

# Aleksandar Stipan

Bayern, Germany | astipan@gmail.com | astipan.com | gitlab.com/utr-mirror | github.com/ujstor

linkedin.com/in/aleksandar-s-00a5732a

## Summary

---

Site Reliability and DevOps Engineer with hands-on experience provisioning and operating production **Kubernetes** clusters on bare metal, automating multi-environment lifecycle with **GitLab** CI/CD, **Ansible**, **Terraform**, **Helm** and **ArgoCD**, building **Go**-based infrastructure tooling, and engineering full observability stacks (**OTEL**, **Prometheus**, **Grafana**, **Elastic**, **Jaeger**, **Zabbix**).

## Work Experience

---

**DevOps Engineer**, Nuvotex Solutions GmbH – Augsburg, Germany

Aug 2024 – present

- Designed K8s provisioning pipelines via **GitLab** Runners: OS bootstrapping, K3s/Kubeadm (**Kubespray**) installation, **Kubernetes**-aware OS updates, and **Ansible**-driven **Helm** deployment using **ArgoCD** Application CRDs as annotation-driven configuration source.
- Built modular **GitLab** CI/CD component library with **Ansible** orchestration, cross-repository pipeline triggers, and automated MR creation across environment repositories.
- Developed **Ansible** automation for cluster upgrades, node scaling, and **Helm** deployments with annotation-based ordering; created custom **Helm** charts with versioning.
- Engineered observability stack: **OTEL** Collector shipping metrics to **Prometheus** Operator/**Grafana**, logs to **Elastic**, traces to **Jaeger** (**Elastic** backend); custom **Zabbix** templates consuming **OTEL Prometheus** metrics for alerting.
- Automated provisioning and configuration of infrastructure for KubeVirt clusters used as hypervisors, with redundant Ceph storage and networking using MikroTik hardware.
- Designed military-grade **Linux** hardening and hypervisor networking.

**Core Maintainer**, [Go-Blueprint](#) – Open Source

Nov 2023 – present

- Core maintainer of go-blueprint, a **Go** CLI tool for scaffolding production-ready **Go** projects, leading technical direction and architecture decisions.

**DevOps Engineer**, Freelance – Remote

Jan 2023 – Aug 2024

- Provisioned deployment environments on Hetzner Cloud using **Terraform**, and set up CD pipelines with Coolify for small teams to enable self-service application deployments.
- Deployed OSS applications on K3s clusters with WireGuard VPN access and mesh networking across environments.

## Projects

---

### [Platform Directory](#)

**Go**

- REST API serving as the single source of truth for infrastructure configurations across all environments, system and app **Helm** charts, IaC, and pipelines.

### [Infra Templater](#)

**Go**

- CLI tool that generates complete **Kubernetes** cluster IaC configuration, including dependencies for **Ansible**, **Helm** deployments, **Kubernetes** deployments, and OS configuration.

### [Terraform Hetzner Modules](#)

**Terraform**

- Reusable **Terraform** module library for Hetzner Cloud and Cloudflare, providing modules for server clusters, VPC networking, firewalls, load balancers, floating IPs, SSH keys, and DNS record management.

### [PKI](#)

**Terraform**

- **Terraform**-based, YAML-driven self-signed PKI stack — three composable modules (CA, certificate, K8s secret) wired by an umbrella that resolves the full CA → cert → **Kubernetes** secret lifecycle from a single config file. [Lab example](#)

### [GitLab CI/CD Components](#)

**yaml**

- Reusable **GitLab** CI/CD component library spanning **Go**, TypeScript, **Terraform**, **Ansible**, **Helm**, **Kubernetes**, and containerized workloads.

### [Helm charts](#)

**Helm**

- System and apps **Helm** Charts collection

## Skills

---

**Programming Languages:** Go, Bash, Python

**Containers & Orchestration:** **Kubernetes** (K8s/K3s), KubeVirt, **Docker**, **Helm**, K9s

**Infrastructure as Code:** **Terraform**, **Ansible**

**Version Control & CI/CD:** **GitLab**, GitHub, **ArgoCD**

**Cloud & Platforms:** AWS, Hetzner Cloud, **Linux**

**Observability & Monitoring:** **Prometheus**, **Grafana**, **Elastic**, **OTEL**, **Zabbix**, **Jaeger**

## Education

---

University of Zagreb Centre for Croatian Studies, Mag.comm in Public Relations – Zagreb

2011 – 2014

Faculty of Philosophy of the Society of Jesus, Univ. bacc. phil. in Philosophy – Zagreb

2008 – 2014