Informal Guiding: Enacting Immediacy, Informality and Authenticity in Cuba

This paper by Valerio Simoni (in *Ethnologia Europaea*, vol. 48, no. 2, 2018) reflects on the ethical, political and epistemological stakes of analytical categorisations. Based on research on tourism in Cuba, it shows how informality, authenticity and immediacy are enacted in touristic encounters, and how this in turn informs the emergence of competing identifications, forms of relationality, and ways of knowing.

[Journal access](#)
**BOOK CHAPTER**

**Pentecostalism and Alternative Paths for Self-Accomplishment in Kenya**

Yvan Droz and PhD alumnus Yonatan N. Gez are among the authors of this chapter in *Religion and Human Security in Africa* (Routledge). They find that while neo-Pentecostalism and, to a lesser extent, vigilantism are two new social institutions offering the frustrated youth alternative paths to adulthood, both are underpinned by a backwards-looking, neotraditionalist ethos of self-accomplishment.

*Interview ›*

**Trade and Economic Integration**

**EDITED BOOK CHAPTER**

**Competition Enforcement, Trade, and Global Governance**

A contribution by Damien Neven and Petros Mavroidis in *Reconciling Efficiency and Equity: A Global Challenge for Competition Policy* (CUP, 2019).

*Access ›*
EDITED BOOK

Researching the Global Education Industry: Commodification, the Market and Business Involvement


Publisher ›

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Comprehensive Health Security as a Component of Sustainable German Foreign Policy


Publisher ›
ARTICLE
Gridlock, Innovation and Resilience in Global Health Governance
In this paper by Ilona Kickbusch, Michaela Told and others (in Global Policy, vol. 10, no. 2, May 2019), the authors show that global health governance is in many ways proving more innovative and resilient than other sectors in global governance. Access ›

WORKING PAPER
The Office of the Legal Counsel of the World Health Organization
This paper by Gian Luca Burci and Claudia Nannini (in Global Health eJournal's WP Series, 2018) provides an overview of the internal structure of the Office of the Legal Counsel of the WTO and attempts at categorising the functions performed by it. Further, it elaborates on the applicable law on which the legal officers rely in their work, and on the Office's contribution to the development and implementation of international law. Access ›

WORKING PAPER
Coming Out in America: AIDS, Politics, and Cultural Change
The last few decades witnessed a dramatic change in public opinion towards gay people. This paper by Martina Viarengo and others (NBER WP Series 25697, March 2019) investigates the hypothesis that the AIDS epidemic and ensuing endogenous political process led to this transformation. It finds that the change in opinion was indeed greater in states with higher AIDS rates. Evidence suggests that if individuals in low-AIDS states had experienced the same average AIDS rate as a high-AIDS state, the change in their approval rate from the '70s to the '90s would have been 50% greater. Access ›
Genetically modified organisms

This chapter by Anne Saab (in The Oxford Handbook of Comparative Environmental Law, Emma Lees and Jorge Viñuales, eds.) provides an overview of the legal regulation of genetically modified organisms, with a specific focus on genetically modified foods. It covers three main areas, namely risk assessment and regulation, labelling, and the application of intellectual property rights.

Oil and Political Economy in the International Relations of the Middle East

This chapter by Giacomo Luciani (in International Relations of the Middle East, OUP, 5th ed. 2019) explores the complex interrelationship between the role of the Middle East as a major source of oil and the creation of the ME state system, the IR of the ME states both regionally and with the rest of the world. It is updated to take into account the hardening of regional conflicts.

History of the Anthropocene Concept

For Jacques Grinevald et al. (in The Anthropocene as a Geological Time Unit: A Guide to the Scientific Evidence and Current Debate, CUP, 2019), the question of the history of the Anthropocene as a controversial term or not yet formalised scientific concept is rendered complicated by the diversity of the perspectives from which the geohistorical phenomenon of the Anthropocene has been addressed, defined and dated. Is a new term for a century-old idea or a paradigm-shifting epistemological novelty, potentially based on stratigraphic signals around the mi-twentieth century of our Gregorian calendar, the so-called Common Era?

Firing Up: Policy, Politics and Polemics under New and Old Burning Regimes

Susanna Hecht et al. have edited and introduced a themed section (in The Geographical Journal, vol. 185, no. 1, March 2019) which presents research conducted in different regions in Latin America (Amazon, Cerrado, Chiquitana) and explores the historical and current tensions around the development of the science of burning by local populations.
Saving China’s Stock Market?

Yi Huang et al. (in *IMF Econ Rev*, 2019) estimate the value creation for the stocks purchased by the Chinese government between the period starting with the market crash in mid-June of 2015 and the market recovery in September. They find that the government intervention increased the value of the rescued non-financial firms by RMB 206 billion after netting out the average purchase cost. The short-term value creation came from the increased stock demand, the reduced default probabilities, and the increased liquidity. The intervention may come at a long-run cost of creating moral hazard, preventing price discovery, creating more uncertainty, and damaging government credibility.

Access ❯
BigTech and the Changing Structure of Financial Intermediation

In this BIS Working Paper (no. 779, Bank for International Settlements, 2019), Yi Huang et al. consider the drivers and implications of the entry of big technology companies (BigTech) into financial services. Analysing the case of Argentina, they find that BigTech lenders have an information advantage in credit assessment relative to a traditional credit bureau. For borrowers in both Argentina and China, firms that accessed credit expanded their product offerings more than those that did not. It is too early to judge the extent of BigTech’s eventual advance into the provision of financial services. However, the early evidence allows us to pose pertinent questions that bear on their impact on financial stability and overall economic welfare.

Access ›

Socially Disadvantaged Groups and Microfinance in India

About two-thirds of microfinance clients in India are reported to be in self-help groups (SHGs), Lore Vandewalle et al. (in Economic Development and Cultural Change, vol. 67, no. 3, 2019) study the survival of members and groups and their differential access to credit using a census of SHGs created between 1998 and 2006 in 386 villages in eastern India. Households without land and those from disadvantaged castes exhibit higher attrition rates and smaller loans, but the main predictor of differential outcomes is education.

Access ›

When Government Promise to Prioritize Public Debt: Do Markets Care?

During the European sovereign debt crisis of 2011–13, some nations faced with rising borrowing costs adopted commitments to treat bondholders as priority claimants. In this International Economics Department Working Paper (07/2019), Ugo Panizza and others analyse the prevalence and variety of these types of commitments and ask whether they impact borrowing costs. They examine a widely-touted reform at the height of the Euro sovereign debt crisis in 2011, in which Spain enshrined in its constitution a strong commitment to give absolute priority to public debt claimants. They find no evidence that this reform had any impact on Spanish sovereign bond yields.

Repository ›
Naufragés et rescapés, fantômes et statues, oubliés et oublis dans les archives des institutions humanitaires

Ce chapitre de Davide Rodogno (in Normer l’oubli, IRJS Editions, 2018) s’intéresse à la manière dont les organisations humanitaires organisent et imaginent leurs archives et la nature des information que le chercheur peut y trouver. Ces archives ne sont pas une panacée, mais offrent une optique précise, limitée et limitante, pour le chercheur qui doit les étudier avec prudence.

ARTICLE

Revisiting the Nexus: Numbers, Principles and the Issue of Social Change

Might the concept of social change enable us to work towards a better synergy between the current actors in the development-humanitarian aid-conflict prevention nexus? This is the hypothesis of Gilles Carbonnier (in Alternatives humanitaires/Humanitarian Alternatives, no. 10, 2019), based on the flow of resources to recipient countries of humanitarian aid.

Migration and Refugees
MONOGRAPHIE

L’espoir au bout du pont: histoire de la filière de Douvaine (1939-1945)

Cet ouvrage de Laurent Neury (Cabédita, 2019) montre comment une poignée de catholiques «conservateurs» se sont mobilisés pour faire passer de France en Suisse plusieurs centaines de persécutés juifs.

Éditeur ›

Gender

ARTICLE

Care as Everyday Peacebuilding

Demonstrating through two case studies (from Northern Ireland to Aceh, and Kashmir to Reykjavik) how care is an essential ingredient of everyday peace, Rahel Kunz and others (in Critical Peace and Conflict Studies: Feminist Interventions, vol. 7, no. 2, 2019) suggest that a care lens allows us to reframe the understanding of everyday peace to provide a fuller picture that also addresses the complex and contradictory nature of social relations involved in everyday peacebuilding.

Access ›

Governance
ARTICLE
China and the Vatican
The Vatican-China relationship made a historic breakthrough in October 2018, but the main reason for this development is misunderstood in the West. In this article for Survival published in June 2018, Lanxin Xiang made a prediction that it would inevitably come. He approached “Western” engagement with China and its model of governance by contextualising the long history of relations between the Vatican and China. The Catholic Church appears to be the only Western actor able to grasp the meaning of China’s self-restoration.

Interview ›

ARTICLE
Rivalry and Overlap: Why Regional Economic Organizations Encroach on Security Organizations
The proliferation and scope expansion of regional organisations is one of the most prominent features in international politics. In particular, many regional economic organisations (REOs) have expanded into the security realm, often resulting in an overlap with regional security organisations (RSOs). Stephanie Hofmann and Yoram Haftel (in Journal of Conflict Resolution, 2019) identify the conditions under which REOs trespass into the security policy domain, and argue that strategic rivalries are an important driver of this overlap.

Access ›

REPORT
UN Sanctions and Mediation: Establishing Evidence to Inform Practice
This is the final report, by Thomas Biersteker and others, of the United Nations Sanctions and Mediation Project, an 18-month policy research project which sets the foundation for a better understanding of the interlinkages between sanctions and mediation. The report concludes with 20 recommendations for the UN Security Council, UN sanctions committees, UN Secretariat, and senior UN mediators on promoting complementarity and avoiding complication between UN sanctions and mediation (UN University Centre for Policy Research, 2019).

Access ›

ARTICLE
La déclaration d'indépendance de la Catalogne: sécession, non-ingérence et (non-)reconnaissance
Dans un article pour la Revue générale de droit international public (vol. 122, 2018), Éric Wyler estime que si une éventuelle sécession de la Catalogne devait réussir, les éventuelles reconnaissances effectuées avant sa réalisation seraient considérées comme illicites, à tout le moins par l’Espagne, mais qu’elles n’empêcheraient pas une cooptation de la Catalogne par les reconnaissances provenant d’une majorité d’États, conférant ainsi à celle-ci le statut d’État au sens du droit international.

Interview ›

ARTICLE
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Access ›
L’État de distorsion en Afrique de l’Ouest: des empires à la nation

Les classes politiques africaines ont choisi de reproduire le cadre territorial hérité de la colonisation, entérinant le principe de l’État-nation. Ce dernier, bien qu’il contredise la plupart des ressorts politiques, économiques et culturels des sociétés africaines, a fait l’objet de processus d’appropriation souvent massive et toujours créative. Le livre de Jean-François Bayart et al. (Karthala, 2019) analyse cette double réalité qui rend insuffisantes les interprétations mettant l’accent sur des contradictions entre un État hérité de la colonisation et les sociétés du cru, sous la forme d’un jeu à somme nulle.

éditeur

Pluralism

Nico Krisch (in Concepts for International Law: Contributions to Disciplinary Thought, J. d’Aspremont and S. Singh, eds., Edward Elgar, 2019) analyses different versions of pluralism that stand in competition with one another – some operating within the realm of formal, state-made law, others going beyond this realm into the sphere of normative orders of an informal or private character. He highlights some of the normative stakes raised by “radically” pluralist accounts of global law – accounts that eschew a common frame of reference and provoke important questions about legitimacy and the rule of law.

Publisher
Epistemic Communities
This essay by Andrea Bianchi (in Concepts for International Law: Contributions to Disciplinary Thought, J. d’Aspremont and S. Singh, eds., Edward Elgar, 2019) investigates the role and functions of “epistemic communities”, meant as the ensemble of actors involved in the dynamic processes whereby our understanding of what international law is and how it works is formed and shaped. Epistemic communities are carriers of “distinct normative visions” that they advocate more or less overtly in order to gain or consolidate control of any given field. By putting forward a common vision of the world, they shape the perception of social agents and determine the fundamental tenets of the disciplinary discourse.

Publisher

The Revolutionary Guard in Iranian Domestic and Foreign Power Politics
This chapter by Farzan Sabet, researcher at the Global Governance Centre (in Routledge Handbook of International Relations in the Middle East, 2019) focuses on the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) role in Iranian domestic politics and foreign policy. The IRGC plays both a formal role as a security actor entrusted to “guard the revolution and its achievements”, and an informal role as a patron of the principlist political current in electoral politics. The IRGC in foreign policy emphasises self-reliance, military power, and zero-sum confrontation.

Publisher

The European Court of human rights between dispute settlement and governance
Oana Ichim inquires into the particularities of the Strasbourg regime of adjudication vis-à-vis general accepted models of adjudication. She argues that this governing potential eventually overshadows the Court’s dispute-settlement capacity and renders uncertain the connexion between the scope of the States’ primary responsibility to apply and enforce the Convention at the domestic level and the Court’s final supervision, which is supposed to intervene only as ultima ratio.

Repository

Publisher

Democratic and Civil Society
INTERVIEW

Patterns, Causes and Remedies for Global Inequalities

In April Branko Milanovic was invited by the Albert Hirshman Centre on Democracy to a public lecture on the evolution of global income inequality. This gave Shalini Randeria the opportunity to interview him on the political implications of global inequality. Branco Milanovic pleads for an egalitarian capitalism which comes from a relative equality of endowments.

Interview ›

Development Policies and Practices

ARTICLE

Does ethnic diversity decrease economic interactions? Evidence from exchange networks in rural Gambia

Using a unique dataset collected in 59 rural Gambian villages, Jean-Louis Arcand and D. Jaimovich (in Econ Transit Institut Change, vol. 27, no. 2, 2019) study how ethnic heterogeneity is related to the structure of four economic exchange networks: land, labour, inputs and credit. They find that different measures of village-level ethnic fragmentation are mostly uncorrelated with network structure.

Access ›
La décroissance énergétique est désormais nécessaire

Pour le professeur honoraire Gilbert Rist (in Revue internationale et stratégique, no 113, 2019), développer les énergies renouvelables est sans doute une bonne idée, mais on se trompe dangereusement si l’on pense qu’elles pourront remplacer complètement les énergies fossiles.

Conflict, Dispute Settlement and Peacebuilding

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

In his co-authored contribution to the Palgrave Handbook of Global Approaches to Peace (2019), Déléldji Eric Degila, Senior Researcher at the Global Migration Centre, finds that APSA’s strength lies in its promotion of endogenous policies, but it is constrained by a structural dependence vis-à-vis external partners.
**BOOK CHAPTER**

**Detention and Prosecution as Described in the DoD Manual**

In his contribution to *The United States Department of Defense Law of War Manual: Commentary and Critique* (CUP, 2018), Andrew Clapham, stressing the importance of taking into consideration the perspectives of the wider international community, considers not only whether the DoD Manual conforms to international law, but also whether its approach to human rights and humanitarian law are shared by those states that the US work with.

**Interview ›**

**EDITED BOOK CHAPTER**

**Guns, Gifts, and Guerrillas: Knowledge and objects during World War II in the Indo–Myanmar (Burma) frontier**

This chapter by Aditya Kiran Kakati (in *Objects and Frontiers in Modern Asia: Between the Mekong and the Indus*, Routledge India, 2019) interrogate the entanglements between objects and imperial knowledge to re-examine frontier state-society relationships during global war. Going beyond prevalent forms of technological determinism that consider weapons as powerful objects, it views them as sites of historical encounters where competing claims of wartime frontier state-making, along with the tenuousness and contingent nature of these processes, can be revealed.

**Access ›**

**ARTICLE**

**Emancipation and Critique in Peace and Conflict Research**

This contribution by Keith Krause (in *Journal of Global Security Studies*, 2019) examines how the critical potential of research on peace in International Relations has been simultaneously marginalised and transformed. It focuses on two epistemological and normative choices that occlude the emancipatory potential of peace research and marginalise certain approaches to the study of the causes of war and conditions of peace. In a more positive vein, it illustrates where potentially emancipatory or transformative scholarship on building peace has migrated.

**Access ›**

**REPORT**

**Beyond Blue Helmets: Promoting Weapons and Ammunition Management in Non-UN Peace Operations**

Authored by Eric Berman, Small Arms Survey Director, this report details efforts to improve weapons and ammunition management in non-UN peace operations in order to enhance force protection and mandate implementation. It focuses on defining key terms, identifying the actors undertaking those operations, and analysing the challenges they face as well as the control measures that exist to mitigate the risks and reduce the loss of arms and ammunition.

**Access ›**
ARTICLE

The Unbearable Lightness of International Law

Drawing inspiration from Milan Kundera’s famous novel and Friedrich Nietzsche’s work, the article by Andrea Bianchi in the London Review of International Law (vol. 6, no. 3, 2018) encourages to call into question what is considered “weighty” and “light” in international legal scholarship. Ultimately, it invites to regularly challenge our deeply held convictions and judgments about the value of intellectual and scholarly postures.

Interview ›

ARTICLE

The Behavioral Effect of Pigovian Regulation: Evidence from a Field Experiment

Pigovian regulation provides monetary penalties/rewards to incentivise prosocial behavior, and may thereby trigger behavioral effects beyond a more standard response associated with a change in relative prices. This paper by Timothy Swanson and others (in Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, vol. 87, 2018) quantifies the magnitude of these behavioral effects.

Access ›

ARTICLE

PISA for Scandalisation, PISA for Projection

The introductory article by Gita Steiner-Khamsi and Florian Waldow (in Globalisation, Societies and Education, vol. 16, no. 5, 2018) contextualises the four articles of the special issue in the broader context of comparative policy studies in education. It reflects on the question of why cross-national comparison is relevant for the study of ILSA (international large-scale assessment) policy reception.

Access ›
EDITED BOOK
Researching the Global Education Industry: Commodification, the Market and Business Involvement
This book co-edited by Gita Steiner-Khamsi and others (Palgrave, 2019) examines how the global education industry (GEI) has brokered, funded, and implemented new conceptualisations of “good” education. With a focus on new private providers and policy actors in education, the authors analyse the impact of the GEI on educational research, policy and practice.

Publisher ›

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER
Data and Evidence on Education in Emergencies: Linking Global Concerns with Local Issues
Patrick Montjournidès and Ji Liu (in Data Collection and Evidence Building to Support Education in Emergencies, NORRAG Special Issue no. 2, 2019) discuss how the global education community is still missing a global approach to foster access, production, and dissemination of data and evidence in EiE. Despite early warnings about the critical lack of data and evidence in EiE and against unprecedented trends of violence and natural disaster occurrences, many of the issues highlighted in the past remain very much valid today.

Access ›

Agenda

Lectures and Seminars

Monday 3 June
18:15 - 19:45
Auditorium A2

The Myth of International Protection: War and Survival in Congo
Book launch organised by the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding with Claudia Seymour. More information and registration here ›

Tuesday 4 June
16:15 - 18:00
Petal 2, Room S5

Anthroposea
ANSO Seminar with Nikhil Anand. More information here ›

Thursday 6 June, 09:00 - Friday 7 June, 17:00

The Paths of International Law Workshop
Organised by the Global Governance Centre, with Nico Krisch and Ezgi Yildiz. More information and registration as auditor here ›
The Secret of China’s Growth
A lecture organised by the Centre for Finance and Development with Xiaodong Zhu. More information and registration here ›

Social Impact Investment 2019: The Impact Imperative for Sustainable Development
A presentation – organised by the Centre for Finance and Development – of this new OCDE report with Karen Wilson. More information and registration here ›

Upcoming Deadlines

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<td>Call for contributions: Transforming social demands into spatial norms</td>
<td>NEW! SNSF Spark – Rapid funding of unconventional ideas</td>
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SNSF-FUNDED PROJECT

The CSCE Follow-up Meeting in Vienna (1986-1989): Struggling for Human Rights and European security at the End of the Cold War

Jussi Hanhimäki with A. Wirsching, H. Wentker, A. Brait and M. Gehler have been granted CHF 283,152 to carry out this 36-month project.

Prizes

Three IR/PS Professors Awarded Prizes from the ISA

Liliana Andonova, Anna Leander and Elisabeth Prügl were awarded prizes for their work at the International Studies Association (ISA) in Toronto, Canada, on 27 March.

Barrie Sander Awarded Young Scholar Prize of 2018

On 13 May Barrie Sander, Graduate Institute PhD alumnus (2017), was presented this prize of the International and Comparative Law Quarterly for his article “History on Trial: Historical Narrative Pluralism within and beyond International Criminal Courts.”
### Upcoming PhD Defences

**Three Essay on Empirical Macroeconomics**


### Visitors

- **22 May - 5 July**
  
  Coming from the University of Waikato, New Zealand, Senior Lecturer Anna Marie Brennan is hosted at the Department of International Law and works on "Prosecuting Collective Entities under International Criminal Law" with Paola Gaeta and Andrew Clapham.

- **10 June 2019 - 20 May 2020**
  
  Coming from the University of Bern, Senior Lecturer Janelle Diller will be hosted at the Global Governance Centre and will work on "Paths of International Law" with Nico Krisch.

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