

International History International Relations/Political Science

Academic year 2019-2020

International Organisations and Global Narratives

RI-SP104 - Autumn - 6 ECTS

Tuesday 14h15 - 16h00

Course Description

This course investigates the historical origins, political roles and normative power of International Organizations in global governance from an interdisciplinary perspective. Combining historical, sociological and political science approaches, the course focuses on international organizations as spaces where narratives on challenges of global governance are developed, institutionalized and diffused. In a first part, we will discuss how international issues are created and framed. In a second part, we examine which historically and culturally embedded ideas shape our international system. In a third part we reflect on the nature of IOs and their power as well as the mechanisms, processes and forms of expertise through which they establish norms, policies and practices of international governance. Last but not least the course will look at why and how IO narratives can become contested by a variety of actors in the international public sphere. These themes will be explored both through theory and a wide range of case studies, including the governance of science and technology, food security issues, human rights and labor issues.

> PROFESSOR

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Syllabus

Method of Assessment

1.Seminar participation (20%)

You are expected to attend each seminar and regularly participate in discussions. Having read the suggested material is essential to your good participation in class discussions.

2. Reading reports and presentation (30%)

Based on your readings, you will submit a fortnightly report (ca. 500 words including 3 questions for discussion) one day before our meeting. You will also prepare one presentation on a seminar topic.

3. Term Paper (50%)

The final term paper should be related to one of the themes raised during the class. Papers should be approximately 3000-3500- words in length. You are expected to think independently about your possible research question for the term paper, but you should consult with one of us once you have proposals in mind. You should have a proposal by week 9, which you should submit to us in written form by email. The paper should demonstrate an understanding of the class content and the readings and an ability to analyze them critically and to make connections between them. Attention will be paid to clarity of expression and appropriate use of terminology. You are welcome to carry out some primary research (interviews / use of archival sources) but this is not compulsory.

WEEK 1 / September 17: Introduction: Course Outline

No readings

CREATING GLOBAL GOVERNANCE PROBLEMS

WEEK 2 / September 24: What is Global Governance: Interdisciplinary Perspectives

Readings:

- Biersteker, Thomas. 2009. "Global Governance." In Myriam Dunn Cavelty and Victor Mauer (eds.) *Routledge Companion to Security* (New York and London: Routledge Publishers), pp. 439-451.
- Weiss, Thomas, and Rorden Wilkinson. "Rethinking Global Governance? Complexity, Authority, Power, Change." *International Studies Quarterly* 58 (2014): 207-15
- A. Iriye, *Global Community: The Role of International Organizations in the Making of the Contemporary World* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2002)
- Mark Mazower, *Governing the World: The History of an Idea* (New York, 2012).

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND HISTORICAL LEGACIES

WEEK 3 /October 1: War and imperial Legacies – The League of Nations and the Emergence of Geneva as an International Space

Readings:

- G. Sluga, *Internationalism in the Age of Nationalism* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2013) Chapter 2, *Imagine Geneva Between The Wars*.

-Susan Pedersen, 'Getting out of Iraq – in 1932: The League of Nations and the Road to Normative Statehood', *American Historical Review*, 115: 4 (2010), 975-1000.

- Joëlle Droux, 'From Inter-agency Competition to Transnational Cooperation: The ILO Contribution to Child Welfare Issues During the interwar Years', in S.Kott and J.Droux (eds), *Globalizing social rights: The International Labour Organization and beyond* (2013), 262-279.

For further reading:

-Anthony Anghie, 'Colonialism and the Birth of international institutions: Sovereignty, Economy and the Mandates System of the League of Nations', *International Law and Politics*, 34:513

- Daniel Gorman, 'Empire, Internationalism, and the Campaign against the Traffic in Women and Children in the 1920s', (2008) 186-216.

- Erez Manela, 'Dawn of a New Era: The 'Wilsonian Moment' in Colonial Contexts and the Transformation of World Order, 1917-1920, in Sebastian Conrad and Dominic Sachsenmaier, eds., *Competing Visions of World Order: Global Moments and Movements, 1880s-1930s*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007.

BBC Series Things We Forgot to Remember: The League of Nations:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/b00fz8fb>

WEEK 4 / October 8: IOs and American Dominance after World War II: The Rise of Development Thinking

Readings:

- John Ikenberry, *After Victory*, (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2000), chapter 6.

-Amy Staples, *The Birth of Development: How the World Bank, Food and Agriculture Organization, and World Health Organization Changed the World, 1945–1965*, Kent, OH: Kent State University Press, 2006. Chapter 2: Constructing an International Economic World View.

For further reading:

-Marc Frey, Sönke Kunkel and Corinna Unger (eds), *International Organizations and Development, 1945-1990* (London, 2014). Any chapter.

- Jill Jensen, US New Deal Social Policy Experts and the ILO, 1948-1954, In: Sandrine Kott and Joëlle Droux (Hg.): *Globalizing Social Rights: The International Labour Organization and Beyond*. London: Palgrave Macmillan (International Labour Organization (ILO) Century Series)

- Amalia Ribi Forclaz, From Reconstruction to Development: The Early Years of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Conceptualization of Rural Welfare, 1945-1955, *International History Review* (2018) .

-Davide Ekbladh, *The Great American Mission: Modernization and the Construction of an American World Order* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2010).

THE MAKING OF GLOBAL GOVERNANCE PROBLEMS

WEEK 5 / October 15: The Emergence of the Refugee Problem in the Interwar Period Guest Lecture by Dr Francesca Piana

Readings:

Peter Gatrell, *The Making of Modern Refugees* (Oxford University Press, 2013). Chapter 2, pp. 52-84: Nations States and the Birth of a 'Refugee Problem' in interwar Europe.

Watenpaugh, Keith D. "The League of Nations' Rescue of Armenian Genocide Survivors and the Making of Modern Humanitarianism, 1920–1927," *The American Historical Review* 115, no. 5 (December 1, 2010), 1315–39.

For further reading:

Haddad, Emma, *The Refugee in International Society between Sovereigns* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008). Chapter 2, The refugee and the international system.

Kévonian, Dzovinar, *Réfugiés et diplomatie humanitaire: les acteurs européens et la scène proche-orientale pendant l'entre-deux-guerres* (Paris: Publications de la Sorbonne, 2004).

WEEK 6 / October 22: Creating Global Governance Problems - the Case of Climate

Readings:

- Bent Allan, 'Producing the climate: States, scientists, and the constitution of global governance objects'. *International Organization*. 2017, 71 (1), 131-162.

- Clark A. Miller, "Climate science and the making of a global political order." In Sheila Jasanoff, ed. *States of Knowledge: The Co-Production of Science and Social Order* (Routledge, 2001), pp. 46-66.

For further reading:

- Jean Foyer, Stefan Aykut, Edouard Morena. *Globalising the Climate. COP21 and the climatisation of global debates* (Routledge, Routledge, 2017). Read introduction.

THE POWER OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

WEEK 7 / October 29: IOs as (Political) Bureaucracies

Readings:

- Barnett, Michael N. and Martha Finnemore. 1999. "The Politics, Power, and Pathologies of International Organizations." *International Organization*, 53:4, pp. 699-732.

- Lucile Maertens, 'Depoliticisation as a securitising move: the case of the United Nations Environment Programme', *European Journal of International Security*, 2018, 3: 3, 344-363

-Müller, Birgit. *The gloss of harmony: the politics of policy-making in multilateral organisations*. London: Pluto Press, 2013. Read book introduction.

For further reading:

- Littoz-Monnet, A. (ed.), (2017), *The Politics of Expertise in International Organizations. How International Bureaucracies Produce and Mobilize Knowledge*, London, Routledge. Read book introduction

WEEK 8 / November 5: IO Field Trip

WEEK 9/ November 12: IOs, Private Actors and the Politics of Expertise

Readings:

- Tsigou, Eleni, (2015). 'Club Governance and the Making of Global Financial Rules', *Review of International Political Economy* 22(2).

- Sonia Shah, How Private Companies are Transforming the Global Public Health Agenda, 9 November 2011, available at: <https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/2011-11-09/how-private-companies-are-transforming-global-public-health-agenda>

For further Reading:

-David Demortain (2015) The tools of globalization: ways of regulating and the structure of the international regime for pharmaceuticals, *Review of International Political Economy*, 22:6, 1249-1275.

WEEK 10/ November 18: The Politics of Quantification

Readings:

- Davis, Kingsbury & Merry, 'Indicators as a Technology of Global Governance' *Law & Society Review*, 2012, 46 (1): 71-104

- Jasanoff, S. (2017). 'Virtual, visible, and actionable: Data assemblages and the sightlines of justice'. *Big Data & Society*, 2017, 4(2).

- Sotiria Grek, 'Governing by Numbers: The PISA 'effect' in Europe', *Journal of Education Policy* 24, 2009, 1: 23–37.

For further reading:

Dzovinar Kévonian, 'La légitimation par l'expertise: le Bureau international du travail et la statistique inter-nationale', *Les cahiers Irice*, 2, 2008, pp. 81–106.

Judy L. Klein and Mary Morgan, eds., *The age of economic measurement*, Durham, NC: Duke University Press, 2001.

WEEK 11/ November 26. Discussion of Essay Topics

WEEK 12 / December 3: IOs and Global Professionals : A Sociological Perspective

Guest lecture with Dr. Monique Beerli, Visiting Fellow, Graduate Institute

-Yi-Chong Xu and Patrick Weller, 'To Be, But not To Be Seen': Exploring the Impact of International Civil Servants. *Public administration*, 2008, 86(1): 35-51.

CONTESTATION OF GLOBAL NARRATIVES

Week 13/December 10: NGOs and Transnational Advocacy – the Cases of the International Code on Breastmilk Substitutes and of EU Nanotechnology Policy

Readings:

- Keck, Margaret E., and Kathryn Sikkink. *Transnational Advocacy Networks in International Politics*. 1998, NY: Cornell University Press. Read introduction.

- Cicely Williams, 'Address to Rotary Club, Singapore: Milk and Murder', 1939.

-Friends of the Earth website, https://1bps6437gg8c169i0y1drtgz-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/wpallimport/files/archive/Nanomaterials_sunscreens_and_cosmetics.pdf.

WEEK 14 / December 17: Social Movements, Transnational Advocacy and IOs (the case of La Via Campesina and FAO and the Declaration on the Rights of Peasants)

Readings:

- Priscilla Claeys, 'From Food Sovereignty to Peasants Rights: An Overview of La Via Campesina's Rights Based Claims over the last 20 years', *Globalization*, 12, 4 (2015), 452-465.

- On the Negotiation Process:

<https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/WGPLeasants/Session2/ChristopheGolay.pdf>

For further reading:

- Priscilla Claeys, 'The Creation of New Rights by the Food Sovereignty Movement: The Challenge of Institutionalizing Subversion' *Sociology* 46, 5 (2012): 844–860.

- Kathryn Sikkink, A Typology of Relations Between Social Movements and International Institutions *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting (American Society of International Law)* Vol. 97 (APRIL 2-5, 2003), pp. 301-305.