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**GRADUATE
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INSTITUT DE HAUTES
ÉTUDES INTERNATIONALES
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GRADUATE INSTITUTE
OF INTERNATIONAL AND
DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Research Bulletin

Latest publications, upcoming events and deadlines

December 2020

Gateway to Publications by Theme



Conflict, Dispute
Settlement and
Peacebuilding



Culture,
Identity
and Religion



Environment
and Natural
Resource



Global Health



Development
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Trade
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Human Rights,
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and
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Gender



Governance



Gateway to Events, Deadlines and Other Information



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Multimedia



Publications by Theme



Conflict, Dispute Settlement and Peacebuilding



ARTICLE

Histories of Authority in the African Great Lakes: Trajectories and Transactions

This article reflects on how scholars have engaged with the past and with notions of authority in the African Great Lakes (in *Africa*, vol. 90, no. 5, November 2020).

Bridging history and political science,

Marie-Eve Desrosiers and **Aidan Russell** unsettle the dominant “presentist” perspective on the region by proposing two concepts to analyse histories of political authority: trajectories and transactions. They present two historical vignettes to illustrate the contribution these alternative lenses make: first, they revisit the 1973 coup in Rwanda as an ambiguous trajectory of authority-making and unmaking; then, they consider languages of praise and petitioning in Burundi in the 1960s, to show how authority is lived, manifested and challenged through local transactional relations.

DOI >

ARTICLE

Regions and Global History: An Arab-Iranian Case Study and Three Observations

Cyrus Schayegh starts by showing how Iran’s Muhammad Reza Shah Pahlavi and his government became involved in a series of sociopolitical crises in Arab countries in 1958 that triggered the shah’s quest for autocratic power and, as an outgrowth of this, for moderate socioeconomic reforms that actually proved decisive and successful (in *Journal of Levantine Studies*, vol. 10, no. 1, Summer 2020). Drawing on this case study, he then makes conceptual observations: (1) regions are not units, they are rather constituted by sets of relationships; (2) a particular set of relationships is not a static homogeneous unit but itself takes the form of multiple uneven, changing relationships; (3) two areas are sketched out that overlap with global and supraregional developments, concerning the Cold War superpower rivalry and postcolonial state formation.

Article >

THREE EDITED BOOK CHAPTERS

The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Peace and Conflict Studies (O. Richmond and G. Visoka, eds., Autumn 2020) contains three chapters by **Sara Hellmuller**, Senior Researcher at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding:

● **Mediation**

After sketching the development of mediation, this chapter provides an overview of existing research and of the gaps that remain. Scholars have mostly focused on the question of how to render mediation more effective. They have thereby strongly relied on rationalist conceptual frameworks and quantitative methods. While producing important findings, this has left three gaps pointing to the need to produce more disaggregated findings, to focus on ideational aspects, and to be aware of changing macrolevel factors in the broader world political context of mediation.

DOI >

● **Civil Society Inclusion in Peace Mediation**

After defining the concept, this chapter summarises current debates and research on civil society inclusion. While initial research has mostly focused on how inclusion/exclusion influences effectiveness, scholars have recently provided insights on the rationales and operationalisation of inclusion. Yet, important gaps remain regarding the context, timing, and management of inclusion as well as understanding inclusion from the perspective of civil society actors.

[DOI >](#)

• **DR Congo: Local and International Peacebuilders' Interaction**

This chapter first provides a review of the literature on local and international peacebuilding. It then presents insights from the DR Congo (DRC) gathered in more than a year of field research. It shows that local and international peacebuilders often have different, but complementary, perceptions of an armed conflict and related peacebuilding priorities. It argues that improving cooperation between them can help address conflicts in a more comprehensive manner.

[DOI >](#)

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Inclusion and Performance as Sources of Legitimacy: The UN Mediation on Syria

Authors often pit inclusion and performance against each other, arguing that the participation of civil society reduces the efficiency of a mediation process. Analysing the strategic decisions of three UN Special Envoys on Syria, **Sara Hellmuller**, Senior Researcher at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding, provides a necessary corrective to this narrative by showing that both inclusion and performance are sources of legitimacy and not necessarily at odds with each other (in *Local Legitimacy and International Peacebuilding*, O. Richmond and R. Mac Ginty, eds., Edinburgh University Press, August 2020).

[Publisher >](#)

PHD THESIS

The Origins of Centcom: American Hegemony, Car Culture, and European Oil Dependence

In this original PhD thesis (International History, 2020), **Manuel Dorion-Soulié** analyses American policy in the Middle East since 1945 in light of European oil dependence, itself a product of the European adoption of "car culture" under American economic and cultural influence.

[Interview with Dr Dorion-Soulié >](#)

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Culture, Identity and Religion

PHD THESIS

A Slow Reckoning: The USSR, the Afghan Communists, and Islam

Vassily Klimentov has devoted his PhD thesis to the study of the Soviet Union and



Afghanistan to Soviet Central Asia.

[Interview with Dr Klimentov >](#)

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Environment and Natural Resource



ARTICLE

Transforming Knowledge Systems for Life on Earth: Visions of Future Systems and How to Get There

Formalised knowledge systems are failing humanity when their impact is measured against the level of progress in stimulating the societal changes needed to address challenges like climate change. Using a

novel futures-oriented and participatory approach that asked what future envisioned knowledge systems might need to look like and how we might get there, **Morgan Scoville-Simonds**, postdoctoral researcher at the Centre for International Environmental Studies, and others find that future systems will need to be much more collaborative, open, diverse, egalitarian, and able to work with values and systemic issues. This will require bold and strategic action from governments, scientists, civic society and sustained transformational intent (in *Energy Research & Social Science*, vol. 70, December 2020, 101724).

[DOI >](#)

ARTICLE

Building an Effective Coalition to Improve Forest Policy: Lessons from the Coastal Tripa Peat Swamp Rainforest, Sumatra, Indonesia

Between 2004 and 2017, NGOs fought and managed to halt and reverse the deforestation of the coastal Tripa peat swamp rainforest in the province of Aceh, Sumatra. Denis Ruysschaert and **Marc Hufty** seek to understand the conditions that made this success story possible (in *Land Use Policy*, vol. 99, 103359, December 2020). Using the Advocacy Coalition Framework for its capacity to deal with a complicated policymaking ecosystem whose decisions takes years for implementation, they find that enabling conditions were the NGOs' capacity to engage at least a decade to impact forest policy; build a broad social-ecological and rights-based coalition; change beliefs and adapt to new events (climate policy, digital

technology, political changes, and tsunami) to gain advantage; and monitor and disseminate causal deforestation factors.

[DOI >](#)

ARTICLE

Seeing Inside the Stone: Visual Refractions and the Apprenticeship of Evaluation in the Global Diamond Industry

Based on an ethnographic study of rough diamond grading and evaluation courses in Belgium and India, as well as interviews with evaluators (Belgium, United States, India, United Kingdom, and Switzerland), Postdoctoral Fellow **Matthieu Bolay** and **Filipe Calvão** argue that the expertise learnt by graders consists notably of recognising and valuing the fallibility of their own sensory assessments. This apparent paradox is constitutive of the certification system and aligns with the rhetoric of exceptionality upon which the diamond industry and its markets are built (in *Revue d'anthropologie des connaissances*, vol. 14, no. 3, online December 2020; translated from the French).

[Access >](#)

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Partnerships

Since the 1990s, environmental partnerships have proliferated rapidly. For NGOs, partnerships are means to engage in direct governance to advance specific normative or implementation agendas. They also facilitate access to powerful actors and opportunities to establish a common collaborative purpose. Partnerships as modes of governance are thus closely embedded in broader institutional and policy structures, argue **Liliana Andonova**, Manoela Assayag and **Dario Piselli**, Research Assistant at the Centre for International Environmental Studies, in their contribution to *Essential Concepts of Global Environmental Governance* (J.-Fr. Morin and A. Orsini, eds., Routledge, 2nd edition, September 2020).

[DOI >](#)

RESEARCH PAPER

The Heterogeneous Impact of Coal Prices on the Location of Cleaner and Dirtier Steel Plants

François Cohen and **Giulia Valacchi**, researchers at the Centre for International Environmental Studies at the time of writing, estimate the effect of coal prices on steel plant location worldwide and production preferences for basic oxygen furnaces (BOFs), a polluting technology, and electric arc furnaces (EAFs), a greener one (CIES Research Paper no. 65, November 2020). A 1% increase in national coal prices reduces BOF installed capacity by around 0.37%, while it has no statistically significant impact on EAF capacity. They simulate the implementation of a stringent European carbon market with no border adjustment and find a non-negligible shift in steel production outside Europe, with a concomitant impact on the technologies employed to produce steel. If applied worldwide, the same policy would primarily affect production in Asia, which relies on BOF and currently benefits from lower coal prices than those expected to emerge in the future.

[Repository >](#)



ARTICLE

Implementing Social Accountability for Contraceptive Services: Lessons from Uganda

Victoria Boydell, Research Fellow at the Global Health Centre, and others observe two social accountability projects focused on contraceptive care in Uganda over a year in order to understand how social

accountability operates in the highly gendered and complex context of contraceptive care (in *BMC Women's Health*, vol. 20, art. no. 228, October 2020). Information, dialogue and negotiation played a critical role. Improved community and health system relationships, community empowerment, provider and health system responsiveness, and enhanced availability and access to services were reported in both projects. There were also changes in how different actors related to themselves and to each other, and contraceptive care, a previously taboo topic, became a legitimate area for public dialogue.

[DOI >](#)

WORKING PAPER

"Everybody Knows This Needs to Be Done, but Nobody Really Wants to Do It": Governing Pathogen- and Benefit-Sharing (PBS)

At the culmination of a two-year SNSF-funded project, this study offers the largest publicly available set of empirical data to date on pathogen- and benefit-sharing (PBS) practices. **Anthony Rizk**, doctoral researcher at the Global Health Centre, **Anna Bezruki**, Research Officer at the same centre, **Gian Luca Burci**, **Suerie Moon** and others illustrate how pathogens and related benefits are negotiated, both globally and in the specific cases of Liberia's Ebola and Brazil's Zika epidemics (Global Health Centre Working Paper no. 23, December 2020). Although there has been some progress in addressing challenges related to PBS, they highlight that we remain far from a well-functioning international system and call for better PBS governance to respond to emerging infectious diseases.

[More info >](#)

[Repository >](#)

THÈSE DE DOCTORAT

Mutualisme, concurrence et science actuarielle: Contributions à l'historiographie du système suisse d'assurance-maladie (1865-1970)

La thèse de **Geoffroy Legentilhomme** (Histoire internationale, soutenue en octobre 2020) retrace le développement à long terme du système suisse d'assurance-maladie, en prenant pour objet d'étude spécifique les offreurs de services assurantiels. À partir des outils méthodologiques empruntés au champ disciplinaire de l'histoire des affaires (*business history*), cette thèse explore en particulier les stratégies – commerciales et politiques – déployées par les mutuelles pour assurer, dans un premier temps, leur survie, puis la consolidation de leur position dominante face à l'émergence de nouveaux acteurs concurrents, en particulier les compagnies



Development Finance, Policies and Practices



PHD THESIS

Essays on Macroeconomics and Labor Markets

Do workers prefer to work less time to enjoy more leisure, or work more time to consume more goods and services? In the main chapter of his PhD thesis (International Economics, 2020), **Agustin Velasquez** analyses their preferences by

using international trade as a source of aggregate income variation that is independent from preferences and other variables affecting labor supply decisions. He shows that workers indirectly benefit from international trade by increasing their leisure time. Trade openness generates a rise in labor income at the country level. In turn, workers react to this boost by reducing their supply of working hours and enjoying more leisure.

[Interview with Dr Velasquez >](#)



Trade and Economic Integration



ARTICLE

Local Crowding-Out in China

In China, between 2006 and 2013, local public debt crowded out the investment of private firms by tightening their funding constraints while leaving state-owned firms' investment unaffected. **Yi Huang**, Marco Pagano and **Ugo Panizza** establish this result using a purpose-built data set

for Chinese local public debt (in *Journal of Finance*, online July 2020). Private firms invest less in cities with more public debt, with the reduction in investment larger for firms located farther from banks in other cities or more dependent on external funding. Moreover, in cities where public debt is high, private firms' investment is more sensitive to internal cash flow.

[Interview with Professor Huang >](#)
[DOI >](#)

Revitalising Multilateral Trade Cooperation: Why? Why Now? And How?

While the trade system as a whole has proved more resilient than many feared during the COVID-19 pandemic, the crisis has placed new stresses on multilateral cooperation. This has come at a time when the standing of the WTO has fallen in some of its largest members and its rules have been ignored by many. In this introduction to their new coedited eBook, Simon J. Evenett and **Richard E. Baldwin** argue that with the election of a new US government and the concurrent selection of a new WTO Director-General, there is hope for a revitalisation of multilateral cooperation on trade. The eBook presents analyses and ideas of how this could be done (*Revitalising Multilateralism: Pragmatic Ideas for the New WTO Director-General*, Centre for Economic Policy Research, November 2020).

[Access >](#)

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Human Rights, Humanitarian Law and Action



ARTICLE

Repatriation of Family Members of Foreign Fighters: Individual Right or State Prerogative?

Under international law, the family members of foreign fighters who are now detained in North-East Syria have no individual right to be repatriated by their State of nationality based on either

consular assistance, the extraterritorial applicability of human rights treaties, or the right of return to one's own country, but there are good reasons why States should exercise their prerogative to repatriate. So argues **Alessandra Spadaro**, PhD Candidate in International Law, in *International and Comparative Law Quarterly* (online November 2020).

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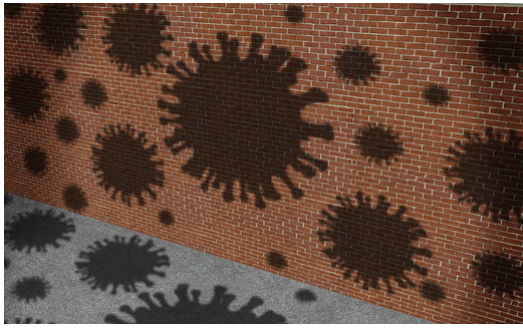


Migration and Refugees

ARTICLE

Crisis without Borders: What Does International Law Say about Border Closure in the Context of COVID-19?

Are border closures decided on the ground of public health legal under international



human rights law? No, answers **Vincent Chetail** in his contribution to *Frontiers in Political Science* (vol. 2, December 2020). Border closures cannot be reconciled with the most basic rights of migrants and refugees, including the principle of non-refoulement and access to asylum procedures, the prohibition of collective expulsion, the best interests of the child

and the principle of non-discrimination. Reflecting on the ways to better integrate at the borders public health and human rights imperatives in due respect with the rule of law, he concludes that in both law and practice, public health and migrant's rights are not mutually exclusive. They can reinforce each other within a comprehensive human rights based approach to health and migration policies.

[DOI >](#)

MONOGRAPH

Homo itinerans: Towards a Global Ethnography of Afghanistan

Afghan society has been marked in a lasting way by war and the exodus of part of its population. While many have emigrated to countries across the world, they have been matched by the flow of experts who arrive in Afghanistan after having been in other war-torn countries such as the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Palestine or East Timor. **Alessandro Monsutti** builds on more than two decades of ethnographic travels in some twenty countries, bringing the readers from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran to Europe, North America and Australia (Berghahn, November 2020; published originally in French by **PUF**, September 2018). He describes the everyday life and transnational circulations of Afghan refugees and expatriates.

[More info >](#)

[Publisher >](#)

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Gender



ARTICLE

Untenable Dichotomies: De-gendering Political Economy

Political Economy is inundated with foundational dichotomies, which constitute central concepts in its theorising. Feminist scholarship has problematised the gender subtext of these dichotomies and the resulting blind spots, including the

positioning of women's labour, processes of reproduction, and private households as marginal to the economy. **Elisabeth Prügl** offers a reading of contemporary writings in Feminist Political Economy that is attuned to disrupting binaries, thereby opening up new thinking space for alternatives (in the *Review of International Political*

Economy, online October 2020).

[Interview with Professor Prügl >](#)

[DOI >](#)

ARTICLE

Social Determinants of Male Partner Attendance in Women's Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission Program in Malawi

This study by **Claire Somerville** and others aims to identify the socio-demographic characteristics, HIV-knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) among 128 women accompanied and not accompanied by their male partners to Malawi's national PMTCT (Prevention-Mother-To-Child-Transmission) programme between August 2018 and November 2019 (in *BMC Public Health*, vol. 20, art. no. 1821, November 2020). It shows a high male attendance in Malawi compared to other studies performed in Sub-Saharan Africa. Women's level of knowledge on HIV and their economic condition (employment and owning a means of transport) affect male attendance. Moreover, gender power relationships and stringent gender norms play a crucial role and should thus be considered to enhance male involvement.

[DOI >](#)

ARTICLE

El feminismo de la gobernanza en la CEDAW: la cuestión sobre el trabajo sexual y la prostitución

Felipe Jaramillo Ruiz, PhD Affiliate of the Gender Centre, and Lina-María Céspedes-Báez analyse the approach that the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) uses in its general recommendations and concluding observations to address the commercialisation of sex (in *Cadernos Pagu* no. 59, e205917, November 2020, in Spanish). The CEDAW has promoted an abolitionist approach or one favoring partial decriminalisation, which penalises those who participate in the sex trade, except women in prostitution who are primarily seen as victims. These empirical findings serve to understand the approaches to sexuality that prevail in international norms and organisations and their possible implications for governance feminism.

[DOI >](#)

PHD THESIS

From Home Gardens in Nariño-Colombia to the Palais des Nations: Translocal Action for Rural Women's Human Right to Land and Territory

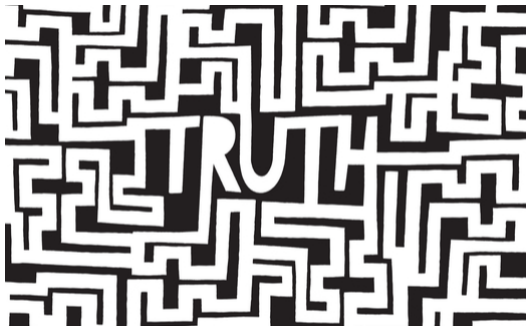
In her PhD thesis (Anthropology and Sociology of Development, 2020), **Yira Lazala** explores how peasant and indigenous women in Nariño, Colombia, make their conceptions of self-determination, land, and territorial rights become visible on the transnational scale and how such notions turn (or not) into authoritative legal knowledge.

[Interview with Dr Lazala >](#)

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Governance



ARTICLE

International Law in an Age of Post-shame

The attitude of the Trump administration or of Putin's Russia towards facts is often said to be emblematic of our post-truth condition. In this contribution to *ESIL Reflections* (vol. 9, no. 3, July 2020), **Fuad Zarbiyev** argues that the problem is not

so much the truthfulness of political leaders as the rising culture of post-shame and reflects on its consequences for international law.

[Interview with Professor Zarbiyev >](#)
[Access >](#)

ARTICLE

Kofi Annan's Legacy of UN Reform

This article by **Thomas Biersteker** first identifies four types of UN reform: Security Council reform, reform of administrative practices, incremental procedural reforms, and creation of new institutions to address contemporary challenges (in *Caribbean Journal of International Relations & Diplomacy*, vol. 5, no. 2, September 2020). It next examines Kofi Annan's reforms during his ten-year term as Secretary-General. In addition to his engagement with all four forms, he also pursued UN improvement in each of the three pillars of the UN Charter: security, development, and human rights. Kofi Annan believed that reform was a process, and he pursued it also after his term through his foundation and other activities. His legacy of reform has been continued by his successors.

[Access >](#)

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

The Governance of International Organizations: Structural Components, Internal Mechanisms, and Contemporary Challenges

Thomas Biersteker and **Cecilia Cannon**, researcher at the Global Governance Centre, have contributed to *Advances in Corporate Governance: Comparative Perspectives* (H.K. Anheier and Th. Baums, eds., Oxford University Press, November 2020).

[Publisher >](#)

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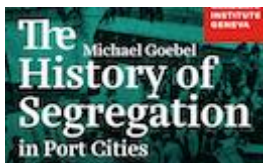
Events and Other Information



Multimedia

RESEARCH PODCAST | FIELDS, E2

The History of Segregation in Port Cities



In this new episode of "Fields", **Michael Goebel** invites us to better understand the construction of segregation in port cities around the world at the end of the 19th century. A steamboat trip that takes us to the beginning of economic globalisation.

[Listen to Professor Goebel >](#)



RESEARCH PODCAST | ABD, E3

From Citroen to CENTCOM: Cars, Power and War

In the 1970s, the wars of the *hypermarchés* were raging, with parking lots as a battleground, and European families in their brand new Citroëns as the prize. Yet, in the meantime, a far more impactful conflict was brewing. **Manuel Dorion-Soulié** focused on the impact of those very same cars on foreign policy in the Middle East for his doctoral thesis.

[Listen to Dr Dorion-Soulié >](#)

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Project Submission Deadlines

Thursday 31 December 2020

- VolkswagenStiftung | Funding Workshops on Mixed Methods in the Humanities | [More info >](#)

Friday 1 January 2021

- The Conservation, Food and Health Foundation | Research and Capacity Development Grants | [More info >](#)

Friday 15 January 2021

- SNSF | Research Projects in Vietnam | [More info >](#)
- The Branco Weiss Foundation | Postdoctoral Fellowships | [More info >](#)

Thursday 21 January 2021

- SNIS | Projects in International Studies | [More info >](#)

Tuesday 26 January 2021

- H2020 | Behavioural, Social and Cultural Change for the European Green Deal | [More info >](#)

Thursday 28 January 2021

- Kellogg Foundation | Solutions to Address Racial Inequities | [More info >](#)

Monday 1 February 2021

- The Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation | Dissertation fellowships | [More info >](#)
- SNSF | Eccellenza | [More info >](#)
- SNSF | Postdoc.Mobility | [More info >](#)

Monday 15 February 2021

- Fritz Thyssen Stiftung | Research Projects in the Humanities and Social Sciences | [More info >](#)

Tuesday 16 February 2021

- ERA-NET | Social Sciences and Humanities Research in Rare Diseases | [More info >](#)

Rolling Basis

- The Internet Society Foundation | Internet Research Grants | [More info >](#)
- SNSF | SPIRIT | [More info >](#)
- SNSF | Scientific Exchanges | [More info >](#)
- SNSF | Agora (small projects) | [More info >](#)
- SAGW | Travel Funding | [More info >](#)
- Alexander von Humboldt Foundation | Research Fellowships | [More info >](#)

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Calls for Papers

📅 Jeudi 31 décembre
2020

La Francophonie: espace de circulations transnationales dans un monde global et connecté (fin XIXe-XXe s.)

Appel à contribuer au prochain colloque de la revue d'histoire *Relations internationales* les 29 et 30 mai 2021 à l'Université de Fribourg. Les contributions seront publiées dans la revue, coéditée par l'Institut depuis 1974.

[Appel à contributions >](#)

📅 Friday 15 January
2021

Annual International Refugee Law Student Writing Competition

The American Society of International Law's International Refugee Law Interest Group (IRLIG) is pleased to announce the 7th edition of this competition. The winner will notably receive a complimentary admission to the 2021 ASIL Meeting in Washington, DC. Their paper will also be published in the *International Journal of Refugee Law*.

[More info >](#)

📅 Sunday 24 January

Inequality, Discrimination, and the Financial System

2021

The US National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) is organising a virtual conference on 1–2 April 2021. The organisers welcome both empirical and theoretical papers by researchers from a variety of fields, including financial economics, household finance, and labor economics, investigating how the organization of the financial system, the practices of financial institutions, and the financial circumstances of different types of households contribute to inequality. Papers may not include policy recommendations.

[More info >](#)

📅 Saturday 30 January 2021

Revisiting Euro Mediterranean Cooperation in an Age of Uncertainty

Marking the 25th anniversary of the Barcelona Declaration, this call invites academics and experts in the field to submit proposals for papers related to the Euro Mediterranean process of cooperation. Organising Committee: Souhail Belhadj, Ibrahim Saïd, Riccardo Bocco and Federica Frediani.

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Awarded Prizes

Grégoire Mallard, Farzan Sabet and Jin Sun Winners of the SNIS IG Award 2020

The International Geneva Award rewards the authors for their article “**The Humanitarian Gap in the Global Sanctions Regime: Assessing Causes, Effects and Solutions**”, which assesses various fixes to the governance failures and solutions to address the payment problems that exporters of vital goods in sanctioned jurisdictions face.

[Read the article >](#)

ISA 2020–2021 Global South Caucus (GSC) Distinguished Scholar Award

Mohamed Mahmoud Mohamedou has been recognised by the International Studies Association (ISA) for his substantial contribution to the study of international relations. Founded in 1959, the ISA is one of the oldest interdisciplinary associations committed to understanding international, transnational and global affairs.

[More info >](#)

Julie Billaud Winner of the SNIS Special Mention 2020

This mention rewards the author for her article “**Masters of Disorder: Rituals of Communication and Monitoring at the International Committee of the Red Cross**”, in which she seeks to decipher the ICRC’s ethos and worldview by focusing on the ways in which delegates interpret the principles (neutrality, impartiality, confidentiality) that guide their actions, and on the changes that these techniques

underdo as a result of external sources of pressure for evidence-based programming.

[Read the article >](#)



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