



## Biography

# Alexander Stagnell

Professor of Rhetoric, BI Norwegian Business School | Researcher, Uppsala University  
stagnell.se stagnell.com ORCID 0000-0002-0847-2024

---

## Short

36 words

Alexander Stagnell is Professor of Rhetoric at BI Norwegian Business School and a researcher at Uppsala University. He studies how we have understood institutions and phenomena in politics, from the ancient sophists to today's central banks.

---

## Medium

102 words

Alexander Stagnell is Professor of Rhetoric at BI Norwegian Business School and a researcher at Uppsala University, where he leads the Formas-funded project *Sustainable Economies? The Swedish Riksbank and Climate Change*. His research reads the rhetorical tradition, from the sophists to Continental philosophy, against the problems of the present: populism, post-truth, diplomacy and the communication of central banks. He is the author of *Diplomacy and Ideology* (Routledge, 2020), co-editor of *Populism and the People in Contemporary Critical Thought* (Bloomsbury, 2023) and the Swedish translator of Barbara Cassin. Drawing on fifteen years of teaching, he also offers courses, coaching and lectures for organisations.

Alexander Stagnell is Professor of Rhetoric at the Department of Communication and Culture, BI Norwegian Business School, and a researcher at the Department of Literature and Rhetoric, Uppsala University. He is also affiliated Docent in Rhetoric at Södertörn University.

His research asks questions concerning the historical formation of political problems: in democracies anxious about demagogues and sophists, in diplomacy as a practice of representation, and in institutions such as central banks. He currently leads the Formas-funded project *Sustainable Economies? The Swedish Riksbank and Climate Change*, which examines how the Riksbank understands and communicates sustainability under its new statutory mandate.

Stagnell received his PhD in rhetoric from Uppsala University in 2019 with a thesis on the concept of diplomacy, which became the monograph *Diplomacy and Ideology: From the French Revolution to the Digital Age* (Routledge, 2020). He has held research positions at the Université libre de Bruxelles, Södertörn University and the Swedish Defence Research Agency (FOI), and was a Junior Researcher in the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation's Residency Programme. He is co-editor of *Populism and the People in Contemporary Critical Thought* (Bloomsbury, 2023), has published in journals such as *Philosophy & Rhetoric* and *Crisis & Critique*, and has translated Barbara Cassin into Swedish.

With fifteen years of teaching behind him, he gives courses, coaching and research-based lectures for companies, public authorities and research environments, in Swedish, Norwegian, English, French and Portuguese.

---

These texts may be used freely and shortened in programmes, presentations and press material. Press photos are available at [stagnell.com/writing-and-media](https://stagnell.com/writing-and-media). Questions: [alexander@stagnell.se](mailto:alexander@stagnell.se).

Updated September 2026