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GRADUATE INSTITUTE
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DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Research Bulletin

Upcoming events, latest publications and other research activities

1 February 2021 (no. 1, 2021)

Dear Subscribers,

Dear Researchers of the Graduate Institute,

We hope you started 2021 well and healthy.

Two changes have been introduced regarding the bulletin: from now on you will receive it every two or three weeks and it will open with the research events of the forthcoming two weeks.

We thank you for your interest and hope you enjoy perusing our newsletter.

The Research Office team

Upcoming Research Events

2 Tuesday

WORKSHOP
Work Yourself! >
09:30–12:00 (online)

3 Wednesday

WEBINAR
**Openness,
Innovation and
Productivity:
Evidence from
Enterprise
Surveys >**
12:30–13:00 (online)

10 Wednesday

WEBINAR
**The Western
Balkans: Local
Priorities,
Fractured
Regional
Perspectives >**
10:00–11:30 (online)

15 Monday

FASTTRACK STUDIO
Women in Tech >
15:00–16:00 (online)

[See all events +](#)

Gateway to Publications by Themes



Governance



Democracy
and
Civil Society









Conflict, Dispute
Settlement and
Peacebuilding







Culture,
Identity
and Religion



Environment
and Natural
Resource

					
Global Health	Development Finance, Policies and Practices	Trade and Economic Integration	Human Rights, Humanitarian Law and Action	Migration and Refugees	Gender

Gateway to Other Relevant Information

			
Awarded Grants	Multimedia	Visitors	Upcoming PhD Defences

Publications by Themes



Governance



EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Forging a Proto-Third World? Latin America and the League against Imperialism

By exploring the role of Latin America in the Comintern-sponsored League against Imperialism (1927–37), this book chapter provides a case study for illuminating the history of the assumption that Latin

America was an integral part of what from the 1950s came to be called the “Third World”. **Michael Goebel** argues that the League’s communism was an early entry point for Latin Americans into that imaginary, but soon became a source of friction, too (in *The League against Imperialism: Lives and Afterlives*, M. Louro and others, eds., Leiden University Press, October 2020).

Publisher >

ARTICLE

Enduring Practices in Changing Circumstances: A Comparison of the European Court of Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights

This article explains the relation between legal cultures and practices through the lenses of practice theory (in *Temple International and Comparative Law Journal*, vol. 34, no. 2, Spring 2020). **Ezgi Yildiz**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Global Governance Centre, focuses in particular on public hearings at the European Court of

Human Rights and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and examines their inclusiveness. Relying on the evidence gathered through on-site visits and interviews conducted at both courts, she explains how legal cultures shape courtroom practices, and why these practices persist despite changing socio-political circumstances

[Access >](#)

POLICY BRIEF

Negotiated Settlement through Sanctions Relief: Options for the Korean Peninsula

This policy brief by **Thomas Biersteker** and David Lanz proposes options for sanctions relief to achieve a negotiated settlement regarding the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula (no. 75, Asia-Pacific Leadership Network for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, December 2020). It makes concrete suggestions for an incremental negotiation strategy, where some sanctions relief is granted in exchange for progress towards denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula, with full termination of sanctions and the creation of a nuclear-free zone as the end goals.

[Read the brief >](#)

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Daniel Ricardo Quiroga-Villamarín and **Konstantin Kleine**, PhD Candidates in International Law, have each written a chapter in *Cynical International Law? Beiträge zum ausländischen öffentlichen Recht und Völkerrecht* (B. Baade and others., eds., Springer, online November 2020):

– From Speaking Truth to Power to Speaking Power’s Truth: Transnational Judicial Activism in an Increasingly Illiberal World

Since the early 1990s, international human rights have been mobilised to transform structural conditions of injustice before courtrooms all around the world. Implicit in this narrative, however, lies the idea that transnational judicial activism has inherently progressive outcomes: the rule of law, human rights, or democracy. Daniel Quiroga-Villamarín argues that this premise, which emerged from the naïveté of the post-Cold War period, can no longer hold in our increasingly illiberal world.

[DOI >](#)

– The International Law Commission as a Club of Cynics? Originalism and Legalism in the Commission’s Contemporary Work

According to Konstantin Klein, “originalism” and “legalism”, whether they are consciously or subconsciously present in the work of the International Law Commission, lead to the Commission partaking in enabling states to use international law in a cynical fashion, mainly by legitimising a conceptualisation of international law characterised by wide-ranging state sovereignty and states as the exclusive norm entrepreneurs.

[DOI >](#)

PHD THESIS

“An Anomaly among Anomalies”: Colonial Membership of the League of Nations

In his PhD thesis in International History (2020), **Thomas Gidney** studies the accession of three British colonial states to the League of Nations: India in 1919, Ireland in 1923 and Egypt in 1937. He thus tracks the development of colonial representation from its outset at the League’s creation in 1919 towards the end of the League’s authority in the latter half of the 1930s. Although admitting colonies to

international organisations was only practised by the British Empire, the inclusion of British colonial polities in international organisations reveals new practices in imperial policy to legitimise empire in the face of growing nationalist resistance to colonial rule.

[Interview with Dr Gidney >](#)

PHD THESIS

A Theory of Interpretation of International Obligations of the State: Sovereignty as Necessary Implication

In her PhD thesis in International Law (2020), **Eda Cosar Demirkol** argues that state sovereignty, as conceptualised in the modern international legal context, may assist in the interpretation of standard-setting obligations of the state by way of necessary implication. To demonstrate her argument, she takes a critical look at the recent trends in investment treaty-making practice and the expanding scholarship on standard of review approaches in international investment law.

[Interview with Dr Cosar Demirkol >](#)

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Democracy and Civil Society



EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Redefining Vulnerability and State-Society Relationships during the COVID-19 Crisis: The Politics of Social Welfare Funds in India and Italy

In this chapter for *Democracy in Times of Pandemic: Different Futures Imagined* (M. Poiares Maduro and P. W. Kahn, eds., Cambridge University Press, November

2020), **Deval Desai**, Research Associate at the Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy (AHCD), **Christine Lutringer**, Senior Researcher and Executive Director of the AHCD, and **Shalini Randeria** conduct research on special-purpose social welfare funds. These funds allow state law to grapple with the vulnerability of specific social categories like unorganised migrant labour in the construction sector in India and the underdevelopment of some regions in Italy. According to the authors, they also allow social actors, and the state in particular, to define social vulnerability, and more broadly welfare, a trend reinforced by the pandemic.

[Interview with Deval Desai and Christine Lutringer >](#)

MONOGRAPHIE

Indonésie: l'envol mouvementé du Garuda: développement, dictature et démocratie

L'Indonésie est sûrement le plus méconnu des membres majeurs du concert des nations. Pour remédier à cette lacune, **Jean-Luc Maurer** analyse les différentes phases du développement mouvementé traversées par le pays depuis la proclamation de l'indépendance en 1945 jusqu'à aujourd'hui (eLivres de l'Institut no

7, Graduate Institute Publications, janvier 2021). Partie de très bas, l'Indonésie a connu un certain succès en matière de développement, mais a aussi entretenu une relation complexe et ambiguë avec la dictature et la démocratie. L'analyse de ce lien permet à l'auteur de clarifier la question classique consistant à savoir lequel des deux régimes a été le plus favorable ou nocif pour le développement de l'Indonésie.

[Accès >](#)

COEDITED BOOK AND CHAPTERS

Fernando Tuesta Soldevilla and **Yanina Welp**, Research Fellow at the Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy, are the coeditors of *El diablo está en los detalles: referéndum y poder político en América Latina*, a book on direct democracy mechanisms in Latin America (Fondo Editorial de la Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, 2020). Dr Welp has contributed two chapters:

– **La agenda de investigación (“The Research Agenda”)**

Nowadays all Latin American countries regulate mechanisms of direct democracy (MDDs) and many allow their citizens to initiate them. However, with few exceptions, only presidents succeed in activating them while their outcomes have been erratic, controversial or downright negative. Why these results? Why do citizens continue to prefer taking to the streets, while MDDs continue to be perceived as a “dead letter” or a weapon of the Executive? Is this due to ignorance? A lack of organisational capacity? Or is there something else going on? This introductory chapter sets the scenario and the questions the collective book seeks to answer.

– **Apuntes para una reforma urgente (“Notes for a Necessary Reform”)**

This final chapter points out that the MDDs have been regulated in Latin American constitutions but are not working well. Therefore, it is essential to improve their performance. The main challenges identified are the lack of political responsibility of some authorities, who manipulate the rules of the game in their favour; institutional designs that directly hinder or impede citizen activation of these mechanisms; the deficiencies observed in the activities of electoral and judicial bodies to control, monitor and implement MDDs; and the challenge of renewing and strengthening the bodies responsible for the formation of public opinion.

[Interview with Dr Welp >](#)

[Repository >](#)

ARTICLE

When Do States Give Voting Rights to Non-Citizens? The Role of Population, Policy, and Politics on the Timing of Enfranchisement Reforms in Liberal Democracies

Elif Naz Kayran, who recently obtained her PhD in International Relations/Political Science (see below under “Migration and Refugees”), and Merve Erdilmen examine the extent to which demographic composition, immigration policy regimes, and political partisanship relate to the timing of non-citizen suffrage (in *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, online June 2020). They find that higher shares of immigrant residents delay the timing of voting rights for non-citizens, whereas EU membership and economic openness advance them. In all demographic heterogeneity conditions, less permissive immigration regimes have been able to enfranchise non-citizens earlier. The findings suggest that, over time, having more left-wing parties in the government accelerates the timing of enfranchisement, while right-wing parties contribute to delays.

[DOI >](#)

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Der Corona-Impfstoff zwischen geostrategischem Instrument und globalem öffentlichen Gut ("The Covid-19 Vaccine: Between Geostrategic Instrument and Global Common Good")

The Covid-19 vaccine has become the subject of soft power instead of being treated as a public good. This article in German by **Shalini Randeria** questions whether pharmaceutical companies should hold patents to, and make profits from, the vaccine that has been developed with public and philanthropic funding (in *Jenseits von Corona*, B. Kortmann and G. G. Schulze, eds., Transcript Verlag, 2020). Solidarity initiatives have called for fair and affordable access to vaccines, including for countries in the Global South. Mechanisms like the WHO's patent pooling chart a path that would allow not only the vaccine but also public health itself to be treated as a global common good.

DOI >

WORKING PAPER

Deliberation in the Process of Constitutional Reform: Cuba in Comparative Context

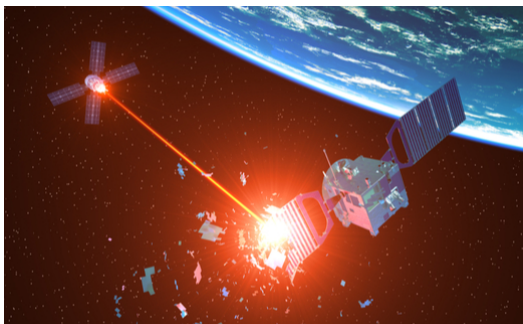
This working paper analyses the Cuban constituent participatory process by confronting it with 10 experiences of other Latin American cases identified since 1976 (no. 12, Foro Europa Cuba, July 2020). In doing so, **Yanina Welp**, Research Fellow at the Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy, proposes a set of basic criteria to be met in order for these participatory experiences to be deemed fair and democratic, with a focus on the mechanism of participation and the method of processing the contents generated.

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Conflict, Dispute Settlement and Peacebuilding



ARTICLE

Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space: Multilateral Negotiations' Effects on International Law

This article in the *Moscow Journal of International Law* examines how the diplomatic process on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space (PAROS) affects the legal gap in the Outer Space Treaty

(OST) regarding the legality of the placement of conventional weapons in outer space (no. 2, 2020). **Tobias Vestner**, PhD Candidate in International relations/Political Science, identifies three mechanisms by which multilateral negotiations clarify and inform the treaty law, ultimately breaking its silence. Multilateral negotiations thus may be more than the making of future law but also the shaping of existing law.

DOI >

ARTICLE

Home-Grown Peace: Civil Society Roles in Ceasefire Monitoring

Based on a case study of the civil society-led National Monitoring Committee for the Ceasefire Code of Conduct (NMCC) appointed in the May 2006 ceasefire between the government of Nepal and Maoist rebels, this article argues and shows that involving civil society in ceasefire monitoring mechanisms supports peace processes through four pathways: exposing noncompliance to ceasefire commitments; facilitating communication within and between conflict parties; promoting peace process issues among conflict parties; and socialising outside spoilers and raising public awareness about ceasefires (in *International Peacekeeping*, online December 2020. **Margaux Pinaud**, Visiting Fellow at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding, also stresses that the NMCC faced commonly encountered constraints related to a lack of perceived impartiality, resources and diversity, before concluding that there is scope for a better operationalisation of ceasefire monitoring mechanisms.

DOI >

ARTICLE

The Drugs Consensus: The Spatial Policing of Dealing and Consumption in Geneva, Switzerland

Drug dealing and consumption in Geneva are activities that are regulated and spatially invisibilised through a combination of informal and formal means that minimise the negative criminal, health, and adverse representational issues that can be associated with them. **Dennis Rodgers** argues that this “drugs consensus” between the police, dealers and consumers, which allows for the sustainable operation of a generally non-violent drug economy, may potentially lay the groundwork for its legalisation – and concomitant taxation (in *City and Society*, December 2020).

DOI >

ARTICLE

Trends in Global Disarmament Treaties

This article co-authored by **Tobias Vestner**, PhD Candidate in International relations/Political Science, and Stuart Casey-Maslen analyses the core features and trends in the design of the five global disarmament treaties that ban biological, chemical and nuclear weapons as well as anti-personnel mines and cluster munitions (in *Journal of Conflict and Security Law*, vol. 25, no. 3, Winter 2020). It finds patterns regarding both the treaties’ substance and form. It argues that these trends arise from states’ attempt to establish more easily disarmament treaties, design more robust disarmament treaties and more effectively protect civilians.

DOI >

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

The Hybridization of Security Challenges in Contemporary Africa

Dêlidji Eric Degila, Researcher at the Global Migration Centre and the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding, and Visiting Lecturer in International Relations/Political Science, explores the root causes, enabling factors and vectors of terrorism in Africa south of the Sahara today. Horizontal inequalities, coupled with structural violence produced by extreme poverty, are the root causes of terrorism (in *Global Terrorism Index*, Institute for Economics & Peace, November 2020). Enabling factors include state weakness, neopatrimonial practices, corruption and bad

governance, and polarisation by certain elites of identity differences for political purposes. Finally, the main vector of terrorism is the ease with which ideas circulate, particularly along “axes of vulnerability” in a context of popularisation of new technologies thanks to an increased globalisation which, ironically, terrorist movements and other non-state actors present as the avatar of the West.

[PDF of the book >](#)

THÈSE DE DOCTORAT

Gouvernement par la peur, insécurisation lucrative: une histoire de la Suisse moderne depuis les marges immigrées

Si des contradictions entre tendances xénophobes et xénophiles sont observables dans tous les États occidentaux, la Suisse se singularise par l'épaisseur et la longévité du contraste. Dans sa thèse de relations internationales/science politique (2020), **Victor Santos Rodriguez** s'appuie sur une théorisation poststructuraliste de la sécurisation et sur les exemples du *Gastarbeiter* puis du sans-papiers pour montrer la fonction identitaire de l'Étranger menaçant dans un pays en mal de cohésion, mais aussi que sécurisation et libéralisation des mouvements migratoires ne sont pas des phénomènes antinomiques mais des logiques de pouvoir qui s'appuient l'une sur l'autre de manière ambiguë pour produire des travailleuses et travailleurs immigrés déshumanisés et réduits à leur fonction productive.

Thèse sous embargo jusqu'en novembre 2023; pour la consulter, contacter le Dr **Santos Rodriguez**.


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Culture, Identity and Religion



ARTICLE

Narcotráfico, pandilleros y capital cultural positivo en Nicaragua (“Drug Trafficking, Gang Members and Positive Cultural Capital in Nicaragua”)

This article in Spanish by **Dennis Rodgers** is part of *Economías ilícitas y movilización social* (“*Illicit Economies and Social*

Mobilization”), a dossier that he coedited and **introduced** with Francisco Gutiérrez-Sanín (in *Estudios Socio-Jurídicos*, vol. 22, no. 2, 2020). The benefits of drug dealing are mainly discussed in relation to the activity’s material advantages, that is to say, the financial wealth that drugs can generate (or not), and the way that this is spent and invested (or not). Less considered are the more intangible advantages associated with the drugs trade, including the way that drug dealing and trafficking can generate non-material forms of economic value in the form of skills and assets that are transferable to other activities. The article highlights the advantages of the latter through an exploration of the contrasting trajectories of two drug dealers in urban Nicaragua.

[DOI >](#)



Environment and Natural Resource



EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Human Environmental Impacts

According to **Susanna Hecht**, it is difficult to overstate how influential William Denevan's research and writings have been (in *Forest, Field, and Fallow: Selections by William M. Denevan*, Antoinette WinklerPrins and Kent Mathewson, eds., Springer, January 2021). At a time when

analytic focus lays firmly in annual cropping systems, his attention to wetlands, terraces, lake cultivation, and fallow stimulated research into what became a recognition not just of the diversity of systems but of the management within them. His studies of fallow management opened up the reality of studies of the anthropogenic Amazon that have recast its history and landscape.

DOI >

ARTICLE

Adaptation Interventions and Their Effect on Vulnerability in Developing Countries: Help, Hindrance or Irrelevance?

Some internationally funded interventions aimed at climate change adaptation and vulnerability reduction inadvertently reinforce, redistribute or create new sources of vulnerability. **Morgan Scoville-Simonds**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Centre for International Environmental Studies, and others highlight the four mechanisms that drive these maladaptive outcomes: (1) shallow understanding of the vulnerability context; (2) inequitable stakeholder participation; (3) a retrofitting of adaptation into existing development agendas; and (4) a lack of critical engagement with how "adaptation success" is defined (in *World Development*, vol. 141, 105383, 2021). As shown by emerging literature, overcoming such failures would imply (1) shifting the terms of engagement between adaptation practitioners and the local populations and (2) expanding the understanding of "local" vulnerability to encompass global contexts and drivers of vulnerability.

DOI >

ARTICLE

Lithium Transformations: An Unfinished Story

Building on the observation that minerals make both our environment and our very selves, **Jonas Köppel**, Research Assistant at the Centre for International Environmental Studies, engages with debates around materiality to explore what this feature can do for us in one particular case: lithium (in *Transformations*, no. 33, 2020). Through lithium, he explores how minerals confront us with complex epistemological issues in interdisciplinary conversations. Drawing on diverse histories of science, technology and medicine, he performs matters of scale by telling a

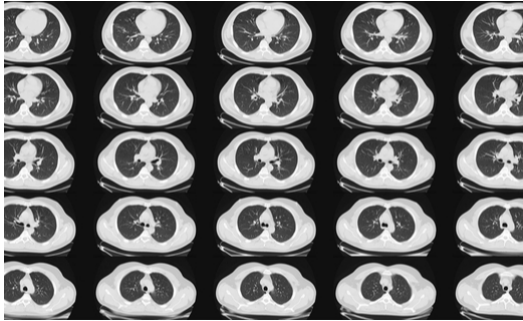
pragmatic story about lithium as specific material situated in scientific practice.

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Global Health



ARTICLE

Unenhanced Computed Tomography (CT) Utility for Triage at the Emergency Department during COVID-19 Pandemic

This study by **Vinh-Kim Nguyen** and others sought to evaluate the diagnostic performance of computed tomography in the diagnosis and management of COVID-

19 among 155 patients in emergency department from 1 March to 1 April 2020 (in *The American Journal of Emergency Medicine*, online July 2020). Chest CT showed promising sensitivity for diagnosing COVID-19 across all patients' subgroups. However, it did not modify the estimated probability of COVID-19 infection in a substantial proportion of patients and its utility as an emergency department triage tool warrants further analyses.

[DOI >](#)

ARTICLE

Period Prevalence and Identification Challenges of Viral Haemorrhagic Fever Suspect Cases in a Tertiary Referral Hospital in Guinea: A Cross-Sectional, Retrospective Study of Triage and Emergency Room Patient Profiles

This study ascertains viral haemorrhagic fever suspect case prevalence based on outbreak and non-outbreak criteria in a Guinean regional hospital for a period of three months (in *BMC Infectious Diseases*, vol. 20, art. no. 838, November 2020). **Vinh-Kim Nguyen** and others show that the number of VHF suspect cases may vary greatly depending on which suspect case criteria are applied and their identification seems challenging in clinical practice. This may be due to the low use of laboratory diagnostics to support certain diagnoses and the non-application of VHF suspect case definitions in clinical practice. Future VHF suspect case management should aim to tackle such challenges in comparable hospital settings.

[DOI >](#)

WORKING PAPER

Do Costs, Timeframes and Attrition Rates Differ between Non-commercial and Commercial Biomedical R&D? A Study of Neglected Diseases R&D and The P2I Model

There has been significant growth in non-commercial R&D, particularly for neglected diseases, but there is limited understanding of how it compares with traditional commercial R&D. **Suerie Moon, Marcela Vieira** and Ryan William Robert Kimmitt analyse costs, timeframes, and attrition rate of non-commercial R&D across multiple initiatives and how they compare to commercial R&D using the Portfolio-to-Impact

(P2I) Model (Global Health Centre Working Paper no. 22/2020, September 2020). They find that non-commercial R&D differs in many significant ways from commercial R&D. However, it is possible that the sum of these differences cancel each other out such that total costs, timeframes and attrition rates are largely in line with commercial averages. Further research is needed to test the hypotheses generated by this study against a larger sample of data.

[Repository >](#)

WORKING PAPER

The Global Governance of Access to Countermeasures: Ensuring Global Access to Drugs, Diagnostics and Vaccines Is Core to Preparedness

Current international frameworks governing access to countermeasures – personal protective equipment, vaccines, diagnostics, and therapeutics – in disease outbreaks are thin, gap-ridden, or simply non-existent. **Suerie Moon, Anna Bezruki, Gian Luca Burci, Temmy Sunyoto and Marcela Vieira** identify eight global governance challenges to ensuring countermeasure access: (1) building access into the R&D process; (2) inadequate global and national supply; (3) ensuring quality products; (4) ensuring affordable prices; (5) limited international pooled procurement; (6) rationing access to scarce products internationally; (7) intellectual property management; and (8) pathogen- and benefit-sharing (Global Health Centre Working Paper no. 20/2020, September 2020). They conclude that clear rules, pre-existing arrangements, and strong political leadership are necessary to ensure global access.

[Repository >](#)

PHD THESIS

Essays on Health and Development

In her three-essay PhD thesis in Development Economics (2020), **Helena Ting** notably studies the effects of health shocks on economic indicators and behavioural choices.

– **Evaluating the Propensity to Save in South Africa Using the Weather-Income Relationship** finds that households save a portion of their permanent as well as their transitory incomes. Reasons such as income insecurity and credit constraint force households to consume and save in a way that is theoretically suboptimal.

– **Effect of Tuberculosis on Labour Market Participation: Recent Evidence from South Africa** finds that TB is not a factor associated with job losses, but individuals with TB are less likely to find jobs.

– **Addictive Alcohol Consumption in China from 2002 to 2007: Empirical Analysis with Health Deficits** finds that although addiction is an ever-increasing consumption of a certain good across time periods, individuals' awareness of the negative health effects decreases addictive consumption.

[Interview with Dr Ting >](#)

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ARTICLE

The Sounds of Development: Musical Representations as A(nother) Source of Development Knowledge

In their article for the *Journal of Development Studies* David Lewis, **Dennis Rodgers** and Michael Woolcock discuss the relationship between music and development in five specific domains: the

tradition of Western “protest” music; musical resistance in the Global South; music-based development interventions; commodification and appropriation; and, finally, music as a globalised development vernacular (online January 2021). Their analyses are not definitive or comprehensive but invitations to broaden development debates and the communicative modalities in and through which these debates are conducted. Doing so may lead to enhancing the relevance and coherence of these debates for a greater range of key stakeholders by making them more open, authentic, and compelling.

DOI >

WORKING PAPER

Fiscal Risk and Its Drivers: An Empirical Analysis

This International Economics Working Paper by **Ugo Panizza** describes and quantifies fiscal risk in advanced and developing economies (no. 17-2020, December 2020). Forecast errors in GDP growth explain nearly half of fiscal risk in advanced economies but are less important in explaining fiscal risk in low- and middle-income countries. Most of the forecast errors in the debt-to-GDP ratio cannot be explained with standard debt-dynamics variables and need to be attributed to the “the unexplained part of debt”. Fiscal risk is high in bad times, even when they are fully anticipated. In developing and emerging market economies this result is linked to negative balance sheet effects associated with foreign currency debt. The main drivers of fiscal risk in ADB borrowing countries are exchange rate volatility, commodity prices and small economic size.

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PHD THESIS

Essays in International Finance and Macroeconomics

Four essays compose **Feier Qin**’s PhD thesis in International Economics (October 2020):

- **International Use of the Yuan and Determinants of Currency Choices in Manufacturing Trade: Evidence from Chinese Custom Data.** Using transaction-level data in 2015, this essay notably discovers novel factors facilitating Renminbi invoicing, namely industry labor intensity and the link of foreign direct investment.
- **Capital Controls, Macprudential Policy, and the Mundellian Trilemma.** This essay argues that exchange rate flexibility can ensure the policy autonomy of open economies, as indicated by the trilemma.
- **The Role of Policy Uncertainty in Oil Price Shocks.** Focusing on advanced economies, this essay argues that policy response to rising oil prices is smaller under higher uncertainty, with similar macroeconomic responses and more volatile term structure, underlying the need for transparent policy communication.
- **Real Currency Depreciation and Output Growth in Developing Countries:**

Evidence from a Multinomial Logit Model (with Lisandro Abrego, Nkunde Mwase and Jose Nicholas Rosas Garcia). Through an episode study, this essay finds growth performances to be varied, and dependent on fiscal position, external liability valuation, domestic credit cycle and, most importantly, the strength of import expenditure switching.

[Interview with Dr Qin on her first two essays >](#)

PHD THESIS

Essays in Development Economics

Jeffrey Dickinson's PhD thesis in Economic Development (2020) consists of three essays:

- In **Planes, Trains, and Automobiles: What Drives Human-Made Light?**, he uses high resolution satellite images, spatial econometrics techniques, and US county and Brazilian *município* level administrative data from 2012–2018 to untangle the effects of income and population on human-generated light, and finds both income and population to be important drivers.
- In **Marketed Surplus and Gender-Based Price Discrimination in Tanzania**, he finds that increases in the prices that households headed by men receive will not be transmitted as strongly to households headed by women in agricultural markets, which could discourage women from engaging in agriculture for cash.
- In **Constraints to Tanzanian Agricultural Development: Input Use in Households Under Non-Separability**, he studies how family composition affects labour market decisions and how, in turn, that affects farmers' decisions to hire outside labour. [Interview with Dr Dickinson about this essay >](#)

PHD THESIS

Essays in Monetary History

The first two essays of **Maylis Avaro's** thesis in International Economics (2020) focus on international currencies during the Bretton Woods era (1944–1973), which constituted a key period for realising a new equilibrium of monetary powers. She seeks to provide a new perspective on the main drivers of the monetary evolutions of this era and a better understanding of the decline of sterling. In her last essay, Dr Avaro analyses the Bank of France at the end of the 19th century to reveal how the Bank could provide loans to many different clients without taking risks.

[Interview with Dr Avaro >](#)



Trade and Economic Integration

ARTICLE

Export Restrictions in Times of Pandemic: Options and Limits under International Trade Agreements

Following the outbreak of COVID 19, many countries not only rushed to produce and import, but also imposed export



restrictions on protective masks, ventilators and other products they were running out of. **Joost Pauwelyn** sets out the options and limits under EU law, WTO agreements and preferential trade agreements (in *Journal of World Trade*, vol. 54, no. 5, September 2020). He concludes by highlighting the importance of transparency and the limits of law and

enforcement procedures when it comes to emergency measures. International law does offer countries a great deal of leeway to enact such restrictions, especially during a pandemic. One question for further research is whether this wiggle room ought to be reduced to effectively address the next pandemic.

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WORKING PAPER

Getting America Back in the Game: A Multilateral Perspective

The Trump administration forcefully and explicitly undermined multilateral economic cooperation just as the world is facing the global pandemic and the global recession, on top of climate change and environment degradation. How should nations who support multilateralism help get America back to supporting, strengthening, and improving a fair, rules-based trading system that provides good jobs, rising living standards, and prosperity for all? On the current trajectory, the answer to that question seems destined to rely on bilateralism, but **Richard Baldwin** and others argue that this is not the right way (in Tacit Paper no. 1, 12/2020, Geneva Trade Platform, 2020) and suggest a more multilateral pathway. Their plan has two pillars: (1) working together, and (2) formulating initiatives as “trade tracks” in the broad portfolio of foreign policy and climate policy initiatives.

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Human Rights, Humanitarian Law and Action



ARTICLE

Revamping to Remain Relevant: How Do the European and the Inter-American Human Rights Systems Adapt to Challenges?

Isabela Garbin Ramanzini and **Ezgi Yildiz**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Global Governance Centre, compare the reform processes at the European and the Inter-

American Human Rights systems (in *Journal of Human Rights Practice*, huaa038, online November 2020). These parallel processes may have been provoked by similar concerns, yet they have generated different outcomes. While the process in the

Inter-American system created room for increased outreach, the one at the European Court helped curtail the European system's autonomy. The authors conclude by discussing the successful strategies and pitfalls that can accompany these analogous reform initiatives.

[DOI >](#)

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Tremor and Change: Humanitarian Interventions after the 1988 Earthquake in Armenia

The 1988 earthquake in Armenia is referred to as a turning point in international humanitarian relief operations; yet, limited scholarly attention has been accorded to the way humanitarian aid impacted trajectories of change within Soviet Armenia during the final days of the Soviet Union. In light of this, **Katja Doose**, Visiting Fellow at the Centre for International Environmental Studies, looks at the response of the Armenian diaspora to the earthquake and their changing relationship to the newly independent Republic of Armenia (in *Aid to Armenia: Humanitarianism and Intervention from the 1890s to the Present*, Jo Laycock and Fr. Piana, eds., Manchester University Press, 2020).

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Migration and Refugees



ARTICLE

Should Internal Migrants Who Cannot Return Home due to COVID-19 Be Treated as Disaster IDPs? Lessons from India

Analysing displacement in India due to COVID-29, **Malavika Rao**, PhD Candidate in International Law, claims that the group of internal migrants who were unable to

return to their homes and stranded in various parts of the country because of the national lockdown exhibits the characteristics of disaster-driven IDPs, and should, therefore, be treated as such (in *Refugee Survey Quarterly*, vol. 39, no. 4, December 2020). The Disaster Management Act, 2005 should be acknowledged as the appropriate national law to extend such protection.

[Access >](#)

PHD THESIS

Political Responses and Electoral Behaviour at Times of Socioeconomic Risk Inequalities and Immigration

Elif Naz Kayran's PhD thesis in International Relations/Political Science (2020) examines the economic basis of political opposition to immigration in Europe, focusing on the impact of unevenly distributed socioeconomic risks. Her three essays find that (1) increasing exposure to unemployment risks not only worsen economic

anxieties but also lead to feeling relatively worse-off compared to fellow citizens; (2) demand for exclusionary immigration policy has more to do with structural transformations in the job markets than with a cultural backlash; and (3) an apparent heterogeneity of motivations within the electoral base of the radical-right between those who vote to insure themselves against future threats and those who hold prejudice against immigrants.

[Interview with Dr Kayran >](#)

[Repository >](#)

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Gender



ARTICLE

The Gender Thing: Apparatuses and Intra-Agential Ethos

In international governance circles it has become common to refer to gender interventions as “the gender thing”.

Elisabeth Prügl explores what it means for gender to be thought of as a thing by engaging with new materialist literature (in

Millennium: Journal of International Studies, online December 2020). She illustrates how gender has become an instrument of biopolitical governance and how it functions to materialise bodies of a certain kind. She engages in particular with Laura Zanotti’s *Ontological Entanglements, Agency, and Ethics in International Relations*, and examines the ethical and practical implications of gender having become a thing.

[DOI >](#)

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Other Relevant Information



Awarded Grants

BOTNAR FOUNDATION GRANT

Digital Health and Rights: A Participatory Action Research Project

Sara L.M. Davis, Research Fellow at the Global Health Centre, has been granted CHF 378,895 to carry out this two-year project starting January 2021.

[More info >](#)

[^](#)



Multimedia



RESEARCH PODCAST | FIELDS, E3

Mobile Banking and the Poor in India

In India, the possibility to provide banking services through mobile networks has largely helped the government in its objective to equip all households in the country with a bank account. But how does the use of mobile phones concretely help poor families to better manage their money? **Lore Vandewalle** shares her research and findings.

[Listen to Prof. Vandewalle >](#)



RESEARCH PODCAST | ABD, E4

The League of Nations (and Colonies)

In this episode, **Thomas Gidney** shares his experience as a doctoral student as he speaks about his recently obtained PhD thesis, in which he studied the accession of three British colonial states to the League of Nations: India in 1919, Ireland in 1923 and Egypt in 1937 (see also above under "Governance").

[Listen to Dr Gidney >](#)



ENTRETIEN DE LA CHAIRE YVES OLTRAMARE RELIGION ET POLITIQUE DANS LE MONDE CONTEMPORAIN

Islam, genre et politique: filmer des militantes musulmanes en Inde

Alumna (doctorat en anthropologie, 2017) et réalisatrice de documentaires, **Sophie Schrago** revient sur son parcours et partage ses réflexions sur le rapport complexe entre islam, genre et politique en Inde. Elle explore les enjeux qui accompagnent le passage de l'écrit à la caméra dans sa recherche sur l'engagement militant d'un groupe de femmes musulmanes à Mumbai.

[Regarder la vidéo >](#)



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Visitors

📅 Jan-Dec

📍 GHC

Heather Doyle

Coming from The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, Senior Technical Coordinator (Community, Rights and Gender Investment Support) Heather Doyle

works on “Rethinking Community Health in the Time of COVID” with Suerie Moon.

📅 Jan–Dec

📍 IL Dep.

Frederic Perron-Welch

Coming from Leiden University, PhD Candidate Frederic Perron-Welch works on “A Global Legal Framework on Forests: Seeing the Trees for the Forest” with Jorge Viñuales.

📅 Jan–Aug

📍 Hirschman Centre

Rusha Das

Coming from the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, Rusha Das works on “Discursive Legitimacy: Uncovering the Environmental Discourses in Switzerland and India” with Christine Lutringer.

📅 1 Jan–1 Jun

📍 CCDP

Elena Butti

Coming from the University of Oxford, Elena Butti works on “Marginalised Adolescents’ Experiences of Norms, Violence and Peace in transitional Colombia” with Keith Krause.

📅 Jan–May

📍 GHC

Tegan Mosugu

Coming from the University of Pittsburgh, PhD Candidate Tegan Mosugu works on “The Role of Global Health Governance in Fostering Better Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Outcomes” with Vinh-Kim Nguyen.

📅 Jan–Mar

📍 CTEI

Sulaiman Satari

Coming from the Government of Afghanistan, Counselor Sulaiman Satari works on “Post-Accession Benefits of the WTO Membership of Afghanistan” with Joost Pauwelyn.

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Upcoming PhD Defences

📅 Monday 1 Feb

🕒 14:00–16:00 (online)

Ensuring an International Legal Protection Regime for Marine Protected Areas

By **Viet Cuong Do**, International Law. Committee members: Jorge Enrique Viñuales, President and Internal Reader; Marcelo Kohen, Thesis Director; Laurence Boisson de Chazournes, Professor, Faculté de droit, Université de Genève.

[More info >](#)

📅 Monday 8 Feb

🕒 14:00–16:00 (online)

The Construction of International Investment Law within International Law Argumentation

By **Michal Jakub Swarabowicz**, International Law.
Committee members: Fuad Zarbiyev, President and
internal reader; Zachary Douglas, Thesis Director; Thomas
Schultz, Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Geneva.
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