

Jan Kovář

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Research interests: European Integration and EU Governance; Parties, Elections and Politicisation; Migration, Framing and Political Communication.

Academic Appointments

2016-present	Institute of International Relations Prague Senior Research Fellow; Research Director since January 2024.
2018-present	University of New York in Prague Faculty, School of International Relations and Media Studies; currently Associate Professor. Courses include European Integration, Economic Policies of the European Union, and External Relations of the European Union.
2014-2015	Institute of International Relations Prague Associate Research Fellow.
2012-2017	European Values Think-Tank Chief Analyst and Head of the Analytical Team.
2011-2023	Metropolitan University Prague Associate Lecturer, Department of International Relations and European Studies.

Education

2014	PhD, International Relations and European Studies Joint programme, Institute of International Relations Prague and Metropolitan University Prague. Dissertation: An Integrated Second-order Election Model in the Central and Eastern European Countries: The Case of EP Elections in the Czech Republic and Slovakia.
2009	MSc, International Relations and European Studies Metropolitan University Prague.
2007	BSc, International Relations and European Studies Metropolitan University Prague.
2006-2007	Erasmus Exchange Centre for European Studies, University of Twente, Netherlands.

Professional Service

2017-present	Co-Editor-in-Chief, Czech Journal of International Relations Institute of International Relations Prague.
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Journal referee: Problems of Post-Communism; Mass Communication and Society; Swiss Political Science Review; Journal of Contemporary European Studies; International Communication Gazette; Central European Journal of International and Security Studies; Central European Political Studies Review; Politics in Central Europe; Journal of Contemporary European Research; Czech Journal of International Relations; Political Sciences / Politické vedy; Czech Political Science Review; Potentia: Journal of International and Public Affairs.

Publications

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

K. Kochlöffel, P. Ayan Musil, **Jan Kovář**, Petr Kratochvíl, & Zdeněk Sychra (2026). Determinants of political polarisation in the context of democratic renewal: a study of public attitudes in Poland. *Third World Quarterly*, 1–19. [DOI](#)

Jan Kovář (2026). The Party Politics of EU Politicization on Social Media: Evidence from Czechia. *Communist and Post-Communist Studies*, 1–23. [DOI](#)

Jan Kovář (2026). The politicisation of European integration on politicians' social media: which aspects of political opportunity structure matter?. *Journal of European Integration*, 1–26. [DOI](#)

Jan Kovář (2026). Who Frames Europe? Euroscepticism, Radical Right Parties and Elite Twitter Communication. *JCMS: Journal of Common Market Studies*. [DOI](#)

- Jan Kovář** (2023). Media framing of immigrants in Central Europe in the period surrounding the refugee crisis: Security, negativity, and political sources. *Communications*, 48(1), 5–27. DOI
- Jan Kovář** (2023). Politicisation of Immigration in Central and Eastern Europe: Evidence from Plenary Debates in Two Countries. *Problems of Post-Communism*, 70(6), 667–678. DOI
- Jan Kovář** & Tomáš Weiss (2023). The 2022 Czech EU Council Presidency: Performance in the fields of security, energy and rule of law. *Czech Journal of International Relations*, 58(1), 81–99. DOI
- Jan Kovář** (2022). Framing Different Groups of Immigrants in Central Europe Before and During the 2015–2017 EU Refugee Crisis. *Europe-Asia Studies*, 74(8), 1385–1412. DOI
- Jan Kovář** & Kamil Kovář (2021). Who Governs in the Council? Determinants of Ministerial Participation in Council Meetings. *East European Politics and Societies*, 35(1), 156–181. DOI
- Jan Kovář** (2020). A security threat or an economic consequence? An analysis of the news framing of the European Union's refugee crisis. *International Communication Gazette*, 82(6), 564–587. DOI
- Jan Kovář** (2020). Czech party positions on the EU's finality: a conceptual metaphor approach. *Journal of International Relations and Development*, 23(2), 462–486. DOI
- Jan Kovář** (2020). Moving Forward or Turning Back? Slovak Parties and the Future of the EU. *Communist and Post-Communist Studies*, 53(3), 43–63. DOI
- Jan Kovář** (2018). When Do Ministers Travel to Brussels? A Case of Hungary. *Romanian Journal of Political Science*, 18(2), 56–90.
- Jan Kovář** (2015). Europeanisation of Czech Parties' Election Manifestos: Reviewing the 2013 Chamber of Deputies Elections. *Central European Journal of International and Security Studies*, 9(2), 78–106.
- Jan Kovář** (2015). Europeanisation of EP Election Manifestos: An Application of a New Approach on the Case of Slovak Political Parties. *Czech Journal of Political Science*, 22(2), 105–126. DOI
- Jan Kovář** (2014). Europeanisation of Slovak Parties' Programmatic Documents for EP Elections: A Drop in the Bucket, or a Light at the End of the Tunnel?. *Slovak Journal of Political Sciences*, 14(1), 24–52. DOI
- Jan Kovář** (2014). Europeizace volebních programů pro volby do EP. *Political Sciences*, 17(3), 32–67.
- Jan Kovář** & Kamil Kovář (2014). Representation of Women in Second-order Elections: The Czech Republic and Slovakia Compared. *Perspectives on European Politics and Society*, 15(1), 1–18. DOI
- Jan Kovář** & Kamil Kovář (2013). Candidate quality across different orders of elections: the cases of the Czech Republic and Slovakia. *East European Politics*, 29(2), 152–174. DOI
- Jan Kovář** (2013). The Supply Side of Second-Order Elections in the Czech Republic: A Light at the End of the Tunnel?. *Romanian Journal of European Affairs*, 13(1), 57–82.
- Jan Kovář** & Kamil Kovář (2013). Towards the European(-ised) Public Sphere: The Case of EP Elections in the Czech Republic and Slovakia. *Journal of Contemporary European Research*, 9(5), 696–722. DOI
- Jan Kovář** & Kamil Kovář (2012). National or European? EP Elections Campaign Themes in the News Media. *European Electoral Studies*, 7(1), 30–41.
- Jan Kovář** & Kamil Kovář (2012). Women's Representation in European Parliamentary Elections: A Second-Order Approach?. *Politics in Central Europe*, 8(1), 5–34.
- Jan Kovář** (2010). Second-rate coverage of second-order elections: Czech and Slovak elections to the EP in the media. *Central European Political Studies Review*, 12(4), 225–254.

Books

- Jan Kovář** (2023). *Debating Immigrants and Refugees in Central Europe: Politicising and Framing Newcomers in the Media and Political Arenas*. New York: Routledge.
- Jan Kovář** (2016). *Revisiting the Second-Order Election Model and Its Application to European Parliament Elections in Central and Eastern European Countries*. Prague: Metropolitan University Prague Press.
- Jan Kovář** (2013). *Voting Behaviour in EP Elections in the Post-Communist Countries: Second-Order or Not?*. Saarbrücken: LAP Lambert Academic Publishing.

Book Chapters

- Jan Kovář** & L. Cvetanoska (2024). Anticipating the Czech European Parliament elections: ambiguous EU attitudes, sovereignty, scepticism on green policies and referendum on the government. In C. Colomina, S. Russack, H. S. Margalef & I. Toygur, *European elections 2024. A turning point for EU integration?* (pp. 99–104). Barcelona: CIDOB.
- Jan Kovář** (2024). Unequal Framing in Central Europe during Two Crises? How Politicians Framed Immigrants during the 2015–2016 EU Refugee Crisis and Following the Russian Aggression Against Ukraine. In R. A. Novais & C. A. Calderón, *Representations of Refugees, Migrants, and Displaced People as the 'Other'* (pp. 163–182). Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland.
- Jan Kovář** & Jakub Eberle (2023). Většinové hlasování o zahraniční politice Evropské unie: střičný přístup je ve světle geopolitických výzev v českém zájmu. In O. Ditych, J. Eberle & A. Metodieva, *Svět v proměnách 2023: Analýzy ÚMV* (pp. 42–47). Praha: Ústav mezinárodních vztahů.
- Jan Kovář**, Petr Kratochvíl, & Zdeněk Sychra (2020). Alignment of national parties and European party federations. In S. Blockmans & S. Russack, *Deliberative Democracy in the EU: Countering Populism with Participation and Debate* (pp. 113–130). London: Rowman & Littlefield International.

Jan Kovář, Petr Kratochvíl, & Zdeněk Sychra (2019). Representative Democracy in Czechia: A Disconnect Between the National and EU Level. In S. Blockmans & S. Russack, *Representative Democracy in the EU: Recovering Legitimacy* (pp. 107–127). London: Rowman & Littlefield International.

Jan Kovář (2019). Variations of metaphors in party manifestos about EU finality: Assessing party positions through conceptual metaphors. In J. Perrez, M. Reuchamps & P. H. Thibodeau, *Variation in Political Metaphor* (pp. 151–176). Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

Jan Kovář, Petr Kratochvíl, & Zdeněk Sychra (2018). Direct Democracy in Czechia: From the Shadows to the Limelight. In S. Blockmans & S. Russack, *Direct Democracy in the EU: The Myth of a Citizens' Union* (pp. 166–188). London: Rowman & Littlefield International.

Jan Kovář & Zdeněk Sychra (2018). The European Dimension of the Czech Foreign Policy: Ambivalent Position of the Reluctant European. In A. Kizeková, *Czech Foreign Policy in 2017: IIR Analysis* (pp. 41–70). Prague: Institute of International Relations.

Jan Kovář & Zdeněk Sychra (2017). Evropský rozměr české zahraniční politiky. In M. Kořan, *Česká zahraniční politika v roce 2016: Analýza ÚMV* (pp. 33–80). Praha: Ústav mezinárodních vztahů.

Book Reviews and Review Essays

Jan Kovář (2021). Catherine E. de Vries: Euroscepticism and the Future of European Integration. *Mezinárodní vztahy*, 101–107. DOI

Jan Kovář (2015). Politics in the Age of Austerity. *Central European Journal of International and Security Studies*, 145–147.

Jan Kovář (2011). European Parliament Elections after Eastern Enlargement. *Perspectives on European Politics and Society*, 115–117.

Jan Kovář (2011). Vojtěch Belling: Legitimita moci v postmoderní době: Proč potřebuje Evropská unie členské státy?. *Mezinárodní vztahy*, 110–114.

Other Research and Policy Publications

Jan Kovář, Petr Kratochvíl, Zdeněk Sychra, P. Ayan Musil, K. Kochlöffel, L. Morales, L. Ramiro, C. Pamies, G. Vigneaux, & J. Del Val (2025). Report on the pirate innovations and the link between responsiveness and political trust and legitimacy of these party movements. ActEU / Horizon Europe.

Jan Kovář, K. Kochlöffel, Petr Kratochvíl, P. Ayan Musil, & Zdeněk Sychra (2025). Report studying Central European populism and new cleavages. ActEU / Horizon Europe.

Jan Kovář & Mats Braun (2024). Balkán, Turecko či Ukrajina: Budoucnost politiky rozšiřování v kontextu institucionálního nastavení. Ústav mezinárodních vztahů.

Jan Kovář, Petr Kratochvíl, K. Kochlöffel, L. Morales, P. Ayan Musil, L. Ramiro, & Zdeněk Sychra (2024). The Populist Far Right in the EU: A convergence in immigration, climate change, and gender-related policies?. ActEU / Horizon Europe.

Jan Kovář & Jakub Eberle (2023). Problematika právního státu v kontextu debaty o rozšiřování Evropské unie. Ústav mezinárodních vztahů.

Jan Kovář & Sylvie Burianová (2023). Přístupy zemí severní a západní Evropy k fenoménu migrace: posun k restrikci?. Ústav mezinárodních vztahů.

Jan Kovář & Kateřina Kočí (2022). Informal Differentiated Integration in EU Foreign and Security Policy: Perspectives of a Small Member State. *EU IDEA Policy Briefs*.

Jan Kovář & Jakub Eberle (2022). Kvalifikovaná většina ve Společné zahraniční a bezpečnostní politice Evropské unie: Argumenty pro a proti. Ústav mezinárodních vztahů.

Jan Kovář & Jakub Eberle (2022). Použití veta ve Společné zahraniční a bezpečnostní politice EU: Kdo a proč?. Ústav mezinárodních vztahů.

Jan Kovář & Jakub Eberle (2022). Český zájem a rozhodování kvalifikovanou většinou ve Společné zahraniční a bezpečnostní politice Evropské unie. Ústav mezinárodních vztahů.

Jan Kovář (2021). Ministerské memo: Reforma azylové politiky Evropské unie. Ústav mezinárodních vztahů.

Jan Kovář (2020). Diferencovaná integrace České republiky v Evropské unii. *Mezinárodní politika*, 9–11.

Jan Kovář, Senem Aydın-Düzgüt, & Petr Kratochvíl (2020). How Does Identity Relate to Attitudes Towards Differentiation? The Cases of France, Germany, Czech Republic and Turkey. *EU IDEA Research Papers*.

Jan Kovář, Petr Kratochvíl, Zdeněk Sychra, & Kateřina Kočí (2020). Vyhodnocení možných variant budoucího vývoje evropské integrace v kontextu zájmů ČR: Souhrnná výzkumná zpráva. Ústav mezinárodních vztahů.

Research Projects and Grants

2025-2028 Foreign Interference in the Context of Geopolitical and Technological Change (INTERFER). OP JAK. Research team member.

2023-2026 Towards a New Era of Representative Democracy - Activating European Citizens' Trust in Times of Crises and Polarization (ActEU). Horizon Europe, grant no. 101094190. Research team member.

2023-2025 Mapping and Explaining the Politicisation and Framing of European Integration in the Political Discourse of Central and Eastern European Countries. Czech Science Foundation (GAČR), grant no. 23-07049S. Principal Investigator.

2023-2025 An Expert Network for Global Strategic Trends Analysis. TAČR Sigma, TQ01000204. Researcher.

2023-2024 Comparative Political Geography in Central Europe and MENA: Territorial Cleavages and Political

Alignments. Czech-French Barrande Mobility Programme, 8J22FR017. Researcher.

2020-2022 Immigrants, Asylum Seekers, and Refugees during the EU's Migration Crisis: Analysing Their Framing and Representations in Central and Eastern Europe. Czech Science Foundation (GAČR), grant no. 20-29992S. Principal Investigator.

2019-2022 EU Integration and Differentiation for Effectiveness and Accountability (EU IDEA). Horizon 2020. Researcher.

2018-2020 The Assessment of Possible Future Courses for the Development of European Integration. TAČR Beta 2, TIRVMZV702. Researcher.

2018-2020 Improving Czech Personal Representation in International Organisations. TAČR Éta, TL01000544. Researcher.

2017-2020 Towards Citizens Union. Erasmus+, 587830-EPP-1-2017-1-BE-EPPJMO-NETWORK. Researcher.

2016 Migration Crisis and Its Possible Implications for the EU's Internal Functioning. TAČR BETA, TB940MZV003-MP08. Researcher.

2016 EU Institutional Balance in the Post-Lisbon and Post-crisis Period. TAČR Beta, TB050MZV006. Researcher.

2016 National Convention on the EU: Czech Input into the EU Global Strategy. Office of the Government of the Czech Republic. Researcher.

2015 National Convention on the EU: The Role of National Parliaments in the Integration Process. Office of the Government of the Czech Republic. Researcher.

2013-2014 Czech Political Parties and Ten Years of EU Membership. Metropolitan University Prague, Internal Grant System, POL/5/2013. Grant recipient and researcher.

2010-2012 Disciplinary Development in European Studies. Metropolitan University Prague, Internal Grant System. Grant recipient and researcher.

Teaching and Supervision

University of New York in Prague: European Integration; Economic Policies of the European Union; External Relations of the European Union.

Supervision: Undergraduate research in European politics, political parties and political competition, political communication, migration, and related areas of international relations and political science.

Languages

Czech (native) | **English** (proficient) | **Slovak** (proficient) | **French** (working knowledge)