

Research Bulletin

Upcoming events, latest publications and other research activities

22 June 2026 (no. 6, 2026)

Upcoming Research Events

22
JUN

Monday

NO RESEARCH EVENTS

23
JUN

Tuesday

NO RESEARCH EVENTS

24
JUN

Wednesday

NO RESEARCH EVENTS

25
JUN

Thursday

NO RESEARCH EVENTS

26
JUN

Friday

NO RESEARCH EVENTS

29
JUN

Monday

NO RESEARCH EVENTS

30
JUN

Tuesday

GHC | WEBINAR
Sharing Pathogen Data
in Ebola and
Hantavirus Outbreaks:
Implications for Access
and Benefit Sharing
14:00–15:15 online

01
JUL

Wednesday

NO RESEARCH EVENTS

02
JUL

Thursday

NO RESEARCH EVENTS

03
JUL

Friday

NO RESEARCH EVENTS

[See all events >](#)

Gateway to Publications by Themes



Arts,
Culture &
Religion



Gender,
Diversity,
Race &
Intersectionality



Diplomacy &
Global
Governance



Technology





Global Health



Trade,
Finance,
Economies
& Work



Peace, War,
Conflicts &
Security



Development &
Cooperation



Human Rights,
Humanitarianism,
Justice &
Inclusion



Gateway to Other Relevant Information



Multimedia



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Grants



Calls for
Papers



Awarded
Prizes



Upcoming
PhD Defences



Publications by Themes



Arts, Culture & Religion



Phil.N Photography/Shutterstock

ARTICLE

HIV/AIDS and the English Countryside

The HIV/AIDS epidemic in Britain was an overwhelmingly urban phenomenon. Towns and cities were home to the majority of people living with HIV and boasted most of the hospitals which diagnosed and treated them. The epidemic was not simply understood as urban because of demographic epidemiological factors; it was also seen as antithetical to rural life. **George J.**

Severs, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Gender Centre, explores the ways in which HIV/AIDS was positioned as urban through a particular cultural construction of rurality in late twentieth-century England (in *The Historical Journal*, online June 2026). This cultural imaginary rested on a nostalgic construction of the English countryside in which conventional heteronormativity buttressed social, moral, and sanitary stability. The English countryside was frequently thought to be in need of protection from HIV/AIDS, whether in the form of metropolitan producers shoe-horning the virus into cherished rural soap operas, or more directly from the urban import of HIV and the gay men understood to be its most likely carriers. The author examines the cultural mentality in which rurality was mobilised as distinct from HIV/AIDS, pointing to the wider anxieties about changing rural life for which the epidemic often acted as a proxy.

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

PHD THESIS IN INTERNATIONAL LAW, 2026

Reason against Passion: Scientific Vocabularies in International Law

At least since the 19th century, international lawyers have defended their discipline by presenting it as a scientific enterprise. Many different strategies have been advanced in order to do so, and different scientific vocabularies articulated in conjunction with grand theories about the nature of international law. Maybe this law is objective because it can be compared to a formal science such as mathematics? Maybe it could be objective if only the profession adopted a natural science approach? Or the solution might be to turn to historical and sociological investigations?

Each of these questions has been, in one way or another, addressed by the authors examined by **Thomas Romailier** in his PhD thesis. Today, however, grand theories describing what international law “is all about”, in which scientific aspirations were once made explicit, are considered *passées*. In a sophisticated field, scientific aspirations are still formulated, but with more modest ambitions. The turn to empirical interdisciplinarity in international scholarship is a representative example. Vocabularies borrowed from economics, psychology and other social sciences are now associated with international law in various scholarly projects. But the empirical turn is only the most outspoken and evident manifestation of the current resort to scientific vocabularies. Varied scientific aspirations have also been integrated into common argumentative styles. They order the way in which we argue about international legal issues. Proficiency in the discipline now means feeling when new problems, issues, or sensibilities call for international lawyers to “pick up” some of these tendencies and articulate them in an original and convincing way.

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

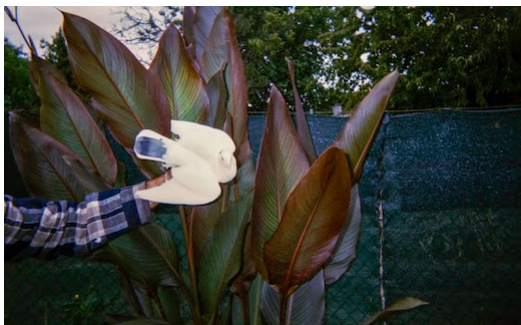
[Repository](#) (as the thesis is embargoed until January 2029, please [contact the author](#) for access).



Top



Gender, Diversity, Race & Intersectionality



Dove. In war-torn Ukraine, people continue to care for animals and plants: “While I take care of my flowers, my husband takes care of his pigeons”, comments Shoira, the photographer from Kharkiv who took the picture. Her husband has been breeding pigeons for years. “It is a community, I am always at the station, sending pigeons across Ukraine, they all know me”, she explains. In the absence of peace, the dove becomes a symbol of togetherness. Photo produced within the framework of the [Caring to Survive, Surviving to Care](#) project

ARTICLE

The Wartime Care Economy: Insights from Ukraine

This article proposes the notion of wartime care economy in order to make visible the way Ukrainians, and Ukrainian women in particular, ensure social reproduction, that is, the everyday survival and flourishing of people as well as the reproduction of society (in *Review of International Political Economy*, online May 2026). Existing accounts of war economies often focus on the way states restructure their economies to enable war and on illicit activities used either to sustain

the fighting or to survive. The wide range of social reproduction activities — everyday, non-illicit activities often predominantly carried out by women or feminised subjects and unpaid or underpaid — thus is made invisible. **Elisabeth Prügl**, **Agnieszka Fal-Dutra Santos**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Gender Centre, and **Yuliia Soroka**, Senior Researcher at the Gender Centre, suggest that an understanding of war economies is incomplete unless it takes into account the often non-monetised value created in wartime care economies. Drawing on first-person narratives from Ukraine, literature of Ukrainian feminists and other secondary and grey literature, they examine the way intensified demands for care are being met in five spheres: households, neighbourly and family support networks, volunteering, humanitarian organising, and the state’s social services sector. They highlight the different kinds of labour performed in these spheres and the way they relate to each other.

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

ARTICLE

Who Does History? Reflections on Writing an Intersectional History of Sexual and Reproductive Health in Britain

This article provides insights into the collaborative research practices of the SNSF-funded project **RE:SHARE** (Race and Ethnicity: Sexual Health and Reproductive Experiences in Postwar Britain) and reflects on the challenges of writing an intersectional history of sexual and reproductive health in postwar Britain (in *Traverse*, no. 1, 2026). Drawing on approaches from Black feminism, reproductive justice, and intersectionality, project members **Caroline Rusterholz**, **Naomi Samake-Bäckert**, PhD Researcher in International History and Politics, and **George J. Severs**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Gender Centre, explore how collaborative research practices can better integrate marginalised perspectives into historical knowledge production. Based on concrete experiences gained from working in the project, they discuss the possibilities and limitations of collaborative approaches and advocate for a reflexive historical practice that exposes and critically examines existing power asymmetries in research.

[Traverse's page.](#)



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Diplomacy & Global Governance



Alfa Photo/Shutterstock

ARTICLE

Bringing the Economic Back! Thinking about the Politics of Expertise within and beyond the Social

International Political Sociology has played a crucial role in foregrounding the question of expertise in global politics, bringing under critical scrutiny the social processes that are central to the politics of expertise. In doing so, however, questions pertaining to the political–economic

conditions that intersect with these have often been left aside. **Annabelle Littoz-Monnet**, **Leandro Montes Ruiz**, PhD Researcher in International Relations/Political Science, and **Juanita Uribe**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Global Governance Centre, show that attending to the political–economic conditions that contain and shape the politics of expertise and cut through its “micro” elements enables them to identify three shifts (in *International Political Sociology*, vol. 20, no. 3, September 2026, online May 2026). First, they identify a shift in epistemic sites, which tend to move away from international organisations and public research infrastructures toward powerful private epistemic centres that not only become core providers of knowledge that is seen as “expert”, but also shape the criteria through which knowledge is validated and even the aesthetics of expertise. Second, it enables them to see that knowledge is not only valued through social processes, but through economic imperatives, so that expertise has become a seductive “commodity” like any other, even when deployed by public institutions. Third, turning to the contestation of expertise, the authors show that despite the preponderance of spaces of “counter-expertise”, these also need to filter through market-aligned evidentiary cultures and aesthetics, to become visible.

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

PHD THESIS IN INTERNATIONAL HISTORY, 2026

Rejection and Mimesis: Unrecognised Statehood and International Society since Decolonisation

Diego Humberto Soto Saldias examines the historical evolution of state recognition practice from decolonisation to the early 2000s. He analyses how normative shifts in recognition influence state formation projects in contemporary unrecognised states, exploring the cases of the Republic

of Biafra and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC). Unrecognised statehood is an anomaly within international society, shaped by the interplay between two historical dynamics. These processes involve the legal-political reconfiguration of recognition criteria during periods of acute international expansion, such as the end of colonialism and the dissolution of the Communist Bloc, as well as the proliferation of non-colonial secessionist movements which faced rejection of their statehood bids. Due to a dearth of specific historiography, the author utilises insights from diplomatic history, international law, and international relations theory to historicise the interactions between state recognition and statehood entrepreneurship. To scrutinise historical recognition practices, he concentrates on the foreign policies of the Great Powers and the accommodation strategies implemented by the secessionist regimes in both cases under study. The experiences of Biafra and the TRNC illustrate that achieving legitimacy is quintessential for unrecognised entities. Their marginalised position pushes state entrepreneurs to mimic sovereign states and adhere to their norms. Thus, although recognition is a political act, its legal underpinnings reflect the postcolonial consolidation of an international order which elevated the Western nation-state to a global archetype.

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



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Technology



Summit Art Creations/Shutterstock

WORKING PAPER

Following the Crowd: Literature Support and the Capabilities of Autonomous Research

Machine-learning models often struggle to generalise beyond their training distribution. This paper asks whether the same constraint shapes the research capabilities of autonomous large language model (LLM) agents: do they perform better when producing papers that follow research

paradigms already well represented in the literature (International Economics Department Working Paper no. HEIDWP14-2026, Geneva Graduate Institute, May 2026)? **Michele Zampa**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Centre for Finance and Development, examines this question using evidence from the Autonomous Policy Evaluation (APE) project, an open platform developed by the Social Catalyst Lab at the University of Zurich, where LLM agents generate empirical economic policy papers evaluated against human-written benchmarks. He measures literature support by locating each paper abstract in the semantic space of economics using English-language economics abstracts from OpenAlex. This captures whether a paper lies in a dense or sparse region of the discipline's research landscape. He finds that literature support predicts performance for AI-generated papers, but not for human-written papers, suggesting that autonomous research agents perform best in areas strongly represented in existing literature.

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



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Global Health



Ground Picture/Shutterstock

ARTICLE

When Science Meets Sovereignty: Pathogen Digital Sequence Information between State Control and Commons-Oriented Access and Benefit-Sharing

The sharing of pathogen data underpins genomic surveillance and health product development, yet its governance remains fragmented. While specialised databases facilitate sharing, states

increasingly assert sovereign control over pathogen data through their legislation and treaties, including the WHO Pandemic Agreement. **Adam Strobeyko**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Global Health Centre, conceptualises sovereignty and commons-oriented regulatory approaches for pathogen data, maps international ABS frameworks, analyses database policies, and reviews 14 domestic ABS laws (in *Computer Law and Security Review*, vol. 62, September 2026, online June 2026). He argues that sovereignty is ill-suited to transboundary data governance and proposes commons-oriented design elements for a future multilateral Access and Benefit Sharing system.

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

PHD THESIS IN ANTHROPOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY, 2026

The Hospital after Infection: An Ethnography of (Resistant) Infections in a Hospital in India

This dissertation examines the paradoxical figure of the infectious hospital in contemporary India: a space that promises cure while simultaneously engendering and sustaining infections, including resistant ones. Drawing on 14 months of ethnographic fieldwork in a corporate tertiary care hospital in southern India, **Purbasha Mazumdar** situates antimicrobial resistance (AMR) within broader global health discourses while foregrounding the everyday clinical negotiations of infectious disease (ID) specialists. She argues that AMR is not merely an epidemiological concern but also a profoundly social and political one, embedded in global regimes of blame, national projects of modernisation, and everyday practices of care. Rather than reproducing narratives that attribute resistance to “irrational” consumption or weak regulation, she highlights how hospitals themselves are critical sites where infections proliferate, interventions falter, and antimicrobials are both indispensable and endangered. Central to her work is the conceptualisation of the hospital after infection. Mobilising the dual connotation of “after” — as both pursuit and belatedness —, the thesis argues that the contemporary hospital is perpetually chasing infections it cannot fully contain, while also creating the very conditions that allow them to thrive. This renders cure a fragile and contingent achievement, reliant on antimicrobials whose efficacy is constantly negotiated and never assured. In the end, the author proposes a move toward an affirmative biopolitics, one that acknowledges the entangled vulnerabilities of humans, microbes, and antimicrobials.

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

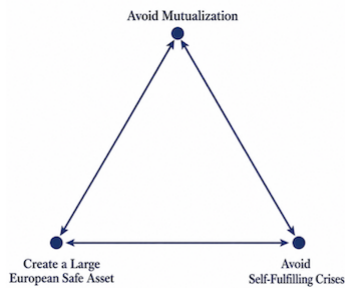
[Repository](#) (as the thesis is embargoed until March 2029, please [contact Dr Mazumdar](#) for access).



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Trade, Finance, Economies & Work



By Ugo Panizza

Working Paper no. HEIDWP15-2026, Geneva Graduate Institute, May 2026). He then develops a simple model to evaluate the [Blanchard and Ubide \(2025\)](#) proposal. The model establishes a safety condition justifying the 25 percent replacement threshold, average cost neutrality as a consequence of Modigliani–Miller, and, most importantly, strengthened fiscal discipline at the margin, since the rate on national bonds is strictly more sensitive to domestic fiscal conditions than the rate it replaces.

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

WORKING PAPER

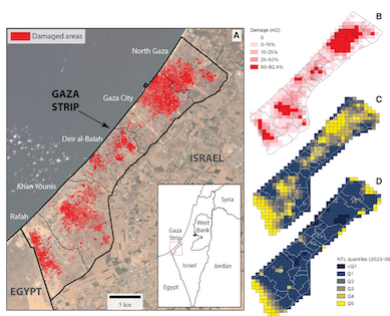
Eurobonds and the European Debt Trilemma

A well-designed European sovereign debt architecture should avoid debt mutualisation, create a large safe asset, and reduce the risk of self-fulfilling crises. **Ugo Panizza** derives a European debt trilemma, showing that no feasible architecture can simultaneously achieve all three objectives (International Economics Department

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Peace, War, Conflicts & Security



PNAS Nexus, vol. 5, no. 5, May 2026, pgag124, <https://doi.org/10.1093/pnasnexus/pgag124>

Gaza's built environment derived from satellite radar time series data and estimate the impact caused by the conflict on Gazan economic activity via night-time luminosity measurements After the first year of war, they find that 82% of each square kilometre of the Gaza Strip had been damaged at least once and that 67.9% of its built-up area has been destroyed. They estimate an average loss of night-time luminosity due to the conflict of 68.5%, and find that the 2023 November ceasefire coincided with a small but significant increase in luminosity. They translate their night-time luminosity losses into economic indicators: results show that more than three quarters of Gaza's economy has been destroyed since the start of the conflict, and the authors estimate a loss of USD 2.6 billion of household expenditures caused by the damage. This work establishes a novel framework for estimating the economic impact caused by conflicts with low latency, detailed spatial resolution and which is agnostic with respect to field data sourced from political actors.

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

ARTICLE

The Destruction of Gaza: Satellite Measurements of the Economic Cost of War

This article maps and estimates the economic impact of the Israel– Hamas war on the Gaza Strip that began after the 2023 October 7 attacks by Palestinian militant groups (in *PNAS Nexus*, vol. 5, no. 5, May 2026). **Jean-Louis Arcand** and others measure the extent of likely damage to

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Rethinking the War Paradigm

While states no longer rely on formal declarations of war, the idea of being at war with an enemy remains deeply embedded in legal and political discourse. In response to terrorist attacks, some

states have chosen to embark on a war path — resorting to the language of war, designating individuals as enemies, and justifying all actions under the laws of war. **Andrew Clapham** challenges such choices and critically examines the legal justifications for targeted killing and detention (in *Perpetual War and International Law: Enduring Legacies of the War on Terror*, B. Rosen, ed., Oxford University Press, April 2026). He argues that claiming “there’s a war on” is insufficient to legitimise the use of lethal force: there may be no armed conflict as a matter of law, the use of force will have to be justified as necessary and proportionate, human rights law will continue to apply, all detention must have a clear legal basis, and even wartime measures must end once the conditions justifying them no longer exist. Most importantly, choosing the war paradigm is not simply a legal determination — it reflects and reinforces a mindset that generates profound confusion about what is morally and legally permissible.

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

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

The Dynamics of Organizational Overlap in European Security: EU, NATO, and the Politics of Inter-Organizational Cooperation

This chapter by **Stephanie Hofmann** and Monika Sus draws attention to the network of organisations and organisational interactions that mark the European security landscape (in *The Routledge Handbook of European Union Politics*, M. Knodt, N. Chaban, O. Costa and P. Müller, eds., Routledge, April 2026). The authors uncover the politics surrounding (possible) European security cooperation and examine the European Union (EU)’s role in these inter-organisational dynamics. To do so, they begin with a conceptual discussion of organisational overlap as a suitable framework for understanding European security governance. They then explore the origins and characteristics of organisational overlap in Europe, focusing on the politics between the EU and NATO in addressing urgent security challenges, particularly the 2022 full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine and the second Trump administration. The chapter continues by analysing the implications of organisational overlap for the European security order. As the authors illustrate, organisational overlap has resulted in compartmentalised multilateralism along functional and geographical lines rather than the orchestration through organisational hierarchies and deference. The analysis concludes with suggestions for further research.

[DOI](#).

ARTICLE

Decolonising Civil War: Warscapes as Relational Conjunctures in Post-Coup Myanmar

This article by **Shona Loong**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), advances efforts to decolonise the study of civil war by conceptualising warscapes as relational conjunctures (in *Geopolitics*, online April 2026). While the warscapes literature emphasises how conflict reshapes local sociopolitical relations, a conjunctural approach highlights how warscapes emerge from dynamic interrelations between multiscale social processes, producing seeming contradictions within local landscapes of war. These intersections also reveal the lasting but uneven legacies of colonialism and postcolonial statebuilding on contemporary civil wars and their spatiality. Applying this framework to post-coup Myanmar, the article challenges two dominant portrayals of the conflict — as binary (“us against them”) or irretrievably fragmented (“many against many”) — for being state-centric and for obscuring colonial and postcolonial continuities. Instead, the article provides a conjunctural analysis of southeast Myanmar, which has incubated both democratic revolutionary politics and criminalised economies since the 2021 coup. It links these apparent contradictions to historic social processes that continue to generate tensions within Karen ethnonationalism.

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

PAPER

Building an Effective Infrastructure for Peace in Syria and Lebanon

Infrastructure for peace (I4P) is an institutionalised approach to peacebuilding and an interconnected framework that links actors, regulations and mechanisms across local and national levels to support conflict prevention and sustainable peace. In Syria and Lebanon, building an effective I4P entails embedding and adapting its core components — actors, regulations and mechanisms — to local political, social and institutional realities and identifying ways to transform existing drivers of conflict into structures that foster building sustainable peace. Based on an in-depth analysis, Alaa Tartir and **Bilal Salaymeh**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), provide targeted policy recommendations for central governments, civil society organisations and international organisations in Syria and Lebanon (SIPRI, June 2026). The cases of Homs in Syria and Akkar in Lebanon demonstrate distinct but related challenges and opportunities. Syria requires a more institutionalised and networked peace architecture that effectively links national peace and justice mechanisms with local constituencies. In Lebanon, the priority is to move beyond fragmented and ad hoc mediation and crisis management efforts towards a coherent national peace infrastructure that connects local prevention initiatives with broader governance reform.

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



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Development & Cooperation



© Chappatte in International Herald Tribune

WEBZINE

The End of Development?

The UN's 1970 pledge for countries to devote 0.7% of their gross national income to official development assistance feels more out of reach than ever amid a historic decline in global financing. While in the post-World War II era development aid to the Global South constituted a key pillar of the international community's mission to maintain peace and support prosperity, the

dawn of the 21st century marked a turning point. As tensions between states are intensifying and new conflicts are flaring up across the globe, state donors have shifted solidarity funds towards defence and security budgets and support for foreign aid has reached all-time lows. Are we witnessing the end of development as we have known it, or an opportunity to fundamentally rethink it?

[Read insights](#) by Geneva Graduate Institute's faculty members and researchers **Gilles Carbonnier, Jean-Luc Maurer, Grégoire Mallard, Lore Vandewalle, Ugo Panizza, Alessandro Monsutti, Graziella Moraes Silva, Alexandre Dormeier Freire, Dominique Rossier, Maria Liliana Soler-Gómez Lutzelschwab, Marc Hufty, Jean-Pierre Jacob, Christophe Bellmann, Lucas Dias Rodrigues dos Santos, Dominic Eggel, and Marc Galvin** (in *Global Challenges* no. 19, May 2026).

[Global Challenges](#) is a series of dossiers designed to share with a broader, non-specialist audience the ideas, knowledge, opinions and debates produced at the Geneva Graduate Institute.

[This issue](#) was produced by the Institute's Research Office in partnership with Executive Education's programme "[Development Policies and Practices](#)".

ARTICLE

Foreign Aid, Civil Society and Post-colonial Statebuilding in the Thai-Myanmar Borderworld

Foreign aid is often used to promote good governance and to strengthen civil society, yet it can reproduce the uneven geographies of postcolonial statebuilding. **Shona Loong**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), provides a relational and interpretivist analysis of foreign aid in southeast Myanmar between 2012 and 2021, when Western donors backed the country's democratic transition (in *Development and Change*, vol. 57, no. 2, March 2026). The aid influx generated tensions between donors and long-standing border organisations — civil society actors that had operated in conflict areas from across the Thai border for decades — who felt increasingly sidelined. The author makes three contributions to critical development studies and political geography. First, she shows how aid disbursed under the good governance agenda is embedded in contested relations between centre and margins — a dialectic central to postcolonial statebuilding. Second, she unpacks tensions between donors and border organisations, revealing competing political projects: while donors aimed to reform the Myanmar government, border organisations resisted postcolonial statebuilding itself. Third, she shows that margins, though subject to state violence, were foundational to border organisations' work. Her article conceptualises border organisations as leveraging and seeking to expand the Thai-Myanmar borderworld — interlinked and interstitial spaces, including refugee camps, frontier towns and conflict areas, that confound a distinction between state and non-state.

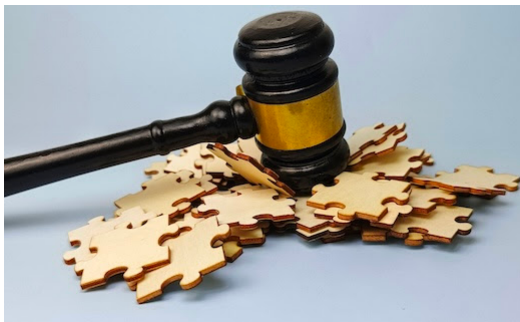
[DOI \(open access\)](#).



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Human Rights, Humanitarianism, Justice & Inclusion



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PHD THESIS IN INTERNATIONAL LAW, 2026

Complex Disputes in International Adjudication

This thesis by **Islam Attia** addresses “complex disputes”, which are disputes that crosscut the boundaries of a particular treaty or regime, as opposed to non-complex disputes which arise and are settled under one particular treaty or regime. Complex disputes have arisen in various forms before almost all international courts and

tribunals. They all raise the same question of regime interaction before international courts and tribunals. They also raise the same problem, which is that while complex disputes relate to more than one instrument or regime, the jurisdiction of international courts and tribunals, in most cases, is limited to settling disputes that arise under one particular instrument or regime. Thus, the question is whether, and to what extent, international courts and tribunals may address relevant aspects of the dispute under external instruments or regimes. International courts and tribunals have been hesitant and inconsistent. This thesis proposes addressing complex disputes by system-wide tools and policies. This systemic framework does not seek to achieve strict uniformity in the decisions of all courts and tribunals in dealing with complex disputes. It rather seeks to ensure that international courts and tribunals address these inter-regime disputes based on uniform and persuasive legal reasoning, guided by the laws and logics of the broader universe of international law.

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



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Other Relevant Information



Multimedia



VIDEOS & PODCASTS | *GLOBAL CHALLENGES* | RESEARCH OFFICE & DEVELOPMENT POLICIES AND PRACTICES (DPP) PROGRAMME

In its **latest issue**, the webzine *Global Challenges* published by the Geneva Graduate Institute features a number of videos and podcasts focusing on the challenges facing development cooperation:

– **Grand entretien: Rethinking Development: Toward Collective Stewardship of Our Shared Future, with Agi Veres, Director of the UNDP Office in Geneva, and Marie-Laure Salles**

What might a reinvented development paradigm look like? This conversation between **Agi Veres**, Director of the UNDP Office in Geneva, and **Marie-Laure Salles**, Director of the Geneva Graduate Institute ultimately suggests that the future may be less about development as “catching up” and more about the collective stewardship of our shared future.

[Watch the video.](#)

– **Development Policies and Practices Programme | 20 Years Documentary**

As the **DPP Programme** of the Geneva Graduate Institute celebrates its 20th anniversary, this documentary reflects on the challenges faced in launching the programme and highlights its impact across various parts of the world.

[Watch the video.](#)

– **The End of Development?**

Four students of the DPP Programme answer **Dominique Rossier**'s questions on the challenges that declining aid funding poses for the future of development: **Nana Tsertsvadze** provides a view from **Georgia**, **Milton Saranga** is concerned with **Mozambique**, **Mamedi Thera** focuses on **Mali**, and **Claudia Calderon** on **Honduras**.

– **L'aide au développement et la Fédération genevoise de coopération (FGC), avec Catherine Schümperli et Dominique Rossier**

Alors que la FGC s'apprête à fêter ses 60 ans en 2026, **Catherine Schümperli** (secrétaire générale) et **Dominique Rossier** (présidente) font le point sur l'évolution que connaît l'aide au développement dans le monde et les conséquences pour la société civile de Genève.

[Écoutez le podcast.](#)

– **Coopération Nord-Sud: la solidarité à l'épreuve | Présentation du livre de Jacques Forster**

Enfin, ce numéro de *Global Challenges* reproduit un entretien réalisé il y a trois ans avec **Jacques Forster**, professeur honoraire du Geneva Graduate Institute, ancien vice-président du CICR et auteur d'un **ouvrage en trois volumes** sur l'histoire de la coopération au développement de 1919 à 2019.

[Regardez la vidéo.](#)



VIDÉO | CONFÉRENCE DE LA CHAIRE OLTRAMARE

L'offensive charismatique: comment le pentecôtisme redessine la politique mondiale

Lors d'une conférence tenue le 20 mai dernier, **André Gagné**, professeur ordinaire et directeur du département d'études théologiques de l'Université Concordia, à Montréal, a évoqué l'identité des courants pentecôtistes et charismatiques et la manière dont ils redéfinissent l'échiquier géopolitique du XXI^e siècle. L'événement était modéré par **Luoqianhui Wang**, étudiante de master en études internationales et du développement (IHEID).

[Regardez sur YouTube.](#)



VIDÉO | ENTRETIEN DE LA CHAIRE OLTRAMARE

Entre anthropologie et psychiatrie: l'inconscient historique des sociétés | Avec Roberto Beneduce

Andylath Djima et **Mateo Bilbao**, étudiants de master en études internationales et du développement (IHEID), s'entretiennent avec **Roberto Beneduce**, anthropologue et psychiatre, sur son parcours de formation et sur ce que signifiait faire de la psychiatrie et de l'anthropologie à l'époque de ses études doctorales et sur ses réflexions autour de Fanon et de la colonisation.

[Regardez sur YouTube.](#)



PODCASTS | RESEARCH BY STUDENTS | ANTHROPOLOGY & SOCIOLOGY and INTERNATIONAL LAW

Podcasts by Students on Human Rights and Humanitarianism

As part of the course "Human Rights and Humanitarianism through the Concepts", co-taught by Professor **Julie Billaud** and Adjunct Professor **Neus Torbisco-Casals** in 2025, students produced high-quality podcasts based on interviews with professionals working in the humanitarian field.

[Read more and access the podcasts.](#)



PODCAST | NAVIGATING THE GOVERNANCE OF OCEANS AND OUTER SPACE E1 & E2 | IHEID LOS STUDENT SEMINAR

The Geneva Graduate Institute Students of the Law of the Sea Reading Club and Student Seminar, under the guidance of faculty mentors, continues to explore critical issues in ocean governance through its new podcast series "Navigating the Governance of Oceans and Outer Space", which explores the synergies between the law of outer space and the law of the sea.

– Re-entry of Space Objects and the BBNJ Agreement, with Dr Vito De Lucia and Dr Jianping Guo

What happens to man-made space objects when they reach the end of their usable life? Host **Catherine Lucas** is joined by Dr **Vito De Lucia** and Dr **Jianping Guo** to discuss their [new article](#) "Assessing before Sinking : The BBNJ Agreement and the Controlled Re-Entry of Space Objects in Marine Areas beyond National Jurisdiction".

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

– Synergies between the Law of Space and the Law of the Sea, with Dr Michael Byers

This episode features a wide-ranging discussion between host

Catherine Lucas and Dr **Michael Byers** on a number of synergies — and key differences — between the law of outer space and the law of the sea.

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

This new podcast follows *Governing the Seas*. Episodes from both series are [available here](#).



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Awarded Grants

SNSF PROJECT FUNDING | CHF 926,454 | 01.09.2026–31.08.2030

Holding the Line: Genocide, War, and International Responsibility

This project examines genocide committed in wartime, clarifying the legal and evidentiary questions surrounding the responsibility of states and individuals for genocide and related acts such as complicity. Although the Genocide Convention prohibits genocide in both peace and war, most genocides occur during armed conflict — yet this relationship remains legally underexplored. The research pursues three aims. First, it analyses how the prohibition of genocide interacts with international humanitarian law (IHL), particularly the rules on targeting and humanitarian relief, asking whether conduct permitted under IHL can amount to genocide when driven by genocidal intent. Second, it addresses the difficulty of proving such intent in military operations. Third, it explores accountability beyond states and individuals, including corporate actors and non-state armed groups — as seen with ISIS and the Yazidis, or Hamas and Israelis. By bridging these neglected questions, the project offers a comprehensive legal analysis advancing both doctrine and practice. The project is led by **Paola Gaeta**, Professor at the Geneva Graduate Institute's Department of International Law, in collaboration with alumna **Agustina Becerra Vazquez**, Master's student **Sara Ewad**, and alumna **Ana Srovin Coralli**.

[SNSF page](#).

SNSF PROJECT FUNDING | CHF 798,948 | 01.09.2026–31.08.2030

Narrative Belonging: Memory Politics and NATO Enlargement after the Cold War

This project, led by **Jussi Hanhimäki**, Professor at the Geneva Graduate Institute's Department of International History and Politics, examines how collective memory and historical experience have shaped NATO enlargement and Europe's security order since the end of the Cold War. Moving beyond military and strategic explanations, it explores how memories of occupation, neutrality, liberation, and political transition influenced decisions to join NATO and how these national narratives interacted with NATO's own symbolic practices, including ceremonies and commemorations. Focusing on Poland, the Baltic states, Finland, and Sweden, the project compares post-Cold War enlargement with recent accessions following renewed Russian aggression. Drawing on NATO and national archives, media sources, and oral history interviews, it will create an open digital archive and produce academic and policy-oriented outputs. By linking memory studies with international security, the project offers a new framework for understanding NATO enlargement and demonstrates how historical narratives continue to shape contemporary security choices, particularly in the context of Russia's war against Ukraine.

[SNSF page](#).

MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE (MSCA) POSTDOC FELLOWSHIP | 01.09.2026–31.08.2028 | EUR 307,958.88

Humanitarianism, Emotions and the Politics of Intimacy (HUMEPI)

This project, led by **Giulia Gonzales**, currently affiliated to the University of Torino and the European University Institute, proposes an innovative analysis of the emotions that receiving aid triggers in the refugee population, and how these emotional engagements shape the intimacy of refugees' families and their political response to the humanitarian apparatus — the politics of intimacy. It aims to analyse how a long-term tradition of humanitarian aid has influenced extended families' mechanism of solidarity. It does so by analysing the humanitarian reply to the Malian crisis in the Sahel, a security and humanitarian hot-topic for Africa and Europe alike, from the perspective of Kel Tamasheq refugees women in Mauritania. By producing novel, grounded and generalisable knowledge on the encounter between refugees and humanitarian actors, HUMEPI addresses compelling societal challenges, pertaining to the role of humanitarianism, trust and legitimacy.

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Calls for Papers

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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Awarded Prizes

Michele Zampa Awarded Special Commendation by the Jury for the Georges Gallais-Hamonno Prize

On 21 May, the jury for the 2026 Georges Gallais-Hamonno Research Prize in Historical Finance awarded its special recommendation to alumnus **Michele Zampa** for his PhD paper “Janus Faces of Progress: Evaluating the Dual Strategy of the Cassa per il Mezzogiorno for Regional Development, 1950–1984”, which is part of his [PhD thesis](#) “Essays on Public Investment and Economic Development in Postwar Italy” (2025). Awarded by the French Finance Association

(AFFI) in memory of Professor Georges Gallais-Hamonno, the prize recognises original research in historical finance combining quantitative rigour and historical depth. Currently a postdoctoral researcher at the Centre for Digital Humanities and Multilateralism, Dr Zampa will join the Department of Geography and Environment at the London School of Economics as a Visiting Fellow in September 2026, supported by a [Postdoc.Mobility grant](#) from the Swiss National Science Foundation.



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Upcoming PhD Defences

 22 June 2026

 14:00–16:00

 Pétales 2, Room S9, & online

DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS

Three Essays in Digital Development

By **Hossein Tohidimehr**. Committee members: Professor Damien Neven, Thesis Co-Supervisor; Associate Professor Julia Cajal Grossi, Thesis Co-Supervisor; Assistant Professor Yuan Zi, President of the Committee and Internal Member; Marcio Cruz, Principal Economist, Economic Research Department, International Finance Corporation, Washington DC, USA.

[Read more.](#)

 24 June 2026

 16:00–18:00

 Pétales 2, Room S9, & online

ANTHROPOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY

Giving in the Wake of Empires: Reclaiming God and the Good in Kazakhstan

By **Gulzhan Begeyeva**. Committee members: Research Professor Till Mostowlansky, Thesis Director; Associate Professor Julie Billaud, President of the Committee and Internal Member; Diana Ibanez-Tirado, Associate Professor, University of Sussex, Brighton, UK.

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