
FAR-RIGHT GERMAN LAWMAKER FACES SCRUTINY AFTER PHOTO APPEARS TO SHOW NAZI SALUTE

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26.06.2026

Politico (26 June 2026)

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Its unclear whether the revelation will dent the AfD's large lead in polls ahead of key state elections in eastern Germany.

A senior lawmaker in the far-right Alternative for Germany party is under mounting pressure after a newly surfaced photograph appears to show him making a Nazi salute – an allegation he denies, insisting the gesture was intended as a joke.

The previously unpublished image, obtained by POLITICO's Inside AfD podcast, shows Martin Reichardt, a member of Germany's federal parliament, raising his left arm while smiling during a gathering six years ago. While Reichardt denies the gesture was meant to be a Nazi salute, two people who were in attendance, granted anonymity due to the sensitivity of the manner, said it was intended as one.

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