

Research Bulletin

Upcoming events, latest publications and other research activities

26 May 2026 (no. 5, 2026)

Upcoming Research Events

25 MAY	Monday	26 MAY	Tuesday	27 MAY	Wednesday	28 MAY	Thursday	29 MAY	Friday				
	NO RESEARCH EVENTS	CCDP SEMINAR Reza Mehraeen Beyond Deterrence: Nuclear Politics and Authoritarian Survival in Iran, 1979– 12:00–13:30 Room P1-547 & online	VILFREDO PARETO RESEARCH SEMINAR Qin Yu Digital Platforms as Catalysts for Green Premium: Evidence from the Hotel Sector 14:15–15:30 Room S5	CDHM PERFORMANCE C. Barneaud, S. Kaegi, A. Jaber & A. Mojadidi Performing Biographies of Multilateralism 16:30–19:30 Grande salle polyvalente, Résidence Grand Morillon	CUSO NUMÉRIQUE CDHM Cartographie de grands corpus textuels: recherche scientifique, débat médiatique et documents de politiques 09:00–17:00 salle B22, villa Barton	LEX MUNDI NOVA WEBINAR SERIES H. Kristensen, N. Ritchie & J. Burroughs The Obligation to Pursue Good Faith Negotiations Leading to the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, Thirty Years after the ICJ's Advisory Opinion 17:00–18:30 online	PUBLIC EVENT GHC The Health of International Law and Organisations: Honoring Professor Gian Luca Burci's	CUSO NUMÉRIQUE CDHM Cartographie de grands corpus textuels: recherche scientifique, débat médiatique et documents de politiques 09:00–17:00 salle B22, villa Barton	ANNUAL PIERRE DU BOIS DOCTORAL WORKSHOP Across the Bamboo Curtain: Economic, Political, and Technological Exchanges between East and West during the Cold War 14:00–18:00 Auditorium A2	INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP Frontline Images of the War in Ukraine: Circulation, Aesthetics and Politics	WORKSHOP CDHM Christian Internationalisms and Multilateralism 08:30–17:30	INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP Frontline Images of the War in Ukraine: Circulation, Aesthetics and Politics 09:00–16:00 Room S8	ANNUAL PIERRE DU BOIS DOCTORAL WORKSHOP Across the Bamboo Curtain: Economic, Political, and Technological Exchanges between East and West during the Cold War 09:30–16:30 Auditorium A2

Contributions to
Scholarship and
Practice
18:30–20:00
Auditorium A2

14:00–21:00 HEAD-
Genève, Salle Kramer

01
JUN **Monday**

WORLD BANK HIGH-
LEVEL SERIES ON
FINANCING FOR
DEVELOPMENT | CFD
Norman Loayza |
**Presentation of the
2025 World Bank
Group Flagship
Business-Ready
Report**
12:30–13:45 Room
S8

02
JUN **Tuesday**

TALK | GMC
James Hollifield |
**Immigration, Anomie,
and National Populism
in Europe**
18:15–19:00 Room
S8 & online

03
JUN **Wednesday**

NO RESEARCH EVENTS

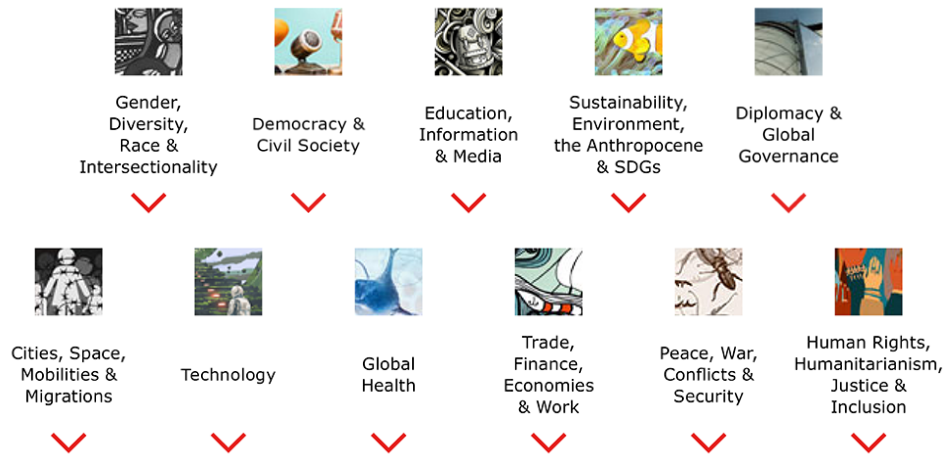
04
JUN **Thursday**

05
JUN **Friday**

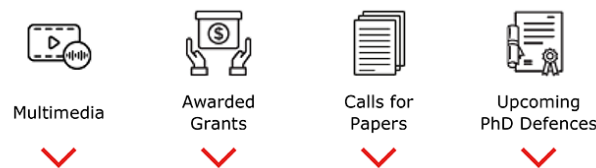
NO RESEARCH EVENTS

[See all events >](#)

Gateway to Publications by Themes



Gateway to Other Relevant Information



Publications by Themes



Gender, Diversity, Race & Intersectionality

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

A Crisis of Consent? Police Surgeons, Rape and HIV/AIDS in Late Twentieth-Century Britain



Kitsawet Saethao/Shutterstock

Focusing on Britain in the late twentieth century, this chapter by **George J. Severs**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Gender Centre, explores the responses of medical doctors working in medico-legal contexts to the emergence of the HIV test in the mid-1980s (in *Sexual Violence in Medicine and Psychiatry: Addressing Harms through Interdisciplinarity*, R.E. Keyse, A. Moussion Esteve and E. Yapp, eds., Palgrave Macmillan, online May 2026). The chapter argues that there

was a “crisis of consent” in the late 1980s, in which the culture of panic and anxiety around the HIV/AIDS epidemic, and the “wartime response” of the British government, meant that the right of patients to consent was sometimes undermined in the context of what was perceived as a national medical emergency. However, this crisis was short-lived, and consent was a consistent feature in police surgeons’ thinking about HIV testing, with many medics forming liberal responses to the epidemic. The limits of such liberal responses were felt most acutely at the intersection between medicine and the criminal legal system. In the coercive environment of the prison or custody suite, medics’ emphasis on consent to an HIV test was more likely to waiver, in contrast to genitourinary units where patient consent was more absolute. The chapter therefore demonstrates the tensions between care and coercion, and contributes to our understanding of the limits of consent within carceral contexts.

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



Top



Democracy & Civil Society



Andrii Yalanskyi/Shutterstock

ARTICLE

Why Populism Wins? Collective Political Agency and the Limits of Deliberative Mini-Publics

Deliberative mini-publics (DMPs) are widely promoted as institutional solutions to the crisis of representation. Yet, despite their proliferation across local, national, and supranational arenas, they have failed to counter the political appeal of populism, which more effectively mobilises

citizens and gains power. **Yanina Welp**, Research Fellow at the Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy (AHCD), argues that accounts of DMPs misdiagnose the crisis by framing it primarily as a procedural deficit, neglecting a deeper dimension that populism exploits: the erosion of collective political agency (in *Representation: Journal of Representative Democracy*, online May 2026). While DMPs emphasise inclusive deliberation and expert-informed recommendations, they often remain technocratic exercises, producing limited tangible outcomes and weak connections with broader publics. Drawing on debates with leading proponents of DMPs (James S. Fishkin, H el ene Landemore, among others) and on Ernesto Laclau’s conception of populism as the construction of a collective political subject, the author shows why mini-publics are structurally ill-equipped to generate the normative, motivational, and executive conviction required to reshape democratic politics. Rather than endorsing populism, she shifts the focus from institutional design to political agency, arguing that democratic renewal depends on rebuilding organisations capable of aggregating preferences, mobilising citizens, and exercising political power — roles historically

performed by political parties.

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

ARTICLE

The Switch: How Nationality Questions Morphed into Minority Questions and Were Confined to Eastern Europe in the Process

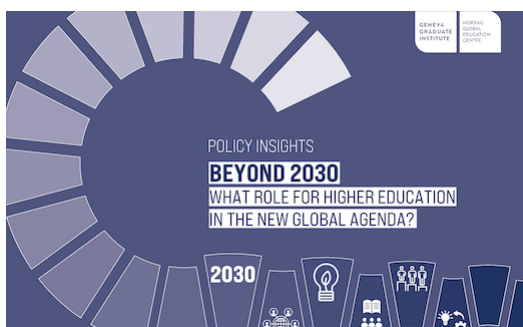
The last phases and immediate aftermath of World War One represented both the peak of the nationality question and the definitive breakthrough of the minority one. The “morphing” of one into the other (as Holly Case has defined it) is often mentioned in the historiography but rarely analysed in detail. **Emmanuel Dalle Mulle**, Research Associate at the Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy, focuses on the key period 1916–1923 and tracks this transition examining the work of different organisations and actors that contributed to it (in *Nationalities Papers*, online May 2026). He shows that the switch from nationalities to minorities was not absolute. Although the grammar of minorities and majorities was dominant in the interwar years, the vocabulary of nationalities did not disappear and many actors used these terms as synonyms to refer to the same underlying “problem”: the persistence of national difference in an increasingly homogenising world. Above all, the move from nationalities to minorities foreclosed any possibility of obtaining independent statehood in the new Europe of nation-states. Finally, the author dissects the process whereby the imposition of minority treaties only to Central and Eastern European countries entrenched a stereotypical distinction between a civilised homogenous West and a repressive heterogeneous East that established an understanding of the two areas as undifferentiated monolithic entities.

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

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Top



Education, Information & Media



COLLECTION

Beyond 2030: What Role for Higher Education in the New Global Agenda?

In 2015, the United Nations agreed on Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), putting in place a global framework of action for the next 15 years. With only five years left, few believe that the goals will be achieved, and some aspects of the ecological and social

crisis are worsening. Furthermore, there are debates about the architecture and conceptualisation of the agenda, with calls for a new understanding of development to replace it in 2030. The time is ripe for deep reflection and open imagination on the global development agenda. As spaces for education, research and public engagement, universities have a particularly important role in this debate, yet have been peripheral actors in decision-making in the past. With only four years to go until the end of the SDG era, it is vital that a vigorous, critical and well-informed debate is promoted on the key issues. This collection aims to make a crucial contribution to these debates at the intersection of academia and policymaking (Policy Insights no. 7, NORRAG, May 2026). It includes a piece by **Moira V. Faul**, NORRAG’s Executive Director, and Felix Laumann, “**Beyond Trade-Offs and Synergies: Towards More Accurate Analyses of SDG Interlinkages**”.

[NORRAG’s page \(with PDF in open access\)](#).

[Watch the launch](#).

ARTICLE

Who Produces “Global” Education Policy Knowledge? Epistemic Communities, Networks, and Power in Global Education Governance

International organisations are considered central actors in global education governance, producing policy-relevant knowledge that can shape national reforms. While extensive studies have examined their influence on education policy, less attention has been paid to who actually produces this knowledge. **Chanwoong Baek** examines the producers of global education policy knowledge by analysing the authorship of education-related publications of UNESCO, the OECD, and the World Bank (in *Comparative Education*, online April 2026). Drawing on the theoretical concepts of policy networks and epistemic communities, his study dissects patterns of disciplinary backgrounds, institutional affiliations, and geographic locations of authors. Based on an analysis of 1,447 publications and 3,175 authors, the findings reveal limited overlap across organisations, distinct disciplinary profiles, a strong reliance on internal contributors, and a predominance of authors affiliated with institutions in the Global North. These patterns reflect organisational mandates and knowledge infrastructures, and point to epistemic segmentation that shapes how policy knowledge on global education problems and solutions is legitimised.

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



Top



Sustainability, Environment, the Anthropocene & SDGs



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ARTICLE

Dataset Development in Earth System Governance: Learnings, Stakes, and Pathways for Impact

The construction and use of datasets have become an important practice in Earth system governance research. By systematically cataloguing various outcomes, policy issues, actors, sites, and processes, datasets enhance the reliability, transparency, and replicability of

research. Yet, despite growing interest, efforts to share data, integrate datasets, and develop common standards remain fragmented. **James Hollway, Noémie Laurens**, Postdoctoral Researcher in International Relations, and others survey various scholarly efforts to create datasets and provide a classification of the emerging dataset landscape in the field of Earth system governance (in *Earth System Governance*, vol. 28, June 2026, online April 2026). Drawing on examples from their own research and group discussions, they identify current best practices and lessons learned regarding data collection, management, and integration, as well as data usability and sharing. They argue that the design of datasets is not a neutral technical exercise, but has implications for how global environmental governance is theorised and studied. They also highlight how greater attention to data infrastructures can strengthen the relevance of research for policy practitioners and other stakeholders beyond academia.

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

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Seeds and the Technopolitics of Environmental Reconfiguration in Wartime Relief Operations in Italy, 1945–1947

This chapter by **Amalia Ribì Forclaz** examines the agricultural rehabilitation programme of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) in postwar Italy (in *Environment*,

Technology, and Development, I. Milford, C. Unger and I. Borowy, eds., De Gruyter Oldenbourg, 2026). It particularly focuses on UNRRA's seed transfer operations between 1945 and 1947. Drawing on archival sources from the United Nations Archives in New York, the chapter argues that UNRRA's seed programme offers a privileged lens through which to explore the intersection of humanitarian relief, agricultural development, and environmental transformation in a moment of acute political and social upheaval. Dominated by American expertise and developmentalist assumptions, UNRRA's programme sought not merely to restore prewar food production but to reshape Italian agriculture by introducing new crop varieties, mechanisation, and eventually hybrid corn strains that would prefigure the various Green Revolutions of the second half of the twentieth century. The chapter traces the logistical, environmental, and human challenges that complicated these ambitions, from problems of seed germination, transferability, and purity to the widespread diversion of supplies through black-market networks and the unpredictable agency of Italian farmers. It shows that UNRRA experts, while attentive to climatic and geological variables, consistently underestimated the cultural, political, and social dimensions of agricultural change. The Italian case thus serves as an early and instructive lesson in the limits of externally planned development initiatives. It highlights the complexity of managing the relationship between humans, technology, and the natural environment.

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

ARTICLE

Keeping the Environment on the Agenda: UNEP Discourse during the COVID-19 Pandemic

When a global crisis hits, competition between policy domains heightens as priorities switch. International organisations (IOs) whose mandates are not directly concerned struggle to maintain attention to the issue they promote. Such was the case for IOs involved in global environmental governance during the COVID-19 pandemic. **Lucile Maertens**, Zoé Cheli and Adrien Estève examine discourse as one specific means used by IOs reacting to crises (in *Global Environmental Politics*, March 2026). They conceptualise three discursive practices IOs perform when crises reshape priorities: *meaning-making*, *relevance-claiming*, and *action-timing*. Empirically, they investigate how the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) responded to the pandemic. Analysing a comprehensive corpus of 251 statements from UNEP's Executive Director Inger Andersen (2020–2023), they show how UNEP connected environmental and health crises, asserted institutional relevance, and sought to maintain momentum on long-term goals to keep environmental issues on the agenda during the pandemic. The findings contribute to research on IOs and crises, highlighting discourse as a strategic resource for agenda-keeping.

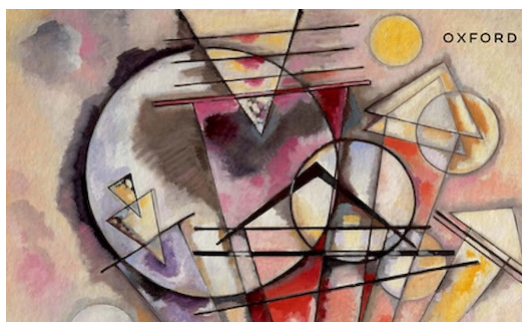
[DOI \(uncorrected proof\)](#).



Top



Diplomacy & Global Governance



MONOGRAPH

Change in International Law: Paths, Processes, Power

How does international law change? How does it adapt to new contexts and meet new challenges? The typical answer to these questions makes international law appear rather static, due to high hurdles for change and formal rules that require widespread agreement among states. In reality,

however, change is far more common: new legal norms and understandings are generated constantly through the practices of legal actors. This book by **Nico Krisch**, **Ezgi Yildiz**, Research Affiliate at the Global Governance Centre, and Postdoctoral Researcher **Pedro Martínez Esponda** explores these actual, often gradual processes of international legal change (Oxford University Press, online May 2026, print June 2026). Combining qualitative analysis and statistical examination of data derived from twenty-five cases across eight subfields, it offers the most systematic study to date of international legal change in practice beyond treaty-making. It approaches international law as a discursive process characterised by distinctive, socially constructed communities and authorities, and identifies five distinct paths through which legal change occurs. These paths shape who can act, how change is framed, and whether and under what conditions it gains traction, and they — and their relative weight — vary heavily across the different areas of international law. On these paths, change comes about in ways which defy common expectations of a state-centric international law: the analysis presented in the book shows that the success of change attempts depends less on broad state support or even the support of major powers, but to a greater extent on support from authorities and institutions in the respective fields. The result is an international law that may not be dynamic enough to cope with the speed of change in today's accelerated world, but one that is significantly more dynamic than is usually assumed.

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

ARTICLE

Political-Epistemic Disciplining in Global Governance: Producing “Global” Indigenous Knowledges

International relations scholarship has shown that persisting epistemic hierarchies rooted in colonial domination continue to exclude, silence, or sideline alternative knowledges in global governance, even as international organisations increasingly open up to formally marginalised groups and attempt to pluralise their expertise. While building on such accounts, **Annabelle Littoz-Monnet** argues that epistemic hierarchies are deeply entangled with political-economic logics, which permeate global epistemic politics in multiple ways (in *Review of International Studies*, online April 2026). These intersecting epistemic and political-economic logics produce complex forms of “political-epistemic disciplining”, which do not simply exclude alternative knowledges, but rearticulate them. The author identifies three intertwined modalities of this process: *de-epistemisation*, whereby alternative knowledge claims are recoded as social or identity concerns rather than treated as competing epistemologies. This operation recognises the subjects of the critique but not the epistemic critique itself. *Conditional recognition* occurs when prevailing criteria of validity regulate the acknowledgement of such claims. Finally, *transposition* constitutes or reformulates alternative knowledge claims through the lenses of dominant epistemic frameworks and categories. These processes rearticulate alternative knowledges and transform them anew into “globalised alternative knowledges”. The argument is developed through an in-depth analysis of engagements with Indigenous knowledges in global mental health governance.

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

CONFERENCE PAPER

A Linked Open Data Service and Semantic Portal to Study the Assembly Minutes and Prosopography of the League of Nations (1920–1946)

This paper presents a new linked open data (LOD) service and a semantic portal on top of it available on the Semantic Web: League of Nations Sampo (in M. Acosta et al., *The Semantic Web: ESWC 2026*, Lecture Notes in Computer Science, vol. 16550, Springer, May 2026). **Petri Leskinen**, **Eero Hyvönen**, **Alexandre Lionnet**, **Pierre-Étienne Bourneuf**, **Davide Rodogno**, **Grégoire Mallard** and **Florian Cafiero**, from the Centre for Digital Humanities and Multilateralism (CDHM), and Blandine Blukacz-Louisfert show how this system can be used for digital humanities (DH) research and application development, and can form a basis for a larger LOD infrastructure. In this analysis, the system is targeted on studying the prosopography and activities of the League of Nations (LoN) (1920–1946), the fore-runner of the United Nations, and is the first concrete step

of a larger initiative, “Minutes of Multilateralism”, for publishing and using a cloud of knowledge graphs (KG) about mutually interlinked international organisations in Geneva and beyond. League of Nations Sampo is based on 27,000 pages of minutes of LoN assembly meetings, a prosopographical knowledge graph about some 3,100 people mentioned in the minutes, and contextualising data about the real world. For the first time, this wealth of historical documentation is now openly available as FAIR LOD for DH research and practical application development, as demonstrated by the new League of Nations Sampo portal.

[DOI](#).



[Top](#)



Cities, Space, Mobilities & Migrations



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COEDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Regional Institutional Responses to Internal Displacement

In many areas of the world that have faced massive internal displacement crises, regional organisations have played significant roles in supporting states’ responses, protecting internally displaced persons (IDPs), and working towards solutions in various ways. Organisations such as the African Union, Council of Europe, European

Union, and Organization of American States have traditionally been the most active in developing specific internal displacement policies, as well as responses across domains such as crisis management, human rights protection, and humanitarian and development aid. Increasing concerns over the effects of climate change, including disasters and related displacement, have also led to relevant cooperation initiatives in other regional organisations. Allehone M. Abebe and **Deborah Casalin**, Researcher at the Global Migration Centre, find that this accumulation of policies and practices has resulted in strong regional contributions to internal displacement response in the areas of early warning, normative development, human rights protection, and engagement of civil society and IDPs (in D. Cantor et al., eds, *The Oxford Handbook of Internal Displacement*, Oxford University Press, April 2026).

[DOI](#).

WORKING PAPER

Bridging Divides: Diplomatic Perspectives on Migration Governance

A growing literature examines the politicisation of migration cooperation, with particular emphasis on domestic political dynamics and interstate relations. However, we know little about the midrange diplomats that participate in international migration institutions day-to-day, and how they perceive cooperation in this challenging context. Karin Vaagland, **Vincent Chetail**, **Mariana Ferolla Vallandro do Valle**, PhD Researcher in International Law, and Sandra Lavenex present the findings from a novel survey conducted with diplomats who represent their governments in international cooperation forums in migration governance (Working Paper no. 42, nccr – on the move, May 2026). They find that there is much overlap in the perspectives of diplomats, and in several instances also across the Global North and South divide. This is surprising given the different positions Global North and South states traditionally hold in the global migration regime. Their paper thus lends some support to theoretical perspectives that highlight the potential for international organisations to be venues for socialisation that foster common perspectives, even in a highly conflictual field. At the same time, the paper demonstrates how Global North and South

states differ on substantive issues of refugee governance.
[nccr – on the move's page \(with PDF in open access\).](#)

Top



Technology



Ann in the uk/Shutterstock

PAPER

Generative AI and Career Choices

The economic impact of technological change will critically depend on how future workers invest in their human capital. Yet, little is known about how future workers themselves evaluate and choose their educational and occupational paths in light of emerging technologies. Christian Gschwendt, **Martina Viarengo** and Thea S. Zöllner examine how adolescents currently at the school-to-work

transition stage value working with generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) in their future occupations, and how automation risk and opportunities for continuing education shape these preferences (IZA Discussion Paper No. 18456, IZA@LISER Network, March 2026). They field a discrete-choice experiment among a nationally representative sample of over 7,000 Swiss adolescents aged around 15. They find that adolescents generally exhibit an aversion to collaborating with GenAI at work, with females consistently more averse than males. However, preferences are nuanced: adolescents welcome greater GenAI collaboration, provided that GenAI usage levels remain moderate and that it is not accompanied by increases in job automation risk. Finally, findings suggest that AI-related educational opportunities in occupations improve attitudes towards working with GenAI across genders.

[IZA@LISER Network's page \(with PDF in open access\).](#)

Top



Global Health



sasirin pamai/Shutterstock

ARTICLE

Network Fragmentation and the 2025 Funding Shock: Early Warning Signs of a Systemic Risk in Global Health Governance

Global health governance is entering a reconfiguration moment. As major donors retrench and multilateral institutions face growing financial and political pressure, the question is no longer only how much funding the World Health

Organization receives, but how resilient its financing architecture really is. **Adela B. Santos Domínguez**, Postdoctoral Fellow at the Global Health Centre, and Carlos Ballesteros Pérez examine WHO Programme Budget data from 2016 to 2025 using social network analysis across

five biennia, tracing changes in density, modularity, clustering and weakly connected components (in *McGill Journal of Global Health*, vol. 15, no. 1, online April 2026). The findings suggest that COVID-19 expanded participation without restoring integration: the network became more fragmented, segmented and increasingly dependent on concentrated donor–programme ties. For middle powers, this is particularly significant. Although their financial contributions may not match those of the largest donors, they can still help preserve connectivity, predictability and institutional trust if resources are channelled strategically. By linking network analysis with critical transitions theory, the authors reframe WHO financing as a question of multilateral resilience and collective capacity.

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

See also **Adela Santos's** *related visual essay*, which presents some of the findings in an interactive format.

ARTICLE

Orchestrating Faster Access to Products of Non-profit R&D: A Case Study of a Novel Regimen for Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis

Non-profit product development partnerships (PDPs) have delivered nearly 80 approved drugs, vaccines and diagnostics for neglected diseases, but ensuring patient access remains challenging without commercial incentives. This case study examines how rapid uptake was achieved for a new drug-resistant tuberculosis (DR-TB) regimen developed by the TB Alliance (TBA). By 2024, over 100 countries had procured the regimen, covering 67% of global demand — within five years of regulatory approval and two years of WHO recommendation for routine use. Using literature, internal documents and interviews with 21 stakeholders, **Suerie Moon, Marcela Cristina Fogaça Vieira** and **Kaitlin Large**, from the Global Health Centre, identified interventions and mapped TBA's role (in *BMJ Global Health*, online April 2026). TBA coordinated multiple actors over eight years across three categories: regulatory and normative guidance; market shaping for affordability and availability; and country-level implementation support through knowledge generation, stakeholder engagement and advocacy. Five attributes enabled this: ability to generate and share knowledge, non-profit status, resource mobilisation ability, collaborative networks, and a commitment to patient access. An effective orchestrator is essential in complex health ecosystems where no single organisation can ensure access alone. Non-profit product developers are well positioned for this role but require clearer mandates and sustained funding.

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

ARTICLE

Migration Memories of Sexual and Reproductive Health in Late Twentieth-Century London

Caroline Rusterholz and **George J. Severs**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Gender Centre, examine the sexual and reproductive health experiences of eight people who migrated to London in the late twentieth century from Kenya, Zambia, Nigeria, Sudan, and Uganda (in *Modern British History*, vol. 37, no. 1, May 2026). Their experiences were captured through an oral history partnership with NAZ, a sexual health charity run by and for racialised people in London. They illuminate the informal processes of sexual and reproductive health knowledge production before migrating to London, such as jokes and gossip, in the face of minimal formal education on these topics. All of the interviewees studied in this article are living with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and moved to London in their early twenties. The authors pay close attention to their experiences of sexual and reproductive health services and HIV and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), which provide novel understandings of the ways in which such services were experienced by those who migrated to London. By listening attentively to the interviews and deploying oral history theories around memory and narrative, they argue that migration and the generational shifts of the interviewees acted as major turning points in their sexual and reproductive health journeys by increasing exposure to such services. While often empowering, such encounters were, at times, also experienced as alienating or racist. In addition, the interviews reveal how British public health campaigns resonated internationally and were closely

entangled in migration narratives. The interviewees' experiences of HIV/AIDS demonstrate the multiplicity of HIV/AIDS histories, offering new perspectives on HIV/AIDS experiences in Britain. [DOI \(open access\)](#).

ARTICLE

Increasing Access to CAR-T Therapy: A Case Study of an Academic Hospital's Alternative Innovation Model

Increasing costs of drugs for rare diseases have raised concerns about health systems' sustainability and equitable access. Newer, highly effective orphan drugs, such as Chimeric Antigen Receptor T-Cell (CAR-T) therapies, highlight the need for alternative innovation models that offer greater affordability and accessibility. This case study examines Hospital Clínic Barcelona's (HCB) alternative innovation model to develop ARI-0001 (varnimcabtagene autoleucel), a novel CAR-T therapy for certain forms of leukemia, at a price two-thirds lower than comparable industry therapies (in *Orphanet Journal of Rare Diseases*, April 2026. **Adrián Alonso Ruiz, Erika Shinabargar, Iulia Slovenski, Kaitlin Large, Marcela Vieira and Suerie Moon**, from the Global Health Centre, conducted background research and 21 semi-structured interviews with HCB staff, government, regulatory, academic, civil society and patient representatives. HCB's model builds from three competing institutional logics — healthcare, academic and industrial — while addressing each logic's weaknesses. The hospital exemption clause allowed HCB to span these logics. The authors' findings underscore the potential of academic hospitals to develop more affordable advanced therapies, the importance of conducive regulatory frameworks, and the challenges to expand this model.

[DOI \(open access; unedited version\)](#).

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Top



Trade, Finance, Economies & Work



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PHD THESIS IN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS,
2025

Essays in Financial Macroeconomics and Climate Risk

Viktória Vidaházy's PhD thesis explores the intersection of financial macroeconomics and climate risk through three chapters that cover different geographical contexts and risk dimensions. The first chapter, "**Financial Institutions and Climate Shocks: Pre-emptive**

vs. Reactive Lending Adjustments in the Case of El Niño", uses granular, loan-level data from Peru to demonstrate that financial institutions engage in forward-looking climate risk management. This is achieved by responding to forecast revisions rather than reacting to actual disasters. This finding reveals a new channel through which climate uncertainty influences financial markets. The second chapter, "**The Impact of Natural Disasters on Capital Flows: Preparedness and Exposure Matter**", analyses international capital flows and finds that investors react to countries' disaster preparedness rather than just disaster risk. During disasters, capital leaves or stops arriving in unprepared countries and is reallocated to safer markets within country groups. The third chapter, "**The Impact of Renewable Portfolio Standards on Greenfield Environmental Technology Investment and Employment**", provides empirical evidence that a US climate policy that increases renewable energy requirements for electricity providers effectively delivers new investment and job creation, albeit with benefits that materialise

over six to eight years and eventually plateau. Together, these studies advance our understanding of how climate information flows through financial systems and influences investment decisions at various scales, ranging from individual loans to international capital flows.

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

[Repository](#) (as the thesis is embargoed until November 2028, please [contact the author](#) for access).

PHD THESIS IN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS, 2026

Level Playing Field as an Emerging Norm in International Economic Law

The concept of the “level playing field” (LPF) has become a recurring metaphor in international trade negotiations, invoked by major trading powers, including the EU, the US, the UK, Japan, Brazil, and Switzerland, to characterise fairness in international economic relations. Yet, despite its widespread use, the concept remains normatively undertheorised and conceptually vague.

Marios Tokas seeks to remedy this gap. He first maps and taxonomises the full range of LPF measures, instruments, and agreements introduced over the past decade, distilling a descriptive definition of LPF as the equalisation of competitive conditions through the internalisation of social costs and the integration of non-economic objectives (NEOs), such as environmental, labour, and human rights standards, into trade and investment policy. Building on this taxonomy, he situates LPF within theories of trade fairness, the economics of comparative advantage, and the principles of general international law. He argues that LPF operates as an “interstitial norm”: a norm that weaves together existing principles, including due diligence, permanent sovereignty, the polluter-pays principle, *pacta sunt servanda*, and non-discrimination, to provide coherent guidance where primary norms leave gaps. Finally, he operationalises this framework by developing a decision tree that distinguishes fair from unfair advantages, and applies it to concrete unilateral measures and treaty provisions. In doing so, he proposes a principled and coherent framework for the integration of NEOs into a competitive but fair global economy.

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

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

WORKING PAPER

Progressing beyond GDP: Towards a Multidimensional Living Standards Index (MLSI) and Integrated Headline Measure of Gross National Sustainable Development (GNSD)

How best to supplant or “dethrone” GDP alone as the paramount measure of national economic performance and international development standing? **Richard Samans**, Senior Fellow of the Geneva Graduate Institute, and others suggest that what could be most helpful in achieving this transformational outcome would be for governments to clearly segment the three key dimensions of this measurement challenge (productive output, material living standards and other, non-material and/or subjective markers of well-being), *reporting on all three in an internationally standardised baseline fashion while encompassing the first two in a new headline measure of economic progress: Gross National Sustainable Development* (UNEN Working Paper no. 1, UN Economist Network, March 2026). GNSD would integrate the standard measure of productive output (GDP) with a new Multidimensional Living Standards Index (MLSI) that provided an internationally standardised view of economic progress from the other end of the telescope, i.e., from the perspective of the material lived experience of people (median household living standards).

[TASC Platform's page \(with PDF in open access\).](#)



Top





Shuttered USAID Headquarters, Washington, DC, USA, 9 February 2025. By [Ted Eytan](#), used under [CC BY-SA 2.0](#)/Cropped from original

ARTICLE

Aiding Peace or Conflict? The Impact of USAID Cuts on Violence

Less than a week after its inauguration, the second Trump administration issued a blanket stop-work order for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the largest national humanitarian donor. The social and political effects of abrupt aid withdrawal are poorly understood, especially in fragile states where relief is a key safety net. **Dominic Rohner**, Oliver Vanden Eynde, Austin L. Wright and Jing-Rong Zeng provide quasi-experimental evidence on the shutdown's impact on subnational conflict across Africa (in *Science*, vol. 392, no. 6799, May 2026). Leveraging historical exposure to USAID programmes, they show that conflict increased sharply after the shutdown in areas that previously received the most support. The increase spanned incidence and severity, including armed clashes, protests, and riots. The effects appeared immediately and persisted for months. Inclusive local institutions substantially mitigated these harms, underscoring vulnerability under weak governance and the capacity of institutions to buffer humanitarian and economic shocks.

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

ARTICLES

The Politics of Passage: Studying Checkpoints and Claim Making in Conflict-affected Settings

Roadblocks, or checkpoints, are obligatory passage points that are erected by entities claiming authority over a given crossing. They are often the most common everyday interface between civilians and armed actors in conflict-affected contexts, but are overlooked in studies on either trade or authority amidst conflict. This article by **Shalaka Thakur** and **Florian Weigand**, Research Associates at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), and Peer Schouten, Vanessa van den Boogaard and Max Gallien, which introduces a special issue on the topic, argues that roadblocks are a useful empirical entry point to questions regarding the practical, political and theoretical interplay of economic circulation and political contestation (in *Development and Change*, online May 2026). It proposes the framework of “the politics of passage”, which focuses on the entangled struggles over movement and authority arising from the interaction of a claim to the right of passage and claims to power over it. Through this politics of passage a range of broader social, political and economic claims are made and contested. Within this framework, checkpoints are a privileged field site and useful heuristic device to understand the relationship between trade, conflict and authority in contexts of contested statehood. Roadblocks function as critical nodes where otherwise implicit claims by states and non-state actors are made explicit in the encounter — or confrontation — between people, capital and goods on the move, and those who claim authority over them. Understanding the nature of these claims, and what shapes the types of claim making that emerge in different contexts, is a central contribution of this article.

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

Shalaka Thakur is also the author of the article “**Not-So-Freeway: A Relational Approach to Checkpoints and Conflict in Northeast India**”. Along arterial roads in northeast India, bordering Myanmar, various armed groups and state actors collect “taxes” at checkpoints. These checkpoints are sites of interaction where the power dynamics between armed groups, state officials and civilians are constantly negotiated, embedded in a larger network of social and political relationships. Based on over 100 interviews with armed groups, businesspeople, state actors and truck drivers, the author develops a figurational framework to throw light on the linkages between checkpoints, authorities and civilians in conflict zones. Drawing on Norbert Elias's work, the framework provides a structured yet flexible approach to investigate the

interconnectedness of different levels of interdependent relationships — between actors at the checkpoint, along the road, and beyond. Shalaka Thakur explores how, together, these figurations at different levels constitute a fluid political order, shaping processes of legitimisation and violence. Going beyond providing an understanding of the politics of roads in northeast India, the framework can be used to better investigate power, conflict dynamics and political ordering across conflict zones.

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

EDITED BOOK

Gang Lives: Global Portraits from the Streets and Beyond

Gangs are one of a small number of truly global social phenomena, present across time and space all over the world. Partly as a result of this ubiquity, gangs are inherently revealing social institutions, and can be connected to a range of fundamental human activities, such as the exercise of power, capital accumulation, socialization, identity formation, territorialisation, or the articulation of gender relations, amongst others. At the same time, however, gangs are also frequently associated with an almost pathological form of violence, generally represented as engaging in senseless forms of brutality, and gangsters are popular global scapegoats. Such representations make it all the more urgent to understand what it is that truly motivates individuals to become gang members, why they undergo particular trajectories, and what the long-term consequences of gang membership might be. Through a comparison of 13 life histories of gang members from 12 different countries around the world, this book, edited by **Dennis Rodgers**, Research Associate at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), offers a nuanced and sensitive overview of the global gang experience (Bloomsbury Academic, April 2026). Life histories are ideal lenses through which to explore these issues due to their ability to simultaneously reflect both the uniqueness and the embedded complexity of gang lives, but also their capacity to offer fundamentally relatable portraits that elicit empathy and humanize individuals.

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

^
Top



Human Rights, Humanitarianism, Justice & Inclusion



Zolak/Shutterstock.

ARTICLE

Raising the Bar: An Inclusive Global Poverty Line

The first of the United Nations 2015 Sustainable Development Goals is: “End poverty in all its forms everywhere.” An implication of this broad goal is the existence of an array of poverty lines, which raises the question of an appropriate lower-bound and an upper-bound to global poverty lines. The “dollar-a-day” poverty line (updated for

inflation to PUSD 2.15 in 2017 PPP) is widely accepted as a global lower-bound poverty line (GLBPL). However, while different countries, organisations, and authors use higher poverty lines, there is no consensus on a global upper bound poverty line (GUBPL). Lant Pritchett and **Martina Viarengo** estimate a GUBPL using two conceptually distinct approaches, both grounded in the tension between the focus axiom for poverty measures and standard economic social welfare measures (in *Journal of Development Economics*, online April 2026). They set a candidate GUBPL either at: (i) the consumption consistent with the achievement of adequate material well-

being or (ii) the consumption level where marginal utility is “near enough” zero. Using either approach, empirical results across an array of measures of well-being demonstrate that ad hoc poverty lines, including the World Bank’s highest reported poverty line of PUSD 6.85, are far too low to be plausible candidates for a GUBPL. Using the two approaches across four distinct indicators of well-being all of the empirical results suggest a GUBPL of at least PUSD 21.5, ten times higher than the standard GLPBL of PUSD 2.15. The use of both a lower bound and upper bound global poverty line balances the radically exclusive nature of the “dollar-a-day” standard, which classifies people with very low levels of material well-being and hence very high marginal utility of income as “not poor” with an equally radically inclusive GUBPL which counts only those with globally high material achievement and low(ish) marginal utility of income as “not poor”.

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

COEDITED BOOK

Questions of Evidence in the UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies’ Individual Communications Procedure

Eight United Nations human rights treaty bodies (UNTBs) can currently examine “communications” (complaints) from individuals against states. This collection, edited by **Deborah Casalin**, Researcher at the Global Migration Centre, Marie-Bénédicte Dembour and Cornelia Klocker, is the first in-depth analysis of the evidentiary regimes developed within this procedure (Cambridge University Press, April 2026). Nine case studies underscore the weak evidentiary basis of the UNTB decisions and the importance of addressing this issue, whilst the final chapter offers a set of practical recommendations. Grounded in academic research and legal practice, the volume incorporates doctrinal, critical, sociolegal and anthropological perspectives. It provides an authoritative reference on UNTBs, whilst aiming to contribute to the strengthening of their evidentiary norms and practices.

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

ARTICLE

Famine Relief and Popular Action during Late Nineteenth Century in the North-Western Provinces of Colonial India

The Indian subcontinent witnessed recurring famines during the second half of the nineteenth century. The British colonial state refused to intervene in grain trade, as per its famine relief policy while doing so in the labour market. **Amal Shahid (PhD, 2022)**, SNSF Senior Researcher at the University of Lausanne and an affiliate with the Centre for Digital Humanities and Multilateralism (CDHM), examines popular action on relief works by famine labourers, comprising mostly marginalised castes (in *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies*, online March 2026). She contends that the state’s utilitarian response to famines, which guaranteed neither wages nor food, led to popular action after state relief provisions were put into place. Moreover, she reveals how popular action uncovered tensions between different levels of administration, particularly for local officials. In doing so, she contributes to historiographies on famine relief in India by examining the response of labourers on relief works to the famine relief policy and the administrative complexities involved in its management. She explores the moral economy of the labouring poor and the limits of the colonial state’s relief response in alleviating distress.

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

This article builds on the last chapter of the author’s [PhD thesis](#).

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Universal Regionalisms: Continental Visions of Third-Worldism in Bogotá (1948) and Addis Ababa (1963)

For most international lawyers and global historians, the study of world ordering tends to revolve around the planetary governance of (allegedly) secular, liberal, and cosmopolitan North Atlantic institutions. In this narrative, anticolonial critiques of the “rules-based liberal order” have been dismissed as the lethargic and parochial pangs of Third World nationalism. Conversely, recent interventions in these fields have highlighted how decolonisation entailed not only a call for the

nation-state but also a thorough reimagination of the structures of global ordering. Drawing from — and aiming to contribute to — this literature, **Daniel R. Quiroga-Villamarín**, Research Associate at the Global Governance Centre, explores two experiments in continental integration that attempted to forge a new post-imperial international order (in *Visions of Third Worldism: Southern and Decolonial Morphologies of International Solidarity*, G. Russo and M. Zoppi, eds., Springer, online April 2026). In particular, he places the Bogotá 1948 IX Pan-American Conference, which led to the creation of the Organization of American States (OAS), in conversation with the 1963 constitutional conference of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), held in Addis Ababa. He argues we should read the erection of these two “regional parliaments” as concrete material sites pregnant with the promises of anticolonial imaginaries that attempted not only to build the nation-state but also to forge a new vision for worldly order in the wake of empire.

[DOI](#).

^
Top

Other Relevant Information



Multimedia



VIDEO | EVENT HIGHLIGHTS: BOOK LAUNCH | NORRAG

Data for Accountability in Education: Global Trends in School Reform

On 15 April 2026, NORRAG launched *Data for Accountability in Education*, co-authored by **Gita Steiner-Khamsi**, **Patricia Bromley**, **Rie Kijima**, **Kerstin Martens**, and **Antoni Verger**. The issue of accountability *to whom* and *for what* became one of the central questions throughout the event.

[Read more and watch the event.](#)



VIDEO | EVENT HIGHLIGHTS: BOOK LAUNCH | NORRAG

Beyond 2030: What Role for Higher Education in the New Global Agenda?

On 13 May 2026, NORRAG launched *Beyond 2030: What Role for Higher Education in the New Global Agenda?* As 2030 approaches, what comes next for global development, and how can universities shape it? This question was at the heart of the event.

[Read more and watch the event.](#)



VIDÉO | INTERNATIONAL GENEVA GLOBAL HEALTH PLATFORM

Un monde en mutation: quels défis pour la diplomatie de la santé?

Le 20 avril 2026, la 10e édition du programme francophone de formation exécutive en diplomatie de la santé a été marquée par un événement consacré aux grands enjeux contemporains de la santé mondiale, tels que la manière dont le monde peut rester solidaire face aux risques pandémiques, aux impacts du changement climatique et aux inégalités

croissantes d'accès à la prévention et aux soins.

[Lire plus et regarder l'événement.](#)



VIDEO | UNEN GLOBAL BOOK TALK SERIES | THINKING AHEAD ON SOCIETAL CHANGE (TASC) PLATFORM

The Diane Elson Reader: Gender, Development, and Macroeconomic Policy

This episode, recorded on 4 February 2026, features **Diane Elson** in conversation on her open-access volume, *The Diane Elson Reader: Gender, Development, and Macroeconomic Policy*, with **Richard Samans**, Senior Fellow of the Geneva Graduate Institute, **Sakiko Fukuda-Parr**, **Odile Mackett** and **Shahra Razavi**, as they examine how feminist economics reshapes macroeconomic policy, development, and social justice toward more human-centred and inclusive economic thinking.

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



VIDEO | UNEN GLOBAL BOOK WEBINAR SERIES | THINKING AHEAD ON SOCIETAL CHANGE (TASC) PLATFORM

Why Pluralism in Economics Matters: Ha-Joon Chang on Development, Power and Policy

What happens when economics becomes too narrow to explain the world it seeks to shape? On 13 May 2026, this conversation with **Ha-Joon Chang**, Professor of Political Economy of Development at Cambridge University, explored why methodological openness and intellectual diversity matter — and what a more pluralist economics might offer to research, teaching, and policymaking.

[Watch on YouTube.](#)

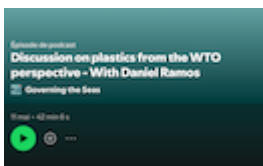


VIDÉO | CONFÉRENCE DE LA CHAIRE YVES OLTRAMARE

Spiritualiser la technologie: genèse soviétique et trajectoires du conservatisme modernisateur russe

Cette intervention, tenue le 15 avril 2026, analyse la formation et la consolidation d'une variante spécifique du conservatisme russe, le «conservatisme modernisateur», caractérisée par l'articulation entre traditionalisme religieux et apologie de la modernité technologique. **Juliette Faure**, professeure de science politique à l'Université de Lille et chercheuse au CERAPS, montre que cette idéologie trouve son origine en Union soviétique tardive et qu'elle a servi de langage de ralliement pour un groupe d'élites contribuant aujourd'hui à la légitimation de l'autoritarisme et de l'expansionnisme russes.

[Regardez sur YouTube.](#)



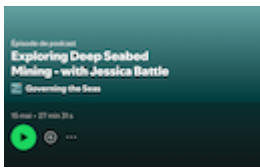
PODCAST | GOVERNING THE SEAS E4 | RESEARCH BY STUDENTS | RESEARCH OFFICE

Discussion on Plastics from the WTO Perspective | With Daniel Ramos

The issue of plastic pollution has permeated every corner of the planet and even the tissues of the human body. While the world recently watched the resumed fifth session (INC-5.2) in Geneva conclude without a final consensus on a global treaty, a parallel and vital conversation continues at the WTO. Host **Katie Bournier** and **Daniel Ramos**, Legal Officer at the WTO and Secretary to the WTO Trade and Environmental Sustainability Structured Discussions (TESSD), explore the history of the

DPP (Dialogue on Plastics pollution) initiative and why trade is the essential lever for any meaningful environmental change.

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



PODCAST | GOVERNING THE SEAS E5 | RESEARCH BY STUDENTS | RESEARCH OFFICE

Exploring Deep Seabed Mining | With Jessica Battle

For several decades, the deep seabed has attracted growing interest from states and industry for its mining potential, but recent advances in submarine technology and pressure to source minerals for the green energy transition have accelerated that push significantly. Host **Malou Estier** and **Jessica Battle**, Senior Expert on Global Ocean Policy and Governance and Lead of the Deep Seabed Mining Initiative at WWF, explore the tensions at play, from the principle of the common heritage of humankind principle and the evolving dynamics at the ISA to the growing moratorium movement and the potential role of the BBNJ Agreement.

[Listen on Spotify.](#)



[Top](#)



Awarded Grants

SNSF AGORA | CHF 199,025 | 01.05.2026–30.04.2028 | ANSO DEPARTMENT

Sanctioned Lives

Sanctions have become the instrument of choice for Western governments and their allies. By cutting authoritarian regimes or terrorist groups off from global trade and finance, they claim to influence their behaviour, defend international law, or simply signal their attachment to sacred values. But are civilian populations in sanctioned countries spared their impact? This question is explored by the documentary film *Sanctioned Lives*, which makes the reality of sanctions emotionally tangible. With this film, **Grégoire Mallard**, Professor of Anthropology at the Geneva Graduate Institute, the journalist **Ariane Lüthi** and the filmmaker **Thomas Isler** aim to foster a broad, critical debate on the true costs and benefits of comprehensivised sanctions from the point of view of lived experiences — a debate grounded in science, but powerful enough to resonate far beyond academia.

[SNSF page.](#)

SNSF AGORA | CHF 199,886 | 01.04.2026–31.03.2029 | ANSO DEPARTMENT

“I Come From Where I Am Going”: From Afghan Itinerancies to Human Mobilities

This participatory project by **Alessandro Monsutti**, Professor of Anthropology at the Geneva Graduate Institute, and the Afghan filmmaker **Mohammad Mehdi Zafari** combines anthropology and filmmaking to explore Afghan mobility through personal narratives, collective memory, and global perspectives. The project begins with the Hazaras — historically marginalised and shaped by exile — before expanding to other displaced Afghan communities and, finally, to broader reflections on human mobility past and present. Grounded in decades of ethnographic research and visual archives, it highlights migration not as an anomaly but as a long-standing and integral dimension of human life. The project consists of three components: a 26-minute documentary film; public screenings with debates targeting international audiences, civil society, festivals, and schools; and a traveling micro-exhibition featuring images, stories, and objects from life in migration. Together, these formats seek to highlight often marginalised trajectories, to open up

spaces for reflection and exchange, and to make the voices of migrants heard, from the valleys of central Afghanistan to the streets of Geneva, in order to evoke a shared humanity.

[SNSF page.](#)

SNSF SCHOLARS AT RISK (SAR) GRANT (EXTENSION) | CHF 25,000 | 01.02.2026–31.01.2027 | ANSO DEPARTMENT

Hosting Delal Aydin at the Geneva Graduate Institute

Delal Aydin is a visiting scholar in the Department of Anthropology and Sociology. Her research explores Kurdish political mobilisation, how political subjectivities are formed, and the role of intimacy in political life.

[Read more.](#)

RECIPE/CEPR PHD RESEARCH GRANT FUNDING CALL | GBP 17,250 | 01.01.2026–31.12.2026

Carbon Colonialism

Voluntary carbon markets have expanded rapidly across sub-Saharan Africa, channeling private climate finance into large-scale land-based carbon concessions. In this paper, **Orlando Roman**, PhD Researcher in Economics, Etienne Le Rossignol and Guy Pincus construct a novel geocoded dataset of certified carbon concessions and examine their allocation and local economic effects. At the country level, participation in voluntary carbon markets is associated with ecological endowments and institutional capacity. Within countries, concessions are disproportionately located in forested and agriculturally suitable areas, often overlapping with territories inhabited by politically marginalised groups. Using a staggered difference-in-differences design, the researchers find that concession exposure leads to a persistent decline in local economic activity, as proxied by nighttime lights, with no evidence of differential pre-trends. The contraction is concentrated in conservation-oriented projects, public lands, and areas facing forest pressure, while afforestation projects exhibit weaker effects. These findings suggest that contemporary carbon concessions reshape local land governance through enforceable land-use restrictions, generating local economic costs.

[Read more.](#)

“PROJECTS FOR PEACE” SUMMER GRANT | USD 10,000

When Rumours Become Security: Youth Digital Peacewatch Network and Urban Conflict Prevention in Eastern DRC

Thanks to this summer grant, **Hafssa Kouskous**, PhD Researcher in International History and Politics, will implement a pilot project this summer in Goma, North Kivu, Democratic Republic of Congo. The project starts from a deceptively simple observation: in eastern DRC, insecurity is not only produced by armed violence. It is also amplified through everyday communication: WhatsApp voice notes announcing imminent attacks, unverified alerts reshaping how entire neighbourhoods move, trade, and trust. Rumours circulate faster than any official channel. In contexts of prolonged uncertainty, they don't just reflect fear. They produce it. Rather than treating this as a misinformation problem to be “corrected”, the project approaches rumour circulation as a security phenomenon in its own right and positions young people as ethical intermediaries capable of contextualising information and calming fear through reassurance, not surveillance.

Projects for Peace is a global programme that partners with educational institutions to identify and support young peacebuilders. The Summer Grants programme encourages young adults to develop innovative, community-centred, and scalable responses to the world's most pressing issues.



Top



Calls for Papers

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.](#)

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR AN ISSUE OF POLICY INSIGHTS | NORRAG

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.

- Proposal submission deadline: **31 May 2026**

[Read the full call.](#)

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS | GENEVA GRADUATE INSTITUTE'S INTERNATIONAL LAW DEPARTMENT

Postgraduate Research Conference on the International Law of the Sea

The **International Law Department** invites submissions for a postgraduate research conference dedicated to the international law of the sea, to be held at the Geneva Graduate Institute on 30 September 2026. This conference offers a platform for PhD candidates and early-career researchers to present their work, engage in discussion, and connect with a broader academic community working on ocean governance and maritime law.

- Abstract submission deadline: **10 June 2026** (midnight CET)

[Read the full call.](#)

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.](#)

[^](#)
Top



Upcoming PhD Defences

📅 26 May 2026

🕒 10:00–12:00

📍 Pétale 2, Room S9, & online

INTERNATIONAL LAW

The Proliferation and Fragmentation of Non-State Armed Groups in Contemporary Armed Conflicts: Normative and Practical Challenges

By **Marishet Mohammed Hamza**. Committee members: Professor Andrew Clapham, Thesis Director; Professor Paola Gaeta, President of the Committee and Internal Member; Associate Professor Katharine Fortin, Law, Economics and Governance, Utrecht University School of Law, the Netherlands.

[Read more.](#)

📅 26 May 2026

🕒 14:30–16:30

📍 Pétale 2, Room S9, & online

DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS

Essays on Culture and Private Institutions

By **Orlando Roman**. Committee members: Professor Martina Viarengo, Thesis Director; Professor Jean-Louis Arcand, President of the Committee and Internal Member; Professor Elias Papaioannou, London Business School, UK.

[Read more.](#)

📅 27 May 2026

🕒 12:00–14:00

📍 Pétale 2, Room S9, & online

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/POLITICAL SCIENCE

The Creation of Urban Conflict Agreements in Armed Conflicts

By **Emilian Lorenzo Berutti**. Committee members: Assistant Professor Christiana Parreira, Thesis Director; Honorary Professor Keith Krause, President of the Committee and Internal Member; Assistant Professor Allard Duursma, Department of Humanities, Social and Political Sciences, ETH Zürich, Switzerland.

[Read more.](#)

📅 29 May 2026

🕒 15:00–17:00

📍 Pétale 2, Room S9, & online

DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS

Three Essays in Development Economics

By **Simeon Oliver Lauterbach**. Committee members: Professor Lore Vandewalle, Thesis Director; Professor Nathan Sussman, President of the Committee and Internal Member; Associate Professor Abhijeet Singh, Department of Economics, Stockholm School of Economics, Sweden.

[Read more.](#)

INTERNATIONAL LAW, MINOR IN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS

📅 1 June 2026

🕒 15:00–17:00

📍 Pétale 2, Room S9, & online

Hegemonic Central Banking

By Mengyi Wang. Committee members: Professor Joost Pauwelyn, Thesis Co-Supervisor; Professor Nathan Sussman, Thesis Co-Supervisor; Professor Grégoire Mallard, President of the Committee and Internal Member; Professor Jérôme Sgard, SciencesPo, France.

[Read more.](#)

^
Top



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