

2018 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Is the Transition Over?

THURSDAY 6 DECEMBER 2018 | FRIDAY 7 DECEMBER 2018

Organised as part of the Institute's cooperation programme with the Institute for Human Sciences (IWM), funded by the Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research, and Innovation. Under the scientific responsibility of Professor Andre Liebich.

→ Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies
Maison de la paix, chemin Eugène-Rigot 2, 1202 Geneva

“Transition” has become a convenient trope, or “buzzword”, expressing both uncertainty and hope. Almost 30 years after the fall of communism, countries of the former Soviet bloc are still sometimes referred to as “in transition”. The colour revolutions in the Middle East and North Africa have engendered what is hopefully referred to here as a transition

towards regimes more in keeping with Western norms. In India, state capitalism appears to be giving way to a liberal or neo-liberal understanding of capitalism. In China, after decades of austerity an exuberant economy seems to be slowing down without putting into question an authoritarian regime. But is the transition over?

THURSDAY 6 DECEMBER 2018

Auditorium Ivan Pictet B, Maison de la paix, chemin Eugène-Rigot 2, 1202 Geneva

18:30 – 20:00

THE ELUSIVE PROBLEMATIC OF TRANSITION

Chair: **ANDRE LIEBICH**, Honorary Professor of International History and Politics, the Graduate Institute, Geneva

RANABIR SAMADDAR, Distinguished Chair in Migration and Forced Migration Studies, Calcutta Research Group

FRIDAY 7 DECEMBER 2018

Auditorium 2, Maison de la paix, chemin Eugène-Rigot 2, 1202 Geneva

9:15

WELCOME OF THE PARTICIPANTS

9:30 – 11:00

EAST EUROPE

Chair: **ANDRE LIEBICH**, Honorary Professor of International History and Politics, the Graduate Institute, Geneva

ANDRAS BOZOKI, Professor of Political Science, Central European University, Hungary, and IWM Former Fellow

→ “Hybrid Regimes after Democracy: Hungary and the European Union”

MIHAELA HERBEL, Associated Lecturer, Babes-Bolyai University, Romania, and IWM “Robert Bosch” Former Junior Visiting Fellow

→ “Exploring the Broken Eastern Promises: a Prolonged Transition or Democratic Backsliding? The Case of Romania”

11:30 – 13:00

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

Chair: **CYRUS SCHAYEGH**, Professor of International History, the Graduate Institute, Geneva

ZUZANA HUDAKOVA, Research Associate, Global Governance Centre, the Graduate Institute, Geneva and IWM Junior Fellow

→ “A Touch of Spring amidst the Winter: The Democratic Transition in Tunisia”

MOHAMMAD-MAHMOUD OULD MOHAMEDOU, Professor of International History, the Graduate Institute, Geneva

→ “The Winter of their Discontent: Arab Uprisings and the Impossible Transition”

14:30 – 16:00

INDIA

Chair: **SHALINI RANDERIA**, Director, Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy, the Graduate Institute, Geneva, and IWM Director

SHAILA SESHIA GALVIN, Assistant Professor, Anthropology and Sociology, the Graduate Institute, Geneva

→ “Is the Transition Over? Thoughts on Agrarian Transitions and Transformations in India”

ADIL HASAN KHAN, McKenzie Postdoctoral Fellow, Melbourne Law School, Australia, and IWM Former Junior Fellow

→ “Tales of Transitions and their Famines: Authorizing the Green Revolution in India”

16:30 – 18:00

CHINA

Chair: **DAVID SYLVAN**, Professor of International Relations/Political Science, the Graduate Institute, Geneva

LING LI, External Lecturer, Department of East Asian Studies, University of Vienna, Austria, and IWM Former Visiting Fellow

→ “Political Reformation of the Chinese Communist Party (1949–2018)”

SUNGMIN RHO, Assistant Professor of International Relations/Political Science, the Graduate Institute, Geneva

→ “China’s State-Society Relations in the era of Sustainable Growth”

