

**GENEVA
GRADUATE
INSTITUTE**

Research Bulletin

Upcoming events, latest publications and other research activities

15 September 2025 (no. 8, 2025)

Upcoming Research Events

**15
SEP**

Monday

CTEI | GENEVA TRADE
PLATFORM

**Geneva Trade Week
2025**

11:00–17:00 Maison
de la Paix & WTO

NORRAG | UNESCO
CHAIR BOOK TALK

Time in Education

Policy Transfer

16:00–17:15 hybrid

**16
SEP**

Tuesday

CTEI | GENEVA TRADE NO RESEARCH EVENTS
PLATFORM

**Geneva Trade Week
2025**

11:00–17:00 Maison
de la Paix & WTO

**17
SEP**

Wednesday

**18
SEP**

Thursday

CTEI | GENEVA TRADE
PLATFORM

**Geneva Trade Week
2025**

11:00–17:00 Maison
de la Paix & WTO

IL DEP. | LAW OF THE
SEA AND OCEAN
GOVERNANCE
SEMINAR

**Ela Gökçığdem & Nart
Karaçay | The
Montreux Convention,
Mucilage, and the
Marmara Sea**
17:00–18:30 Room
S1

**19
SEP**

Friday

UNRISD & GENDER
CENTRE | PANEL

**Confronting the
Politics of Care:
Reflections on
Structures of Injury,
Trauma and Repair in
the Peace Sector**
10:30–12:30 Room
S12

**22
SEP**

Monday

GGC

Sylvain Maechler |

Practices of Hope: The

**23
SEP**

Tuesday

CCDP SEMINAR
SERIES

**24
SEP**

Wednesday

GGC & IL DEP. |
CONFERENCE

**25
SEP**

Thursday

AHCD, ANSO DEP. &
IHP DEP. | WORKSHOP

**26
SEP**

Friday

AHCD, ANSO DEP. &
IHP DEP. | WORKSHOP

Everyday Work of
Market-Based
Instruments for
Biodiversity in Global
Governance
12:30–14:00 Room
S11

Abdulla Ibrahim | From
Fragmentation to
Process: Four Schools
of Analysis of the
Ukraine War Mediation
Efforts
15:00–16:30 Room
P1-447 & online

HCGS & WWF
INTERNATIONAL |
CONFERENCE
**Our Living Ocean:
Solutions for a
Productive and
Resilient Ocean,
Sustaining People and
Nature**
18:00–19:30
Auditorium Ivan
Pictet

Farai Chipato & David
Chandler | Race in the
Anthropocene:
Coloniality, Disavowal
and the Black Horizon
18:30–20:00
Auditorium A2

Till Mostowlansky &
Mischa Suter |
Revisiting History and
Anthropology:
Fieldwork, Archive,
Temporality
09:30–16:05 Room
S6

IL DEP. | LAW OF THE
SEA AND OCEAN
GOVERNANCE
SEMINAR (**CLOSED
TO SEMINAR
MEMBERS**)
Ningxiner Li |
Evaluating Legal Tools
for Protecting
Biodiversity in ABNJ
under the BBNJ
Agreement
17:00–18:30 Room
S2

Till Mostowlansky &
Mischa Suter |
Revisiting History and
Anthropology:
Fieldwork, Archive,
Temporality
09:30–13:00 Room
S6

CDHM | "THE KITCHEN
SERIES" SEMINARS
**Nicole Martins-Maag,
Christian Vogt &
Ismaël Raboud | The
International
Committee of the Red
Cross (ICRC) Archives
Digitalization
Programme**
09:30–12:30 Room
S11

[See all events >](#)

Gateway to Publications by Themes



Trade,
Finance,
Economies
& Work



Peace, War,
Conflicts &
Security



Development &
Cooperation



Human Rights,
Humanitarianism,
Justice &
Inclusion



Arts,
Culture &
Religion



Gender,
Diversity,
Race &
Intersectionality



Democracy &
Civil Society



Sustainability,
Environment,
the Anthropocene
& SDGs



Diplomacy &
Global
Governance



Technology



Global
Health



Gateway to Other Relevant Information



Multimedia



Awarded
Grants



Visitors



Calls for
Papers



Awarded
Prizes



Upcoming
PhD Defences



Publications by Themes



Trade, Finance, Economies & Work



Mining for Norms: International Extractivism, Chinese Business, and the Indeterminacy of Compliance in Kyrgyzstan

The study of compliance provides significant insights into the political and social tensions that shape Chinese business conduct in Kyrgyzstan's extractive industry and beyond. Drawing on interviews and analysis of legal documents, Asel

Doolotkeldieva and **Till Mostowlansky**, Research Professor of Anthropology and Sociology, first examine disputes between Chinese mining companies and Kyrgyz state institutions (in *Regulation and Governance*, online August 2025). These disputes demonstrate how the mundane workings of government bureaucracy foster a legal environment in which compliance is indeterminate. The authors argue that this indeterminacy — defined here as a social setting in which an action is neither predictably compliant nor noncompliant — provides a useful framework for analysing interactions between mining companies and the state. They then move on to discuss how the establishment of international arbitration courts in Kyrgyzstan can be seen as an attempt to create new forms of compliance beyond this indeterminacy. They argue that looking at compliance through the lens of indeterminacy and examining ways of overcoming or managing it challenge the binary of compliance vs. noncompliance that continues to dominate social science literature on the subject. Finally, they maintain that the indeterminacy of compliance and the creation of new institutions both emerge from a legal environment that is shaped by broader political debate.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

PHD THESIS IN INTERNATIONAL HISTORY, 2025

Opening the Black Box of Financial Negotiations: The IMF, Argentina, and Brazil in the Post-war Era (1945–64)

This research examines whether and how policymakers' perceptions influence the negotiation processes and outcomes of IMF stabilisation programme. It “opens the black box” of financial negotiations between the IMF, Argentina, and Brazil in the early postwar period, seeking to understand why two countries with broadly similar economic and political characteristics achieved distinct outcomes in financial negotiations — Argentina secured successive programmes while Brazil did not. Unlike broad structural studies and traditional ideological narratives or historical accounts, **Fernanda Conforto de Oliveira** takes a granular approach and employs innovative methodologies to engage with historical sources. She posits that “sentiment” — from both the IMF and programme countries — plays a pivotal role in shaping interactions beyond economic and (geo)political observables. Since sentiment is not directly observable, she is the first to operationalise a method using cutting-edge artificial intelligence algorithms for extracting it at scale from thousands of contemporary confidential policy sources produced by the IMF and the US, Argentine, and Brazilian governments. The findings reveal that the IMF learns and develops “soft information” over time through human interactions. This “soft information” — encompassing perceptions of trust, credibility, and capability — informs IMF lending decisions, extending beyond purely economic and (geo)political determinants.

*For the excellence of her doctoral research, Dr de Oliveira is co-recipient of the **2025 Pierre du Bois Prize**, awarded each year for the best PhD thesis in International History defended at the Geneva Graduate Institute.*

[Find out more in this interview >](#)

[Repository](#) (access to the PhD thesis restricted to members of the Institute community; other interested individuals can [contact Dr de Oliveira](#)).

THÈSE DE DOCTORAT EN ANTHROPOLOGIE ET SOCIOLOGIE, 2025

Sociologie économique et historique de l'industrie horlogère suisse: temps, nation, globalisation

La présente thèse propose une étude sociologique et historique de l'industrie horlogère suisse et ses rapports avec la construction moderne d'un imaginaire national, à travers l'insertion du pays dans ce qui peut être nommé la globalisation économique et culturelle. En se fondant sur une approche historique et des séries d'entretiens avec une grande diversité d'acteurs de l'industrie (horlogers, artisans, ouvriers non-qualifiés, ingénieurs, syndicalistes, représentants patronaux, etc.), **Théo Sacha Pilowsky** conceptualise les réseaux d'extraction globaux de la matière première, sa transformation, la fabrication de montres sur le territoire suisse, le label Swiss Made et les réseaux globaux de vente comme faisant partie d'un système-monde transnational intégré. L'auteur comprend le développement industriel et la construction stato-nationale de la Suisse comme faisant partie d'une co-production et remet ainsi en cause l'idéologie d'un «jeu à somme nulle» entre globalisation et construction stato-nationale. L'identité suisse, sa structure politique et son développement industriel peuvent ainsi être compris comme faisant partie d'une triangulation qui fonctionne sur un mode synergique.

[Découvrez-en plus dans cet entretien \(en anglais\) >](#)

[Repository \(accès public\) >](#)

PHD THESIS IN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMY, 2025

Essays in International Macro-Finance and Monetary Economics

This doctoral dissertation by **Nika Khinashvili** consists of three essays in international macro-finance and monetary economics, addressing questions related to foreign exchange interventions, monetary economics and macroprudential policy. The first chapter, “**Macroprudential Foreign Exchange Interventions**”, empirically studies a panel of emerging markets to explore whether foreign exchange interventions (FXIs) reduce the probability and severity of a sudden stop, and if so, what channels are at work. The author shows that (i) FX reserve accumulation during capital inflow surges reduces the probability and severity of a sudden stop — revealing the ex-ante role of FXI — and (ii) decumulation of FX reserves during a sudden stop dampens the severity of a recession and supports the recovery of output — illustrating the ex-post role. The second chapter, “**Optimal Macro-Financial Policy under Regulatory Arbitrage**”, analyses a quantitative DSGE model of optimal monetary and macroprudential policy design, where a significant part of financial agents is outside the macroprudential regulatory perimeter. The author shows that optimal macroprudential policy becomes tighter, while monetary policy deviates from the objective of macroeconomic stabilisation and responds to financial vulnerabilities. The third chapter, “**Managing Remittance Inflows with FX Interventions: Looking into the Implications for the Banking Sector**”, coauthored with Maria-Angels Oliva (International Monetary Fund), shows that while remittances improve financial depth, FXIs attenuate this positive effect. The analysis suggests that FXIs act as an insurance tool that protects agents exposed to FX risk by mitigating FX volatility, but can encourage lower bank buffers.

[Find out more in this interview >](#)

[Repository](#) (access to the PhD thesis restricted to members of the Institute community; other interested individuals can [contact Dr Khinashvili](#)).



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Peace, War, Conflicts & Security

MONOGRAPH

Transformed by the People: Hayat Tahrir al-Sham's Road to Power in Syria

How did a jihadi group transform into the movement rebuilding Syria after Assad? In December 2024, to global astonishment, former al-Qaeda affiliate Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) led a coalition to overthrow the Syrian regime. Patrick Haenni and **Jerome Drevon**, Research Associate at the



Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), unravel HTS's dramatic transformation since 2019, from a besieged insurgent enclave to a conservative Islamist government (Hurst, August 2025). Drawing on interviews with HTS leaders including Ahmad al-Sharaa himself — as well as diplomats, dissidents and opponents — the authors reveal the group's pragmatic evolution while ruling Idlib province, in

the face of global and local constraints. They uncover how HTS approached religious minorities, redefined its understanding of sharia, and embraced a non-radical conservative society. HTS reshaped its identity not only in northwest Syria, but on the world stage, aligning with NATO member and secular republic Turkey, confronting both al-Qaeda and Islamic State, and marginalising die-hards in its own ranks, in favour of a popular, mosque-based Islam.

[Publisher's page >](#)

ARTICLE

Foregrounding Politics: From the Climate-Security Nexus to Peace in the Anthropocene

Against the backdrop of reframing the climate change-security nexus as peace politics in the Anthropocene, **Stefano Guzzini** proposes to foreground political processes in the analysis, methodologically, conceptually and normatively (in *Geoforum*, vol. 165, October 2025). Methodologically, he shows how existing approaches which start from either the one or the other end of the nexus tend to crowd out the central place of political processes. Starting with climate in the elaboration of the causal path, and despite multiple attempts to overcome all-to-easy determinisms, the analysis still tends to externalise nature in the explanation. Starting from violent conflict for the analysis of environmental security, it similarly sees war as something external to political processes, which a conceptual switch to think security from peace would avoid. These shortcomings lead to a proposed change in the research design. While the classical setup is a typical outside-in design, where the domestic institutions provide the intervening variables to explain diverse outcomes for similar climate facts, the more sociopolitical design is inside-out in that it starts from the perceptions and understandings of the local actors, as well as the socio-political processes, such as the social conventions and repertoires of conflict resolution mechanisms, that may lead to resilience, conflict or peace under certain climatic conditions, also affecting the latter. Finally, the author engages with the normative problem of political agency under potentially radical uncertainty. He discusses an ethics of prudence as a possible solution, showing its attraction and limits as a relatively empty signifier that relies on moderation and lessons of the past.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

ARTICLE

Rebels Do Not Take Kindly to Criticism: The Strategic Failure of Local Resistance against Colombia's FARC

Nonviolent resistance against rebels has received increasing scholarly attention over the past decade. Research has explained why and when civilians engage in resistance or place different types of demands on rebels. However, the question of whether nonviolent resistance succeeds or fails to achieve its objectives remains understudied. **Urban Reichhold**, PhD Researcher in International relations/Political Science at the time of writing, addresses this gap by theorising and testing three key factors that shape rebel responses to civilian resistance: the nature of civilian demands, the power of civilian resisters, and the rebels' own power (in *Journal of Latin American Studies*, online August 2025). Fieldwork in Colombia's Caquetá region reveals that FARC rebels accommodated civilian demands only when these did not threaten their strategic goals. The group responded with repression whenever resisters clashed with its politico-military objectives. While unarmed resistance campaigns have successfully overthrown repressive states, there is no

evidence for civilians in Colombia or elsewhere managing to push armed groups to make far-reaching concessions, let alone defeat rebels via nonviolent action only.

*This article is based on one of the chapters of the author's **PhD thesis** (2023).*

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

GUIDE

Developing Strategies and National Action Plans on Small Arms Control

Building on the Small Arms Survey's extensive engagement with national authorities on small arms control, particularly in West and Central Africa, **Kheira Djouhri** and **Julien Joly**, respectively Project Assistant and Programme Manager at the Small Arms Survey, offer practical, context-specific approaches to enhance the coherence, adaptability, and inclusivity of National Action Plans (Small Arms Survey, April 2025). Their guide promotes multi-stakeholder engagement, based on the Survey's observation that both inter-agency collaboration and partnership with civil society actors are necessary to align small arms control with public policy objectives, and ensure effective resource allocation for implementation.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

BRIEFING PAPER

National Action Plans as Tools for Effective Small Arms Control: Lessons from West Africa

Luc Chounet-Cambas, **Alizée Henry** and **Julien Joly**, respectively Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Specialist, Project Coordinator, and Programme Manager at the Small Arms Survey, examine the current state of practice of NAPs on small arms and light weapons in West Africa, their impact, and existing opportunities to enhance their effectiveness and potential in integrating small arms control into broader public policy frameworks that address development and security concerns (Small Arms Survey, April 2025).

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)



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Development & Cooperation



ARTICLE

Ghosts of Bilateralism: Collaborative Research on the Afterlives of a Finnish-Kenyan Water Development Project

This article reflects on how international development projects continue to shape lives and landscapes long after their official closure (in *Les Cahiers d'Afrique de l'Est / The East African Review*, no. 60, online July 2025). Focusing on

the Kefinco water project (1980s–1990s), **Yonatan N. Gez**, Research Affiliate at the Gender Centre, **Anna-Riikka Kauppinen** and others study what remains of large-scale interventions decades later; how material infrastructures, social relations, and imaginaries persist and transform; how researchers can approach these “afterlives” without reducing them to simplistic success/failure narratives. The authors adapted the ECRIS method (Rapid Collective Inquiry) to study these legacies through a multi-scalar, collaborative ethnographic approach, combining archival research, fieldwork in Kenya, and reflexive team practices. Their article highlights both methodological insights and ethical challenges, including the “ghosts of bilateralism” that continue to evoke expectations and memories among local communities.

[DOI \(open access\) >](#)

This article was produced as part of the ERC-funded *AfDevLives* project.

Image: part of a *drawing* by Manuel João Ramos.

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Human Rights, Humanitarianism, Justice & Inclusion



ARTICLE

Inter-Court Competition in Non-adjudicative Activities: A Case Study of the International Court of Justice Presidential Speeches, 1991–2022

This article draws attention to the practices of non-adjudicative activities by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and conducts a case study on its presidential speeches before the United

Nations. Inspired by organisational ecology theories, **Zelin Li**, PhD Researcher in International Law, considers that the international judicial system is equivalent to ecology, where international courts exist as rational actors (in *Journal of International Dispute Settlement*, vol. 16, no. 3, September 2025). Within the ecology, each court is driven by self-interest, and its behaviours are thus designed to obtain a better position in this system. By conducting a thematic analysis, the author found three patterns in the speech transcripts: frequent reference to other international courts, intention to enhance the Court's identity, and advertising for the Court's capacity to entertain environmental disputes. She argues that the patterns in ICJ presidential speeches represent evidence of an inter-court competition. This argument has important implications for research on international courts as well as for studies on inter-organisational relationships among other types of international organisations.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

PHD THESIS IN INTERNATIONAL LAW, 2025

Demystifying the Human in International Humanitarian Law: Artificial Intelligence and the Evolving Role of Humans in Military Decision-Making

As artificial intelligence (AI) systems increasingly influence legally relevant military decisions, a fundamental question arises: What role is left for humans? Despite more than a decade of legal discussions, this question remains largely unresolved, revealing deeper tensions within the foundational assumptions of international humanitarian law (IHL). Central to these tensions is a shared, yet often unexamined, conception of the human decision-maker in IHL, referred to as the Human, that is both humanistic and anthropocentric. This observation raises a pressing concern: What if the present impasse in the legal debate on the use of AI systems in military decision-making regarding the use of force resides in this very conception of the Human? **Anna Rosalie Greipl** sees this impasse as an opportunity to critically analyse IHL's foundational assumptions surrounding its anthropocentric and humanistic conception of the Human within IHL. She uncovers these structures by bridging critical posthumanist theory with the narrative method. She posits that the conventional conception of the Human not only renders IHL unable to effectively respond to the transformative impact of AI systems in military decision-making but also risks reinforcing inherited structures of domination. In response, she advocates for a re-narration of the Human within IHL along critical posthumanist lines, exploring how such a shift could better accommodate the realities of contemporary military decision-making. Most importantly, by rethinking the Human in IHL, this research proposes an alternative IHL narrative to navigate and

reconcile the tensions at the heart of the ongoing legal discussions.

[Find out more in this interview >](#)

[Repository](#) (file embargoed until July 2028; for access, please [contact Dr Greipl](#)).



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Arts, Culture & Religion



ARTICLE

Que Dieu préserve la Corée du Déluge: rencontre avec des protestants qui soutiennent Yoon Seok-yeol

En décembre 2024, le président conservateur Yoon Seok-yeol a décrété la loi martiale en Corée du Sud. Suscitant à la fois manifestations d'opposition et mobilisations de soutien, cette tentative de restauration autoritaire s'est soldée

par la destitution de M. Yoon en avril 2025, non sans révéler la forte polarisation de la société coréenne. Alors que les médias internationaux ont réduit la crise à un coup d'éclat individuel, en négligeant ses fondements religieux pourtant essentiels à sa compréhension, **Adrian Gasser**, doctorant en anthropologie et sociologie, montre que la loi martiale a trouvé des échos favorables parmi les protestants conservateurs (*Études et analyses*, no 44, Institut Religioscope, août 2025). Engagés dans la contre-mobilisation en faveur de M. Yoon, certains groupes évangéliques ont interprété la crise à travers des prismes apocalyptiques et nationalistes, y voyant une lutte spirituelle contre des forces perçues comme « sataniques » et « antichrétiennes ». S'appuyant sur des entretiens qualitatifs menés auprès de croyants prémillénaristes et presbytériens sud-coréens, l'auteur explore la manière dont ces milieux protestants conservateurs fondent leurs préférences politiques et se positionnent comme défenseurs de la nation et de l'ordre divin. Cette étude apporte ainsi un éclairage nuancé sur les interactions entre religion et politique dans la Corée du Sud contemporaine.

[PDF \(accès libre\) >](#)

There is an English translation of the article:

May God Protect Korea from the Deluge: An Analysis of Protestant Support for Yoon Seok-yeol's Martial Law (2024)

It was published in *Asiatische Studien – Études asiatiques* (vol. 79, no. 1, August 2025).

[DOI \(open access\) >](#)

Image: une camionnette de prédication de l'Église évangélique The Light and Salt Church se déplace sur le boulevard Sejong (Séoul). © Adrian Gasser, décembre 2024.



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Gender, Diversity, Race & Intersectionality



Women in Science: Experiences of Academics in Switzerland

Women in science face particular challenges, such as structural inequalities, highly competitive work environments, and at times toxic cultures. This collection, edited by Annalisa De Cia, **Sara Hellmüller** and Elizabeth Mesok Khan, conveys the experiences of women academics in Switzerland, featuring insights from twelve

scholars across various universities and disciplines (Transcript, August 2025). Each contributor shares their unique journey in pursuit of a professorship, illustrating the rich diversity of the Swiss scientific community. For example, Sara Hellmüller's chapter, titled **"Take Good Care"**, is presented in the form of a letter to a young scientist in which she shares some principles that have guided her as she navigated her way through the universe of academia, with the aim of making the wonderful aspects of academia prevail over the anxiety that its downsides may create.

[Publisher's page \(incl. PDF in open access\) >](#)

Join the **launch event on 29 September** in Bern!

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

A Disproportionate Impact Requires a Differentiated Approach: An Assessment of The Inter-American Human Rights System's Effort to Promote Equality and Nondiscrimination of LGBTI+ Persons in the Prisons of the Americas

Anderson Javiel Dirocie De León, PhD Researcher in International Law, draws attention to the deprivation of liberty of LGBTI+ individuals, evaluating practice in the Americas in light of international standards (in *Equality and Non-Discrimination*, G. Gaggioli and P. Kilibarda, eds., Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, August 2025). With a strong inter-American perspective, he takes the request for an advisory opinion to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights on differentiated approaches to persons deprived of liberty to argue for an intersectional approach regarding the needs of LGBTI+ individuals in prison in light of the unintended and disproportionate impacts of imprisonment on this group.

[PDF \(in open access\) >](#)

PHD THESIS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/POLITICAL SCIENCE, 2025

The Rise of Women's Organizations of Diplomats (WODs) and the Possibilities of New Imaginings for Diplomacy, Statecraft, and Foreign Policy

Amena Martins Yassine investigates the phenomenon of women's organisations of diplomats (WODs). Through the theoretical frameworks of Judith Butler's performativity, Karen Barad's agential realism, and Aníbal Quijano's coloniality of power, she focuses on how WODs challenge gendered and colonial norms and practices in diplomacy. Her research highlights the complexities of WODs as transmaterial phenomena and ambiguous sites of creative agency, where women diplomats constantly (re)negotiate their identities and agencies within a historically male-dominated field. The empirical analysis encompasses case studies of WODs in the United States and Brazil, as well as regional and global networks of women diplomats to illustrate their potential in (re)defining diplomacy, statecraft, and foreign policy. The author also acknowledges the constraints faced by WODs, including internal challenges, institutional resistance, and global Eurocentric practices. She concludes by emphasising the importance of continued research on WODs as transformative agents in the contested field of diplomacy.

[Find out more in this interview >](#)

Repository (access to PhD thesis restricted to members of the Geneva Graduate Institute; other interested individuals can **contact Dr Martins Yassine** for access)





Democracy & Civil Society



ARTICLE

The Improbable Minority: Flanders and the Fluidity of Minority and Nationality Questions, 1919–1944

Scholarship on minorities in the inter-war period has largely ignored the Flemish question. One obvious reason is that the Flemish accounted for a majority of Belgium's population. However, **Emmanuel Dalle Mulle**, Research Associate at

the Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy, argues that the domestic and international historiography would benefit from considering the Flemish a minority, albeit a peculiar one (in *Contemporary European History*, online September 2025). He suggests that the Flemish question embodies the contradictions of an age in which the nationality question “morphed into the minority question” (as Holly Case has pointed out) without disappearing altogether. His article traces the evolution of different understandings of Flanders in the Belgo-Dutch-German transnational space and shows how such understandings challenge traditional conceptions of minorities, majorities, nationalities and kin states. It further contributes to a broader shift in historiographies of nationalism and diversity in inter-war Europe by moving focus from East to West and considering minority questions as a pan-European phenomenon.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

ARTICLE

A French Jew in Côte d'Ivoire: The Life and Involvement of Robert Léon in Local Politics and in the Formation of the Ivorian Elite between the 1940s and the 1960s

The 1940s was a pivotal decade in Côte d'Ivoire's transition from colonial rule to political autonomy in 1960. During this period, Robert Léon, a French Jew and long-time resident of the territory, played a key role in providing access to education in France for a group of 148 pupils called “Les compagnons de l'Aventure 46,” who formed the backbone of the post-independence Ivorian elite. By his character and actions, Léon achieved a remarkable integration into Ivorian society and received public recognition before and after his death in 1978. Léon's counterintuitive positions on some political issues illustrate the particular socio-political atmosphere of the World War II era, both in Europe and in Africa. His extensive correspondence also reveals him as a courageous, generous man, a freethinker, and an iconic fusion of French culture, Jewish heritage, and Ivorian identity in a liminal historical period. The friendship between Félix Houphouët-Boigny — the first Ivorian president — and Robert Léon, the latter's crucial role in the formation of the postcolonial Ivorian state, and Léon's attachment to the town of Man, where he is buried, are reflected in contemporary manifestations of philo-Semitism in Côte d'Ivoire, says **Ayode Daniel Dossou**, PhD Researcher in International History at the time of writing (in *The Journal of the Middle East and Africa*, vol. 16, no. 3, July–September 2025).

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Sustainability, Environment, the Anthropocene & SDGs



BRIEFING NOTE

Growing the Bioeconomy through Trade and International Cooperation

This briefing note aims to inform ongoing discussions under the G20 Initiative on Bioeconomy by exploring the role of trade and trade policy cooperation in growing the bioeconomy (Forum on Trade, Environment, & the SDGs [TESS], July 2025). In September 2024,

under Brazil's Presidency, G20 participants established ten voluntary and non-binding High-Level Principles on Bioeconomy. In 2025, the operationalisation and implementation of these principles has been emphasised as one of the priorities of the South African G20 Presidency. As a contribution to this discussion, **Carolyn Deere Birkbeck**, Founder and Executive Director of TESS, and **Christophe Bellmann**, Head of Policy Analysis and Strategy at TESS, examine the trade and bioeconomy interface, including how trade and trade-related policy can promote a sustainable and nature positive bioeconomy, and suggest possible cooperative approaches to be pursued internationally.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

BRIEFING NOTE

Critical Minerals – Trade, Climate, and Net Zero Pathways: Scenarios and Implications for Developing Countries and Climate-Resilient Development

Peter Wooders, Managing Director and Lead of the Geneva Platform for Resilient Value Chains, and Simon Lobach look at the future implications of the climate crisis and energy transition for critical minerals, trade, and climate-resilient development, and highlight some of the key implications for developing countries (Forum on Trade, Environment, & the SDGs [TESS] and Geneva Platform for Resilient Value Chains, August 2025). They review existing critical mineral market projections in light of the likely impact of climate change and the energy transition on supply and demand. They also provide an overview of the specific nature of critical minerals and where they are produced. Based on these considerations, the authors highlight key trade and trade policy implications for developing countries and suggest options for trade policies and international cooperation to support climate-resilient development and value addition in critical minerals.

[TESS page \(incl. PDF in open access\) >](#)



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Diplomacy & Global Governance

ARTICLE

The Scope of Accountability of International Organisations: The Relevance of Power, Institutional Structure, and Salience

International organisations (IOs) hold important governance functions and power. Yet, they are several steps detached from the constituencies that have entrusted them with functions and resources to carry them out, even as accountability expectations remain significant for their legitimacy. **Liliana Andonova** presents a broadly generalisable theoretical framework for



understanding the variable accountability of IOs, seeking to advance the understanding of international accountability in three new ways (in *International Theory*, online August 2025). First, she elaborates on the concept of the scope of IO accountability, which can vary across organisations, over time, and across contexts. The idea of a scope of accountability moves beyond the dichotomy of accountable versus non-

accountable power holders and advances an understanding of accountability as a multi-layered phenomenon, whereby both the expectations and practices of accountability can evolve over time and with respect to different audiences. Second, the author identifies three political factors — namely the formal and informal exercise of power, institutional structure, and public salience — that can shape, in important ways, the variable scope of IO accountability. Finally, she critically explores the tensions and contradictions between these political dynamics, and the implications for access to and the efficacy of accountability systems.

[Repository \(public access\) >](#)

PHD THESIS IN INTERNATIONAL LAW, 2025

The Making of Time in International Legal Discourse

Junteng Zheng investigates the concept of time in international law. His aims are first, to better understand how the notion of time has been conceptualised and utilised in international legal processes, and, second, to reflect on what this means to the making and operation of international law. With the method of discourse analysis, he studies the concept of time through examining the discourse surrounding time identified in international legal materials. Having analysed the temporal dimension of a variety of sites of international law, he argues that actors in international law have engaged with the conceptualisation of time in various manners to accomplish different purposes, and this has consequences on the power structures of the international legal order. As such, time is a malleable and powerful concept that has been invoked, construed, and used purposively in international legal discourse to shape the international legal system.

[Find out more in this interview >](#)

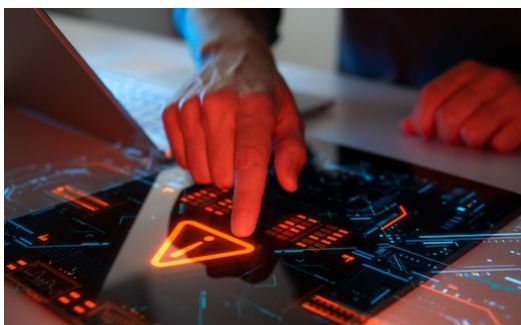
[Repository](#) (file embargoed until June 2028; for access, please [contact Dr Zheng](#)).



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Technology



REPORT

Cybersecurity and International Trade: Understanding the Policy Landscape

In response to growing cybersecurity threats, governments worldwide are increasingly implementing measures and regulations, including data-related requirements, technical standards, and controls on the import and export of digital goods and services. These measures

are impacting trade, including digital trade, and are drawing increasing attention from developing countries. In this policy primer, **Neha Mishra** provides an overview of the main types of cybersecurity measures being implemented at the national level, their underlying policy objectives, and their trade implications (International Institute for Sustainable Development,

August 2025). She examines how different types of cybersecurity measures interact with international trade rules and explores how cybersecurity is addressed in trade agreements, including World Trade Organization (WTO) law and newer trade agreements. She highlights critical gaps in current trade frameworks, especially concerning capacity building and international cooperation, and concludes with policy considerations for strengthening cybersecurity governance to support inclusive digital trade and development.

[Download the report \(open access\) >](#)



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Global Health



ARTICLE

Navigating Cannabis Regulation in Morocco: Historical Context, Socio-Economic Impact, and Policy Gaps

In Morocco, the 2021 legalisation of medical and industrial cannabis represents a significant policy shift in a long history of cannabis cultivation, prohibition, and partial legitimisation. The law, however, fails to address cannabis consumers,

focusing instead on socio-economic benefits for producers and industrial actors. This omission is particularly striking given the longstanding cultural, medicinal, and social role of cannabis in Moroccan society. Through a critical examination of the recent legal framework (Law 13–21), **Khalid Tinasti**, Research Associate at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), Kenza Afsahi and Khalid Mouna explore the socio-economic implications of cannabis legalisation for different stakeholders — local consumers, producers, and exporters — while also highlighting the law's failure to consider the rights and needs of consumers (in *Journal of Illicit Economies and Development*, vol. 7, no. 2, August 2025). The absence of consumer inclusion in this process raises important social justice concerns, as it disregards a segment of the population that has historically been integral to cannabis culture. The authors further discuss the tension between economic liberalisation in the cannabis sector and the restrictive, conservative elements of the law that limit access to cannabis for non-medical use. Ultimately, they argue for a more inclusive cannabis policy that recognises the cultural and health-related needs of Moroccan consumers while ensuring that the economic benefits are equitably distributed across all affected groups.

[DOI \(open access\) >](#)

PHD THESIS IN INTERNATIONAL HISTORY, 2025

The Meat of the Story: Cattle Capitalism and Veterinary Public Health in Colonial Nigeria

Oluwaseun Oṭosedẹ Williams historicises colonial veterinary and nutrition sciences in British Nigeria vis-à-vis the imperial exploitation of the region's cattle economy from 1860 to 1960. Bringing together social histories of veterinary medicine, food systems, pastoral economies, human–animal relations, and of colonial Nigeria, he interrogates the place of the cow — migrant, fattened, diseased, dying, or dead — in the colonial economy and transimperial politics. The account follows the colonial cattle as it bridged human and livestock health by virtue of the colonial meatification of Nigerian foodways. The author finds that colonial veterinary and nutrition sciences were political and capitalist sciences mobilised for the imperial control and exploitation of the pastoral economy and food systems of colonial Nigeria and the Central Sudan. His study

centres diverse actors — nonhuman and human — as well as multiple epistemes and expertise — expatriate and indigenous — that were involved in the various colonial public health schemes. The research relies on a rich trove of colonial reports, correspondences, and other occasional publications, newspapers and oral testimonies held at various archives in different countries. Fundamentally multidisciplinary in approach, the study borrows analytical frameworks and discursive tools from the fields of multispecies studies and human–animal studies in foregrounding nonhuman life forms as historical subjects, objects and agents.

*For the excellence of his doctoral research, Dr Williams is co-recipient of the **2025 Pierre du Bois Prize**, awarded each year for the best PhD thesis in International History defended at the Geneva Graduate Institute.*

[Find out more in this interview >](#)

Repository (access to the PhD thesis restricted to members of the Institute community; others can [contact Dr Williams](#)).

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Other Relevant Information



Multimedia



VIDEO | EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS | NORRAG

World Summit on Teachers

On 28–29 August 2025, **Moira Faul**, Executive Director of NORRAG, participated in the World Summit on Teachers held in Santiago, Chile. The Santiago Consensus represents a significant step in advancing the recommendations made by the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on the Teaching Profession. The summit called on UNESCO and member states to recognise the teacher-student relationships as the common Heritage of Humanity. On the second day, in the second thematic plenary session, Moira Faul invited the participants to think about education and its digitalisation in a context by placing situations into realities of emergencies such as floods, disasters, conflict, famine, and disease.

[Read more and watch the highlights >](#)



VIDEOS | EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS | NORRAG

KIX Bhutan National Education Uptake Forum

The **KIX EMAP Hub** organised the KIX Bhutan National Education Uptake Forum on 13 and 14 March 2025, in partnership with the Royal Government of Bhutan's Ministry of Education and Skills Development (MoESD) and Samtse College. The forum aimed to share KIX's work with key stakeholders, develop stronger relationships between educational institutions, and further the connection between GPE KIX, Bhutan's Ministry of Education and Skills Development and key education stakeholders.

[Read more and watch the highlights >](#)



VIDEO | NORRAG

Exhibition on International Cooperation in Education in Geneva

SDG 4: Quality Education is a fundamental human right and a transformative lever for achieving all 17 Sustainable Development Goals. From eradicating poverty to advancing gender equality, from promoting climate literacy to supporting peaceful societies, education is the connective tissue of sustainable development. Cooperation is critical — internationally and in Geneva — to harnessing the potential of education to achieve the SDGs. To bring this message to life, **NORRAG** curated a public exhibition in Geneva in July 2025.

[Read more and watch the video >](#)



PODCAST | CCDP SPOTLIGHT S2:E4 | CENTRE ON CONFLICT, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACEBUILDING (CCDP)

Yezid Sayigh | Gaza, Geopolitics, and the Shifting Map of the Middle East

Robert Watkins, Research Associate at the CCDP, sits down with **Yezid Sayigh**, Senior Fellow at the Malcolm H. Kerr Carnegie Middle East Center in Beirut, for an in-depth discussion on the evolving political landscape of the Middle East. Their conversation explores how interconnected conflicts — especially the Israeli-Palestinian crisis — are reshaping regional dynamics and impacting neighboring countries.

Listen on [Simplecast](#) or on [Spotify](#).



VIDEO | TEDxGVAGrad

Hossein Cheaito | Queer Worldmaking: What If Love Was the Foundation of Our Economy?

What if queerness doesn't just survive the economy — it rewrites its rules? **Hossein Cheaito**, PhD Researcher specialising in the sociology of debt, exposes how capitalism feeds on exclusion, then turns to the fierce, fragile, and radical ways Lebanese queer and trans communities build life in its ruins.

[Watch here >](#)



VIDEO | TEDxGVAGrad

Jennifer Thornquest | Bridging Divides: From Idaho DJ to Migration Scholar

In this TEDx talk, **Jennifer Thornquest**, Researcher and Communications Specialist at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), traces the journey from a solo vigil on a rural bridge in Idaho, USA, to her MA research at the Graduate Institute. A recent graduate in International and Development Studies, she reflects on how disruption and solidarity shaped her path to studying local peacebuilding and the resilience of community-based projects. Asking how we respond to disruption — and to one another — she challenges us to see division not as an endpoint, but as a threshold for engagement and transformation.

[Watch here >](#)



VIDÉO | ENTRETIENS DE LA CHAIRE OLTRAMARE

Emir Mahieddin | Le Pentecôtisme en Suède

Comment les pentecôtistes suédois vivent-ils leur foi dans un pays où «être un bon Suédois», c'est être séculier? Le chercheur **Emir Mahieddin** (CNRS) revient sur les travaux anthropologiques qu'il a menés en Suède. Dans un échange riche et foisonnant conduit par deux étudiant·es du Geneva Graduate Institute, **Christelle Hamouti** et **Luca Mazzaferi**, il ce qui l'a progressivement conduit à étudier le religieux dans une société souvent présentée comme l'une des «plus séculières du monde».

[Regardez la vidéo >](#)



VIDÉO | ENTRETIENS DE LA CHAIRE OLTRAMARE

Peter Geschiere | Sorcellerie, modernité et homosexualité en Afrique

L'anthropologue **Peter Geschiere**, professeur émérite d'anthropologie africaine à l'Université d'Amsterdam et à l'Université de Leiden, revient sur son parcours de chercheur et sur ses enquêtes de terrain en Afrique. Dans un échange stimulant mené par **Arthur Schmid**, étudiant de master en histoire et politique internationales au Geneva Graduate Institute, il retrace les grandes évolutions de l'anthropologie au cours des dernières décennies.

[Regardez la vidéo >](#)


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Awarded Grants

SNSF AMBIZIONE | 01.09.2025–31.08.2029 | CHF 895,237 | DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL HISTORY AND POLITICS

“Should I Stay or Should I Go?”: Membership and International Recognition from the League to the United Nations

The United Nations (UN) is currently facing an unprecedented test of its legitimacy. Yet it has historically been a very resilient organisation in terms of its membership, which is often considered tantamount to international recognition of statehood by legal scholars. Postdoctoral Researcher **Thomas Gidney** will seek to understand how the UN achieved this vaunted status and whether it can sustain it, especially given the current decline in public trust in international institutions. Using the historical trajectories of the League of Nations and the UN, he will illustrate how the perceived value of membership, initially a pragmatic choice for states, can transform into a self-reinforcing cycle. As more states join, the organisation's legitimacy grows, making membership even more desirable, much like a market where network effects increase the value of a product for all users. This “gravitational pull” can be powerful, but the research also warns of the potential for a reverse effect — a loss of universality leading to a rapid decline, akin to a network losing its critical mass.

[SNSF page >](#)

SNIS | 01.10.2025–30.09.2027 | CHF 297,000 | CENTRE ON CONFLICT, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACEBUILDING (CCDP)

Juvenicide: Understanding and Measuring Lethal Violence against Youth

Globally, youth aged 15–29 make up 40% of all homicide victims. In Latin America, homicide is the leading cause of death among adolescents aged 10–19. Despite these numbers, youth are overwhelmingly portrayed as perpetrators, rather than victims, of homicidal violence in academic and policy spheres. This project, coordinated by Research Professor **Sara Hellmüller** and **Elena Butti**, Research Fellow at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), seeks to counter this victim-blaming narrative by conducting a comparative, mixed-method study of youth killings in Latin America, with the aim of testing the theoretical soundness and practical relevance of conceptualising these youth killings as “juvenile homicides”. The project will integrate these findings into policy frameworks through collaboration and joint advocacy with (I)NGOs. It is carried out in collaboration with the [Colectivo Juvenile Homicide y Resistencias Sociales](#) (JUVIR).

[SNIS page >](#)

SNSF POSTDOC.MOBILITY RETURN | 01.09.2025–31.08.2026 | CHF 125,540 | GENDER CENTRE

Traveling Feminisms: Women’s Health Movements and Reproductive Rights Activism across Borders, 1970s–2000s

While much scholarship on transnational feminist organising has focused on “official” international forums, such as the various UN-sponsored World Conferences, there is a rich history of movement-centred gatherings organised outside institutional channels that has been largely overlooked. **Carolina Topini**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Gender Centre, will draw attention to these alternative women-only conferences and spaces by exploring the history of the International Women and Health Meetings (IWHMs). Between 1977 and 2015, these meetings have been held in various locations and have brought together hundreds of women from around the world — from Black and Indigenous feminists to lesbian and disability rights activists — to pursue a common (if constantly contested) agenda of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). Combining archival material and oral history interviews, Carolina Topini will trace the backgrounds of the women who took part in these meetings and examine how their agendas intersected with shifting geopolitics, the rise of neoliberalism, structural adjustment programmes, and the HIV/AIDS pandemic. She will thus highlight the diversity of strategies they developed, from integrating feminist frameworks and approaches into state and international programmes, to establishing their own networks to expand access to health information and promote women-centred models of care.

[SNSF page >](#)



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Visitors

📅 01.09.2025–

31.08.2026

📍 GHC

Anna Rebecca BEZUKI

Coming from Georgetown University, Junior Visiting Fellow Anna Rebecca Bezuki, holder of a Swiss Excellence Scholarship, is working on the research topic “Obscure(d) Outbreaks: A Case Study Analysis of Concealed Outbreaks”.

📅 01.09.2025–

31.08.2026

📍 ANSO Dep.

Rusen ISIK

Coming from Université de Bretagne Occidentale, Junior Visiting Fellow Rusen Isik, holder of a Swiss Excellence Scholarship, is working on the research topic “Navigating Gender and Transnational Activism: Diasporic Transformation of Kurdish Women’s Movement in Germany and Switzerland”.

📅 01.09.2025–
31.08.2026
📍 GC

Sahanah KATHIRVELU

Coming from the National University of Malaysia, Visiting Fellow Sahanah Kathirvelu, holder of a Swiss Excellence Scholarship, is working on the research topic “Exploring Menstrual Health Rights in the International Community”.

📅 01.09.2025–
31.08.2026
📍 CCDP

Reza MEHRAEEN

Coming from the University of Denver, Junior Visiting Fellow Reza Mehraeen, holder of a Swiss Excellence Scholarship, is working on the research topic “Comparative Study of Revolutions and the Path for Middle East Democratisation”.

📅 01.09.2025–
31.08.2026
📍 IRPS Dep.

Oluwayemisi OJO

Coming from Universidade Católica Portuguesa, Junior Visiting Fellow Oluwayemisi Ojo is working on the research topic “Emerging and Alternative Futures of Artificial Intelligence and Education in Africa”.

📅 01.09.2025–
31.08.2026
📍 GGC

Djordje POPOVIC

Coming from TU Dresden, Junior Visiting Fellow Djordje Popovic, holder of a Swiss Excellence Scholarship, is working on the research topic “Right of Food of Roma People in EU”.

📅 01.09.2025–
31.08.2026
📍 GHC

Adela SANTOS DOMINGUEZ

Coming from the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), Visiting Fellow Adela Santos Dominguez, holder of a Swiss Excellence Scholarship, is working on the research topic “Enhancing Global Health Governance: Predictive Modelling for International Pandemic Treatment Internalisation in Latin America”.

📅 01.09.2025–
31.08.2026
📍 HCGS

Deborah SILVA

Coming from the University of Sao Paulo (USP), Visiting Fellow Deborah Silva is working on the research topic “Brazil at the OECD: Entrepreneurs and the Environmental Agenda”.

📅 01.09.2025–
31.07.2026
📍 GMC

Valeria Marina VALLE

Coming from Universidad Iberoamericana, Visiting Fellow Valeria Marina Valle is working on the research topic “Multilevel Governance of Migration and Health in West Africa and North America: A Comparative Analysis from a Human Rights Perspective”.

📅 01.09.2025–
30.06.2026
📍 IHP Dep.

Imaan SEMMALAR GEE

Coming from EUI, Max Weber Fellow Imaan Semmalar Gee is working on the research topic “A Species of Outlaw”.

📅 01.09.2025–
31.03.2026
📍 IL Dep.

Martina CASLINI

Coming from La Sapienza University of Rome, Junior Visiting Fellow Martina Caslini is working on the research topic “Peace and Justice in Post-Conflict Societies: Preventing the Recurrence of International Crimes”.

📅 01.09.2025–
30.03.2026

Sujin KIM

📍 GHC

Coming from the Korea Institute for Health and Social Affair, Visiting Fellow Sujin Kim is working on the research topic “Strengthening Global Health Governance: Analysing the Development of Legal Instruments for Global Health Security”.

📅 01.09.2025–
28.02.2026

📍 GGC

Nathalie RATAJ

Coming from the Central European University, Junior Visiting Fellow Nathalie Rataj is working on the research topic “Embodied Practices in International Organisations and International Ordering”.

📅 13.09.2025–
18.04.2026

📍 ANSO Dep.

Silva BRUNA

Coming from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Junior Visiting Fellow Silva Bruna is working on the research topic “Climate Change and Public Health in the Amazon: The Context of Belém do Pará”.

📅 15.09.2025–
15.05.2026

📍 CFD

Dorian BURTON

Coming from Harvard University, Senior Fellow in Residence Dorian Burton is working on the research topic “Impact Investing for Global Equity”.

📅 01.10.2025–
30.09.2026

📍 IHP Dep.

Anna CESCHI

Coming from the University of Cambridge, Visiting Fellow Anna Ceschi, holder of a Swiss Excellence Scholarship, will be working on the research topic “Mapping Women’s Circulation across Switzerland, Italy, and the United Kingdom: A Transnational History of the Wages for Housework Campaign during the Long 1970s”.

📅 01.10.2025–
30.09.2026

📍 IL Dep.

Peter TZENG

Coming from the University of Oxford, Junior Visiting Fellow Peter Tzeng will be working on the research topic “Incidental Jurisdiction in International Adjudication”.



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Calls for Papers

AI for the Global Majority: Charting a Way Forward

The Geneva Graduate Institute's Tech Hub, in partnership with Microsoft and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), invites papers focused on advancing inclusive, policy-oriented research on the adoption and governance of AI in the Global Majority. Researchers, practitioners, and innovators can submit proposals that explore practical solutions to ensure AI serves as a catalyst for equity and sustainable development. Themes include AI and data governance, capacity-building, open innovation and lessons from AI-for-Good projects across sectors like health, agriculture, and biodiversity.

- **1 October 2025:** applications deadline

[Learn more and apply >](#)

DANCE CHRONICLE | SPECIAL ISSUE

South Asia's Courtesan, Hereditary, and Temple Performers: Expanding Discourse and Disrupting Histories

Shriya Patnaik, PhD Researcher in International History and Politics, and **Sinjini Chatterjee** invite researchers working on scholarship on hereditary performative communities or the performance traditions in South Asia to contribute to this special issue of Dance Chronicle. They hope to illuminate communities from lesser researched regions such as Delhi, Maharashtra, Assam, Manipur, and Odisha from India, and also communities from larger South Asia, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, and Sri Lanka, through contributions that incorporate depictions of artists via photographic, oral, archival, and recorded sources, as well as interviews and testimonials, that span colonial and postcolonial archives.

- **1 November 2025:** submission deadline (full-length papers)

[Full call >](#)



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Awarded Prizes

Prizes Awarded at the Geneva Graduate Institute's Graduation Ceremony

During the Geneva Graduate Institute's Graduation Ceremony held on 12 September, the following prizes were awarded in recognition of outstanding master's dissertations and PhD theses:

- The **ANTHROPOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY PRIZE** was awarded ex aequo to **Atharva Tewari** for his master's dissertation "Haunted Intimacies: Algorithmic Relationality, Ethics, and the Digital Dead" and to **Zipei Wang** for his master's dissertation "The Differential Frontier: Cross-border Commuting and Speculative Urbanism in Johor Bahru, Malaysia".
- The **RUDI DORNBUSCH PRIZE** was awarded to **Thea Maria Victoria Berger** for her master's dissertation "Green Strings Attached: Evaluating the Influence of Environmental Clauses in Free Trade Agreements on the Global South".
- The **LEONID HURWICZ PRIZE** was awarded ex aequo to **Théodore Thomas Renault** for his PhD thesis "[Essays in Empirical Macroeconomics](#)" (read an interview [here](#)) and to **Guilherme**

Mateus Suedekum for his PhD thesis “[Three Essays on Public Finance](#)”.

– The **INTERNATIONAL HISTORY AND POLITICS PRIZE** was awarded ex aequo to **Christelle Eléonore Hamouti** for her master’s dissertation “La Suisse face au conflit israélo-arabe: du premier congrès sioniste à la reconnaissance d’Israël” and to **Samuel Macherel** for his master’s dissertation “The Chinese Threat through Sino-American Normalization and Military Cooperation (1970s–1980s): Seizing an Opportunity, or Arming the Enemy”.

– The **PIERRE DU BOIS PRIZE** was awarded ex aequo to **Oluwaseun Ootosede Williams** for his PhD thesis “[The Meat of the Story](#): Cattle Capitalism and Veterinary Public Health in Colonial Nigeria” (read an interview [here](#)) and to **Fernanda Conforto de Oliveira** for her PhD thesis “[Opening the Black Box of Financial Negotiations](#): The IMF, Argentina, and Brazil in the Post-war Era (1945–1964)” (read an interview [here](#)).

– The **MARIANO GRACIA RUBIO PRIZE** was awarded to **Mara Ebbers** for her master’s dissertation “The Shifting Concepts of Neutrality and Non-Belligerency in the 21st Century”.

– The **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/POLITICAL SCIENCE PRIZE** was awarded to **Alice Scomazzon** for her master’s dissertation “Invisible Hands: Agromafia, Caporalato, and the Exploitation of Migrant Labor in the Calabrian Context”.

– The **ALUMNAE-I ASSOCIATION PRIZE** was awarded ex aequo to **Thomas Gmuer** for his PhD thesis “[‘Dysfunctional Democracy’](#): Towards an Ergotherapy of the Political” and to **Ximena Osorio Garate** for her PhD thesis “[Anti-Natalist Violence](#): Forced Sterilizations, Political Violence, and Coloniality in Peru”.

– The **ARDITI PRIZE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS** was awarded to **Pauline Edith Marty** for her master’s dissertation “[El Castillo de Ixs Nadies](#): The (Re)Construction of a Marginalised Royalty: Lived Experiences of Women from El Castillo de las Artes, Bogotá, Colombia”.

– The **LADISLAS MYSYROWICZ PRIZE** was awarded to **Malavika Rao** for her PhD thesis “[The Principle of Non-Refoulement for Food-Deprived Forced Migration](#)” (read an interview [here](#)).

– The **GENEVA-ASIA ASSOCIATION PRIZE** was awarded to **Samuel Macherel** for his master’s dissertation “The Chinese Threat through Sino-American Normalization and Military Cooperation (1970s–1980s): Seizing an Opportunity, or Arming the Enemy”.

– The **NORRAG PRIZE IN COMPARATIVE AND INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION** was awarded to **Fabia Simone Jenny** for her master’s dissertation “Education in Adversity: How NGOs Providing Education to Girls and Women in Afghanistan Navigate Challenges”.

– The **GLOBAL MIGRATION AWARD** was awarded to **Claire Elizabeth Eastwood** for her master’s dissertation “The Intelligible Asylum Seeker: Creating an Affectively Credible Protagonist”.

– The **WAR AND PEACE PRIZE (IN HONOUR OF PROFESSOR MOHAMED MAHMOUD MOHAMEDOU)** was awarded to **Shivam Kumar** for his master’s dissertation “Enduring Disappearance: Memory, Refusal, and the Gendered Afterlives of Violence in Kashmir”.



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Upcoming PhD Defences

📅 17 September 2025

🕒 15:30–17:30

📍 Room S9

INTERNATIONAL HISTORY

Foreign Policy Making Capacities and Foreign Policy Priorities of the Mandate States of Syria and Lebanon during the Interwar Period

By **Egecan Erdogan**. Committee members: Professor Cyrus Schayegh, thesis supervisor; Associate Professor Carolyn Biltoft, president of the committee and internal member; Professor Jordi Tejel Gorgas, University of Neuchâtel.

[Read more >](#)

📅 18 September 2025

🕒 10:00–12:00

📍 Room S9

INTERNATIONAL LAW

“For These Reasons”: The Practice of Justification of the International Court of Justice

By **Irene Miano**. Committee members: Professor Andrea Bianchi, thesis director; Professor Fuad Zarbiyev, president of the committee and internal member; Professor Moshe Hirsch, Faculty of Law, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.

[Read more >](#)

📅 18 September 2025

🕒 14:00–16:00

📍 Room S9

INTERNATIONAL HISTORY

The Making of Global Citizenship: Education, Liberal Internationalism, and Negotiating Worldmaking in the Globalizing 20th Century

By **Bram Corydon Barnes**. Committee members: Associate Professor Carolyn Biltoft, Thesis Director; Professor Jussi Hanhimäki, president of the committee and internal member; Associate Professor Daniel Laqua, Department of Humanities, Northumbria University, Newcastle, UK.

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Notes to members of the Geneva Graduate Institute:



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