

Research Bulletin

Upcoming events, latest publications and other research activities

9 September 2024 (no. 7, 2024)

Announcing the Hoffmann Centre for Global Sustainability

The Hoffmann Centre for Global Sustainability will be launched on **23 September 2024**. Building on the rich legacy of the Centre for International Environmental Studies (CIES) and thanks to the support of André Hoffmann, the new Centre will conduct cutting-edge academic research on the complex interactions between natural, economic, social, legal and political systems and inform, through research, expertise and outreach, decision-making and action on global sustainability for a peaceful and equitable world for current and future living communities.

[Read more >](#)

[Register for the launch >](#)

Upcoming Research Events

09 SEP Monday	10 SEP Tuesday	11 SEP Wednesday	12 SEP Thursday	13 SEP Friday
CTEI & GTP GENEVA TRADE WEEK 2024 International Cooperation on Trade, Climate, and Sustainable Development at the WTO: Pragmatic	CTEI & GTP GENEVA TRADE WEEK 2024 Re-Shaping Trade for an Inclusive Future: Labour in the Green and Digital Supply Chain 08:15–10:15	CTEI & GTP GENEVA TRADE WEEK 2024 Book Talk – “Why Politicians Lie about Trade” by Dmitry Grozoubinski 12:30–13:30	CTEI & GTP GENEVA TRADE WEEK 2024 Addressing Environmentally Harmful Agricultural Subsidies through the WTO 13:30–14:45	CTEI & GTP GENEVA TRADE WEEK 2024 Trade for Stability: Leveraging Private Sector Innovation with ITC’s Conflict Sensitivity Methodology

Options & Unconventional Thinking
13:00–14:30

CTEI & GTP | GENEVA TRADE WEEK 2024

Bridging the Gap: Equitable, Transparent and Sustainable Instruments and Innovative Policies to Maximise the Benefits of Global Trade while Ensuring Environmental Objectives
12:00–13:00 (online)

CTEI & GTP | GENEVA TRADE WEEK 2024

From Zero to Hero: How Sectoral “Zero for Zero” Spirits Tariff Deals Support Inclusive and Sustainable Trade
13:15–14:30

CTEI & GTP | GENEVA TRADE WEEK 2024

Debate on the Moratorium on Customs Duties on Electronic Transmissions
13:30–14:45

CTEI & GTP | GENEVA TRADE WEEK 2024

Trade Winds – Live Podcast Recording
17:00–18:15

09:30–10:30

16 SEP Monday

NO EVENTS

17 SEP Tuesday

VILFREDO PARETO RESEARCH SEMINAR
With Yuan Zi
14:15–15:30

18 SEP Wednesday

NO EVENTS

19 SEP Thursday

GHC
Global Health Funding Crunch? Trends and Implications
13:00–14:30 hybrid

20 SEP Friday

NO EVENTS

[See all events >](#)

Gateway to Publications by Themes



Trade, Finance, Economies & Work



Education, Information & Media



Peace, War, Conflicts & Security



Development & Cooperation



Human Rights, Humanitarianism, Justice & Inclusion



Gender, Diversity, Race & Intersectionality



Democracy & Civil Society



Arts, Culture & Religion



Sustainability, Environment, the Anthropocene & SDGs



Diplomacy & Global Governance



Global Health



Cities, Space, Mobilities & Migrations



Gateway to Other Relevant Information



Multimedia



Visitors



Calls for Papers



Awarded Prizes



Upcoming PhD Defences



Publications by Themes



Trade, Finance, Economies & Work



ARTICLE

Made and Created in China: The Role of Processing Trade

Zhiyuan Chen, Aksel Erbahar and **Yuan Zi**

examine the main participants of China's processing trade regime – firms that engage in both processing and ordinary exports (in *The Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, June 2024).

By matching several datasets from China,

including a unique sample of transaction-level customs data with firms' branding information, they uncover three stylised facts. First, these "mixed" firms exhibit superior performance in various margins such as revenue and physical productivity. Second, even within firms, there is a link between export mode choice and brand ownership – own-branded products are typically exported under ordinary trade while products under other firms' brands are exported under processing trade. Third, there is a price premium associated with selling one's own-branded products. To rationalise these findings, the authors present a simple theoretical framework where firms with multi-attributes (i.e., "making" and "creating") endogenously determine their specialisation within a production network. They find evidence for the model's main prediction that firms in China intensified their branding activities when faced with favourable processing trade policies upstream.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

ARTICLE

Do Tax Revenues Track Economic Growth? Comparing Panel Data Estimators

Determining how economic growth affects tax revenues is crucial for fiscal sustainability, economic stabilisation, and policy design. The current literature on tax buoyancy presents contrasting estimates, highlighting the need for a systematic discussion of the trade-offs associated with different estimators. **Antoine Cornevin**, PhD Researcher in International Economics, Juan Sebastian Corrales and Juan Pablo Angel Mojica provide new empirical evidence by reviewing a range of panel data estimators in a large sample of 172 countries from 1990 to 2019 (in *Economic Modelling*, vol. 140, November 2024). They find evidence of lower estimates for tax responses to economic activity in the short term relative to previous literature, suggesting a limited automatic stabilisation power of tax systems. The heterogeneity in the results within and across income groups underscores the importance of choosing the appropriate estimator. The results remain broadly unchanged when the authors introduce new control variables to disentangle discretionary from automatic tax revenue variations, indicating that economic cycles do not significantly influence the timing of tax policies.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

ARTICLE

Obscure Contract Terms: An Inadvertent Pricing Experiment

Contract terms that improve or reduce the likelihood of repayment of a debt should impact its price. That is basic economics. But what about a contract that is hundreds of pages long and has lengthy and complex terms that even the lawyers are unwilling to read? Believers in efficient markets might predict that variations that affect the likelihood of repayment in such obscure contract terms will be priced at the outset if there are profits to be made by exploiting these

variations. An alternate view is that little attention is paid to the fine print in highly standardised contracts until the likelihood of default becomes sufficiently salient to make reading the fine print worthwhile. Using several inadvertent real-world experiments, Stephen J. Choi, Mitu Gulati, **Ugo Panizza**, Robert E. Scott and Mark C. Weidemaier examine the question of how and when variations that are assumed to be standardised in obscure contract terms are priced (in *Capital Markets Law Journal*, vol. 19, no. 3, July 2024).

[DOI >](#)

ARTICLE

Import Shock and Local Labour Market Outcomes: A Sino-Indian Case Study

Feiyang Shi, PhD Researcher in Development Economics, exploits India's drastic increase in imports from China since 2001 and uses the instrumental variables approach to examine the impact of trade shock on local labour market outcomes (in *Empirical Economics*, August 2024). Through a matching procedure and detailed labour data, her investigation provides higher geographical and outcome variable coverages in comparison with prior studies. It also allows heterogeneous effects across consumption, age, gender, occupation, and industrial groups. The results confirm that the effect of import shock is not uniformly distributed within the districts. Rather, it varies with respect to socio-economic characteristics.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

This article was *originally published* as *International Economics Department Working Paper no. 04/2022 (Geneva Graduate Institute, March 2022)*.

ARTICLE

Bank Ownership around the World

Ugo Panizza describes a dataset on bank ownership that covers more than 6,500 banks in 181 countries (in *Journal of Banking and Finance*, vol. 166, September 2024). He documents that until 2010, there was a reduction in state-ownership of banks and an increase in foreign ownership. However, the Global Financial Crisis interrupted or reversed these trends. The author shows that at the country level, there is no robust relationship between bank ownership and each of GDP growth and financial depth. Bank-level regressions show that state-owned banks are less profitable and have a higher share of non-performing loans than their private (domestic or foreign) counterparts. There is also evidence that state-owned banks stabilise credit in the presence of domestic shocks (more so in the presence of positive shocks). Instead, foreign banks amplify external shocks. In terms of domestic shocks, foreign banks are not significantly different from their domestic private counterparts.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

This article was *originally published* as *Discussion Paper DP18106 (Centre for Economic Policy Research, April 2023)* and as *International Economics Department Working Paper no. 07/2023 (Geneva Graduate Institute, March 2023)*.

WORKING PAPER

International Investment Income: Patterns, Drivers, and Heterogeneous Sensitivities

Financial globalisation has led to a large increase in international asset holdings. While the rise of associated dividend and interest flows has until now been muted by the decreasing trend in interest rates, this pattern could change, leading to a larger role of investment income flows in the balance of payments. **Giovanni Donato**, PhD Researcher in International Economics, and **Cédric Tille** use a broad sample of countries to document the heterogeneous evolution of the various components of investment income flows, with a rising role of FDI and equity income, especially in advanced economies (International Economics Department Working Paper no. 13/2024, Geneva Graduate Institute, July 2024). They then assess the impact of various variables on yields with a panel analysis. Various drivers have highly heterogeneous effects across investment categories and country groups, often impacting the yields on both assets and liabilities. This translates into substantial heterogeneity in the response of countries' income balance, due to different

compositions of assets and liabilities. This heterogeneity is amplified if country-specific estimates are considered in complement to the panel ones. Focusing on the impact of changes in interest rates, the authors find that higher rates only had a limited impact in the 2013 taper tantrum, investment income balances are likely to benefit from higher US rates in the current phase of higher rates, with offsetting effects of higher domestic rates.

[RePEc's page >](#)

WORKING PAPER

Back to Normal? Assessing the Effects of the Federal Reserve's Quantitative Tightening

Francesco Casalena, PhD Researcher in International Economics, studies the effects of the Federal Reserve's two Quantitative Tightening (QT) programmes implemented over the last decade (International Economics Department Working Paper no. 14/2024, Geneva Graduate Institute, June 2024). He uses a high frequency identification strategy to distinguish between conventional monetary policy shocks, Treasury borrowing announcement shocks and the unwinding of the balance sheet. Further, he analyses both QT announcements and operations. Results show that the Fed was successful in muting the signalling effect of its Balance Sheet Policy (BSP) announcements, as statements not containing quantitative information about QT did not impact significantly asset prices. Conversely, communications disclosing information over the size and the pace of QT had an effect on financial markets. The author also finds that QT operations have a significant and persistent deflationary effect on interest rates and asset prices. While the contractionary effects of QT have so far been at least partially offset by liquidity operations that have expanded the supply of reserves, results suggest that balance sheet reductions entail in principle strong negative effects on financial markets. Although QT does not represent in the policymakers' view the primary tool to achieve price stability, it is yet far from running quietly in the background of the monetary policy stance.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

ARTICLE

Public Investment Quality and its Implications for Sovereign Risk and Debt Sustainability

Amat Adarov and **Ugo Panizza** introduce a novel index to measure public investment quality, utilising the World Bank's investment project performance data from 120 countries over the period 2000–2021 (International Economics Department Working Paper no. 12/2024, Geneva Graduate Institute, July 2024; Policy Research Working Paper no. 10877, World Bank, August 2024). After detailing the construction of the index, they examine how public investment quality influences the relationship between the level of public investment and sovereign risk. They find that high levels of public investment are linked to lower sovereign risk in countries with high investment quality, and conversely, to higher sovereign risk in countries with low investment quality. This relationship is especially pronounced in sub-investment grade countries. The authors corroborate these results by showing that when public investment quality is high, scaling up public investment enhances fiscal sustainability by reducing the debt-to-GDP ratio in the long run: high-quality public investment is self-financing. However, the opposite is true when public investment quality is low, where increased public investment results in a deterioration of fiscal fundamentals.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

PHD THESIS IN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS, 2024

Essays in International Finance and Macroeconomics

This PhD thesis by **Maximilian Konradt** consists of four chapters that contribute to research agendas in international macroeconomics and finance. The first and last chapters shed light on the drivers of institutional investors' portfolio allocation. Chapter 1 studies how changes in European carbon prices impact mutual funds' stock holdings of carbon-intensive firms. Chapter 4 constructs a novel dataset on large pension funds across the world, to assess their financial risk-taking during the low interest rate environment of the early 2000s. Chapters 2 and 3 study the

macroeconomic impacts of carbon pricing, which is increasingly used as a tool to mitigate the effects of climate change. The second chapter asks to what extent carbon taxes enacted in European countries and Canadian provinces contributed to overall inflation. The third chapter contrasts the economic and emission impacts of carbon taxes in Europe with price changes in the European Emissions Trading System. All chapters have a strong empirical focus, addressing policy-relevant research questions through rigorous and careful analysis applied to novel, often microlevel data.

[Read more about the PhD thesis in this interview >](#)

[Repository >](#) (access to the PhD thesis restricted to members of the Institute community; others may [contact Dr Konradt](#)).

PHD THESIS IN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS, 2024

Essays on International Macroeconomics and Digital Finance

The first essay of **Xiaomin Guo**'s PhD thesis focuses on the importance of digital financial literacy (DFL) in enhancing household financial behaviours and well-being. Based on a representative sample from a fintech platform in China, and a quasi-experiment design, it documents that DFL significantly increases households' stock market participation and improves their investment behaviours and risk tolerance. The second essay explores the intricacies of sovereign debts in the Global Landscape, examining the relationship between public debt and corporate investment. Firm-level regressions show that government debt increases the sensitivity of corporate investment to cash flow, indicating that the relationship between public debt and investment is likely to be causal and that public debt crowds out corporate investment by tightening credit constraints. The third essay investigates the impact of the sovereign debt inflows on Chinese firms, exploiting the announcement of China's inclusion into the J.P. Morgan Government Bond Index Emerging Markets (GBI-EM). Drawing on the event study approach and high-frequency data, this essay shows that sovereign debt inflow shocks significantly reduce the local currency sovereign bond yields and appreciate the domestic currency, and further heterogeneously affect H-share listed firms.

[Repository](#) (file embargoed until June 2027; for access, [contact Dr Guo](#)).

PHD THESIS IN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS, 2024

Essays on International Trade and Informality

This PhD thesis by **Sajid Ghani** contributes further evidence to the range of studies which have evaluated the effects of trade on informality at both the firm and the worker level. It benefits from the availability of a rich household dataset from India, whereby individuals are tracked over eight years, a firm-level dataset from Viet Nam whereby firms and workers are tracked biennially, and a SAM from Mozambique modified to fit a recursive dynamic CGE model. The first study focuses on India and investigates the effects of international trade on individuals, with a particular focus on the distributional effects of trade. The second study focuses on Vietnam and evaluates the effects of trade at the firm level on informality at both the extensive and intensive margin. Finally, the third study focuses on Mozambique and estimates the effects of tariff cuts on workers who are likely to be highly informal in an economy where data availability is sparse. Collectively, these papers highlight the nuanced effects of international trade on informality and the context-specific policies needed to address the broader labour market impacts on trade.

[Repository](#) (file embargoed until January 2027; for access, [contact Dr Ghani](#)).



Top



Education, Information & Media



SPECIAL ISSUE

Foundational Learning: Current Debates and Praxes

NORRAG Special Issue no. 9, edited by **Hugh McLean**, Senior Adviser at NORRAG, explores the redoubled emphasis on foundational learning, and the framing of “relevance” as standing in tension with basic literacy and numeracy, that has emerged at this midway point to Agenda 2030.

How do we think about foundational learning in ways that really make sense in 2024, in the world we see around us? Ideas about what is foundational in education have always resided in contested terrain. The current debate, on the surface, perhaps, tends to polarise around those who believe foundational learning should involve only literacy and numeracy and those who believe it must involve other foundational skills and content as well. In reality, the debate is as complex as it is crucial: it reflects financing decisions and constraints, policy priorities and planning within education systems; it embraces many encompassing questions about the purposes of education and the nature of the social compacts we construct to deliver equity and quality in education; it is fundamentally about pedagogy and how pedagogy is understood.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

REPORT

Models of Philanthropy in Education

This comprehensive report edited by **Arushi Terway**, Private Sector Approaches Research Lead at NORRAG, and **Moira Faul**, Executive Director of NORRAG, showcases the insights of 39 contributors, with each offering unique perspectives from their vantage points as academics, policymakers, and philanthropic organisations (Policy Insights no. 3, NORRAG, January 2024). This collection of independent articles underscores the breadth of knowledge and approaches to philanthropy in education across various regions including Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, India, and the Middle East and North Africa. It aims to foster a greater understanding of the complex landscape of education philanthropy, emphasising the importance of socially responsive and effective contributions. The insights shared in this publication are poised to guide policy stakeholders, offering innovative and critical perspectives on the role of philanthropy in shaping education systems globally. NORRAG’s initiative underscores the significance of inclusive dialogue and the sharing of evidence-based perspectives to enrich the discourse on philanthropy in education.

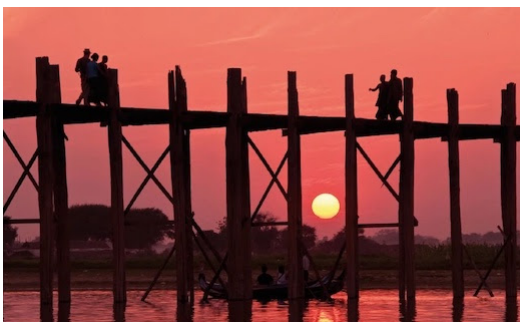
[Repository \(public access\) >](#)



Top



Peace, War, Conflicts & Security



MONOGRAPH

The UN Community Liaison Assistants and the Politics of Translation: Mediating Protection

Victoria Motta de Lamare França, PhD Researcher in PhD International Relations/ Political Science, explores how the United Nations (UN) attempts to stabilise and justify an ambivalent meaning of protection and its socio-

political roles in the Protection of Civilians agenda (Palgrave Macmillan, August 2024). Negotiating between different notions of translation, the research takes the Community Liaison Assistants (CLAs) as an analytical prism to complexify the efforts to construct representations of protection. Created alongside the United Nations Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), the CLAs are local staff tasked with improving the mission's engagement with the local population, given their supposed linguistic-cultural skills. The CLAs are also part of the stabilisation turn in UN doctrine, adhering to counterinsurgency tactics and instrumentalising language and culture to obtain intelligence and support of the local population. Following a poststructuralist and postcolonial approach inspired mainly by the works of Jacques Derrida and Homi Bhabha, this book proposes deconstructing the representations applied to the CLAs by analysing the discourses presented in the UN reports and doctrinal documents.

[Publisher's page >](#)

WORKING PAPER

Crime in the Dark: Role of Electricity Rationing

This study investigates the causal relationship between planned electricity outages and crime rates, leveraging a geographic discontinuity in outage duration due to differences in electricity suppliers within the City of Cape Town, South Africa (International Economics Department Working Paper no. 18/2024 (Geneva Graduate Institute, August 2024). **Imelda** and master student **Xiaoying Guo** compare crime trends in areas served by the municipal grid, which benefits from pumped hydro storage to mitigate outages, with those served by the national grid, where outages are more severe. They find that 10 hours per month more outages lead to an increase of 2.6% or eight more crime incidents. While overall crime rates are affected, specific types of crime, such as robbery, theft, and violent crime, are particularly sensitive to power outages. The larger the share of areas affected by severe load shedding, the higher the incidence of crime. Conversely, crimes less related to load shedding, such as commercial and drug-related offences, are not affected by these outages.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

^
Top



Development & Cooperation



EDITED VOLUME

Missing Dollars: Illicit Financial Flows from Commodity Trade

Illicit financial flows (IFFs) associated with commodity trade erode the tax base of resource-rich developing countries. Efforts to curb IFFs and reform taxation stumble over enhanced North–South tensions but remain crucial to helping poorer countries mobilise domestic resources for

development. *Missing Dollars*, edited and **introduced** by **Gilles Carbonnier**, Fritz Brugger, Elisabeth Bürgi Bonanomi, Fred M. Dzanku and Stabandith Insisienmay, examines this key part of the wider agenda to restore trust in the multilateral system, calling for a more transparent, effective and equitable trade and tax framework (*International Development Policy*, no. 17, Graduate Institute Publications and Brill-Nijhoff, 2024). Based on a six-year multidisciplinary research project encompassing academic institutions in commodity exporting and trading countries, its 24 authors offer a mix of theoretical and empirical contributions and discuss findings of macro- and micro-level studies. The book sheds new light on issues such as addressing push

and pull factors through domestic and international policy measures, the preferences of key stakeholders for short-term fixes versus long-term policy reforms, and prescriptive approaches and other options to address tax base erosion in resource-rich developing countries.

Gilles Carbonnier has also co-authored the chapter “[Measuring Illicit Financial Flows: New Data and Methods](#)” with alumnus **Rahul Mehrotra**.

Victor S. Mariottini de Oliveira, PhD Researcher in International Law, has co-authored the chapter “[Prescriptive Pricing and Stabilisation Clauses in Investment Agreements](#)” with Irene Musselli.

[DOI of the volume \(open access\) >](#)



Top



Human Rights, Humanitarianism, Justice & Inclusion



ARTICLE

Casualties of Care: A Reflection on Gender, Imperialism and Humanitarian Imaginaries in (Post-)Taliban Afghanistan

Humanitarian imaginaries in post-9/11 Afghanistan have shaped representations of women’s needs as well as programmes designed to answer them. **Julie Bllaud** examines the “dark

side” of care and the politics of worthiness on which humanitarianism relies (in *Dynamis: Acta Hispanica ad Medicinae Scientiarumque Historiam Illustrandam*, vol. 44, no. 1, June 2024). In conversation with scholars who have highlighted the disciplinary aspects of care, she shows how apparently well-intentioned humanitarian discourses and practices have drawn boundaries within the Afghan population and reinforced nationalist sentiments. She argues that Orientalist imaginaries of Muslim women in need of rescue did not only serve to justify the military intervention but also the presence of international humanitarian organisations. Furthermore, such colonial fantasies have actualised specific regimes of care based on liberal notions of self-empowerment. The technologies of the “self” on which these programmes have relied have overlooked the various forms of structural inequalities responsible for triggering crises in the first place and the broader dynamics of violence and abandonment that have marked the history of the West’s engagement with Afghanistan since the 1990s. The return of the Taliban in 2021 should therefore not solely be understood as the mere result of military strategies and political negotiations but also as the outcome of a broader movement of resistance against this humanitarian ideology, locally perceived as a form of cultural imperialism.

[Available in open access >](#)

ARTICLE

“Change here for...”: Understanding Progress in Business and Human Rights through Legal Entanglement

Progress in the business and human rights space can be quite a fickle thing to assess. Despite intensive norm development, many observers emphasise elements of stagnation within the field. **Tomáš Morochovič**, PhD Researcher in International Law, argues that much of the frustration is caused by the dominance of a linear understanding of progress which is fixated on the dichotomy between soft and hard forms of regulation (in *Netherlands Quarterly of Human Rights*, May 2024). This, in turn, obscures much of the dynamism within the field. To better account for progress within the business and human rights space, he suggests a shift of framing from a linear

conception of regulatory change to one that understands the field as an entangled normative network characterised through the connections between norms. By using the norm of human rights due diligence as an example, he highlights the nuanced developments and linkages between various instruments, systems, and actors that evidence intense norm-making activity within the business and human rights space. The on-going normative-discursive exchange between stakeholders produces a norm that is constituted through an iterative process of entanglement.

[DOI >](#)

ARTICLE

Violence against Women as a Structural Risk: Responding through Prevention with Due Diligence

Situations of crises such as the Covid-19 pandemic expose the fissures in society, both domestic and global. Using violence against women as an example, **Ana Srovin Corally**, PhD Researcher in International Law, and Sulekha Agarwal show how structural risks amplify during crises and how the concept of due diligence can be used to address these risks (in *Acta Humana – Emberi Jogi Közlemények*, vol. 12, no. 2, June 2024). By focusing on prevention, they analyse the existing approaches towards due diligence in the context of violence against women by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the European Court of Human Rights, the Committee on Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Special Rapporteur on violence against women. They look at how these mechanisms have considered the invocation and applicability of the duty of prevention with due diligence as well as the measures that states need to take to discharge such a duty. They conclude with a reflection on what can be done to further strengthen the arguments of the mechanisms analysed in the paper to utilise the full potential of due diligence concerning state obligations towards the prevention of violence against women.

[DOI \(open access\) >](#)

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

A Hole in the Maps of International Humanitarian Institutions in the Near East: The Absence of the Dodecanese (1915–24)

This chapter attempts an explanation of the reasons why, from 1912 to circa 1925, international humanitarian agencies did not carry out major or minor aid operations in the Dodecanese Islands, an Italian *possedimento* (in *Italian Fascism in Rhodes and the Dodecanese Islands, 1922–44*, V. McGuire and A. Rodrigue, eds., Routledge, July 2024). **Davide Rodogno** provides an answer for the Dodecanese Islands' absence in the geographical maps of international humanitarian actors active in the Near East, despite the geographical proximity of these islands to the Turkish coastal area from which a large number of refugees departed in the period covered in this chapter.

[Publisher's page >](#)

MONOGRAPH

Human Rights: A Very Short Introduction

The second edition of **Andrew Calpham's** *Human Rights: A Very Short Introduction* is now available in Chinese, thanks to a translation by Li Bingqing and Wei Zhang (Joint Publishing, August 2024). The book covers the history and philosophy of human rights and details developments concerning rights related to torture, arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances, freedom of expression and discrimination. Issues related to lethal force through the use of drones and the so-called "right to be forgotten" are discussed, and there are sections on the rights of persons with disabilities.

[Cosmos Books' page >](#)

PHD THESIS IN INTERNATIONAL LAW, 2024

Culture and Culpability in International Criminal Trials

Culture is often thought of as irrelevant to criminal trials, and potentially even as a challenge to the universality of the international criminal justice project. Borrowing from findings in the social

sciences, in particular anthropology, **Vera Piovesan** proves that culture is fundamental to the construction of the identity of the individual, and that it is a determinant factor in individual decision-making, including when it comes to criminal conduct. As a result, she proposes that such interplay ought to be accounted for in the law.

[Read more about the PhD thesis in this interview >](#)

[Repository](#) (file embargoed until June 2027; for access, [contact Dr Piovesan](#)).

^
Top



Gender, Diversity, Race & Intersectionality



ARTICLE

The Social Reproductive Roots of Agrarian Contention: Gendered Labor amid Peasant Struggles in Tunisia

Dhouha Djerbi, PhD Researcher in International Relations/Political Science, revisits the Tunisian 2010–2011 uprising and its ensuing decade of agrarian contention as a crisis of social reproduction stemming from the combined effects

of depletion and dispossession (in *Antipode*, August 2024). She traces the lineages of the grievances that continue to animate the Tunisian countryside to the multiple and often enmeshed labours – both productive and reproductive – of peasant and rural women. In underscoring the interconnectedness between these labours and the ebb and flow of various contestations against depletion and dispossession, she recognises social reproduction as a site of deep exploitation as well as an arena of day-to-day struggle. Guided by social reproduction theorisations and leveraging a multi-sited ethnography conducted during July and August 2023, her paper relies on participant observation/observant participation and unstructured interviews conducted with predominately landed and landless peasant women, the testimonies of whom serve as a conduit for an important dialogue between feminist materialist analyses of social reproduction and peasant movements.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

ARTICLE

Liminality and Transactional Sex among Queer Refugees: Insights from Lebanon, Turkey, Greece, and Switzerland

People of diverse sexual orientations, gender identities, and expressions who have been forcibly displaced encounter liminal conditions along their displacement journeys that reinforce their marginalisation. **Shirin Heidari**, Senior Researcher at the Gender Centre, Ryan Whitacre and others conducted interviews with 46 queer refugees in four countries: Lebanon, Turkey, Greece, and Switzerland (in *Journal of Refugee Studies*, July 2024). They found that restrictive border controls, migration and refugee policies, asylum processes, and integration efforts structured queer refugees' liminalities. In turn, queer refugees employed survival strategies, including engaging in transactional sexual practices, to meet their basic needs; however, these practices introduced health challenges for which they had limited access to services. In many instances, queer refugees engaged in transactional sex under exploitative and abusive conditions that heightened the risk of sexual and gender-based violence. Thus, the authors conclude that forced displacement emplaced queer refugees in states of multidimensional liminality that reinforced their marginalisation.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Tracing Historical Disruptions in the Sex Worker Rights Movement in Late Colonial and Postcolonial India through Testimonies from within the Community

Despite the prostitution industry being partially decriminalised in India, the current approach to sex workers' rights is ridden with several structural barriers, as existing state rehabilitation projects often violate subjects' bodily autonomy and act as moral discipliners, leaving them vulnerable to institutionalised violence and social stigmatisation. Moreover, the children of sex workers are subject to rampant forms of societal segregation. However, there have been strong feminist movements in the recent decades advocating for the inclusion and rights of those at the margins of civil society. **Shriya Patnaik**, PhD Researcher in International History and Politics, addresses interviews conducted with sex workers from the Sonagachi district in Kolkata, alongside accounts from women involved in sexual commerce from Odisha, to consider the limits of non-participatory development projects and consider strategies for collective mobilisation (in *Histories of Sex Work around the World*, C. Phipps, ed., Routledge, August 2024). Alluding to the history of laws around the sex industry in India, she problematises existing criminalisation frameworks and calls for a bottom-up, inclusive approach.

[DOI >](#)

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Tunisia's *Amilat*: Agrarian Crises and the Feminization of Casual Agricultural Work

Dhouha Djerbi, PhD Researcher in International Relations/Political Science, revisits the debate on labour feminisation within the context of Tunisian agriculture, which heavily relies on a predominantly female workforce, known as *Amilat*, often cited as a prime example of the sector's feminisation (in *Gender in Agrarian Transitions: Liberation Perspectives from the South*, Dzodzi Tsikata, Archana Prasad and Paris Yeros, eds., Tulika Books, August 2024). She contends that the concept needs to extend beyond merely denoting an increase in female participation in the agrarian labour force, and that its specific implications and historical lineages within the Tunisian case remain ambiguous. The chapter expands upon the concept of feminisation, situating it within Tunisia's historical trajectory of agrarian crises, from colonial agrarian capitalism and postcolonial modernisation to neoliberal agrarian speculation.

[Distributor's page >](#)

EDITED BOOK

Transnational Anti-Gender Politics: Feminist Solidarity in Times of Global Attacks

Drawing on contributions from and about a varied range of geographical locations including Argentina, Chile, China, Germany, the Persian Gulf, Hungary, India, Pakistan, Peru, South Africa, Spain, Turkey, Uganda, the UK and the US, this volume, co-edited and **introduced** by **Aiko Holvikivi**, Visiting Research Fellow at the Gender Centre, Billy Holzberg and Tomás Ojeda, explores how anti-gender mobilisations work as a transnational formation shaped by the legacies of colonialism, racial capitalism, and resurgent nationalisms and how these can be resisted (Palgrave Macmillan, June 2024). By transnationalising their inquiries into the epistemic, affective and political nature of the anti-gender phenomenon, the contributors help to better locate the various sources, actors, and networks behind these attacks, contesting the notion that anti-gender politics derive solely from right-wing nationalist or conservative religious actors, to show how they also derive from more centrist, liberal, leftist and even presumably feminist positions. The book thus invites us to sharpen and rethink the conceptual vocabularies and strategies we use to understand and resist anti-gender attacks, opening up space for envisioning new political imaginaries and transnational feminist solidarities.

[DOI >](#)



Democracy & Civil Society



ARTICLE

Radiating Truthiness: Authenticity Performances in Politics in Brazil and the United States

Political authenticity is connected to higher levels of political trust from electorates and can influence political outcomes, but it is often overlooked as a relevant factor for electoral behaviour. To date, discussions of how

authenticity appears and changes in politics typically remain at the theoretical level and are rarely comparative. **Henrique Sposito**, PhD Researcher in International Relations/Political Science, develops a framework to identify and compare how authenticity is performed in political discourses over time and across settings by politicians (in *Political Studies*, July 2024). To demonstrate the usefulness of the framework, he investigates authenticity performances in 21,496 political texts of electoral debates, interviews, campaigns, and official speeches by presidents and presidential candidates in Brazil and the United States (US) since 1988. The findings indicate that authenticity is generally performed with greater frequency by presidents and presidential candidates in Brazil than in the US, though authenticity performances are not more prevalent during election years in either country.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

ARTICLE

Indigenous Representation and Participation: The Case of the Chilean Mapuche

According to the empowerment hypothesis, minority politicians encourage minority participation. The relationship between representation and participation has been extensively analysed for several ethnic minorities and women, but there are no studies for indigenous populations in Latin America. **Pedro Cayul**, PhD Researcher in International Economics, and **Alejandro Corvalan** evaluate the link between descriptive representation and electoral registration of Mapuche, a deprived indigenous minority from the South of Chile that is as large as ten percent of the total population (in *Electoral Studies*, vol. 90, August 2024). They implement a panel estimation that controls district effects using a national dataset of more than three million new registrations in Chile for five municipal elections. They find that Mapuche mayors are significantly associated with higher Mapuche participation during the first year of the mayoral period. Since registration in Chile occurs throughout the representatives' term, and the authors use registrations long before the next election, their evidence suggests that office-holding affects participation by channels other than electoral campaigning. To shed light on the channels, they describe the symbolic and substantive mechanisms used by Mapuche mayors to empower their communities.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

ISSUE BRIEF

Understanding the Links between Multilateralism and Democracy to Tackle Global Challenges more Effectively

The challenges posed by climate change and the erosion of democracy are closely connected. Climate change threatens not only the environment but also the stability and prosperity of nations, exacerbating social and political tensions that can undermine democratic institutions. Conversely,

transparent, inclusive, and accountable governance will be indispensable to reaching and implementing multilateral accords in the field of climate change. **Laura Bullon-Cassis, Christine Lutringer** and **Héloïse Bellenot**, from the Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy (AHCD), explore the interplay between democracy and multilateralism in facilitating collaboration among nations to achieve shared goals related to climate change mitigation and adaptation (no. 1, April 2024).

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

On 16 April 2024, the Kofi Annan Foundation and the AHCD convened an expert roundtable on the relationship between climate change and democratic governance; an outcome document is [available in public access](#).

PHD THESIS IN INTERNATIONAL HISTORY, 2024

La génération de la Bulle: le Japon face à la question libérale, 1970-1990

Kai Habel hypothesises that Japan experienced during the 1970s–1980s a great moment of liberalisation that affected its economic, social, cultural, and identity structures. This period was characterised not only by the conversion of the economy to neoliberalism, but also by the rapid yet incomplete transformation of social behaviours and common values: some form of individualism was celebrated, consumption habits evolved, women were empowered, leisure activities were diversified, and customs were liberalised. Nevertheless, the collapse of the financial bubble in the early 1990s was accompanied by the interruption of this process. Japanese citizens who came of age in the years 1985–1990 have been called *baburu-sedai*, which means “Bubble generation”. Those belonging to this generation are said to be flamboyant, pretentious, and reckless. Why and how did the process of liberalisation, defined as the protection and extension of individual freedoms, lead to the emergence of the Bubble generation? The author attempts to answer these questions.

[Read more about the PhD thesis in this interview >](#)

[Cette interview existe aussi en français >](#)

[Repository](#) (access to the PhD thesis restricted to members of the Institute community; others may [contact Dr Habel](#)).



Top



Arts, Culture & Religion



ARTICLE

The Devil You Know... Familiarity, Legitimacy, and Religious Mobility in Pentecostalised Kenya

The Kenyan Christian urban landscape is characterised by major concerns over religious deviance and by high rates of individual mobility. Yonatan N. Gez and **Yvan Droz** explore how Kenyan Christians experience their religious

practice within this challenging environment (in *Cahiers d'études africaines*, no. 253, January 2024). At the core of their argument lies the concept of familiarity/familiarisation, which views religious mobility in terms of accumulated exposures and which they explore in juxtaposition with the concept of religious legitimacy. They thus link moral religious considerations and negotiations with mobile trajectories, which at times turn towards new horizons (e.g. through “church visits”) and at times keep to the boundaries of the already-familiar (“circular mobility”) while staying on the

lookout for narratives and rumours emerging from less familiar spaces. These reflections not only acknowledge the axial role of religious mobility within practitioners' ongoing socio-religious orientation, but also draw attention to the invisible-yet-significant potential of their religious past.

[DOI >](#)

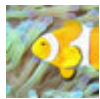
EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

The Mind's Eye: The Invisibility of Culture in Individual Criminal Responsibility

This chapter by **Vera Piovesan**, who recently obtained her doctorate in International Law from the Institute, starts from the premise, shared in the social sciences, that individuals are essentially cultural beings who experience the world in cultural patterns that impact behaviour, including criminal conduct (in *Sights, Sounds, and Sensibilities of Atrocity Prosecutions*, M. A. Drumbl and C. Fournet, eds., Brill, July 2024). However, noting a lack of proper attention being paid to culture in determinations of guilt, the author employs a sensory metaphor to challenge the existing regime of individual criminal responsibility in international trials. She posits that the legal interpretation of individual moral agency can be understood as light-based. Culture, for its part, can rather be understood as heat-based. As a result, where sight is limited to light-based imaging, heat becomes imperceptible, and so does culture. She then offers an interpretation of the reasons that underpin this invisibility, located in the role of criminal proceedings as spectacles and the broader expressive function of international trials.

[DOI >](#)

[^](#)
Top



Sustainability, Environment, the Anthropocene & SDGs



ARTICLE

Critical Transitions in the Amazon Forest System

The Amazon forest system is increasingly exposed to unprecedented stress from warming temperatures, extreme droughts, deforestation and fires, even in central and remote parts of the system. Long existing feedbacks between the forest and environmental conditions are being

replaced by novel feedbacks that modify ecosystem resilience, increasing the risk of critical transition. **Susanna Hecht** and others analyse existing evidence for five major drivers of water stress on Amazonian forests, as well as potential critical thresholds of those drivers that, if crossed, could trigger local, regional or even biome-wide forest collapse (in *Nature*, no. 626, February 2024). By combining spatial information on various disturbances, they estimate that by 2050, 10% to 47% of Amazonian forests will be exposed to compounding disturbances that may trigger unexpected ecosystem transitions and potentially exacerbate regional climate change. Using examples of disturbed forests across the Amazon, they identify the three most plausible ecosystem trajectories, involving different feedbacks and environmental conditions. They discuss how the inherent complexity of the Amazon adds uncertainty about future dynamics, but also reveals opportunities for action. Keeping the Amazon forest resilient in the Anthropocene will depend on a combination of local efforts to end deforestation and degradation and to expand restoration, with global efforts to stop greenhouse gas emissions.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

ARTICLE

Heard the News? Environmental Policy and Clean Investment

Senior Lecturer **Joëlle Noailly**, alumna **Laura Nowzohour**, alumnus **Matthias van den Heuvel** and **Ireneu Pla**, Python and Data Analysis Instructor, build the first news-based index of US environmental and climate policy and examine how it relates to clean investments (in *Journal of Public Economics*, vol. 238, October 2024). Extracting text from ten leading US newspapers over the last four decades, they use text-mining techniques to develop a granular news index of US environmental and climate policy (EnvP) over the 1981–2019 period. Furthermore, they develop a set of additional measures, namely an index of sentiment on environmental policy, as well as various topic-specific indexes. They validate the index by showing that it correctly captures trends and peaks in the evolution of US environmental and climate policy and that it has a meaningful association with clean investments, in line with environmental regulations supporting growing opportunities for clean markets. In firm-level estimations, they find that the index is associated with a greater probability of receiving venture capital (VC) funding for cleantech startups and reduced stock returns for high-emissions firms most exposed to environmental regulations. At the aggregate level, they find in VAR models that a shock in the news-based index of renewable energy policy is associated with an increase in the number of clean energy VC deals and in the assets under management of a benchmark clean energy exchange-traded fund.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

This article is a substantially updated version of [CIES Paper no. 70](#) published in 2021.

ARTICLE

Ecology, Economy and the Hague Academy

This article by Postdoctoral Researcher **Aliki Semertzi** is part of the series of reflections on the occasion of the centenary (1923–2023) of the Hague Academy of International Law (in *European Journal of International Law*, June 2024). It asks when an ecological sensibility arose in the Hague Academy courses, and it proceeds to answer by engaging closely with 14 courses spread across the 100 years of the Academy's existence. Through this exercise, different strands of international legal thought are revealed, manifested in the different legal instruments their authors advocate for the regulation of ecological sensibilities (e.g., from classical treaties to more incentive-based economic instruments). Inevitably along the way, different currents of economic thought also emerge, interwoven with legal regulation: from the intense demands for revision in the 1950s, to the dialectic confrontations in the 1970s between state economies and free enterprise, toward the market-oriented transitions in the 1990s. The article concludes with three courses in the 2020s which reflect the current quest for new ways of working with international law – and it hopes to be read as an invitation to think about international law as a more open-ended, flexible and creative tool.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

^
Top

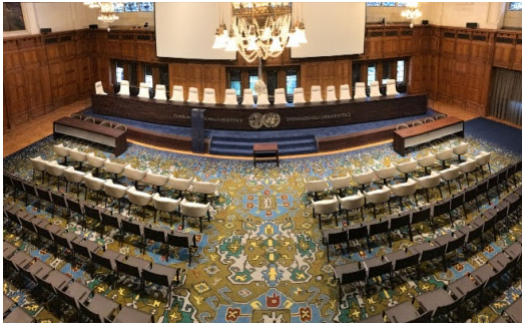


Diplomacy & Global Governance

ARTICLE

The Defocalizing Effect of International Courts: Evidence from Maritime Delimitation Practices

Can international courts influence state policies and facilitate interstate cooperation? Existing literature argues that they can. Courts can make cooperative outcomes easier for states by formulating or endorsing rules around which state expectations and practice can converge. While it is widely assumed that court rulings may become focal points and play a role in harmonising



state practices, we know little about the conditions under which they have such an effect. **Ezgi Yildiz**, Senior Researcher, and **Umut Yüksel**, Postdoctoral Researcher and Visiting Lecturer, suggest that court rulings can often have an opposite, *defocalising effect*, which may durably harm the prospects of convergence around what the law requires (in *The Review of International Organizations*, June 2024). They introduce

defocalisation as a process and discuss its possible types and implications. They argue that defocalisation may be driven by incongruence of court rulings with existing treaty law and state practice and inconsistency of rulings over time. They illustrate their argument by examining the effect of key judicial rulings on the convergence of state views about the appropriate maritime delimitation rules by relying on an original dataset. The findings show how *defocalisation* unfolds and suggest that complexity can accumulate over time through legal rulings that are incongruent with existing state practice or treaty law, and can be maintained through inconsistent court decisions.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

MONOGRAPH

The Forever Crisis: Adaptive Global Governance for an Era of Accelerating Complexity

This book is an introduction to complex systems thinking at the global governance level. It offers concepts, tools, and ways of thinking about how systems change that can be applied to the most wicked problems facing the world today (Routledge, August 2024). More than an abstract argument for complexity theory, **Adam Day**, Head of the Geneva Office of United Nations University Centre for Policy Research and Visiting Lecturer in the MINT programme, offers a targeted critique of today's highest-profile proposals for improving the governance of our environment, security, finance, health, and digital space. He suggests that we should spend less effort and resources on upgrading existing institutions, and more on understanding how they (and we) relate to each other.

[DOI >](#)

ARTICLE

Excluding through Inclusion: Managerial Practices in the Era of Multistakeholder Governance

Managerial practices underpin most global policy agendas. Existing research shows how these practices have reshaped the public sector, facilitated the marketisation of problems, and altered organisational structures. **Juanita Uribe**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Global Governance Centre, highlights that managerial practices are also a *central driver of political marginalisation* (in *Review of International Political Economy*, June 2024). When incorporated into multistakeholder processes, managerial practices engender two exclusionary processes: the accommodation of dissent and the uniformisation of political subjects. They do so by making consensus an organisational goal and by treating politics as a marketplace. Through an examination of the United Nations Food Systems Summit, the article shows how, within multistakeholder models, managerialism sidelines critical voices by invoking ideals of openness, spontaneity, and the absence of rule, rather than traditional principles of “command and control”. Additionally, it unpacks the novel roles assumed by private consultancy firms, which are nowadays not only tasked with implementing weighty bureaucratic reforms but are also increasingly involved in “optimising” political struggles and shaping debates on how societies ought to be governed.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

REPORT

Paying for Multilateralism: Taking Stock on the Financing of International Organisations in Geneva, 2000–2020

Livio Silva-Müller, PhD Researcher in Anthropology and Sociology, and Remo Gassmann chart the funding trends of 16 large international organisations in Geneva based on a unique data set that collects over 30,000 contributions from at least 1,146 funders in the period of 2000-2020 (Geneva Graduate Institute, 2024). There has been a steady increase in contribution to international organisations between 2000 to 2020. Public donors are responsible for 90.1% of all contributions to international organisations in Geneva for the whole study period. The 15 top donors account for 75% of total contributions. G7 and EU countries contributed the most to organisations in the sample, with yearly relative share ranging from around 87% to 95% for the period. The five international organisations with the largest funding footprint in the period 2000–2020 are the Global Fund, UNHCR, IOM, and ICRC, thus confirming the significance of the health and humanitarian sectors in International Geneva.

[Read the report >](#)

[Watch the launch of the report >](#)

PHD THESIS IN INTERNATIONAL LAW, 2024

“Architects of the Better World”: Democracy, Law, and the Construction of International Order (1919–1998)

Metaphors drawn from architecture are extensively used by both scholars and practitioners in the world of global governance: one often hears reference to “the international” as if it were an “edifice”, with “pillars” and “areas” of regulation, but this metaphorical use of architectonic language only hides international law’s profound lack of engagement with the material and concrete spaces in which the “international” is produced, contested, and disputed. Conversely, **Daniel Quiroga-Villamarín** takes the “architecture of international cooperation” as a relevant question for international legal history. Instead of taking purpose-built environments for granted, he traces the birth of what he calls the “international parliamentary complex” during international law’s “move to institutions” in the short twentieth century (1919–1998), as he analyses the emergence of buildings that claimed to serve as “international parliaments” – especially those linked to universal or regional international organisations – and highlights how this tendency to “parlamentarise” international relations mutated throughout the century.

[Read more about the PhD thesis in this interview >](#)

[Repository](#) (file embargoed until June 2027; for access, [contact Dr Quiroga-Villamarín](#)).

PHD THESIS IN INTERNATIONAL LAW, 2024

Becoming an International Court: The Construction of the Identity of International Courts and Tribunals

What stories do international courts tell about themselves? **Ana Luísa Bernardino** takes judgments, speeches, press releases, webpages, judges’ extra-judicial writings and other documentation as autobiographical pieces that reveal how these adjudicatory bodies perceive their roles and portray themselves to the outside world. Focusing on the International Court of Justice, the Appellate Body of the World Trade Organization, and the European Court of Justice, it argues that judicial autobiography strives to both impose the criteria on the basis of which these courts are assessed and grant themselves the highest standing among different adjudicatory bodies.

[Repository](#) (file embargoed until August 2027; for access, [contact Dr Bernardino](#)).



[Top](#)



Global Health



ARTICLE

Germany's Role in Global Health at a Critical Juncture

In 2017, Christian Franz, Anna Holzscheiter and **Ilona Kickbusch** set out – along with a larger group of authors – to assess Germany's contribution and potential leadership role in global health (in *The Lancet*, vol. 404, no. 10447, July 2024). They considered the ambitions and

manifold efforts of Chancellor Angela Merkel's administration to become a trusted leader in global health governance and a reliable supporter of multilateral institutions, especially WHO. Based on the recommendations of their 2017 paper, in this review the authors determine whether the country has indeed lived up to its vision and ambitions expressed in the Global Health Strategy adopted by the cabinet in 2020. Also, they outline what challenges Germany is now facing in a more complex global health environment and geopolitical situation, where leadership in the field is being redefined following the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and amid broader shifts in the international order.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

PAPER

The Governing Pandemics Snapshot

Following the 77th WHA's endorsement of an extension of up to one-year for finalising a Pandemic Agreement, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB) is set to resume its work with a two-day session on 16-17 July 2024. INB member states will be facing two potentially contentious procedural issues, as well as thorny debates over the resolution of substantive matters including: a system for Pathogen Access and Benefit Sharing (PABS); references to One Health; and a formula assuring more equitable access to pandemic health products, where wide gaps remain. The debate around these outstanding issues is a focus of this latest issue of the Governing Pandemics Snapshot by **Daniela Morich, Ava Greenup, Gian Luca Burci** and **Suerie Moon**, all members of the [Governing Pandemics](#) project. The issue also unpacks the WHA-approved amendments to the International Health Regulations and their meaning.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

MANUAL

A Guide to Global Health Diplomacy: Better Health – Improved Global Solidarity – More Equity

The COVID-19 pandemic has shaken the previously prevailing concepts and mechanisms of global health diplomacy. To better equip health diplomats and negotiators, the Global Health Centre published in 2021 a training manual in English by **Ilona Kickbusch, Michel Kazatchkine, Haik Nikogosian** and **Mihály Kökény**, which provides key concepts on global health diplomacy, outlines the major actors and activities shaping the global health ecosystem, and presents practical tools to strengthen negotiation skills. It has since been translated into French, Hungarian, Japanese, Mandarin and Persian, and an Italian version will soon be available.

[Access to the translations >](#)



Top



Cities, Space, Mobilities & Migrations



Settler Colonial Studies: A Historical Analysis

Cyrus Schayegh provides a historical analysis of settler colonial studies (SCS) (in *Settler Colonial Studies*, online July 2024). Partly because most SCS scholars in principle only see those polities as settler colonies whose settlers eventually became a majority and gained independence – i.e. principally the United States, Canada,

Australia, and Aotearoa/New Zealand – some historians have critiqued it. At the same time, historians have used it to revisit their research. Throughout, though, they have engaged SCS in area- and period-specific journals, without bundling their insights. This historical analysis of SCS addresses that issue. It has two parts. As shorter first part unpacks the historical-political background for SCS's Anglo-bias: the similar and linked domestic political trajectories of Canada, the United States, Aotearoa/New Zealand, and Australia's indigenous peoples from the 1950s and their centrality in the internationalisation of indigenous politics from the late 1960s to the 1990s. A longer second part analyses three issues both central to SCS and relevant to historians: structuralism, colonialism versus settler colonialism, and the settler-native binary.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

MONOGRAPH

Economics of Undocumented Migration

Undocumented international migration is an increasingly important political, social and economic issue. Honorary Professor **Slobodan Djajić** and Alexandra Brausmann provide a framework for the study of some key decisions that potential migrants are confronted with when considering a move abroad, such as the timing of departure, the method of financing the move, the choice between documented and undocumented modes of entry, the optimal duration of the stay abroad, or how much to save (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, April 2024). The various chapters illustrate how decisions of migrants are shaped not only by immigration policies and enforcement measures of the host country, but also by their own personal characteristics and the economic environment they face at home and abroad. At the macroeconomic level, the focus is on the analysis of the effectiveness of immigration policies in controlling the inflow and the stock of undocumented aliens. The question of international cooperation between the host and transit countries is also examined.

[Publisher's page >](#)

ARTICLE

Advancing the Access of Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Latin America to the Labour Market: Building from the Inter-American Case-Law

Norms protecting the right to work under international refugee and human rights law are usually abstract and leave considerable discretion to States regarding the extent to which refugees and asylum seekers may access the labour market. Nevertheless, recent case-law of the Inter-American Commission and Court of Human Rights has set out more protective standards concerning the right to work and the principle of non-discrimination towards marginalised groups. **Mariana Ferolla Vallandro do Valle**, PhD Researcher in International Law, demonstrates that these standards can effectively be applied to refugees and asylum seekers, thus curtailing States' discretion in limiting their access to the labour market and offering more concrete protection of the right to work (in *Revista Direito, Estado e Sociedade*, no. 63, July–Dec. 2023, published July 2024).

[Journal's page >](#)

ARTICLE

COVID-19 Led Return to Kerala: A Comparative Analysis of Return Emigrants

This article concerns emigrants who returned to Kerala between May and December 2020 in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic (in *The Indian Journal of Labour Economics*, July 2024). S. Irudaya Rajan and **Balasubramanyam Pattath**, PhD Researcher in International Economics, study and document the experiences of 1985 return emigrants (REM) through a quantitative survey conducted via Computer-Assisted Telephonic Interviews. They utilise a comparative classificatory framework that categorises return emigrants into three groups: normal REM, distressed REM, and REM who returned to re-emigrate. While the REM have been a demographically, politically, and economically significant component of Kerala's population, the COVID-19 REM represent a unique case in history that has the potential to not only affect the economy, society, and psyche of Kerala for many years to come, but to also provide valuable insights into the future of global labour migration governance.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

ARTICLE

Is the Government Ready to Take the Lead? Transition of Migration Management in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) is approaching a critical tipping point as it assumes primary responsibility over migration management from the International Organization for Migration. However, few studies have examined whether the government has acquired the ability to take over this responsibility. **Rio Otsuka**, Master Student in International and Development Studies, explores the current state of migration management in BiH, both to determine whether the government has developed effective migration management capabilities as well as to highlight current migration challenges faced by BiH (in *Journal of Public and International Affairs*, 22 April 2024). Fieldwork at the Temporary Reception Center Usivak in 2023; interviews with 6 nongovernmental organisation (NGO) officers and 10 migrants in BiH; and analysis of literature and data provided by scholars, governments, international organisations, and NGOs suggest that authorities in BiH, primarily the Ministry of Security, have generally developed effective management capabilities and are ready to assume managing responsibility. Nevertheless, obstacles with providing living conditions in reception centres that meet international standards and with the implementation of coordinated responses among different institutions remain. As the transition proceeds, the Bosnian government should recognise these challenges and implement policies to address them through continued coordination with international organisations and NGOs.

[Read the article >](#)

WORKING PAPER

Cities as Engines of Opportunities: Evidence from Brazil

Are developing-world cities engines of opportunities for low-wage earners? Alumnus **Radu Barza**, Edward L. Glaeser, César A. Hidalgo and **Martina Viarengo** track a cohort of young low-income workers in Brazil for thirteen years to explore the contribution of factors such as industrial structure and skill segregation on upward income mobility (NBER Working Paper no. 32426, National Bureau of Economic Research, May 2024). They find that cities in the south of Brazil are more effective engines of upward mobility than cities in the north and that these differences appear to be primarily related to the exposure of unskilled workers to skilled co-workers, which in turn reflects industry composition and complexity. Results suggest that the positive effects of urbanisation depend on the skilled and unskilled working together, a form of integration that is more prevalent in the cities of southern Brazil than in northern cities. This segregation, which can decline with specialisation and the division of labour, may hinder the ability of Brazil's northern cities to offer more opportunities for escaping poverty.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

PHD THESIS IN INTERNATIONAL LAW, 2024

The Principle of Non-Refoulement for Food-Deprived Forced Migration

How does the principle of non-refoulement in international law apply to food-deprived forced migrants? What are the relevant areas and sources of international law to protect food-deprived forced migrants against refoulement? **Malavika Rao** delineates three areas of international law that carry prohibitions on refoulement, under which the issue of food-deprived forced migration is examined: international refugee law, international human rights law, and international humanitarian law. The three areas prescribe varying but complementary legal standards of non-refoulement – persecution; torture, cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment and irreparable harm; and in the specific context of armed conflicts – and comprehensively engage with food deprivation as a driver of forced migration. Through a detailed analysis grounded in these standards, the author illustrates the multifaceted avenues through which food deprivation engenders risk, thereby advocating for the applicability of the non-refoulement principle in these contexts.

[Read more about the PhD thesis in this interview >](#)

[Repository](#) (file embargoed until July 2027; for access, [contact Dr Rao](#)).

[^](#)
Top

Other Relevant Information



Multimedia



WHO'S VOTING IN 2024? E6 | ALBERT HIRSCHMAN CENTRE ON DEMOCRACY (AHCD)

France: Civil Society's Response to the Far Right's Rise

On 27 June, in view of the upcoming French parliamentary election, **Sarah Durieux**, Co-director of the Multitude Foundation, discussed the roles of activism and civil society in addressing pivotal issues such as ecology, pension reform, discrimination, and increased police repression.

[Listen here >](#)

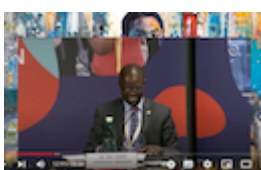


KIX EAP PODCAST 27 | NORRAG NETWORK

Diving Deeper into KIX Research on Education Technology Innovations, with Selin Turan

This episode, hosted by **Ryan Allen**, Assistant Professor, Soka University of America (USA), features **Selin Turan** who discusses her education path and shares about War Child's KIX-supported research in Chad, Sudan, and Uganda on how education technology innovations can address challenges faced by children in conflict-affected countries.

[Listen here >](#)



FUTURE OF WORK SUMMIT 2024 | PANEL 1 | TASC PLATFORM

Governing the Unknown: When Complexity Meets Silos

The Future of Work Summit 2024 engaged with the challenge of building trust for collaborative policy building and a renewed social contract – with a focus on two crucial unknowns at the forefront of domestic and international discourse: Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Migration, in recognition of World Refugee Day. On 20 June, the first panel hosted **James Waweru**, Ambassador of Permanent Mission of the Republic of

Kenya to the United Nations Office, for an open discussion on the challenge of creating trust for collaborative policy-building across multiple unknowns.

[Watch here >](#)



ROUNDTABLE | GENDER CENTRE, IAFFE & UNRISD

Conversations with Naila Kabeer: "Reversed Realities" and Feminist Economic Strategies for Today's World

In honour of the esteemed contribution of work by **Naila Kabeer** to the fields of international development and feminist economics, the Gender Centre, the International Association for Feminist Economics (IAFFE) and the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) organised a roundtable on 23 May to take stock of how consideration of gender in development has evolved over the past three decades.

[Watch here >](#)



DEMOCRACY IN QUESTION? S9:E1 | CENTRAL EUROPEAN INSTITUTE & GENEVA GRADUATE INSTITUTE

Ivan Krastev on the European Elections

This episode explores the recent European elections and the EU's political drift to the right. What were the major issues, campaign themes and decisive factors which led to the results? And does the political centre still hold if many right-wing positions have already been mainstreamed? [Listen](#) to hear about the new dynamics that will affect the future direction of the EU and the geopolitical challenges Europe will face during the upcoming US elections.



DEMOCRACY IN QUESTION? S9:E2 | CENTRAL EUROPEAN INSTITUTE & GENEVA GRADUATE INSTITUTE

Adam Habib on South Africa's Elections

This episode explores the immediate consequences of South Africa's recent parliamentary elections and the historical trajectory of the African National Congress. How does a vibrant sphere of civil society activism play a role in the country? And what is to be learned from the "FeesMustFall" protests against the attempted restructuring of higher education? [Listen](#) to hear about the prospects for addressing South Africa's structural and geopolitical challenges.



DEMOCRACY IN QUESTION? S9:E3 | CENTRAL EUROPEAN INSTITUTE & GENEVA GRADUATE INSTITUTE

Mark Leonard on the UK Elections

This episode explores the implications of the UK elections which took place on 4 July. What does a return to centrism mean for British politics? And how do socio-economic transformations and fragmented cultural horizons play a role? [Listen](#) to also hear what the results could mean for transatlantic relations.



DEMOCRACY IN QUESTION? S9:E4 | CENTRAL EUROPEAN INSTITUTE & GENEVA GRADUATE INSTITUTE

Yogendra Yadav on Democracy in India



This episode analyses the elections in India and the trajectory of Indian democracy from the mid-seventies to today. How do voter motivations due to worsening economic conditions influence elections in the

country? And how do expectations for democracy to deliver economic growth and development play a role? [Listen](#) to hear how a new alignment of parties can help the cause of democracy in Indian elections to come.


Top




Visitors

 31 Aug 2024–31 Jul 2025
 IL Dep



Salonee SINGH

Coming from Brown University, Visiting Fellow Salonee Singh, holder of a Swiss Excellence Scholarship, is working on “The Shadows of Conflict: Humanitarian Actors in Switzerland and Armed Non-State Actors”.

 1 Sep 2024–16 Dec 2025
 GC



Marie HULTHIN

Coming from the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, University of Oslo, Junior Visiting Fellow Marie HULTHIN is working on “Norm Translation in Human Rights Treaty Bodies: The Dynamics and Politics of Intersectionality within CEDAW’s State Reporting Process”.

 1 Sep 2024–30 Nov 2025
 GC



Daria DYAKONOVA

Coming from Sapienza Universita Rome, Visiting Fellow Daria Dyakonova is researching “Transnational Networks of the Communist Women’s Movement, 1920–1939”.

 1 Sep 2024–24 Oct 2025
 IHP Dep



Jacqueline ADAMS

Coming from the University of Salamanca, Visiting Fellow Jacqueline Adams is researching “Jewish Refugees’ Escape from France to Franco’s Spain during the Holocaust (1940–1944)”.

 1 Sep 2024–2 Sep 2025
 IRPS Dep



Zep KALB

Coming from University of California, Los Angeles, Visiting Fellow Zep Kalb, holder of a Swiss Excellence Scholarship, is working on “Inside Power: Workers, Markets, and Authoritarianism in the Middle East and North Africa”.

 1 Sep 2024–1 Sep 2025
 GHC

Gabriela COSTA CHAVES

Coming from the Sergio Arouca National School of Public Health/Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Visiting Fellow Gabriela Costa Chaves is doing research on “Policy Implications of Patenting mRNA Technology’s Platform for Local Production in Latin American Countries”.

 1 Sep 2024–31 Aug 2025
 CCDP

William Andres MESA CARDENAS

Coming from Salamanca University, Visiting Fellow William Andres Mesa Cardenas, holder of a Swiss Excellence Scholarship, is researching “New and Old (Dis)orders of Macrocriminal Structures: A Perspective on the Post-War Space in Colombia (2017–2022)”.

📅 1 Sep 2024–31 Aug 2025
📍 CFD

Aurélien KAMDEM

Coming from the University of Yaoundé II, Visiting Fellow Aurélien Kamdem is doing research on “Effects of FinTech on Capital Flight in Sub-Saharan Africa: Accounting for Business and Credit Regulation”.

📅 1 Sep 2024–31 Aug 2025
📍 GHC

Dorothy APPOLLONIO

Coming from the University of California San Francisco, Visiting Fellow Dorothy Appollonio is working on “Addressing Commercial Determinants of Health”.

📅 1 Sep 2024–31 Aug 2025
📍 GHC

Amirhossein TAKIAN

Coming from the Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Visiting Fellow Amirhossein Takian is researching “Good Governance for Health in Uncertain Situations in the Context of LMICs”.

📅 1 Sep 2024–31 Aug 2025
📍 GC

Tsamiyah LEVI

Coming from the State University of Campinas, Junior Visiting Fellow Tsamiyah Levi is working on “Certifications in Gender Equality in Science: Activism and Institutional Change”.

📅 1 Sep 2024–31 Aug 2025
📍 IL Dep

Zhixin LI

Coming from Beijing Normal University, Junior Visiting Fellow Zhixin Li is working on “Legal Risks and Regulations of Cross-border Access to Enterprise Data in Judicial Proceedings”.

📅 1 Sep 2024–31 Aug 2025
📍 IRPS Dep

Anita BUDZISZEWSKA

Coming from the University of Warsaw, Junior Visiting Fellow Anita Budziszewska is doing research on “Philanthropic Foundations and International Organizations: How Can the Private Sector Serve as a Partner in Solving Global Challenges?”.

📅 1 Sep 2024–31 Aug 2025
📍 IRPS Dep

Ashwin VARGHESE

Coming from O.P. Jindal Global University, India, Visiting Fellow Ashwin Varghese, holder of a Swiss Excellence Scholarship, is working on “Algorithmic Governance and New-Generation Policing in India: The Changing Dynamics of Discretion, Autonomy and Control”.

📅 1 Sep 2024–31 Aug 2025
📍 IRPS Dep

Raslan IBRAHIM

Coming from the State University of New York at Geneseo (SUNY Geneseo), Visiting Fellow Raslan Ibrahim is working on “The Norms and Practices of Sovereignty in the Arab State System”.

📅 1 Sep 2024–28 Jul 2025
📍 AHCD

Germano RIBEIRO

Coming from the University of California, San Diego, Visiting Fellow Germano Ribeiro, holder of a Swiss Excellence Scholarship, is doing research on “Anti-Tax Corporate Networks and Tax Reforms in Unequal Democracies in Latin America”.

📅 1 Sep 2024–1 Jun 2025

📍 CCDP

Miguel RIBEIRO

Coming from the Federal University of Pernambuco, Visiting Fellow Miguel Ribeiro is working on “Global South in Conflict Management: A Comparative Exploration of Brazilian Engagement”.

📅 1 Sep 2024–1 Jun 2025

📍 IL Dep

Giada GIACOMINI

Max Weber Fellow Giada Giacomini is working on the accountability mechanisms of international organisations and the just, green transition.

📅 1 Sep 2024–1 Jun 2025

📍 IL Dep

Francisco-José QUINTANA

Coming from EUI, Max Weber Fellow Francisco-José Quintana is doing research on “International Law from the Side? Regionalism as Leverage for International Legal Change”.

📅 1 Sep 2024–1 Feb 2025

📍 GMC

Irina BONDAREVSKA

Coming from the University of Lausanne, Visiting Fellow Irina Bondarevska is researching “Values and Democracy Related Attitudes in Conditions of War and Displacement”.

📅 9 Sep 2024–30 Nov 2025

📍 GGC

Melina Annechina TRET MANS

Coming from Goethe University Frankfurt, Junior Visiting Fellow Melina Annechina Tretmans is working on “The Role of Non-State Actors from the Global South in the Implementation of the Global Compact for Migration and the Global Compact on Refugees”.

📅 15 Sep 2024–15 Sep 2025

📍 IHP Dep

Tianyi FU

Coming from Jinan University, Junior Visiting Fellow Tianyi FU is doing research on “The Impact of the US-Japan Alliance System on Japan’s Nuclear Strategy during the Cold War and Japan’s Response Measures”.



Top



Calls for Papers

Feminist Research on Forced Displacement in South Asia: Survival, Labour, and the Reproduction of Life

Raksha Gopal, Luisa Lupo and **Elisabeth Prügl** are organising a study day on 9–10 January 2025 in New Delhi, India. The aim is to present research findings, develop a roadmap on how to strengthen research on forced displacement, link issues of social reproduction with migration, neoliberalism, and violent conflict, and think collaboratively about what a world would look like that brought forcibly displaced persons justice. The study day is part of the SNSF-funded project [Gendering Survival from the Margins](#). It will provide an opportunity to the research team and the invited researchers to present findings and receive feedback, engage in enriching discussions, and broaden our academic network.

- Deadline: **15 September 2024**

[Full call >](#)

Spoliations, restitutions et circulations des objets: pour une géopolitique du patrimoine

Le prochain colloque de *Relations internationales*, revue d'histoire cofondée et soutenue par l'Institut, se tiendra à Fribourg et Neuchâtel du 4 au 6 mai 2025. Organisé par **Anne-Sophie Gijs, Matthieu Gillibert** et **Serge Jaumain**, il vise à mieux comprendre les processus de retour des objets, aboutis ou non, dans les relations internationales à l'époque contemporaine. Cette analyse des processus de restitutions permettra d'éclairer certaines problématiques de l'histoire des relations internationales à l'aune d'un nouveau questionnement, ouvrant de nouvelles perspectives de recherche. Les organisateurs et organisatrice espèrent recevoir des contributions sur les quatre axes suivants, qui pourront être modifiés par la suite en fonction des propositions: géopolitique, politique, culture et sciences sociales et juridiques.

- Délai de soumission des propositions de contributions: **1er octobre 2024**

[Appel complet >](#)

Provocations for Education from Youth Climate Activism

This blog series, edited by **Carrie Karsgaard, Victoria Desimoni** and **Iveta Silova**, invites provocations for education that emerge from various youth activist expressions – or are directed expressly at education *by and with* youth. Some blogs in this series will be reprinted (with a possibility of a longer contribution) in an edited open-access volume in fall/winter 2026.

[Full call >](#)


Top



Awarded Prizes

Tripurdaman Singh Wins the Dan David Prize

The Dan David Prize announced its [2024 winners](#) on 2 July. Among them is **Tripurdaman Singh**, Researcher at the Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy and Associate Fellow at the University of London. A historian of South Asia, he explores the nature of the region's encounter with colonialism, the process of decolonisation and the birth of Indian democracy. He is notably the author of [Sixteen Stormy Days: The Story of the First Amendment to the Constitution of India](#)

(Penguin, 2020; Bloomsbury, 2024) and *Imperial Sovereignty and Local Politics: The Bhadauria Rajputs and the Transition from Mughal to British India, 1600–1900* (Cambridge University Press, 2019).

[Read more >](#)

The Dan David Prize – the largest history prize in the world – recognises breakthrough research on the past.

Two Awards from the American Sociological Association for Livio Silva-Muller

Livio Silva-Muller, PhD Researcher in Anthropology and Sociology, has received two awards from the American Sociological Association for his dissertation article “[Pathways of the Environmental State](#): Global Climate Politics in the Amazon Rainforest”: the Graduate Student Paper Award in Political Sociology and the Graduate Student Paper Award in Sociology of Development. According to the committee, the paper “contributes directly to the sociology of development literature through a typology of environmental state effectiveness that foresees regimes of policy learning, policy expansion, policy resilience, and policy dismantling. It incorporates an excellent literature review and does an excellent job framing the issue using a Weberian-inspired ideal-typical approach to build theory based on sound methodology and empirical evidence. The conclusions are not exaggerated, and this paper extends the environmental state literature and contributes to the conversation on the impact of states on global environmental outcomes.”



Top



Upcoming PhD Defences

📅 Monday 9 Sep

🕒 15:00–17:00

📍 Pétale 2, Room S9

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/POLITICAL SCIENCE

Ideology, Hatred and Trauma: Azerbaijan between the Three Karabakh Wars

By **Cesare Figari Barberis**. Committee members: Keith Krause, Professor, Thesis Director; Anna Leander, Professor, President and Internal Reader; Ayse Zarakol, Professor and Externa Reader, Department of Politics and International Studies, University of Cambridge, UK.

[Read more >](#)

📅 Tuesday 10 Sep

🕒 14:00–16:00

📍 Pétale 2, Room S9

DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS, MINOR IN ANTHROPOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY

Three Essays on Public Health Insurance and Provider Performance

By **Zhubin Chen**. Committee members: Jean-Louis Arcand, Professor, Thesis Co-Supervisor; Vinh-Kim Nguyen, Professor, Thesis Co-Supervisor; Lore Vandewalle, President and Internal Reader; Hassan Haghparast-Bidgoli, Associate Professor and Externa Reader, Institute for Global Health, University College London (UCL), UK.

[Read more >](#)



Top



For comprehensive information please visit the [Research website](#).

Notes to members of the Geneva Graduate Institute:



To promote your research outputs (books, chapters, articles, working papers) through the *Bulletin*, please write to publications@graduateinstitute.ch.



Visit also our [intranet page](#) to find out which outputs and events are covered in the *Bulletin*.

