

Research Bulletin

Upcoming events, latest publications and other research activities

27 April 2026 (no. 4, 2026)

JOIN US FOR THE RESEARCH FESTIVAL ON 11 MAY

The Geneva Graduate Institute will celebrate its Research Festival on 11 May, highlighting the creativity, diversity and impact of research across our community. Whether you are presenting, participating, or simply curious, come be part of an afternoon dedicated to curiosity, exchange, and collective inspiration.

[Programme here](#)

Upcoming Research Events

27
APR

Monday

NO RESEARCH EVENTS

28
APR

Tuesday

CCDP RESEARCH SEMINAR
Daryna Abbakumova |
Cyber Operations in
Armed Conflicts: The
Case of Russia's
Aggression against
Ukraine
12:00–13:30 room
P1-547 & online

VILFREDO PARETO
RESEARCH SEMINAR
Gabriel Loumeau | The
Economic Benefits of

29
APR

Wednesday

CONFÉRENCE DE LA
CHAIRE YVES
OLTRAMARE
Sébastien Caré |
Retour au paléo? Le
tournant réactionnaire
du libertarianisme
américain (1990-2025)
12:15-14:00
Auditorium A2

30
APR

Thursday

HCGS | ADVANCED
RESEARCH SEMINAR
Dominik Hangartner |
Birthright Citizenship
Closes Second-
Generation Immigrants'
Political and Social
Integration Gap to
Native Citizens
12:15–13:30 Room
S8

IHP DEPARTMENT |
IHP FORUM

01
MAY

Friday

NO RESEARCH EVENTS

Taxing Property: A 400-Year Natural Experiment from France
14:15–15:30 Room S5

Lucie Ryzova | Camera Time: Photography and History in Late Colonial Egypt and Beyond
12:45–13:45 Room S12

IL COLLOQUIUM
Ezequiel Heffes | Compliance in War
12:45–14:00 room S11 & online

04
MAY

Monday

NO RESEARCH EVENTS

05
MAY

Tuesday

VILFREDO PARETO RESEARCH SEMINAR
Ronak Jain | Title TBC
14:15–15:30 Room S5

CCDP | RESEARCH SEMINAR
Revital Madar | Beyond Instrumentalization: Sexual Violence, Looting, and the Order of State Violence
15:00–16:30 Room P1-547 & online

ANSO DEPARTMENT | ANSO CONVERSATIONS
Riddhi Pandey | Policing Civic Life in India's National Capital Region; Lorenzo Feltrin | Workers and the World: Fighting Ecological Crisis from Within
16:15–17:45 Room S5

GENDER CENTRE | PANEL DISCUSSION
Elizabeth Mesok, Nuala Caomhanach & Constanza Bonadonna | Women in Science
18:30–20:00 Room S5

06
MAY

Wednesday

FONDATION PIERRE DU BOIS, GGC & IHP DEPARTMENT | ANNUAL PIERRE DU BOIS CONFERENCE 2026

Love, Hate, and the Fate of International Organisations: The Psychological Life of Global Governance (1900–Present)
09:00–19:45 Auditorium Ivan Pictet A1B

WITH KEYNOTE LECTURE AT 18:15:
Joanna Bourke | Making and Unmaking of Life: The Politics and Psychology of Fear from the 1970s to the Present

07
MAY

Thursday

FONDATION PIERRE DU BOIS, GGC & IHP DEPARTMENT | ANNUAL PIERRE DU BOIS CONFERENCE 2026

Love, Hate, and the Fate of International Organisations: The Psychological Life of Global Governance (1900–Present)
09:30–17:15 Auditorium Ivan Pictet A1B

HCGS | ADVANCED RESEARCH SEMINAR
Mara P. Squicciarini | De-Polarizing Politics: Faith Meets Science in the French Third Republic
12:15–13:30 Room S8

IHP DEPARTMENT | IHP FORUM
Noureddine Amara | Petitioning the Settler-Colonial State: Succession of State, Enjoyment of Nationality, and the Philosophy of Consent: The Algerian case, 1830–1911
12:15–13:45 Room S12

IL DEPARTMENT | IL COLLOQUIUM
Anne Saab | Anxiety, Anger, and Hope in High-Profile Youth Climate Litigation
12:45–14:00 Room S11 & online

LEX MUNDI NOVA WEBINAR SERIES
Sébastien Philippe, Lili Xia, Margaretha Wewerinke-Singh & Helen Obregon | Nuclear Weapons and the Protection of the Environment
14:00–15:30 online

08
MAY

Friday

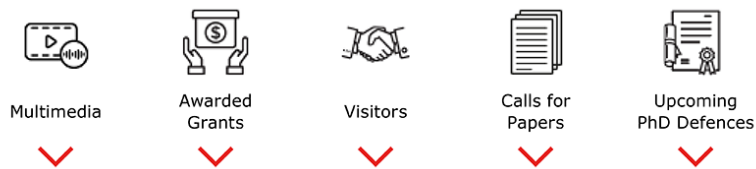
NO RESEARCH EVENTS

[See all events >](#)

Gateway to Publications by Themes



Gateway to Other Relevant Information



Publications by Themes



Democracy & Civil Society



Octavio Hoyos / Shutterstock

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

The Legacy of the 4T: A Populist Appeal and a Participatory Fail

President Andrés Manuel López Obrador (AMLO) arrived in power with a typical populist discourse against the former elites that would have betrayed the people, and promised to govern with the people and for the people. His mandate was characterised by intense direct communication with the audiences through the *mañaneras* — a press conference broadcasted live on television five days a week, where AMLO presented himself and the government's actions as transparent. Since the first day of his term in December 2018, he has promoted reforms to the mechanisms of direct democracy (MDDs) and the inclusion of the recall referendum to enhance citizens' voice and vote. Martha Sandoval Alvarado and **Yanina Welp**, Research Fellow at the Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy, examine the extent to which the *mañaneras* and the activations of MDDs during AMLO's government have contributed to increased accountability, agenda opening and citizen engagement in decision making or whether they have primarily served as a strategy for polarisation and top-down control of the agenda (in *The AMLO Administration in Mexico: Polity, Politics, and Policy*, M. Anselmi and J. del



Top



Education, Information & Media



Adobe Stock

WORKING PAPER

Education Impact Bonds: Picking Low-Hanging Fruit or Reaching for the Stars?

Impact bonds, a mechanism with the potential to improve and generate more financing towards educational outcomes, have gained traction over the past 15 years; however, empirical evidence regarding their use remains limited. **Georgia**

Thorne, Research Project Associate at NORRAG,

contributes to this knowledge gap by examining the intended impact of education impact bonds (EIBs), which tie the achievement of predetermined targeted results to outcome payments (Working Paper no. 16, NORRAG, March 2026). She addresses critiques that navigating the diverse motivations of different stakeholders may result in concentrating on low-hanging fruit (setting easy-to-achieve targeted results), increasing the risk of perverse incentives and simplifying complex educational challenges.

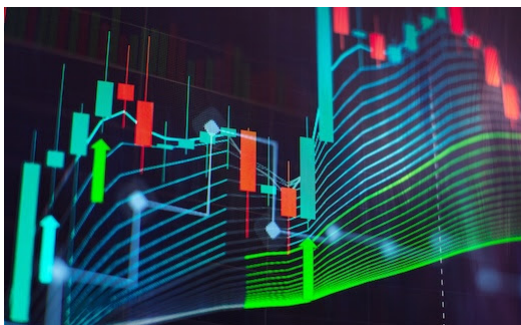
[Read the paper \(open access\).](#)



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Sustainability, Environment, the Anthropocene & SDGs



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WORKING PAPER

Diffusion of Clean Technologies: Patterns, Mechanisms, and Future Challenges

Eugenie Dugoua and **Joëlle Noailly**, Senior Lecturer in International Economics and part-time Associate Professor in Environmental Economics at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, examine the patterns and mechanisms of global clean technology diffusion over the last two decades

(WIPO Economic Research Working Paper no. 95, WIPO, February 2026). They document four stylised facts: uneven sectoral progress favouring power and light transport; China's dominance in innovation and manufacturing; the role of modularity in driving cost declines; and limited adoption in developing economies. Through case studies of solar, electric vehicles, and hydrogen, the authors analyse how policy and infrastructure enable scale. Finally, they assess emerging challenges for the next phase of diffusion, including critical mineral constraints, artificial

intelligence, and geopolitical fragmentation.

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

ARTICLE

Symbols of Climate Action: Audit Labor and the Production of Carbon Credits

Voluntary carbon markets (VCMs) are promoted as tools for financing climate mitigation, yet their effectiveness and credibility remain contested. **Diego Silva Garzón**, Senior Researcher at the Hoffmann Centre for Global Sustainability (HCGS), examines how carbon credits are produced and destabilised as symbols of climate action, emphasising the forms of ecological and audit labour that sustain their legitimacy (in *Economic Anthropology*, online April 2026). Based on 7 months of ethnographic fieldwork and 30 interviews in Colombia, he traces the trajectory of a carbon credit from its production through local farming and auditing practices to its circulation at a chocolate fair in Paris. Drawing on Kockelman's semiotic ontology of the commodity, he shows that credits acquire value only by establishing a credible equivalence between ecological practices and their symbolic representation. However, the audit labour of measuring, verifying, and certifying often outweighs or appropriates ecological labour, producing credibility rather than mitigation. When this gap becomes visible, the market responds not by aligning more closely with ecological practices but by multiplying layers of verification — an “audit spiral” that sustains credibility while deepening opacity.

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

WORKING PAPER

Critical Minerals and the Clean Energy Transition: The Role of Innovation across the Supply Chain

The clean energy transition depends on a narrow set of critical minerals with highly concentrated and environmentally intensive supply chains. Eugenie Dugoua and **Joëlle Noailly**, Senior Lecturer in International Economics and part-time Associate Professor in Environmental Economics at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, review how innovation across the full value chain — from exploration, mining, and processing to manufacturing, use, reuse, and recycling — can reduce these vulnerabilities (Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment Working Paper no. 435, London School of Economics and Political Science, December 2025). A simple framework maps technological, digital, and organisational innovations, complemented by indicators such as patents, venture capital, industrial restructuring, circularity metrics, and traceability tools. The authors synthesise evidence on core drivers and barriers, including price volatility, industrial policy, environmental regulation, firm strategies, market size, and rising demand from AI and defence. Three focus areas — mining technologies, rare-earth magnets, and batteries — illustrate concrete pathways for reducing primary demand, diversifying supply, and improving circularity. Finally, the authors identify an urgent need for research on how emerging policy mechanisms, such as price stabilisation and digital traceability, can coordinate with technological progress to support supply security and climate goals.

[PDF \(open access\).](#)



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Diplomacy & Global Governance

ARTICLE

Epistemic Inertia in Human Rights Expert Bodies: Continuity amid Pluralisation



AndriiKoval / Shutterstock

In 2006, the United Nations adopted the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), widely celebrated as a radical break from the medical model, which had long framed disability as an individual impairment to be treated by medical doctors. Through the heuristic of epistemic inertia, Felipe Jaramillo Ruiz and **Juanita Uribe**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Global Governance Centre, examine how, despite adopting a more pluralised expert repertoire, the

CRPD Committee retains some deep-seated (neo)liberal assumptions of the medical model (in *Review of International Studies*, online April 2026). Through an analysis of General Comment No. 8, they identify three main manifestations of this persistence across both models: first, an understanding of dignity as tied to productivity and autonomy; second, the idea that individuals must “adapt” to existing societal arrangements through merit; and third, the portrayal of market participation as the privileged moral horizon. What falls out of view are alternative imaginaries grounded in interdependence or collective forms of care, which exist outside prevailing economic logics. In this configuration, the figure of the rights-bearer is not a radical alternative to the medical patient, insofar as rights are still articulated through expectations of optimisation and self-reliance within prevailing market logics.

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

ARTICLE

Enhancing the Legitimacy of UN Security Council Sanctions by Strengthening Fair and Clear Procedures

The UN Security Council addressed the issue of due process protection for individuals designated for counter-terrorism sanctions when it created the Office of the Ombudsperson in 2009. However, fundamental rights to due process continued to be denied for those designated for individual UN sanctions for other (non-terrorism) activities, which account for the majority of the individuals and entities currently designated for sanctions by the Security Council. This has created ongoing challenges to the legitimacy of the Council due to its inattention to the rights of individuals designated for sanctions. A significant enhancement of the Focal Point Mechanism first created within the Secretariat in 2006 was made possible with the passage of UN Security Council Resolution 2744 in July 2024. Honorary Professor **Thomas Biersteker** and Larissa van den Herik chart the course of incremental, procedural reform at the Security Council on this issue, identify core elements of due process, describe recent litigation trends challenging UN designations worldwide, summarise the core elements of UNSCR 2744, and suggest specific proposals for addressing the remaining legitimacy deficit related to UN sanctions on individuals (in *Global Governance: A Review of Multilateralism and International Organizations*, vol. 21, no. 1, online March 2026).

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

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

“An Appropriate Alliance”: Situating the Laws of Friendship in Vitoria, Schmitt, and the History of International Legal Thought

For centuries, early modern scholars of the *ius gentium* (law of nations) were concerned with the body of norms that regulated alliances. And yet, when “modern international law” emerged, in the early twentieth century, this topic had disappeared from the international legal lexicon. An early — and problematic — critic of this transition was Carl Schmitt (1888–1985), who shocked audiences with his *The Concept of the Political* (1932). By reading this monograph in tandem with the work of Francisco de Vitoria (1483–1546), **Daniel R. Quiroga-Villamarín**, Research Associate at the Global Governance Centre, unearthes the ways in which this early modern concern continues to reverberate in contemporary international legal thought (in *Carl Schmitt and Francisco de Vitoria: The Paradox of Universalism in International Law*, J.M. Beneyto and I. de la Rasilla, eds., Brill |

Nijhoff, March 2026). He does so, however, without losing sight of the challenges of reading these two authors today.

[DOI](#).

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Cities, Space, Mobilities & Migrations



REPORT

Comparing the Working Activities and Conditions of Irregularised Migrants: Evidence from Austria, Italy, Poland, Sweden and the UK

This report by Rizza Kaye Cases, Leila Giannetto, Marta Kindler and **Caitlin Procter**, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research Fellow at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding

(CCDP), examines the living and working conditions of irregularised migrants in Austria, Italy, Poland, Sweden, and the UK and across four essential sectors of work — agriculture and food processing, restaurants, elder care, and waste management (Protecting Irregular Migrants in Europe [PRIME], Technical Report, 2026, Migration Policy Centre, March 2026). Drawing on over 200 semi-structured interviews conducted between 2024 and 2025, the study finds a striking convergence in the lived realities of workers despite differing national labour, welfare and migration regimes. Across all sectors, migrant workers face a continuum of exploitation, characterised by wage theft, excessive hours, and hazardous environments without adequate safety training. Irregularity is a condition imposed by restrictive policies to inform migration governance across national settings, in which (illicit) intermediaries serve a fundamental role. While migrant workers across legal statuses express a desire to strengthen their status, there is a pervasive sense of entrapment and an inability to escape the dire working and living conditions.

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

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Population Transfers Under International Law and Territorial Rights

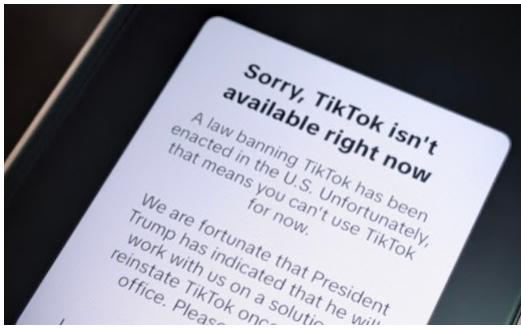
Mariana Ferolla Vallandro do Valle, PhD Researcher in International Law, explores the phenomenon of population transfers and its interaction with different regimes of international law (in *Global Encyclopedia of Territorial Rights*, K.W. Gray, ed., Springer, online February 2026). In an in-depth analysis of the frameworks of international humanitarian law, international criminal law, and international human rights law, she highlights the strict conditions that ought to be followed for such transfers to be compatible with international law and how, despite that, unlawful transfers are still a recurring event in today's world.

[DOI](#).

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Technology



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EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Digital Persona and Transnational Regulation of Cyberspace

This chapter examines the geopolitical challenges of privacy regulation in the context of transnational data flows (in *Handbook on the Geopolitics of Sustainability*, B.-O. Linnér, T. Bennich and H. Carlsen, eds., Edward Elgar Publishing, March 2026). **Nina Teresa Kiderlin** and **Shirin Barol**, Research Associates at the

Centre for Digital Humanities and Multilateralism (CDHM), explore how global technology companies utilise cyberspace to monetise personal data, often bypassing national regulatory frameworks. They highlight tensions between domestic privacy laws and international data exchange, emphasising conflicts over digital sovereignty. They discuss surveillance capitalism and tracking technologies, raising ethical concerns about user privacy. The concept of a “digital persona” is proposed as a framework for balancing regulation across jurisdictions. The authors argue for international cooperation to create interoperable privacy standards, integrating VPN-enabled jurisdictional “hopping”. Ultimately, they call for reimagining legal frameworks to integrate transnational and digital sovereignty perspectives for more sustainable, inclusive privacy regulation.

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



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Global Health



ARTICLE

D2a: A Community-Led Smartphone Tool for Malnutrition Screening in Kenya

Timely assessments of child acute malnutrition are essential for effective treatment and prevention of undernutrition. **Ravi Bhavnani** and **Nina Sophia Link**, Postdoctoral Researcher in the Global Governance Centre, developed a

simple smartphone app, D2A (“Data to Analysis”), to enable regular self-collection of Family MUAC (Mid-upper Arm Circumference) and key household drivers of wasting by mothers and caregivers (in *Frontiers in Public Health*, vol. 13, 2025, online February 2026). Based on a seven-month pilot study with 180 households, the authors explore the acceptance, accuracy, and cost of app-based self-collection of Family MUAC with and without the assistance of Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) relative to paper-based nutrition screenings. Results indicate: (i) similar classification accuracy of wasted children; (ii) no difference in participant dropout rates and a 15% higher completion rate for CHV-assisted reporting by households (compared to no assistance); (iii) lower cost for app-based collection amortised over seven months. Preliminary evidence suggests that self-reporting by households via smartphone apps constitutes a feasible alternative to less frequent, more costly paper-based nutrition screening, the latter more susceptible to interruption in remote, hard-to-access areas.

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

ARTICLE

Microbial Rights for a Planetary Age

While microbes have primarily been viewed as pathogens, contemporary microbiome science and microbial ecology increasingly emphasise their non-pathogenic and symbiotic roles in shaping ecosystems and the health of all life forms. In doing so, they advance more nuanced understandings of the complexity of inter-related biological worlds. Yet, as scientific conceptions shift toward relational, functional, and ecological approaches in microbiology, this transformation has yet to be reflected in international legal frameworks governing interactions among humans, microbes and their environments. In response, **Anthony Rizk**, Alumnus (PhD 2024), **Anne Saab**, **Adam Strobeyko**, Alumnus (PhD 2023) and Postdoctoral Researcher at the Global Health Centre, **Gian Luca Burci** and others propose two post-anthropocentric approaches to microbial rights: Rights *to* Microbes, advocating for the protection of microbial functions instrumental for the survival of all life forms; and Rights *of* Microbes, which calls for recognising the intrinsic and relational values of microbes as integral to planetary processes, and as deserving of rights in and of themselves (in *Earth System Governance*, vol. 28, June 2026, online April 2026). The authors explore the respective potentials of both approaches as different ways of prioritising microbial rights.

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

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Trade, Finance, Economies & Work



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PAPER

“The New Global Imbalances: Why Care, Why Now, and What Can Be Done”

Global imbalances have re-emerged as a central concern in the international economic landscape, with widening current account surpluses and deficits reviving tensions reminiscent of the pre-Global Financial Crisis period. While the scale of today’s imbalances remains below the peaks of

the 2000s, their rapid growth since 2018 and the renewed concentration of external positions, particularly involving the United States, China, and the European Union, have heightened both financial and political risks. History suggests that such imbalances can culminate in financial instability, and current conditions, characterised as they are by elevated external liabilities, concentrated investor exposures, and signs of market fragility, underscore the potential for abrupt adjustments and global spillovers. At the same time, persistent trade imbalances risk fuelling protectionism and fragmenting the global trading system, as evidenced by escalating trade tensions and a shift toward more unilateral policy stances. In this paper, **Beatrice Weder di Mauro** and Jeromin Zettelmeyer examine why global imbalances have regained prominence, what drives them in the current context, and how policymakers should respond (CEPR Policy Insight no 148, CEPR Press, April 2026). Drawing on recent research, they analyse the underlying causes of imbalances across the world’s major economic blocs and evaluate the appropriate policy responses, ranging from addressing domestic structural distortions to resisting protectionist pressures. They emphasise that there is no one-size-fits-all solution: the appropriate response depends on the nature and origins of each imbalance. Ultimately, they argue for a balanced and evidence-based approach to mitigating risks while preserving the openness of the global economic system.

[Read the paper \(open access\)](#).

This Policy Insight is a modified version of Chapter 1 of the joint CEPR and Bruegel 2026 [Paris Report 4: The New Global Imbalances](#), edited by [Beatrice Weder di Mauro](#), [Hélène Rey](#) and [Jeromin Zettelmeyer](#), which aims to provide independent analytical foundations for the debate on global imbalances, particularly for the French G7 presidency.

WORKING PAPER

The Catalytic Effect of Blended Finance

Development finance institutions mobilise over USD 250 billion annually through blended finance operations, yet practitioners lack a unified framework to evaluate its catalytic effect and for choosing among instruments. **Ugo Panizza** develops a model of investment multipliers under two canonical market failures-production externalities and credit market imperfections-and two instruments: subsidised loans and credit guarantees (International Economics Department Working Paper no. HEIDWP11-2026, Geneva Graduate Institute, April 2026). Three results emerge. First, the catalytic multiplier is decreasing in the severity of the market failure, creating a fundamental tension: interventions targeting the largest distortions achieve the lowest leverage. Second, the relative efficiency of guarantees and subsidized loans depends on the accounting convention used to measure cost. The guarantee and subsidised loan yield equal multipliers for pure de-risking and for production externalities; the guarantee achieves a higher multiplier for financial frictions and, in most configurations, for credit rationing. Third, for subsidised loans, non-de-risking interventions always yield higher multipliers than interventions that fully eliminate default risk. For guarantees the ranking depends on the nature of the market failure. A practical rule of thumb emerges from the analysis: production externalities call for subsidised loans, while financial frictions are best addressed with guarantees. The paper shows that even though blended finance is not effective when default risk is high, full de-risking is rarely optimal.

[DOI \(public access\).](#)

WORKING PAPER

Chokepoint: The Financial Effects of Rare Earth Supply Disruptions

Joshua Ostry, PhD Researcher in International Economics, constructs a high-frequency, news-based measure of rare earth supply shocks to examine how disruptions in these critical inputs affect global firm valuations (International Economics Department Working Paper no. HEIDWP10-2026, Geneva Graduate Institute, March 2026). Using news articles between 2021 and 2025, he identifies exogenous rare earth supply events, distinguishing between Chinese trade-restriction and global production shocks. Using a sample of 5,800 public firms, he shows that negative rare earth supply shocks, which are expected to raise input prices, cause significant and persistent declines in the equity prices of rare earth-exposed firms, especially those in the battery, semiconductor, and motor vehicle industries. Both trade and production shocks depress valuations, though trade restrictions shocks are particularly impactful. These findings highlight a financial channel through which the weaponisation of critical-material supply chains transmits across global markets.

[DOI \(public access\).](#)

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Peace, War, Conflicts & Security

PAPER

The Shifting Concepts of Neutrality and Non-Belligerency in the 21st Century: A Legal Analysis with Focus on the German and Austrian State Practice



Dima Sharapov / Shutterstock

The applicability of neutrality law is a contested area of modern international law. Because it determines the options third states are facing in an international armed conflict, the Russo-Ukraine war lends it new urgency. **Mara Ebberts** analyses these options from a conceptual and practical perspective (Graduate Institute ePaper 60, Graduate Institute Publications, March 2026). First, she theoretically discusses the applicability of neutrality law, rejecting the theories of

compulsorily applicable, qualified, and obsolete neutrality based on their conceptual flaws and inadequate incorporation of the emergence of a third option for third states. She embraces optional neutrality based on the finding that it has always been optional. She then examines the changing customary neutrality law and the related legal uncertainty for states, and finds that this uncertainty reproduces itself and is reflected in the German and Austrian debates and their *opinio juris*. To encounter this legal uncertainty, she details the options available for third states — neutrality, non-belligerency, co-belligerency, and their illegal counterparts.

[Read more.](#)

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

This ePaper is based on Mara Ebberts's [master's dissertation](#), which won the 2025 Mariano Garcia Rubio Prize for the best master's dissertation in International Law, and it is published thanks to the support of the Vahabzadeh Foundation.

MONOGRAPH

Israel and the Gaza Strip since 1967: A History of Occupation, Domination and Unilateralism

Since 1967, Israeli decision-makers have opted to conquer, occupy, colonise and dominate the Gaza Strip. Why has this sliver of land — home and refuge to around 400,000 Palestinians at the time of the 1967 War — been so important? Why has it come to play such a major role in Israeli-Palestinian affairs, Israeli domestic and foreign policy, and — increasingly — Israel's international relations? **Trude Strand**, Research Associate at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), answers these questions (Bloomsbury Publishing, December 2025). Placing Gaza within the context of Zionist ideology and practice, the question of Palestine and the fate of Palestinian self-determination, she charts Israel's Gaza policy from early attempts to put the area under Israeli rule before 1967 and up until Israel's attempted destruction of the Gaza Strip and its people in the wake of 7 October 2023. Based on Israeli archival material, official records, international media reports and leaked documents, her book interrogates pivotal moments in the history of Israel and Gaza. It looks at the attitudes, behaviour and decisions behind Israeli policymaking, as well as policy implementation and its implications. Whilst historical accounts and political commentary often suggest Israel has acted towards Gaza and its Palestinian population in an ad-hoc way, the book reveals this is far from the case.

[Publisher's page.](#)

PHD THESIS IN INTERNATIONAL LAW, 2026

The Crime of Enforced Disappearance: Unpacking Omission Liability and Continuity

After providing an overview of the transition from the prohibition to the criminalisation of enforced disappearance in international law, **Ana Srovin Coralli** identifies the most controversial element of the crime of enforced disappearance. Having identified the relevant element — namely, the refusal to acknowledge the deprivation of liberty or the concealment of the fate or whereabouts of the disappeared person — she addresses one of the most challenging associated questions: does a failure to act fulfil this element? She analyses what this element entails through the lens of omission liability, specifically with regard to sources of the duty to act. Ultimately, she addresses the issue of the continuity of enforced disappearance, demonstrating, among other things, that the

cease of the aforementioned refusal or concealment is often considered essential for bringing the crime to an end. However, she also questions what else could be considered determinative for its cessation and highlights the difficulties associated with this question when various perpetrators are involved in enforced disappearance and wish to end the crime at different times. Her thesis demonstrates that a profound understanding of the relevant national and international law, the context in which enforced disappearance arose, its different modalities and the specific harm it causes are essential when approaching the offence.

[Find out more about Dr Srovin Coralli's thesis in this interview.](#)

[Repository](#) (as the thesis is embargoed until February 2029, please [contact the author](#) for access).



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Development & Cooperation



Prapouht_68lit_pro-photo / Shutterstock

ARTICLE

Design Emergencies: Revisiting the Nexus of Design, Aid and Development

Design, as a sociomaterial practice of problem-solving, has gained currency among a variety of actors — from governments and international organisations to civil society forums and community activists — to address increasingly complex and interwoven emergencies. As design historians have shown, involving designers and

leveraging semi-codified design protocols like “design thinking” to find ostensibly innovative solutions to “wicked problems” is not a new phenomenon within the twin fields of humanitarian aid and international development. However, in the face of global polycrisis, the pragmatic promises of design have expanded its appeal. A growing literature thus examines how the turn to design-led innovation in humanitarian aid and development reflects a reinvigorated belief in techn-utopianism, a tendency to bolster Western interventionism, and the reaffirmation of neoliberal market logic. At the same time, there remains a need for a differentiated understanding of how design is taken up and negotiated across scales, and beyond unidirectional North-to-South diffusion. Against this background, a special issue of *Third World Quarterly*, edited and introduced by **Tania Messell**, Research Associate at the Global Governance Centre, and Laura Nkula-Wenz, maps how the rise of intersecting emergencies, allied with concerns for resilience, sustainability and, at times, social justice, has positioned design as a powerful, albeit fragmented, assemblage that has, over time, conjured different ideologies, politics and practices of change (article online April 2026; full issue forthcoming).

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



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Human Rights, Humanitarianism, Justice & Inclusion



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Humanitarianism

The pressures placed on humanitarianism today are simultaneously simple and complex. It is urgent to critique what has become of the humanitarian-industrial complex. It is also urgent to convert that critique into a different — radical, yet pragmatic — future, write Jonathan Luke Austin, Nick Axel, Javier Fernández Contreras, Nikolaus Hirsch and **Anna Leander** in their [editorial](#) for this special issue on

“Humanitarianism”, a collaboration between *e-flux Architecture* and the project [The Future of Humanitarian Design](#) (October 2025, open access). The roots of this future exist far outside any metropole, and require gentle cultivation to germinate their political vitality and dreams of a collective “rise of humanity”. But above all, we must avoid a retreat to the pathologies of the imperial forgetting machine (*l’oubloir*) that is already seeking to restore life to today’s dying humanitarian order. If humanitarianism’s failures are by design, then a different future for humanitarianism must also be by design.

The special issue includes an article titled “**Humanitarians on Hold: Cruel Optimism and Rhythmic Objects of Care**” by **Nora Doukkali**, PhD Researcher in International Relations/Political Science, **Anna Leander** and **Silke Oldenburg**, Senior Researcher in the Global Governance Centre. Drawing on Lauren Berlant’s concept of “cruel optimism, they examine how mundane, everyday objects shape the rhythms and affective dimensions of humanitarian work and care.

[Read the full issue \(open access\).](#)

[Read the article \(open access\)](#)

MONOGRAPH

Human Rights: A Very Short Introduction (in Japanese)

The second edition of **Andrew Clapham’s** *Human Rights: A Very Short Introduction* is now available in Japanese, thanks to a translation by Hiroyuki Kuribayashi. It covers the history and philosophy of human rights and details developments concerning rights related to torture, arbitrary killing and detention, food, education, health and housing, freedom of expression and discrimination. Issues related to the death penalty and the rights of persons with disabilities are discussed in the contemporary context. The Japanese version features a preface by Ambassador Sumi from the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and an afterword by the author and translator situating the topic in contemporary Japan. **Yotaro Nishi**, Student in International Law, assisted with the translation and the accompanying website.

[Publisher’s page.](#)

The book has also been translated into Chinese, Turkish, Swedish, German, Korean, Thai, Arabic, Spanish, and Portuguese.

ARTICLE

The Age of Marriage in Pakistan: An Islamic Jurisprudential Perspective from Recent Rulings of Federal Shariat Court and Their Impact on Legal Landscape

LLM Candidate **Syed Muaz Shah** explores how recent judicial developments show that regulating the age of marriage can be firmly grounded in Islamic jurisprudence — while aligning with constitutional and international human rights standards (in *Human Rights Review*, vol. 9, March 2026).

[PDF available in open access here.](#)

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Arts, Culture & Religion



Basel Mission Archives QC-30.013.0045

EDITED BOOK

The Basel Mission between Switzerland, Germany and South India: Entangled Histories from Conversion to Commerce

This book, edited and **introduced** by **Amal Shahid**, Affiliate with the Centre for Digital Humanities and Multilateralism (CDHM), Mukesh Kumar and Ella Daisy Müller, traces the intricate entanglements between the Swiss-German world

and South India through the history of the Basel Mission Society (Leiden University Press, March 2026). Founded in 1815, the Mission drew its support from present-day Switzerland and the southern German region of Baden-Württemberg. In South India, particularly in Kerala and Karnataka, these missionaries combined theological ideals with technical expertise, fostering schools, industries, and congregations that linked Europe and India in unprecedented ways. The volume brings together, for the first time, a group of international scholars to provide a comprehensive, interdisciplinary account of the Mission's activities in India since 1834. The chapters range from studies of pietism and industrial enterprise such as tile-making to examinations of caste, gender, education, and material culture, drawing on new archival and museum sources — including collections at the Museum der Kulturen Basel. By reassessing the Basel Mission's theological, social, and economic legacy, the book advances debates on colonialism, global Christianity, and transnational exchange. It offers fresh perspectives on how faith, labour, industry, and material culture intersected to shape an entangled world across Switzerland, Germany, and South India.

[Publisher's page.](#)

[Also available in open access.](#)

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Gender, Diversity, Race & Intersectionality



AI-generated illustration created with Microsoft Copilot

ARTICLE

Creditworthy Women: Enforcing Entrepreneurial Femininity in a Microcredit Market

Approaches to gender and feminism have been reshaped in line with neoliberal imperatives, elevating entrepreneurial femininity as an ideal designed to produce women who fulfill both productive and reproductive roles. Scholarship has examined entrepreneurial femininities from

two primary angles: microlevel studies on how women embody and resist gendered

entrepreneurial subjectivities, and macrolevel analyses of the appropriation of feminist narratives by neoliberal agendas. Fewer studies have examined the professionals who operate between these levels, such as microcredit loan officers who connect global economic systems and local gender enforcement through practices of financial evaluation. Using interviews and observational data from a microcredit provider in Colombia, **Kristen McNeill** shows how loan officers operationalise gendered criteria in their assessment practices (in *Gender and Society*, vol. 50, no. 1, February 2026). By demonstrating how loan officers envision and evaluate microentrepreneurial femininity, she reveals how financial assessment becomes a site where gender performance is monitored, interpreted, and enforced with material consequences. The findings also show inequalities in the standard of femininity to which women are held: microentrepreneurial femininity, with its intensive attention to family harmony and reproductive labour, operates most powerfully at the survival-scale economic margins where women's businesses remain small and their financial independence limited. Finally, the author demonstrates how loan officers' evaluative work operates as a mechanism through which neoliberal economic governance filters down to reach individuals' everyday financial lives. [DOI](#).

ARTICLE

Stereotypes or Prejudice: Behavioral Evidence of Gender Discrimination from Rural India

Discriminatory social norms drive high levels of gender inequality in India. However, there is a paucity of evidence on how gender discrimination manifests in economic decision-making with real payoffs in a rural, underdeveloped setting. Alumnus **Rahul Mehrotra** presents a lab-in-the-field experiment using incentivised trust and dictator games to distinguish between statistical and taste-based gender discrimination (in *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics*, vol. 122, May 2026, online March 2026). Negative stereotypes that manifest as lower trust are interpreted as statistical discrimination. Prejudice that manifests as lower trust and social preferences is interpreted as taste-based discrimination. Next, the author evaluates whether a behavioural nudge can influence discriminating individuals' preferences over gender versus previous trustworthiness. The evaluation nudge tests whether moving from separate (single-choice) to joint (multiple-choice) evaluation setting triggers a shift from gender-biased to payoff maximising decision-making. Results indicate that participants demonstrate statistical discrimination. Signalling higher trustworthiness leads to gender unbiased decision-making under joint evaluation, but not under separate evaluation.

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

This article is a slightly updated version of one chapter of the author's [PhD thesis \(2017\)](#).

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Other Relevant Information



Multimedia



VIDEO | BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS | RESEARCH OFFICE

International Drug Control Law: Trends and Reform Challenges

In this interview, **Khalid Tinasti** discusses his recent [book on the international drug control regime](#), which bans non-medical drug

production and use while ensuring access for medical purposes. Khalid Tinasti is a Research Associate at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), a Visiting Lecturer in the Interdisciplinary Programme, a Member of the UN Expert Panel to strengthen the international drug control system, and a David F. Musto Visiting Scholar at Shanghai University's International Center for Drug Policy Studies.

[Watch on YouTube.](#)



VIDEO | PANEL DISCUSSION | INTERNATIONAL GENEVA GLOBAL HEALTH PLATFORM

Two-Speed Multilateralism: Can it Address the Climate and Health Agenda?

On 30 March 2026, this hybrid event brought together **governments, international organisations, civil society, and academia** to take stock of COP30 outcomes, explore opportunities to strengthen the climate–health agenda in the lead-up to COP31, and examine how new coalitions and political initiatives could accelerate action.

[Watch on YouTube.](#)

[Read more in this *Health Policy Watch* article.](#)



VIDEOS | EVENT HIGHLIGHTS | NORRAG

5th International Conference on “Sustainable Innovation and Artificial Intelligence: Envisioning New Horizons in Education”

On 19 November 2025, the **KIX EMAP Hub** partnered with the **5th International Conference on “Sustainable Innovation and Artificial Intelligence: Envisioning New Horizons in Education”**. Within the conference partnership, the KIX EMAP Hub sponsored a session on “Sustainable Innovation and the Future of Education: Local and Global Perspectives” that featured six presentations exploring national and international visions related to the future of education.

[Read more and watch here.](#)



VIDEOS | EVENT HIGHLIGHTS | NORRAG

KIX EMAP Skills-Strengthening Workshop: Qualitative Research

On 28 and 29 January 2026, the **KIX EMAP Hub**, in partnership with the **Building Evidence in Education (BE²) initiative**, organised the third workshop in the KIX EMAP Skills-Strengthening Workshop Series, focused on “Qualitative Research”.

[Read more and watch here.](#)



VIDEO | EVENT HIGHLIGHTS | NORRAG

13th International Conference on “Raising Children in Our Times”

On 15 and 16 October 2025, the **KIX EMAP Hub** partnered with the **13th International Conference on “Raising Children in Our Times”**, organised by the Aga Khan University's Institute for Educational Development. Within the conference partnership, the KIX EMAP Hub sponsored a session on “Transforming Teaching, Learning and Leadership through Contextualised Global Practices”.

[Read more and watch here.](#)



VIDÉO | CONFÉRENCE DE LA CHAIRE OLTRAMARE

Métamorphose du politique et registre religieux dans les pratiques thérapeutiques et rituelles en pays dogon (Mali)

À partir du cas particulier de la société dogon, au Mali, haut lieu de l'anthropologie française, que traversent les profondes déchirures d'un conflit foncier et religieux longtemps occulté par cette dernière, l'on s'interroge avec **Roberto Beneduce**, professeur d'anthropologie culturelle à l'Université de Turin, et le fondateur du Centre Frantz Fanon, sur les moyens par lesquels les experts rituels, forts des techniques utilisées dans le traitement de certains troubles psychiques, peuvent mobiliser des ressources affectives, des mémoires culturelles et des identités politiques.

[Regardez sur YouTube.](#)



VIDEO | ENTRETIEN DE LA CHAIRE OLTRAMARE

The Internationalism of European Freemasons (1845–1935)

On 5 December 2025, Master's Student **Jacob Thornton** sat down with **Joachim Berger**, a historian dedicated to the history of masonic internationalism and author of *Mit Gott, für Vaterland und Menschheit? Eine europäische Geschichte des freimaurerischen Internationalismus (1845–1935)*. Drawing on the archives of various European grand lodges, Joachim Berger charts a historical panorama of the transnational initiatives that shaped relations between masonic associations across Europe from 1845 to 1935.

[Watch on YouTube.](#)



VIDÉO | ENTRETIEN DE LA CHAIRE OLTRAMARE

Religion et militantisme en Israël-Palestine

Le militantisme et la recherche en sciences sociales sont au centre de réflexions, de débats et de critiques. Interviewée par **Pierre-Louis Lorrain**, étudiant de master en échange, et **Rosetta Neuville**, étudiante de master en études internationales et du développement (MINT), **Caterina Bandini**, docteure en sociologie de l'EHESS (Paris) et enseignante-chercheuse à l'Université de Lille et au CERAPS, nous offre son analyse stimulante à partir de sa propre expérience en revenant sur des points tirés de son récent ouvrage, *Une cause sacrée: religion, décolonisation et mobilisations pour la paix en Israël-Palestine*.

[Regardez sur YouTube.](#)



PODCAST | PRACTICING MULTILATERALISM E3 | GLOBAL GOVERNANCE CENTRE

Doing Multilateralism at the Crossroads of Trade and the Environment

In this conversation with **Chantal-Line Carpentier**, Head of the team Trade, Environment and Climate Change Branch in UNCTAD Division on Trade and Commodities in Geneva, we explore multilateral practices and address questions such as: What does the day-to-day work of an environmental officer and negotiator look like in one of the most challenging contexts? What should or could be the role of multilateral organisations in the field of the environment? What can we expect for the future of the protection of the environment in an era of rising

unilateralism and authoritarianism?

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



PODCAST | RESEARCH BY STUDENTS

From Gaza to Ukraine: AI at War

In conversation with **Mahmoud Javadi**, PhD Researcher at Vrije Universiteit Brussel, and **Sofia Romansky**, Project Coordinator for the Global Commission on Responsible AI in the Military Domain, this episode examines the operational uses and normalisation of military AI, the challenges of accountability, and the emerging efforts to govern its use. As technology outpaces regulation, one question remains: will global actors shape AI responsibly, or only react once it's too late?

[Watch on YouTube.](#)



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Awarded Grants

HES-SO'S LEADING HOUSE MENA | RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP GRANTS | 02.032026–26.02.2027 (INTENDED DATES) | CHF 24,940 | CENTRE ON CONFLICT, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACEBUILDING (CCDP)

The Role of Academia in Post-Conflict State-Building in Syria

State-building remains one of the most pressing challenges in international politics, particularly in contexts emerging from prolonged conflict and fragmentation. Academic institutions have a vital role to play in shaping and informing these processes. As Syria takes its first steps in political transition, it offers unique insights into both the potential and challenges of academia's contribution to state-building. By fostering scholarly dialogue, sharing comparative knowledge, and engaging in joint research, this research partnership between the CCDP and the Faculty of Political Science at Damascus University will strengthen academic exchanges between Syrian and Swiss academic institutions; create an expert network including both academics and policymakers on state-building in Syria; generate research and policy outputs that inform both local and international discussions on governance issues in conflict-affected contexts; and contribute to critically engaging with the process of state-building in Syria, drawing on both international and comparative case studies as well as Syria's own unique experience. **Bilal Salaymeh**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the CCDP, is the project coordinator.

[Read more.](#)



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Visitors

📅 15.05–30.06.2026

📍 GMC

Jonathan CRUSH

Coming from the University of the Western Cape/Balsillie School of International Affairs, Visiting Fellow Jonathan Crush will do research on "Rethinking Mixed Migration in Africa: Narratives, Cartographies, and Policy Alternatives".

📅 18.05–03.07.2026

📍 GMC

Asmae DOUBLALI

Coming from the Université Marie et Louis Pasteur, Junior Visiting Fellow Asmae Doublali will do research related to her current work on women asylum seekers in France and Europe.



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Calls for Papers

NORRAG | CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR AN ISSUE OF NORRAG POLICY INSIGHTS

Scaling Sustainability in Higher Education: Policy Levers for Systemic Change

How can higher education systems accelerate the transition toward sustainability? What governance and policy reforms are needed to enable large-scale change? **NORRAG** is inviting contributions to a global policy brief series focused on greening higher education — exploring challenges, opportunities, and practical policy solutions across institutional, national, and international levels.

- Abstract submission deadline: **30 April 2026**

[Read the full call.](#)

APPEL À COMMUNICATIONS | REVUE D'HISTOIRE *RELATIONS INTERNATIONALES*

Diplomatie environnementale

Relations internationales, revue d'histoire cofondée et soutenue par le Geneva Graduate Institute, consacre un numéro à la diplomatie environnementale dans le jeu des «forces profondes» qui structurent les relations internationales: transformations économiques, dynamiques sociales, productions scientifiques, représentations culturelles et rapports de pouvoir. Coordonné par **Janick Marina Schaufelbuehl** (Université de Lausanne) et **Sabine Pitteloud** (UniDistance Suisse), le dossier tirera parti des renouvellements de la recherche en histoire histoire environnementale, en histoire du capitalisme ou encore en histoire des sciences et des techniques, qui ont fait de la gouvernance de l'environnement un thème central.

- Date limite d'envoi des propositions: **30 mai 2026**

[Lire l'appel complet.](#)

MEDICAL HUMANITIES

Topic Collection: Race, Sexual and Reproductive Health: Histories, Inequalities, Futures

Caroline Rusterholz, Professor of Social History at the University of Fribourg and Assistant Professor of International History and Politics at the Geneva Graduate Institute, **George Severs**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Gender Centre, and **Naomi Samake-Bäckert**, PhD Researcher in International History and Politics, guest editors of this topic collection in *Medical Humanities*, welcome contributions around four key themes: reproductive governance and the ways institutions and authorities have racialised SRH and the impact of these processes on global majority individuals; activism of global majority groups who sought to improve their SRH and deployed strategies of resistance and resilience in hostile and unequal environments; transnational circulation of SRH activism and contraceptive technologies; challenges and opportunities in working in the field of SRH and studying SRH and “race” in historical perspectives.

- Submission deadline: **31 October 2026**

[Read the full call.](#)



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Upcoming PhD Defences

📅 28 April 2026

🕒 15:30–17:30

📍 Pétales 2, Room S9 & online

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/POLITICAL SCIENCE

“All Is Gone”: Domicide as the Unmaking/Remaking of Home: Affective Spaces of Collective Memory in Lataminah and Morek, Syria (2011–2024)

By **Marie Pauline Kostrz**. Committee members: Professor Anna Leander, Thesis Director; Professor Jean-François Bayart, President of the Committee and Internal Member; Professor Wendy Pearlman, Department of Political Science, Northwestern University, Evanston, USA.

[Read more.](#)



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