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Upcoming Research Events

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Political Engagement
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VILFREDO PARETO RESEARCH SEMINAR
Harald Fadinger | Gravity with Granularity
12:30–13:30 Room S5

AHCD
AHCD Meet and Greet for PhD Student
15:00–16:00 hybrid

ANSO & IHP | TUESDAY SEMINARS
Marianna Fenzi | Mexican Legacies in the Green Revolution
16:15–18:00 Room S5

AHCD | SEMAINE DE LA DÉMOCRATIE
Philanthropie et démocratie: quels enjeux pour les médias traditionnels?
18:15–20:00 Auditorium A1B

Weekend
Yanina Welp | The Will of the People. Populism and Citizen Participation in Latin America
12:00–14:00 (online)

CFD
Technical Workshop on Blockchain & Microfinance | With The Cardano Foundation
12:30–14:00 by invitation only

AHCD | GENEVA DEMOCRACY WEEK
Maria Isabel Puerta Riera and Su Yun Woo | Participatory Authoritarianism?
15:00–17:00 online

BCC-SECO VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM, DAY 1
Cross-Border Payments Initiatives: Initiatives, Scope and Challenges
16.00-19.30

A Conversation on Civic Engagement with Activists from India
12:15–14:00 Room S7

BCC-SECO VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM, DAY 3
Cross-Border Payments Initiatives: Initiatives, Scope and Challenges
16.00-20.00

See all events >

Gateway to Publications by Themes

See all events >

Gateway to Other Relevant Information
Publications by Themes

Democracy, Civil Society & Sovereignty

In honour of Democracy Week, we feature in this Bulletin the work of the Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy

Every year, the AHCD is actively involved in Democracy Week (Semaine de la démocratie), a series of events aimed at fostering debate on a range of themes related to democratic practices. Democracy Week is organised by the Geneva Chancellery of State as part of the UN International Democracy Day that takes place every 15 September in some 100 countries. This year, Geneva Democracy Week celebrates its seventh edition by welcoming distinguished guests from the fields of politics and academia under the theme “Constructing Democracy”. Learn more about Democracy Week and the events organised to celebrate it here

MONOGRAPH

Artificial Intelligence and Democracy: Risks and Promises of AI-Mediated Citizen–Government Relations

Through a critical lens, Jérôme Duberry, Senior Research Fellow at the Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy and at the Centre for International Environmental Studies, examines the role of artificial intelligence (AI) in the citizen-government relation and its implications for the quality of liberal democracy and the strength of civic capacity (Edward Elgar Publishing, June 2022). His aim is to illustrate where and how AI is used in the context of citizen-government relations; to highlight the specific risks of using AI for citizen-government relations; and to call for a dedicated framework for assessing AI in these contexts. He assesses the promises and pitfalls of AI at various levels of the citizen-government relations, including citizen participation, civic technology and political communication. Employing empirical findings from in-depth case studies and interviews with 40 experts in the field, he stresses the
burgeoning need for an innovative, human-centric management of AI in the citizen-government relation based on risk assessment that prioritises equality, freedom, human rights and popular sovereignty. Watch a video with Jérôme Duberry
DOI of the book (open access)

MONOGRAPH

Seed Activism: Patent Politics and Litigation in the Global South
Over the past decade, legal challenges have arisen in the Global South over patents on genetically modified crops. In this ethnographic study, Karine E. Peschard, Research Associate at the Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy, explores the effects of these disputes on people’s lives, while uncovering the role of power – material, institutional, and discursive – in shaping laws and legal systems (MIT Press, October 2022). The expansion of corporate intellectual property (IP) negatively impacts farmers’ rights and, by extension, the right to food, since small farms produce the bulk of food for domestic consumption. Karine Peschard sees emerging a new legal common sense concerning the patentability of plant-related inventions, as well as a balance among IP, farmers' rights, and the public interest. Watch a video with Karine Peschard

Publisher’s page

SPECIAL ISSUE: EDITORSHIP AND ARTICLES

The Puzzle of Unspent Funds: Political and Policy Implications of Fiscal Underspending
This special issue of International Development Policy (no. 14.1, August 2022) is edited and introduced by Deval Desai, Research Associate at the Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy (AHCD), Sruthi Herbert and Christine Lutringer, Executive Director and Senior Researcher at the AHCD. It includes the following chapters by members of the Institute:
– Funds Spent: The Lessons and Challenges of Kerala’s Exceptional Experience Lipin Ram, Research Associate at the AHCD, makes a systematic examination of the phenomenon of the “spending” of welfare funds in the Indian state of Kerala, which contrasts with the general picture of the underspending of similar funds in other States of India. Using parliamentary and judicial records, interviews and a review of the available literature, he shows the evolution of welfare funds for construction workers and the sociopolitical processes that underpin it. This case is also an illustration of the “monitoring” of public funds assuming a sociopolitical dimension, especially as the State reciprocated the politics of the street, where workers raised collective demands.
DOI (open access)
– The Aestheticisation of Governance in India: The Appeal of Urban Aesthetics in Microfinance Financial processes are aestheticised both spatially and in embodied modes, as urban spaces such as New Delhi change and become “world-class” in response to finance and give rise to new internal urban hierarchies and figurations of the “ideal” inhabitants of such cities. These processes of aestheticising financialisation define new modes of governance, in which state allocation of funds and resources comes to be defined around specific urbanised aesthetics, which take priority over “economic efficiency” and other more conventional rationales for government decision-making, shows Tanushree Kaushal, PhD Researcher in International Relations/ Political Science, using the case of microfinance.
DOI (open access)
– Registration, Expenditure and Audit Trends: A Technical Commentary on the Karnataka Building and Other Construction Workers’ Welfare Board Himanshu Upadhyaya, Post-doctoral Research Fellow at the AHCD, examines the Karnataka Building and Other Construction Workers’ Welfare Fund, focusing on the implementation of social security and welfare legislation. He relies on parliamentary records, two compliance reviews of the functioning of the Karnataka Building and Other Construction Workers’ Welfare (BOCW) Board by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, and reports from Kannada and English newspapers. In so doing, he shows that greater scrutiny is required of the legislation’s registration, expenditure and audit processes.
The Puzzle of “Unspent” Funds in Italy’s European Social Fund
Christine Lutringer explores the institutional conditions and the tensions around the use or lack of use of the European Social Fund (ESF) in Italy, one of the largest recipients of the Fund. While financial execution does not subsume the effective implementation or the effectiveness of the activities that are funded, she suggests that it is a key marker in the policy debate in Italy and seeks to analyse the terms of this debate by placing it in its institutional and financial context, in particular against the backdrop of reforms enacted at both the European Union (EU) and the domestic level. Late spending is not only a marker of a series of institutional blockages, it also reveals a specific mode of governance that is shaped at the same time by national, regional and supranational institutions, norms, and interests as well as by flows of funds and ideas that converge and materialise in a variety of administrative, political and financial practices.

Repository (public access)

The Left(s) and Nationalism(s) in Contemporary Western Europe
Emmanuel Dalle Mulle, Research Fellow in International History and Politics, and Tudi Kernalegenn have introduced The Left(s) and Nationalism(s), a themed section of Nations and Nationalism that provides a comparative analysis of the relationship between nationalism and different left-wing parties in Western Europe (online August 2022). The section notably includes the article Universalism Within: The Tension between Universalism and Community in Progressive Ideology
Social-democratic parties face a dilemma between the universalist ethos of their socialist tradition and the nationalism that they share with the other political actors of the state where they act. Emmanuel Dalle Mulle and Ivan Serrano examine comparatively the position of the Spanish party Partido Socialista Obrero Español (PSOE) and the Catalan party Esquerra Republicana de Catalunya (ERC) on three political debates that pertains to the link between welfare and identity in Spain and show how these parties experience opposite tensions between nationalism and the universalism of their left-wing ideology.

Repository (public access)

Defending Democracy in the European Parliament: An Ethnography of Political Parties and Institutional Rules
Drawing on sociological and anthropological approaches, this PhD thesis by Christin Tonne deals with the rise of the far-right in the European Parliament (EP). How has the EP protected itself institutionally against those it deems far-right outsiders at the EU level? To answer this question, the author traces the nature of confrontation between EU institutional actors and the far right in the EP since 1979. What started out as a small European Right movement in the mid-1980s came to something as troubling as a legal and political battle over the rule of law and liberal democracy in the EU. The far right has become an integral part of EU politics with the backing of mainstream political parties and has also managed to shake the very foundations upon which the EU is built.

Read an interview with Dr Tonne about her research and findings
Repository (access restricted to the Institute community; others may contact Dr Tonne at christin.tonne@graduateinstitute.ch for access).
Legal precarity, mobility, and the criminalisation of migrants complicate the study of forced migration and exile. Traditional methodologies can obscure both the agency of displaced people and hierarchies of power between researchers and research participants. This book, edited and introduced by Christina R. Clark-Kazak and Katarzyna Grabska, Senior Lecturer for the Master in International and Development Studies (MINT), critically assesses the ways in which knowledge is co-created and reproduced through narratives in spaces of displacement, advancing a creative, collective, and interdisciplinary approach (McGill-Queen’s University Press, February 2022).

Katarzyna Grabska also wrote the chapter In Whose Voice? And for Whom? Collaborative Filming and Narratives of Forced Migration In which she considers the experiences of filmmaking and dissemination of a documentary entitled Time to Look at Girls: Migrants in Bangladesh and Ethiopia (2016). The collaboration between professional filmmakers together with feminist researchers and protagonists created a set of points of tension and reflection about ethical considerations over the use of film, filming techniques, and visual methods as such. The protagonists were young women who migrated as adolescents under often dramatic circumstances. Their portrayal as “victims” was often favoured by filmmakers as an effective way of captivating the audience. Tensions arose also around the way protagonists wanted to be portrayed, and what researchers saw as an “appropriate” way of representation of their agency. The author argues that this type of collaboration provides insights into the struggle over interpretative power of narratives and images – discussed in feminist writings, yet much less so in refugee and migrant studies.

Commitment to the “National” in Post-Conflict Countries: Public and Private Security Provision in Lebanon

A core function of contemporary states is to ensure the security of their citizens. Yet in many postconflict settings, non-state actors provide security alongside the state, typically prioritising their own ascriptive groups and potentially undercutting a sense of national political community. When do citizens prefer group-specific versus national security? While most studies focus on individual psychological factors, Christiana Parreira and others argue that group-level characteristics also shape political preferences (in Journal of Conflict Resolution, vol. 66, Issue 7–8, August-September 2022, online April 2022). Based on a conjoint experiment in Lebanon, they find that respondents view national security provision quite positively, while members of communities with stronger group-specific security simultaneously favour private provision. Individuals with closer ties to credible group security providers are also more likely to prefer those services. Citizens therefore do not see a clear trade-off between private and public
protection, while group-specific legacies mediate heterogeneity in support for pluralist security provision.

DOI

ARTICLE

(II)legal Aspirations: Of Legitimate Crime and Illegitimate Entrepreneurship in Nicaragua

Drawing on longitudinal ethnographic research carried out over two-and-a-half decades in barrio Luis Fanor Hernández, a poor neighbourhood in Managua, Nicaragua, Dennis Rodgers explores how legal and illegal economic activities are socially legitimised, and more specifically, how certain illegal economic activities can end up being seen as legitimate, and certain legal ones perceived as illegitimate (in Latin American Politics and Society, online September 2022). He first explores the variable morality surrounding different types of criminal activities that local gang members engaged in during the 1990s and 2000s. He then considers his own experiences running a local market stall, describing the contrasting reactions he faced when he resorted to first legal, and then illegal, strategies to boost his revenue levels. Taken together, these examples showcase how the social legitimisation of an economic activity has less to do with whether it is legal or illegal, but rather with the future aspirations it embodies.

Repository (public access)

CHAPITRE D'OUVRAGE COLLECTIF

Trafic d’armes à feu et de munitions: situation internationale

L’ouvrage Traces d’armes à feu: expertise des armes et des éléments de munitions dans l'investigation criminelle fournit une information détaillée de l'expertise en armes à feu, domaine des sciences forensiques à la fois complexe et passionnant (EPFL Press, août 2022). Cette troisième édition aborde plus particulièrement le fonctionnement des armes à feu, la connaissance des munitions et les processus d’identification d’armes à feu à partir d’éléments de munitions retrouvés sur une scène d’investigation. Dans leur contribution, André Desmarais et Nicolas Florquin, membres du Small Arms Survey, se concentrent sur le trafic international d’armes à feu et de munitions, problématique émergente et jusqu’ici peu abordée dans la littérature francophone.

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Sustainability, Environment, the Anthropocene & SDGs

ARTICLE

“We Are Not Allowed to Speak”: Some Thoughts about a Consultation Process around Lithium Mining in Northern Argentina

In October 2021, the government of Catamarca, a province located in Northern Argentina, announced the beginning of a consultation process to debate about a lithium-mining project located in the Salar del Hombre Muerto. Marc Hufty and others illustrate, through an ethnographic approach, how concretely a consultation process around lithium mining was carried out in Catamarca (in The Extractive Industries and Society, 101134, vol. 11, September 2022, online August 2022).
Text as Data in Environmental Economics and Policy

There is growing interest in using text as data in social science research. The availability of large amounts of digitised text material such as social media posts, newspapers, firms’ annual reports, and patents, combined with new computer techniques, makes it increasingly possible for researchers to use this type of information. Eugenie Dugoua, Marion Dumas and Joëlle Noailly, Head of Research of the Centre for International Environmental Studies (CIES), discuss the potential of these techniques for the field of environmental economics and policy (in *Review of Environmental Economics and Policy*, vol. 16, no. 2, Summer 2022, online July 2022).

Wounded Relational Worlds: Destruction and Resilience of Multispecies Relationality in the Age of Climate Change

So-called “wounded relational worlds” are worlds in which human and more-than-human relations have been significantly reshaped, broken or disrupted by colonisation and capitalist extractivism(s). Diego Silva-Garzon, Postdoctoral Researcher, Nathalia Hernandez Vidal and Christina Holmes analyse diverse forms of multispecies relationality through which wounded worlds are created looking at several case studies in Latin America: indigenous communities and gardeners in Paraguay and Brazil; agroecology practitioners and soil scientists in Colombia; as well as communities cohabiting with the rubble of agribusiness in Argentina (in *Alternautas*, vol. 9, no. 1, July 2022).

The Tocantins River: Water and Development in the Brazilian Amazon

Today, the production of hydroelectricity on the Amazon region is a high stakes endeavour, associated with negative consequences to environment and local communities, be they Amerindian, peasant, traditional or otherwise. Regardless of strong opposition, the Brazilian government continues to envision the countries’ electricity expansion in this direction. Nathalia Capellini, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Centre for International Environmental Studies, questions the long history of the relationship between the Brazilian State and Amazonian rivers, focusing on the Tocantins (in *Rivista Contemporanea*, no. 2, April–June 2022). Through the different uses and representations around the Tocantins River by various actors, at various scales and over the long term, she shows how, from a means of access, transport, exchange and communication, this river is transformed into a hydroelectric potential and therefore a resource.

Ethics, Law, and Politics in Palaeontological Research: The Case of Myanmar Amber

Fossil material in amber from Myanmar provides important insights for palaeontologists, but reported links between amber mining and the humanitarian crisis in northern Myanmar have raised legal and ethical concerns. Paul P. Stevens, Master student in International Law, and others provide a bibliometric analysis of Myanmar amber publications that links research interest to major political and economic changes and highlights the exclusion of local researchers (in *Communications Biology*, vol. 5, 1023, September 2022). Legally, Myanmar must protect its palaeontological heritage against illicit trafficking, but amber is classified as a gemstone. This uncertainty concerning amber with fossil inclusions
continues to be exploited. Illegal and unethical research practices like these need to be collectively addressed.

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

SDG 7: Ensure Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable and Modern Energy for All

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7, Affordable and Clean Energy, represents an aspiration to move away from the “old”, “brown” economic activities that developed out of the Industrial Revolution, built upon conventional fossil fuels and exhaustible natural resources, and towards “new”, low- or zero-carbon-based “green” economic activities that are built upon clean energy, electrification, and the decarbonisation of all aspects of modern life. This narrative gives rise to numerous legal complexities and challenges for international law, derived from its structure, content, and functions related to energy activities. After exploring the content of SDG 7, Stuart Bruce and Jorge E. Viñuales survey the international rules and processes that may assist and/or hinder the progressive realisation of SDG 7, and consider the role and influence of selected international institutions and non-state actors in advancing and implementing SDG 7 (in The Cambridge Handbook of the Sustainable Development Goals and International Law, J. Ebbesson and E. Hey, eds., vol. 1, September 2022).

EDITED BOOK AND CHAPTER

Climate Policy after the 2015 Paris Climate Conference

The 2015 Paris Agreement marked a turning point in the global community’s response to climate change. For the first time, almost all the world’s nations put forward specific pledges to cut their greenhouse gas emissions with the aim of limiting global warming to well below 2°C, and ideally 1.5°C. The ten contributions in this volume edited by Joanna Depledge, Jorge E. Viñuales, Emma Lees and David Reiner provide a powerful and scholarly analysis of how this historic achievement came about (Routledge, December 2021).

With a new introduction providing an update on recent developments, the other chapters in this book were originally published as a special issue of Climate Policy.

WORKING PAPER

Does Environmental Policy Uncertainty Hinder Investments towards a Low-Carbon Economy?

Using machine-learning algorithms, Joëlle Noailly, Head of Research of the Centre for International Environmental Studies (CIES), Laura Nowzohour, PhD Researcher in International Economics, and Matthias van den Heuvel, Visiting Researcher, construct a novel news-based index of US environmental and climate policy uncertainty (EnvPU) available on a monthly basis over the 1990–2019 period (published both as CIES Research Paper 74 and as NBER Working Paper 30361, August 2022). They find that a rise in the EnvPU index is associated with a reduced probability for cleantech startups to receive venture capital funding. Overall, the results are consistent with the notion that policy uncertainty has adverse effects on investments for the low-carbon economy.

Access (public) to CIES paper
Access to NBER paper
Global Health

ARTICLE

Through the Rule of Law Looking Glass: The World Health Organization’s Role in Health Emergencies and Its Response to COVID-19

The World Health Organization (WHO), unlike other international organisations, has a constitutional mandate to prevent and respond to international acute emergencies in the form of disease outbreaks and pandemics. Its main normative tool is the 2005 International Health Regulations (IHR), that represent a breakthrough from past instruments but also raise questions and challenges that can be effectively analysed from a rule of law perspective. This approach applies in particular to ambiguities in important parts of the IHR affecting their relevance and effectiveness; lack of clarity for processes leading to sensitive executive decisions; the absence of compliance assessment mechanisms resulting in lack of accountability for states parties; and an inadequate inclusion of human rights guarantees. Gian Luca Burci and Jennifer Hasselgård-Rowe extend their analysis beyond WHO’s functions, to the impact of COVID-19 on WHO’s governance as well as its internal management (in International Organizations Law Review, vol. 18, no. 3, December 2021).

Repository (access restricted to the Institute community).

DOI

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Global Health

Global health is a very institutionalised field of governance, with diverse international institutions contributing in various ways to promote and protect human health (or negatively affecting it, depending on whom you ask). Such institutions include global international organisations, regional organisations, hybrid institutions comprising public agencies and corporate bodies and, more recently, public-private partnerships and networks showing a similar structure. This proliferation is not surprising conceptually, argues Gian Luca Burci, if we consider that health is an intrinsic and essential dimension of human beings and communities, both from a biomedical point of view as well as from a public health and social perspectives (in The Cambridge Companion to International Organizations Law, March 2022). So many transnational factors, processes and policies have a direct or indirect impact on health that not only existing international organisations have integrated or upgraded health considerations in their agendas, but new ones have been established to address neglected aspects of global health governance.

DOI

POLICY BRIEF

The Deep Prevention of Future Pandemics through a One Health Approach: What Role for a Pandemic Instrument?

“One Health” has been defined as “an integrated, unifying approach that aims to sustainably balance and optimise the health of people, animals and ecosystems”. Ginevra Le Moli, Jorge E. Viñuales, Gian Luca Burci, Adam Strobeyko, PhD Researcher in International Law, and Suerie Moon offer analysis on how a new pandemic Instrument could incorporate One Health approaches to strengthen pandemic prevention, preparedness and response (Global Health Centre Policy Brief, September 2022). Building upon the notion of midstream “deep prevention”, the authors argue that a new pandemic Instrument could fill an important gap by focusing on reducing the likelihood of harmful events, such as pathogen spillover or the development of pathogens resistant to antimicrobials.

PDF (public access)
Reclaiming Agency through the Politics of the In_Visible Body: Illegalized Migration and Self-Representation of Women Domestic Workers in Switzerland

This article deepens our understanding of agency in the context of (in)securitised migration by engaging with the experiences of “undocumented” women domestic workers in Switzerland. By linking the securitisation framework with gaze theories and ontologies of the body, Victor Santos Rodriguez, Visiting Lecturer in the International Relations/Political Science Department, and alumna Maevia Griffiths (Master in 2021) account for migrants’ embodied and gendered experiences of (in)security and agency (in On_Culture, no. 13, Summer 2022). In this perspective, the same bodies which are subjected to domination become tools of resistance enacted through a politics of in_visibilities.

DOI (open access)

Mobile Phones on Mobile Fields: Co-producing Knowledge about Migration and Violence

As technologies are an integral part of migration at European borders, smartphones are used for self-help but also to harm people on the move. On the so-called “Balkan route”, which illustrates the trajectories from Greece to central Europe, mobile phones put into more contrast the positionality of the ethnographer who is integrated in a context of violence and mobility. Nina Khamsi, PhD Researcher in Anthropology and Sociology, suggests how the knowledge produced by the ethnographer can be articulated with that produced by the people on the move themselves (in Antropologia Pubblica, vol. 8, no. 1, August 2022). How can researchers use smartphones to co-produce knowledge on migration and violence without harming further?

DOI (open access)

Dying Dreams in Tajikistan’s Global Borderland

Twenty-five years since the end of Tajikistan’s civil war in 1997, dreams and aspirations of international development and cross-border mobility in the country’s Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Province, colloquially called “the Pamirs”, have evaporated. Once, the mountainous region was envisaged to have a prosperous postwar future ahead of it, with emerging trade links to China and Afghanistan, substantial funding from international nongovernmental organisations, and support from wealthy Muslim institutions. Today, as the Tajik government mounts a violent campaign to eradicate opposition, people in the Pamirs are surrounded by closed international borders and an ever-shrinking space in which to participate in Tajikistan’s politics and economy, concludes Till Mostowlansky, Research Professor & Eccellenza Professorial Fellow in the Department of Anthropology and Sociology (in Current History, vol. 121, no. 837, October 2022).

DOI (open access)
Responsabilité internationale et flux migratoires: le droit international à l’épreuve des États de transit

Explorant la responsabilité internationale des pays de transit à partir d’une grande variété de perspectives et de domaines juridiques, Vincent Chetail conclut que le départ volontaire des migrants d’un pays de transit ne peut être considéré comme un fait illicite international, car ce pays est tenu d’autoriser ce départ dans le respect du droit de quitter tout pays (dans Migrations et droit international, Société française de droit international, Pedone, Paris, mai 2022). Cependant, un pays de transit viole le droit international lorsqu’il utilise la force pour provoquer le départ des migrantes de son territoire. En outre, le fait d’organiser ou d’encourager un afflux de migrants peut être illegal dans un ensemble assez limité de circonstances, lorsque, par exemple, il équivaut à une contre-mesure ilégale ou constitue un déni flagrant de l'objet même du Protocole contre le trafic illicite de migrants. En dehors des situations spécifiques identifiées dans ce chapitre, les États de destination et les États de transit sont tenus de coopérer, car la migration est une question d’intérêt commun et appelle une approche multilatérale dans le respect du droit international public et des droits fondamentaux des migrants.

Repository (accès public)

ENCYCLOPAEDIA CHAPTER

Expulsion, Protection Against

In his contribution to the Elgar Encyclopedia of Human Rights, Vincent Chetail provides an overview of the main substantive and procedural limitations to expulsion under international law (Chr. Binder, M. Nowak, J.A. Hofbauer and Ph. Janig, eds., Edward Elgar, September 2022). Read here (open access)

Education, Information & Media

EDITED BOOK AND CHAPTERS

Evidence and Expertise in Nordic Education Policy: A Comparative Network Analysis

This book, edited by Berit Karseth, Kirsten Sivesind and Gita Steiner-Khamsi, explores how policymakers draw on national, regional and international expertise in issuing school reform within five Nordic countries (Palgrave Macmillan, online April 2022). Gita Steiner-Khamsi and Chanwoong Baek, new Assistant Professor in the Department of International Relations/Political Science, have authored or co-authored the following chapters:

– What Is in a Reference? Theoretically Understanding the Uses of Evidence in Education Policy

Gita Steiner-Khamsi deals with the reference – the unit of analysis for her bibliometric analyses – and examines what it stands for in the policy process. Paul Cairney’s definition is useful: “[e]vidence is assertion backed by information.” In concert with this definition, references are treated as a construct or an aggregate of several pieces of information (authorship, year of publication, topic or theme, etc.) that helps position the author in a larger semantic space. All these constitutive elements have been used as epistemological cues for understanding not only whose texts or whose knowledge the authors have selected to substantiate their points with, but also whose knowledge they cite as sources of expertise in order to reduce uncertainty, enhance credibility, or generate legitimacy about the validity of their own
claims or assertions. In an era in which we have a surplus of information as well as a surplus of evidence, this is no small enterprise.

**DOI** (open access)

– *Exploring the Architecture of Policy Knowledge: A Methodological Note*

Drawing on research in social network analysis and sociology of knowledge, Oren Pizmony-Levy and Chanwoong Baek explain how bibliometric network analysis can be applied to examine the architecture of policy knowledge in the five Nordic countries. Key concepts such as networks, nodes, edges, centrality, and density are defined, and the rationale and procedures for collecting, analysing and presenting data are described in detail. The authors also acknowledge the limitations in its methodological approach and propose the direction for future studies.

**DOI** (open access)

– *Evidence-Based Policymaking in Nordic Countries: Different Settings, Different Practices?*

By comparing the references that national policy actors in the five Nordic countries have utilised in their policy documents to evidentiate policy ideas and recommendations, Chanwoong Baek, Dijana Tiplic and Íris Santos show that all five Nordic countries actively use evidence to support and legitimate their policy proposals; however, their utilisation varies by (1) institutionalised forms of policymaking system, (2) degree of self-referentiality, and (3) type of reform. This comparative study offers timely reflections on how the discourse of evidence-based policymaking is interpreted and adapted differently across countries.

**DOI** (open access)

– *How Much Is Policy Advice Changed and Lost in Political Translation?*

Gita Steiner-Khamsi, Chanwoong Baek, Berit Karseth and Andreas Nordin compare reference patterns between Norwegian and Swedish green papers (cross-national comparison), as well as between green papers and white papers (political translation). The authors conclude that the advisory commissions have been repurposed in ways that place greater emphasis on expertise rather than accountability and representation. Second, the multilevel analysis shows that the commissions merely represent one stage in a long sequence of evidence-based policymaking. Finally, by following a transnational perspective, the chapter shows how advisory commissions today are used as bridges between the global and the national.

**DOI** (open access)

**DOI of the full book** (open access)

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**Development & Cooperation**

**ARTICLE**

*Youth Engagement in Sweetpotato Production and Agribusiness: The Case of Northern Uganda*

Using qualitative data collected in Northern Uganda, Norita Mdege, Research Fellow at the Gender Centre, Sarah Mayanja and Netsayi Noris Mudege discuss the factors influencing youth’s participation in sweetpotato production and agribusiness in a post-conflict environment, with the aim of promoting that participation (in *Third World Quarterly*, vol. 43, no. 10, online July 2022). Based on individual interviews and sex-disaggregated focus group discussions, they find that participation to be a product of the intersection of broader community/national context, individual circumstances (age, gender, marital status, education...
and social class), and individual and collective agency. They accordingly propose strategies to encourage youth participation that take these factors into account.

Repository (access restricted to the Institute community).

DOI

Digital Technologies & Artificial Intelligence

ARTICLE

Traceability
This Glossary article by Nanna Bonde Thylstrup, Postdoctoral Researcher Matthew Archer and Louis Ravn homes in on “traceability” as a concept that is deceptively simple but fundamentally crucial in blockchain technologies (in Internet Policy Review, vol. 11, no. 1, March 2022). First, it provides an overview of the historical background of traceability within digital technologies. It then outlines the most critical dimensions of the concept by relating the term to questions about accountability, explainability, and speculation. Finally, emergent methodological and theoretical insights concerning traceability as a paradoxical concept in distributed technologies are highlighted.

DOI (open access)

Trade, Finance, Economies & Work

ARTICLE

The Smile Curve: Evolving Sources of Value Added in Manufacturing
A dramatic disordering of global manufacturing has been seen in recent years. Production processes have fragmented, and many production stages have been offshored to developing nations. Organisation of this new global supply chain has evolved into what are often called global value chains (GVCs). Less studied, but no less important, is the “smile curve”, a phenomenon involving a swing in the share of value added in manufactured exports that is generated in the manufacturing sector itself instead of, for example, in the pre- and post-fabrication stages. Using international input–output databases, Richard Baldwin and Tadashi Ito present new evidence supporting the smile curve at the aggregate level (in Canadian Journal of Economics/Revue canadienne d’économique, vol. 54, no. 4, November 2021, online March 2022). For almost all exporting sectors and nations, the value added to exports has shifted decisively from the manufacturing sector to service sectors. The authors also find that developing countries reduced their own-sourcing service value-added share, while developed countries maintained their relatively high levels of own-sourcing service value-
ARTICLE

The Ethics of ESG: Sustainable Finance and the Emergence of the Market as an Ethical Subject

Sustainable finance is generally understood as the integration of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) considerations into the investment process. Based on participant observation of sustainable finance and impact investing conferences between 2015 and 2020, and a series of interviews with the sustainability team and several portfolio managers at a large European bank in 2018 and 2019, Postdoctoral Researcher Matthew Archer shows how the compulsion to define and measure sustainability indicators reflects the emergence of the market itself as an ethical subject, one that is capable of making the most efficient, and thus the most ethical, decisions (in Focaal, vol. 2022, no. 93, June 2022). This has implications for ethical intersubjectivity in sustainability more broadly.

DOI (open access)

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Telemigration and Development: On the Offshorability of Teleworkable Jobs

The Covid-19 pandemic has introduced huge numbers of employers and employees to remote work. How many of these newly remote jobs will go overseas? Richard Baldwin and Jonathan I. Dingel offer a rough quantification based on two observations: 1) offshore work is trade in services, and 2) the number of telemigrants is the volume of this trade divided by the average wage (in Robots and AI: A New Economic Era, L.Y. Ing and G.M. Grossman, eds., Routledge, June 2022). Combining these with gravity-model estimates, they can roughly predict the number of new telemigrants that would arise from lower barriers to trade in services. Telemigration seems unlikely to be transformative when it comes to the development paths of most emerging economies. The authors then propose a simple model of telemigration in which small changes can have large consequences. The key is to assume that latent comparative advantage takes a different shape than typically assumed in quantitative trade models. Given this, small changes in trade costs can generate large and asymmetric increases in the exports of service tasks from low-wage nations.

DOI (open access)

E-BOOK

Global Economic Consequences of the War in Ukraine: Sanctions, Supply Chains and Sustainability

Will the war in the Ukraine radically reshuffle the global economic, financial and political order? Half a year after the Russian invasion, it has become increasingly clear that some of the changes will be far-reaching and are likely to be persistent. This eBook, edited, introduced and concluded by Luis Garicano, Dominic Rohner and Beatrice Weder di Mauro, brings together a selection of representative contributions to the Vox debate on the economic consequences of the invasion for an early stocktaking of lessons and to provide a first assessment on what might lie ahead (CEPR Press, September 2022).

Repository (public access)

WORKING PAPER

Globotics and Macroeconomics: Globalisation and Automation of the Service Sector

Globalisation affects the functioning of the macroeconomy. The macroeconomy's functioning, in turn, conditions the conduct and impact of monetary policy. This is why globalisation matters for central banks. It is also why central bankers should pay attention to the evolution of globalisation. And evolve it has. Richard Baldwin argues that the future of trade is trade in services – especially trade in
intermediate services (published as Discussion Paper Series DP17530, Centre for Economic Policy Research, and as Working Paper 30317, National Bureau of Economic Research, August 2022). Barriers are radically higher and falling radically faster for services versus goods, and, unlike farm and factory goods, there is no capacity constraint when it comes to the export of intermediate services from emerging markets. Undertaking the macroeconomic analysis for services trade that was done in the 2000s for goods trade, however, will require a substantial upgrading of the data available.

Read in open access here
Available at SSRN here

ARTICLE

The Odious Haitian Independence Debt
This article introduces the Haitian Independence Debt of 1825 to the odious debt and sovereign debt literatures. Ugo Panizza and others argue that the legal doctrine of odious debt is surprisingly and perhaps indefensibly narrow, possibly because of historical contingency rather than any underlying logic or principle (in Journal of Globalization and Development, online September 2022).

Repository (access restricted to the Institute community).
DOI
This article is a slightly modified version of International Economics Department Working Paper no. 16, 2021 (see Research Bulletin no. 9, 2021).

ARTICLE

Enough Potential Repudiation: Economic and Legal Aspects of Sovereign Debt in the Pandemic Era

DOI
This article is a slightly modified version of International Economics Department Working Paper no. 9, 2022 (see Research Bulletin no. 6, 2022).

Gender, Diversity, Race & Intersectionality

ARTICLE

The Powers of Silence: Making Sense of the Non-definition of Gender in International Criminal Law
Silence has often been studied in international law as a mechanism tied to passivity and oppression. Juliana Santos de Carvalho, PhD Researcher in International Law, unravels other ontologies of silence by exploring its possibilities as an active mechanism, namely: (1) a tool for resistance; and (2) a linguistic device for managing disagreement (in Leiden Journal of International Law, online August 2022). To illustrate this, she examines the construction of a non-definition of gender as a legally viable option for the international crime of persecution, going through different negotiations on the topic: the Rome Conference and the gender discussions for the draft Convention on Crimes against Humanity.

Repository (public access)
Prioritizing Non-Communicable Diseases at the Intersections: Global Action in the Canadian Context

Taking an intersectionality approach, Olena Hankivsky, Claire Somerville, Lecturer in Interdisciplinary Studies and Executive Director of the Gender Centre, and Mary Mandhar chart and critically analyse the political and policy level prioritisation of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) stemming from levers of global health governance and normative frameworks (in Women's Health in Canada: Challenges of Intersectionality, M. Morrow, O. Hankivsky and C. Varcoe, eds., University of Toronto Press, March 2022). The challenge, even in countries such as Canada, which benefit from highly developed health systems and universal health coverage, is to convert global recommendations and guidelines to national and local level approaches that respond to the unequal and gendered disease burdens of NCDs across populations. The authors argue that a robust intersectionality framework that responds to the complex drivers behind NCDs is essential to effective health-shaping interventions at national and international levels.

DOI

Other Relevant Information

Multimedia

BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS | ALBERT HIRSCHMAN CENTRE ON DEMOCRACY

Artificial Intelligence and Democracy by Jérôme Duberry

In this video, Jérôme Duberry, Senior Research Fellow at the Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy and at the Centre for International Environmental Studies, speaks about his latest book, in which he examines the role of artificial intelligence in the citizen-government relation and its implications for the quality of liberal democracy and the strength of civic capacity.

Watch the video

Seed Activism: Patent Politics and Litigation in the Global South by Karine Peschard

Karine Peschard, Research Associate at the Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy, introduces in this video her recent book, in which she shows how lawsuits around intellectual property in Brazil and India are impacting the patentability of plants and seeds, farmers' rights, and the public interest.

Watch the video

RESEARCH BY STUDENTS | ANTHROPOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY

Researching Comparative Humanitarianisms through Podcasts
Following a first experiment in academic podcasting in 2020–21 (see Research Bulletin no. 1, 2022), students enrolled in Julie Billaud's course “Comparative Humanitarianisms” in 2021–22 were given the opportunity to produce a podcast instead of an essay. Unsurprisingly, many students decided to examine the war in Ukraine and the special treatment and expressions of solidarity Ukrainian refugees fleeing their war-torn country received in Europe:

– Questioning European Humanitarian Responses after Ukraine
– Humanitarian Work and the Need to Help
– Worthy of Protection
– Easy Labels, Complex Identities: An Exploration of the Meanings of the Word “Refugee”
– Voices of Solidarity

Read more about this experiment in academic podcasting
Calls for Papers

GLOBAL GOVERNANCE CENTRE

Beauty and Power: Aesthetics, History, & International Law
The interdisciplinary workshop series “New Directions in the Theory & History of International Law” aims to create a space where emerging and senior scholars of different traditions can meet and rethink on the past, present, and future of the theory and history of the discipline. The Geneva Graduate Institute will host the second of three workshops on 19–20 October 2023 and invites scholars to present papers at this workshop on “Beauty and Power: Aesthetics, History, & International Law.

- **25 November**: abstract submission
- **Mid-December**: notifications of acceptance
- [More info](#)

Awarded Prizes

**Michael Sandel Receives the 2022 Edgar de Picciotto International Prize**
The 2022 Edgar de Picciotto International Prize was awarded to Michael Sandel during the academic year’s opening lecture on 22 September. On this occasion, Professor Sandel delivered a keynote lecture entitled “The Tyranny of Merit: Can We Find the Common Good?” The Prize is intended to reward an internationally renowned academic whose research has contributed to the understanding of global challenges and whose work has influenced policymakers.

[Read more](#)

**The Pierre du Bois Prize 2022 Goes Ex Aequo to Michele Sollai and Joel Alfred Veldkamp**
The Pierre du Bois Prize is awarded annually for the best doctoral thesis in International History and Politics defended at the Geneva Graduate Institute. On 16 September, the 2022 Prize was awarded ex aequo to:


[Read an interview about Dr Sollai’s research](#)


[Read an interview about Dr Veldkamp's research](#)

[Read more about the 2022 Prize](#)

**Global Migration Award 2021**
The Global Migration Centre is pleased to announce the ex-aequo laureates of the Global Migration Award:

- Franca Elena Kappes for her master dissertation, “Paradise Lost? The Relational Topologies and
Conjunctural Paths of Stateless Diaspora Cohesion and Fragmentation in Light of Factionalised Contention”, which convinced the jury for its thoroughness and insightful research. Since a diaspora’s ontological security depends on the continued existence of a united “homeland”, intra-movement fractionalisations pose an interesting puzzle: what impact do partisan fractions have on the cohesiveness of stateless diasporas and what factors condition their behaviour? Adopting a frame-based relational approach and deploying a sequential-mixed-methods-design combining QDNA with QCA, Franca finds that (1) diaspora groups rarely display high levels of factionalisation, and that (2) this is conditioned by domestic constraints and the presence of incentives provided by transnational advocacy networks and diaspora governance policies.

The dissertation is now published as [Global Migration Research Paper](#) no. 29, 2022 (public access).

– **Maevia Griffiths** for her two-fold master dissertation, “Bridging the Visual and Social Science Research Gap through Film: A Visual Insight into the Stories of Four “Undocumented” Women in Geneva”, which convinced the jury for its quality and its unconventional and innovative way of conducting research. It is constituted by a documentary film, *Elles les (in)visibles*, recounting the stories of four “undocumented” women in Geneva, and by a report in which Maevia shows how she uses filmmaking as both object and method of her research, so as to bridge the gaps between social science knowledge production, under-represented realities and a wider audience.

The dissertation is now published as [Global Migration Research Paper](#) no. 30, 2022 (public access).

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

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