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GRADUATE INSTITUTE
OF INTERNATIONAL AND
DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Research Bulletin

Upcoming events, latest publications and other research activities

15 March 2021 (no. 4, 2021)

Upcoming Research Events (online, CET)

15 Monday

INT. ECON. BBL
**The Impact of
Services
Liberalization on
Education:
Evidence from
India**
12:15–13:45

GGC COLLOQUIUM
**The Theory of
Legal Characters**
12:30–14:00

HRC46 SIDE EVENT
**Implications of
Forced Invasions
of Palestinian
Homes in the West
Bank by Israeli
Military Forces**
15:00–16:15

GTDW SEMINAR
**Firm
Heterogeneity and
Imperfect
Competition in
Global Production
Networks**
16:00–17:15

16 Tuesday

PARETO SEMINAR
**Regulatory
Capital, Market
Capital and Risk
Taking in
International
Bank Lending**
14:15–15:45

ANSO SEMINAR
(II) **Licit
Economies in
Brazil: An
Ethnographic
Perspective**
16:15–18:00

INT. HIST. & POL.
**Une histoire
culturelle des
décolonisations de
l'Afrique de
l'Ouest française**
16:15–18:00

INT. HIST. & POL.
**A Decade of War
in Syria: What
Have
Humanitarian
Agencies Learned?**
18:00–19:00

17 Wednesday

HRC46 SIDE EVENT
**Addressing Racial
Justice as a US
Foreign Policy
Imperative**
14:00–15:00

IMHOS
**The Economic
Impact of the
Black Death**
17:00–18:00

18 Thursday

NO EVENTS

19 Friday

HIRSCHMAN CENTRE
**Reckonings and
Revisions**
15:00–18:00

GHC
**African
Indigenous Values
Guiding Allocation
of COVID-19
Vaccines In Africa
and Beyond**
16:30–18:00

22 Monday

INT. ECON. BBL
With Greg Auclair
12:15–13:45

HIRSCHMAN CENTRE
**Women Delivering
Justice: What's
Holding Them
Back**
18:30–20:30

23 Tuesday

CIES SEMINAR
**Effectiveness of
Partnerships for
Advancing the
SDGs**
11:00–12:00

PARETO SEMINAR
**Religious Identity
and Altruistic
Giving: A Field
Experiment with
Children in India**
14:15–15:45

24 Wednesday

IMHOS
**State Capacity and
the Rise and Fall
of Serfdom in
Europe**
17:00–18:00

IL COLLOQUIUM
**Bargaining with
Sovereignty,
Fighting Global
Inequality**
18:00–20:00

25 Thursday

LUNCH BRIEFING
**The March 2021
Israeli Elections: A
Preliminary
Analysis**
12:30–13:30

26 Friday

NO EVENTS

[See all events +](#)

Gateway to Publications by Theme



Global Health



Trade
and Economic
Integration



Development
Finance, Policies
and Practices



Environment
and Natural
Resource



Democracy
and
Civil Society



Conflict, Dispute
Settlement and
Peacebuilding



Gender



Governance



Methods
and
Information



Gateway to Other Relevant Information



Multimedia



Calls
for
Proposals



Calls
for
Prizes



Publications by Theme



Global Health



ARTICLE

The Legal Response to Pandemics: The Strengths and Weaknesses of the International Health Regulations

Critics have challenged WHO's apparent politicisation and the ineffectiveness of the International Health Regulations (IHR 2005) as a tool to coordinate the international response to COVID-19. The

IHR 2005 have codified the operational model of the WHO Secretariat at the time of their revision, but the assumptions about WHO's epistemic authority and the willingness of states parties to conform to WHO's lead have proven overoptimistic.

Still, addressing some of the major weaknesses of the IHR 2005 could give them renewed momentum and nudge states towards a more coordinated and effective response to epidemics, argues **Gian Luca Burci** (in *Journal of International Humanitarian Legal Studies*, vol. 11, no. 2, online December 2020).

[DOI >](#)

ARTICLE

Reimagining Global Health Governance in the Age of COVID-19

International organisations have sought to bring nations together in responding to global health threats, but they are facing increasing nationalist obstacles to global solidarity. The structural limitations of the pandemic response provide a historic opportunity to reimagine global health governance in the age of COVID-19. Lawrence O. Gostin, **Suerie Moon** and Benjamin Mason Meier consider the rise of new institutional structures that reflect the realities of a divided world and conclude that a new governance landscape will be crucial to strengthening global public health – rising out of crisis to secure a safer future (in *American Journal of Public Health*, vol. 110, no. 11, November 2020).

[DOI >](#)

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Preparing for the Next Pandemic: The International Health Regulations and World Health Organization during COVID-19

Gian Luca Burci and Mark Eccleston-Turner focus on how the current IHR have limited utility during a pandemic, most notably in respect of a coordinated approach among states and international institutions and across international legal regimes to deliver the assets that are most important to sustain a global response, reduce the economic and social suffering, and allow the international community to “build back better” (in *Yearbook of International Disaster Law Online*, vol. 2, no. 1, Brill | Nijhoff, online February 2021). They first outline some of the key strengths and distinguishing features of the IHR as an international legal instrument, which they caution against diluting or removing in the event of the IHR being revised post-COVID. From this they also identify one major area for future reform of the IHR, highlighting how the world and WHO can be better prepared to sustainably respond to the next pandemic.

[Publisher >](#)

EDITED BOOK

The Security Sector and Health Crises

This book, edited and introduced by Albrecht Schnabel and **Ilona Kickbusch**, draws lessons from over 30 international experts on the Ebola crisis in West Africa to highlight opportunities for cooperation between the health and security sectors to successfully address global health crises (DCAF – Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance, March 2021). Its epilogue argues that the severity of the COVID-19 pandemic can be at least partially explained by the fact that many of the recommendations and lessons that should have been learned from previous health crises have not been heeded.

[Repository >](#)

ARTICLE

Travel Restrictions and Infectious Disease Outbreaks

A key but understudied purpose of the International Health Regulations (IHR) is to prevent unwarranted interruptions to trade and travel during large and/or transnational infectious disease outbreaks. **Suerie Moon** and others conduct a literature review on the relationship between outbreaks and travel restrictions, with a

particular focus on the 2014–16 Ebola epidemic (in *West Africa Journal of Travel Medicine*, vol. 27, no. 33, April 2020). The reasons for interruption of travel were complex, with decisions by States only partly contributing to the cessation as decisions by non-state actors contributed significantly and were based on a variety of factors. Further research is needed, also to take account of COVID-19 travel-related issues.

[DOI >](#)

ARTICLE

Social Accountability for Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health: A Review of Reviews

This *review of reviews* by **Victoria Boydell**, Research Fellow at the Global Health Centre, and others summarises the current evidence on social accountability for reproductive and maternal health and identifies the contributory factors to governance and health-related outcomes (*PLOS ONE*, vol. 15, no. 10, art. no. e0238776, 2020). The narrative synthesis of six reviews found that few documented social accountability approaches went beyond information-gathering and awareness-raising, nor focused on marginalised and vulnerable groups. Despite limitations in drawing generalisable conclusions, some promising features of successful social accountability include careful tailoring to the social and political context, strategic planning, and multi-stakeholder approaches.

[DOI >](#)

ARTICLE

A Global Legal Instrument for Alcohol Control: Options, Prospects and Challenges

Alcohol is the sole major psychoactive substance with a huge negative public health and social impact without some form of international control grounded in a binding treaty. We may be witnessing a turning of the tide due to the growing mobilisation against non-communicable diseases. The Framework Convention on Tobacco Control has been a ground-breaking development in this sense, and has led policymakers and advocates in a number of countries to raise the possibility of a similar convention on alcohol control. **Gian Luca Burci** compares tobacco and alcohol from this perspective and concludes that the political prospects of a movement in this direction are very dim at the present time (*European Journal of Risk Regulation*, online September 2020).

[DOI >](#)

ARTICLE

Adaptation and Validation of Social Accountability Measures in the Context of Contraceptive Services in Ghana and Tanzania

Changes in the values, attitudes, and behaviors in service users and health workers are central to social accountability. However, there is little consensus on how best to measure these changes. **Victoria Boydell**, Research Fellow at the Global Health Centre, and others report on the adaptation and validation of measures that capture these changes in Tanzania and Ghana and that were found to have high construct validity and reliability in both countries (in *International Journal for Equity in Health*, no. 19, art. no. 183, 2020).

[DOI >](#)

ARTICLE

The Nagoya Protocol and the Legal Structure of Global Biogenomic Research

International research collaborations have been the engines of some of the most important advances in human health and nutrition over the last century (the Green

Revolution, the most promising vaccine candidates for diseases like Ebola and HIV, the ability of low-resource countries to manufacture medicines and vaccines). **Gian Luca Burci** and others highlight that scientists have worked together across borders as threats posed by infectious disease, malnutrition, and environmental degradation necessitate partnerships that match the technology and resources in wealthy countries with the knowledge and biodiversity abundant in many poorer ones (in *Yale Journal of International Law*, vol. 45, no. 1, 2020).

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Trade and Economic Integration



MONOGRAPH

The Flip Side of Free: Understanding the Economics of the Internet

The upside of the Internet is nearly unlimited data for downloading or streaming. The downside is that our data goes to companies that use it to make money, our financial information is exposed to hackers, and the market power of

technology companies continues to increase. Free Internet comes at a price, says **Michael Kende**, Visiting Lecturer in Internet Economics and Governance, before explaining the unique economics of the Internet and the paradoxes that result (MIT Press, March 2021). For instance, we complain about companies having too much data, but developing countries may suffer from not enough data collection for the development of advanced services, leading to a worsening data divide between developed and developing countries. Data is the price of free service, and the new currency of the Internet age. There's nothing necessarily wrong with free as long as we anticipate and try to mitigate what's on the flip side.

[Publisher >](#)

WORKING PAPER

Global Trade in Plastics: Insights from the First Life-Cycle Trade Database

This paper presents the first attempt to quantify and map global trade flows across the entire life cycle of plastics – from raw inputs to final plastic products as well as waste – drawing on a new prototype database created by UNCTAD and the Graduate Institute. Diana Barrowclough, **Carolyn Deere Birkbeck**, Senior Researcher at the Global Health Centre (GHC), and **Julien Christen**, Research Assistant at the GHC, find that trade is immense, with exports of primary, intermediate and final forms of plastics reaching more than USD 1 trillion in 2018 or 5% of the total value of global trade – almost 40% higher than previous estimates (UNCTAD Research Paper no. 53, 2020).

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EDITED BOOK AND CHAPTER

Shaping Africa's Post-COVID Recovery

This e-book, edited and introduced by Simeon Djankov, **Ugo Panizza** and Rabah Arezki, brings together leading economists working on Africa to evaluate the wide-ranging impacts of the coronavirus facing economies on the continent, and to assess future policy implications. In their chapter

Debt Risks in Sub-Saharan Africa and Beyond

Patrick Bolton, Mitu Gulati and **Ugo Panizza** describe Africa's debt situation and discuss some options for providing temporary legal protection to debtor countries in the event of a global debt crisis. They provide empirical evidence suggesting that it is unlikely that their proposal, if implemented with care, would have significant negative repercussions for the functioning of the global debt market.

[Repository >](#)

PHD THESIS

Essays in Financial Globalization

This PhD thesis in applied macroeconomics and international finance distils policy insights into the benefits and risks of financial globalisation (2020). Specifically, **Alexander Raabe** shows that global banks play an important role for the international financial integration of real estate markets. He also highlights the effect of capital inflows on banks' allocation of credit to domestic and foreign borrowers.

One of his PhD essays, "**Non-US Global Banks and Dollar (Co-)dependence: How Housing Markets Became Internationally Synchronized**",

co-authored with Torsten Ehlers and Mathias Hoffmann, is also published as

International Economics Working Paper no. 18 (October 2020) and

BIS Working Paper no. 897 (Bank for International Settlements, October 2020).

[Interview with Dr Raabe >](#)

WORKING PAPER

Does Intangible Asset Intensity Increase Profit-Shifting Opportunities of Multinationals?

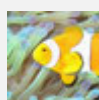
The first essay of **Roberto Crotti's** PhD thesis (see November 2020

Research Bulletin and this [interview](#)) is now published as an International Economics Department's Working Paper (no. 2, 2021).

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Environment and Natural Resource

ARTICLE

The Potential of Payment for Ecosystem Services for Crop Wild Relative Conservation



The use of the genetic diversity found in the wild relatives of crop species (CWR) for breeding provides much-needed resilience to modern agricultural systems and has great potential to help sustainably increase agricultural production to feed a growing world population in the face of climate change and other stresses. A number of CWR taxa are at risk, however,

necessitating coordinated local, national, regional and global efforts to conserve them. **Nicholas Tyack**, PhD Candidate in Development Economics, Hannes Dempewolf and Colin K. Khoury discuss the absence of adequate institutional frameworks to incentivise CWR conservation services and propose payment for ecosystem services as an under-explored mechanism for financing these efforts (*Plants*, vol. 9, no. 10, 2020).

[DOI >](#)

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Democracy and Civil Society



ARTICLE

Is COVID-19 a Liberal Democratic Curse? Risks for Liberal International Order

This article by **Carla Norrlöf**, Research Associate at the Global Governance Centre, traces the global spread of the virus scaled to population and case fatality rates of different countries (in *Cambridge Review of*

International Affairs, vol. 3, no. 5, online October 2020). Using inferential statistics, the author finds that liberal democracies have higher case fatality rates than other regime types and systemically shows how the spread of the virus complicates the implementation of policies consistent with liberal international order. Given the paucity of the data as well as cross-country reporting differences in a still evolving crisis, these findings provide a first social scientific cut over the first half year of the pandemic rather than a final assessment of its consequences.

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Conflict, Dispute Settlement and Peacebuilding

ARTICLE

Rethinking Business Reforms in Post-Conflict Settings: The Case of Sierra Leone



The literature on “conflict-sensitive” business practices has burgeoned in recent years. Yet there remains a critical knowledge gap on the value of incorporating “conflict sensitivity” into business environment reforms (BER) and private sector development. Drawing on a case study of Sierra Leone, **Kazushige Kobayashi**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the

Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding, and Herbert M’cleod show that BER may even bring about adverse effects when the peculiarities of these conflict-generated market distortions are neglected (in *Conflict, Security and Development*, online March 2021). In order to avoid negative repercussions, conflict-sensitive BER needs to take into account the multiplicity of business environments and the heterogeneity of business actors operating within conflict-affected nations.

DOI >

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Rethinking Responses to Crime in the City: What Role for Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding Practice?

This chapter explores how conflict resolution and peacebuilding practice can shape responses to crime and violence in urban contexts. **Achim Wennmann**, Senior Researcher at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding, shows that successful conflict resolution and peacebuilding practice have evolved from aligning several strategic building blocks, including trustworthy data, collaborative analysis, progressively expanded coalitions for change, targeted interventions that address the most acute risk factors of conflict and violence, and sustained institutional support by an honest broker (in *City & Security: Communities and Citizens’ Rights in the Co-production of Security*, Fr. Vanderschuren and others, eds., Lambert Press, 2020). Such strategic alignment has proven remarkably effective in preventing or managing conflict in a wide range of settings, and – most importantly – despite the existence of a challenging political, social, or economic environment.

Publisher >

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Inclusion of Whom? And for What Purpose? Strategies of Inclusion in Peacemaking

The idea of inclusion, if not the exact term, has long played an important role in the study of peace. **Andreas Hirblinger**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding, and Dana Landau seek to problematise the research, policy and practice of inclusion in peacemaking by situating it in larger debates about what peace means and how it can be achieved (in *Rethinking Peace Mediation: Challenges of Contemporary Peacemaking Practice*, C. Turner and M. Wählich, eds., Bristol University Press, January 2021). They highlight important tensions in the conceptualisation and use of inclusion and offer ways forward for a reflexive research and practice of inclusion..

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Gender



ARTICLE

Genre, travail de terrain et accès au secret dans le domaine de la défense et de l'armement

L'accès à des données considérées comme sensibles, voire confidentielles, constitue un enjeu méthodologique important d'une recherche portant sur le secteur de la défense et de l'armement. Pourtant, le

secret n'est pas un donné, un obstacle extérieur à surmonter pour obtenir des informations, mais plutôt une co-construction se jouant dans la relation enquêteur·e-enquêté·e dans le travail de terrain, comme l'illustre **Catherine Hoeffler**, Research Associate au Global Governance Centre, en se fondant sur ses travaux dans les domaines de la défense et de l'armement en Europe de l'Ouest et aux États-Unis depuis 2006 (dans *Cultures & Conflits*, 2020/2, en ligne janvier 2021).

[Accès >](#)


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Governance



ARTICLE

Is COVID-19 the End of US Hegemony? Public Bads, Leadership Failures and Monetary Hegemony

Conceptualising the pandemic as a public bad, **Carla Norrlöf**, Research Associate at the Global Governance Centre, analyses its consequences for US hegemony (in *International Affairs*, vol. 96, no. 5,

September 2020). Domestically, the failure to effectively manage the COVID-19 public bad has compromised America's ability to secure the health of its citizens and the domestic economy, the very foundations for its international leadership, thus jeopardising US provision of other global public goods. Internationally, the US has already used the crisis strategically to reinforce its opposition to free international movement while abandoning the WHO. While the only area where the United States has exercised leadership is in the monetary sphere, the author argues this feat is more consequential for maintaining hegemony. However, even monetary hegemony could be at risk if the pandemic continues to be mismanaged.

[DOI >](#)

ARTICLE

Legal Reviews of War Algorithms

States and scholars recognise legal reviews of weapons, means or methods of warfare as an essential tool to ensure the legality of military applications of artificial intelligence (AI). Yet, are existing practices fit for this task? **Tobias Vestner**, PhD Candidate in International Relations/Political Science, and Altea Rossi identify necessary adaptations to current practices (in *International Law Studies*, vol. 97, 2021). Among different procedural ramifications, most significantly, the AI systems'

predictability problem needs to be addressed by the technical process of verification and validation, a process that generally precedes legal reviews. As the law needs to be translated into technical specifications understandable by the AI system, the technical and legal assessments conflate into one. At last, legal reviews become even more important for AI technology than for traditional weapons because with increased human reliance on AI, more attention must go to a system's legality.

[Access >](#)

PHD THESIS

Secession in Contemporary International Law with a Special Reference to the Post-Soviet Space

To what extent is international law relevant to secession? Contrary to classical doctrine, which sees secession as escaping international legal regulation, a recent PhD thesis in International Law demonstrates that secession is a legally determined phenomenon (2021). **Júlia Miklasová** establishes a general legal framework applicable to secession and uses it to analyse case studies of secession in the post-Soviet space. Critical to the analysis is the tension between the outward appearance of post-Soviet secessionist entities as States and the rejection of such claimed status by the international community.

[Interview with Dr Miklasová >](#)

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Methods and Information



EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Accessing Lifeworlds: Getting People to Say the Unsayable

Jonathan Luke Austin, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding, discusses how he redeployed the ethnographic method of "deep hanging out" in his research to create proximity to possible

interviewees and reflects on the challenging process of accessing the "lifeworlds" of perpetrators of torture, and the complex responsibilities and ethics it involves (in *Secrecy and Methodology in Critical Security Research*, E. Bosma, M. de Goede and P. Pallister-Wilkins, eds., Routledge, 2020).

[Publisher >](#)

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Defence Studies and Public Policy Analysis

After a brief summary of how public policy analysis has historically been used in Defence Studies, **Catherine Hoeffler**, Research Associate at the Global Governance Centre, develops some of the traditional as well as more recent questions at their intersection before discussing the methodological issues facing researchers in this field, and most notably the question of dealing with secrecy and confidential data (in *Research Methods in Defence Studies: A Multidisciplinary Overview*, D. Deschaux-Dutard, ed., Routledge, 2020).

[Publisher >](#)

Other Relevant Information



Multimedia



RESEARCH PODCAST | ABD STORIES, E5

Black Monday: A Socio-History of the October 1987 Crash

On 19 October 1987, the stock market crashed in 23 countries around the world. Black Monday remains to this day one of the most dramatic one-day market declines. In a new episode of "ABD Stories", **Johanna Gautier-Morin** proposes a rare journey in the evolution of modern finance over two decades, starting with the depiction of this 48-hour global event which is at the core of her recent **PhD thesis** in International History.

[Listen to Dr Gautier-Morin >](#)



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

Religion et spiritualité dans le cinéma iranien contemporain

Agnès Devictor, maîtresse de conférence à l'Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, présente ses travaux sur le cinéma iranien, dont les réalisateurs sont à la pointe de la réflexion autour de l'image et du sacré. Elle explore notamment les référents visuels issus du chiisme, les représentations à l'écran de figures religieuses, la place centrale de la spiritualité dans le langage de grands réalisateurs tels que Kiarostami.

[Regarder la vidéo >](#)



Calls for Proposals

📅 Deadline 26 March

How to Make the WTO Fit for Future Trade | Call for Contributions to Hackathon (with prizes)

CTEI, the Institute of International Economic Law | Georgetown Law and the Geneva Trade Platform challenge students (2–4 per team) from anywhere in the world to collaborate and in just 72 hours (**9–11 April**) develop a fully considered and legally sound proposal for an outcome at the WTO that meaningfully addresses an issue that will be shared at the launch of the hackathon (9 April). The three most innovative proposals will be featured during the G-2 Conference on **14 April** and the winning teams will

receive respectively USD 3,000, 2,000 and 1,000.

[More info and registration >](#)



Calls for Prizes

📅 Deadline 15 April

Marcel Benoist Swiss Science Prize

In 2021, this prestigious annual Prize will recognise outstanding research in the social sciences and humanities related to current social issues and award CHF 250,000 (self-nominations not eligible).

[More info >](#)

📅 Deadline 31 May

Ethics & Trust in Finance for a Sustainable Future

This prize invites people under the age of 35 working in or studying finance to submit creative papers setting out analyses or proposals for innovative ways to promote ethics & trust in finance. The jury allocates the prize money of USD 20,000 among the winners.

[More info >](#)



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

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