of International Political Economy</i> . 30(2): 403-420. https://doi.org/10.1080/09692290.2023.2165529 .	2023
O’Connell, William D. “Silencing the crowd: China, the NBA, and leveraging market size to export censorship”. <i>Review of International Political Economy</i> . 29(4): 1112-1134. https://doi.org/10.1080/09692290.2021.1905683 .	2022

Chapters in edited volumes

O’Connell, William D. and Louis W. Pauly. “International Political Economy in Canada” In Murphy, Michael P. A. (ed.) <i>International Relations in Canada: Understanding the Field</i> . Palgrave Macmillan.	Forthcoming
---	--------------------

Works in progress

The Politics of Moral Hazard in International Finance	Book project
“The political economy of liquidity triangulation” (with Katharina Pistor, Matthias Thiemann, and Dario Laudati)	Revise and resubmit
“Kindleberger’s revenge: Crisis management and the decline of American financial hegemony”	Under review
“Lost in translation: Resolving EU banks in a global financial system” (Part of a special issue on EU financial integration)	In progress
“Populism, central banking, and pension fund crises in the UK and Chile” (with Max Nagel)	In progress
“The politics of global financial stability” (invited textbook chapter in <i>Global Political Economy</i> , Oxford, 8 th edition, with Louis Pauly)	In progress

Book reviews

Kobrak, Christopher and Joe Martin. 2018. <i>From Wall Street to Bay Street: The Origins and Evolution of American and Canadian Finance</i> . University of Toronto Press. <i>Canadian Foreign Policy Journal</i> . 22(5): 222-223. https://doi.org/10.1080/11926422.2018.1553202	2019
---	-------------

Conference presentations

American Political Science Association	2025
Canadian Political Science Association	2023; 2024; 2025; 2026
International Studies Association	2022; 2023; 2024; 2025
Northeast Political Science Association	2018
Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics	2025

Major grants and awards

Izaak Walton Killam Postdoctoral Fellowship	\$140 000; 2026
Max Weber Postdoctoral Fellowship (declined)	€60 000; 2024
SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship	\$20 000; 2023
Noah Blackstein Graduate Fellowship in Political Economy	\$2 000; 2023
Ontario Graduate Scholarship	\$15 000; 2022
Michael W. Donnelly Graduate Fellowship in Political Economy	\$9 000; 2022
DAAD/AICGS Research Fellowship	€5 500; 2022
JIGES Graduate Research Fellowship	\$5 000; 2022
School of Graduate Studies Research Travel Grant	\$5 000; 2022
C. B. Macpherson Dissertation Fellowship	\$3 000; 2022
Lorne Bozinoff Doctoral Fellowship in Political Analysis	\$3 000; 2022
Ontario Graduate Scholarship	\$15 000; 2021

Teaching

Instructor, University of Toronto

POL 312: Canadian Foreign Policy	2025
POL 361: Global Political Economy I: History and Theory	2025
POL 380: The Politics of Global Finance	2023
POL 466: Theories of International Organization	2026

Teaching Assistant, University of Toronto

POL 208: Introduction to International Relations	2021
POL 222: Introduction to Quantitative Reasoning I	2019; 2021
POL 361: Global Political Economy I: History and Theory	2020; 2022; 2023
POL 362: Global Political Economy II: Policy and Analysis	2022
POL C38: International Law (Scarborough campus)	2020
POL D28: Law and Global Business (Scarborough campus)	2020

Teaching Assistant, Carleton University

ECON 1001: Introduction to Microeconomics	2017
ECON 2210: Introduction to Statistics for Economics	2018
INAF 5013: Research Methods for International Affairs	2019
INAF 5014: Introduction to Statistics for International Affairs	2018

Policy writing, op-eds, and media appearances

“Why weakening U.S. bank regulators could repeat the mistakes of the 2008 financial crisis”. <i>The Conversation</i> . April 14, 2025. https://theconversation.com/why-weakening-u-s-bank-regulators-could-repeat-the-mistakes-of-the-2008-financial-crisis-254365	2025
“The budget’s tax changes on corporations and the wealthy are long overdue”. <i>The Globe and Mail</i> . Online April 16, 2024 (print edition April 17, 2024). https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/commentary/article-the-budgets-tax-changes-on-corporations-and-the-wealthy-are-long/	2024
“Quebec’s out-of-province tuition hike is a major loss for the province and the country”. <i>The Globe and Mail</i> . Online October 17, 2023 (print edition October 18, 2023). https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/commentary/article-quebecs-out-of-province-tuition-hike-is-a-major-loss-for-the-province/	2023
“Translating politics into technocracy in the European Banking Union”. <i>American-German Institute</i> . August 22, 2023. https://americangerman.institute/publication/translating-politics-into-technocracy-in-the-european-banking-union/	2023
“Banks do need to be taxed more – the budget’s new dividend tax was justified”. <i>The Globe and Mail</i> . Online March 30, 2023 (print edition March 31, 2023). https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/commentary/article-federal-budget-dividend-bank-tax/	2023

- Interview on *the Sam Laprade Show* regarding the SVB and Credit Suisse crises. **2023**
CityNews Ottawa. March 17, 2023. <https://ottawa.citynews.ca/all-audio/the-sam-laprade-show/podcast-the-sam-laprade-show-for-march-17th-2023-6717438>
- “Was the SVB crash a one-off, or a warning sign?”. Interview on *The Big Story Podcast*. **2023**
March 16, 2023. <https://open.spotify.com/episode/0BqpByKkfxUcSOvIEyBew7>
- “Scam of the century? Cryptocurrency and the collapse of FTX”. Panelist on *The Debate with François Picard*. France 24, Paris, November 21, 2022. **2022**
<https://www.france24.com/en/tv-shows/the-debate/20221121-scam-of-the-century-cryptocurrency-and-the-collapse-of-ftx>
- “A cryptocurrency primer – banks or exchanges? Which are they?”. Interview on **2022**
Weekend Mornings with Stirling Faux. CKNW-980 Vancouver, August 12, 2022.
<https://open.spotify.com/episode/3BGHbpZpMtMbY2xDmsIzB3>
- “Crypto platforms say they’re exchanges, but they’re more like banks”. *The Conversation*. **2022**
August 11, 2022. <https://theconversation.com/crypto-platforms-say-theyre-exchanges-but-theyre-more-like-banks-188339>

Invited talks, workshops, guest lectures

- “Lost in translation: Resolving EU banks in a global financial system”. **March 2026**
Department of Social Sciences, *University of Luxembourg*. Luxembourg, LX.
- “The triangulation of liquidity through history”. Centre for European Studies **January 2026**
and Comparative Politics, *Sciences Po Paris*. Paris, FR.
- “The 2022 UK gilt crisis: A dress rehearsal?”. Center for Political Economy, **May 2025**
Columbia University. New York, NY.
- “The systemic context of IPE”. Department of Political Science, *University* **September 2023**
of Toronto. Toronto, ON.
- “Translating politics into technocracy: The European Banking Union in a **June 2023**
global perspective”. American-German Institute, *Johns Hopkins University*.
Washington, D.C.
- “Global finance: From Bretton Woods to the Global Financial Crisis”. **September 2022**
Glendon College, *York University*. Toronto, ON.

Membership and service

- Committee member, Best Graduate Student Paper Award **2025-2027**
ISA-Canada regional caucus
- Committee member, Distinguished Scholar Award **2025-2026**
ISA-Canada regional caucus

Convener and founder, International Political Economy Working Group University of Toronto.	2021-2023
Treasurer, Graduate Association of Students in Political Science University of Toronto.	2022-2023
Co-chair, Graduate Association of Students in Political Science University of Toronto.	2021-2022
Member, search committee for an assistant professor of international relations University of Toronto	2021-2022
Area representative for Public Policy, Graduate Association of Students in Political Science University of Toronto	2020-2022
Peer-review: <i>British Journal of Politics and International Relations</i> ; <i>Journal of Contemporary China</i> ; <i>Journal of Sport and Social Issues</i> ; <i>The Pacific Review</i> ; <i>Review of International Political Economy</i>	
Member: American Political Science Association; Canadian Political Science Association; International Studies Association; Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics	

Research interests

Global governance and international institutions
Politics of global finance
Political economy of multinational corporations
Canadian foreign policy
European integration
China and international affairs

Languages

English (native); French (fluent)

References

Louis Pauly

J. Stefan Dupré Distinguished Professor of Political Economy
Department of Political Science | Munk School of Global Affairs
University of Toronto
louis.pauly@utoronto.ca

Alexander Reisenbichler

Associate Professor
Department of Political Science | Munk School of Global Affairs
University of Toronto
a.reisenbichler@utoronto.ca

Katharina Pistor

Edwin B. Parker Professor of Comparative Law
Columbia Law School
Columbia University
kpisto@law.columbia.edu