

# THE MAX WEBER PROGRAMME HANDBOOK

ACADEMIC YEAR  
2023-2024









Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union

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# THE MAX WEBER PROGRAMME HANDBOOK 2023-2024

<b>Aims and Description of the Programme .....</b>	<b>3</b>
Introduction .....	3
Multidisciplinary Research Activities.....	5
Academic Practice Activities.....	8
Academic Careers Observatory (ACO) .....	15
Externally-funded Fellowships and Extensions for a Second Year...	16
Departments and Mentors .....	17
Representatives and Governance.....	19
<b>The Max Weber Programme Team .....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Deadlines at a Glance 2023-2024 .....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Max Weber Fellows 2023-2024 .....</b>	<b>27</b>
Department of Economics.....	28
Department of History and Civilisation .....	36
Department of Law.....	51
Department of Political and Social Sciences .....	69
Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies.....	84
School of Transnational Governance.....	97



# AIMS AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAMME

## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Max Weber Programme (MWP), and congratulations on making it into one of the most selective and prestigious postdoctoral programmes in the world. The Max Weber Programme is distinctive in three main ways. First, it is a global programme located in an international institution that is dedicated to research in just four core disciplines: Economics, History, Law and Social and Political Science. Second, you are going to join a cohort of 66 Fellows from over 28 nationalities. Third, it differs from most postdoctoral programmes that consist of little more than a stipend and a place to work. Instead, it offers a Programme with a dedicated philosophy of postdoctoral studies. This programmatic quality lies at the heart of its phenomenal success in placing up to 95% of Fellows in some of the best academic institutions worldwide.

The underlying philosophy of the MWP has the following two main components. First, a belief that intellectual community, dialogue and scholarly synergetic exchanges – not only within but also between disciplines – are fundamental to the early phase of one’s academic career and significantly enhance the quality of the individual research undertaken during the postdoctoral Fellowship. Second, the conviction that a successful academic career (and success in the so-called academic ‘market place’) does not depend only on high quality research and publications but also on learning and understanding the world of ‘academic practice’: teaching, assessment, writing and speaking well, competitive bidding for research funds, networking and the like.

Two main features of the Programme give expression to this philosophy: the **Multidisciplinary Research Activities** and the **Academic Practice Activities**, which are both described below. Most of these activities are both flexible and voluntary: it is up to you to

decide how much or how little you want to participate in them, and we try to tailor much of it to your individual needs. By and large, Fellows do around 50% of what the Max Weber Programme offers.

## COMPULSORY ELEMENTS

To ensure intellectual community building among you, to enhance your appreciation of each other's disciplines and research, and to get the most personally from the advice and resources available to you within the MWP and the EUI more generally, the MWP also includes some compulsory elements. As a result, we insist on the following:

1. **Residence** – To be able to play an active part in the Programme and in the academic activities of the Departments you are affiliated with, you are required to live in the area of Florence for the duration of your Fellowship.
2. **September Presentations** – These provide an opportunity for all of you to showcase your research, to get acquainted with each other's research, to chat informally together and with EUI Professors, and for the MWP Team to identify areas of your potential growth in academic communication.
3. **Max Weber Lectures** – These aim at opening up your intellectual horizons by exposing you to topical themes of broad academic interest and cutting-edge research across the disciplines of the Programme. They also provide a plenary gathering of all of you along with many researchers and Professors across the EUI community. To absent yourself, you must request permission from the Director beforehand.
4. **Submission of a Draft Publication** – All of you are supposed to be writing articles and/or books and book chapters while at the EUI. This submission of a draft publication provides not only a check on progress but also, and more importantly, an occasion to engage in a critical discussion that may help you both substantively and formally in an intensive way with a key piece of research.
5. **Communication Beyond Discipline** – Producing a communication item or series of items that have the potential to at-

tract the attention of a wider audience beyond your closest expert and discipline communities during your Fellowship provides an opportunity to engage with the practicalities of the academic profession that do not focus on typical researcher's skills.

6. **June Conference** – This Conference provides a final plenary occasion to participate in the intellectual community of the MWP and an opportunity to meet with members of the global Max Weber Fellowship network.
7. **Individual Page for the MWP Annual Report** – This forms a core component of the MWP reporting to stakeholders on the progress of Fellows over the course of the academic year. It also offers an opportunity to showcase your achievements by providing a useful summary of what you have accomplished over your time at the EUI.

## MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

The Multidisciplinary Research Activities aim at improving your understanding of the four disciplines of the Programme. In particular, the MWP Team hope to lead you to appreciate the distinctive contribution different disciplines may make to illuminating a given issue or problem, and – more ambitiously – to see the possible advantages and disadvantages of combining them in various ways within an interdisciplinary approach. There is no requirement on you to become a multi- or inter-disciplinary researcher. The claim is more modest: we are more rounded intellectually and better researchers if we have a broad grasp of how a given issue or event might involve a wide range of factors that relate to each other in complex ways and appreciate how these can be explored and understood from a number of disciplinary perspectives.

### Max Weber Lectures

The purpose of the Max Weber Lectures is to invite well-known scholars from all the four disciplines of the EUI to give lectures to an interdisciplinary audience on themes of broad interest to the Pro-

gramme and the EUI as a whole. The Max Weber Lectures also provide an opportunity for you to discuss your work with the speakers in a more informal setting. The speakers can also be suggested by you. Typically, the Max Weber lectures take place the first Wednesday of the month.

## The June Conference

The MWP hosts the **June Conference**, or the Social Issues for Social Sciences Max Weber Fellows Conference, where all of you, together with a selection of former Fellows, present your work. This Conference provides a suitable summing up of the research you have undertaken over the year. It brings the requirement for you to present your research in the form of a presentation, a panel or through a Poster. You will be required to submit your June Conference abstract by the deadline of 4 March 2024. You are also encouraged to participate in the Conference's organisation, including the selection of external paper givers from among up to 20 former Max Weber Fellows and any Marie Curie Fellows who apply. The Organisation Committee can select one of the plenary speakers. Taking place 12-14 June 2024, this Conference offers an overview of what all of you have been doing during the academic year. It is also an appropriate conclusion to the Max Weber Programme's activities.

## Max Weber Book Round Tables

The Max Weber Book Round Tables may be organised for you when a major new work in one or several disciplines of the EUI appears. These round tables tend to involve the author(s), one or several members of the wider EUI community and one or more Max Weber Fellows to discuss the work.

## Occasional Lectures

Apart from the Max Weber Lectures, you can also suggest speakers who work on your topic for Occasional Lectures. These lectures

should be of interest to a broad group of Fellows, Professors and researchers. Do make suggestions to the Director if you have someone in mind.

Organisation of the Lectures that have been selected is coordinated with the MWP Team and must be finalized by the organizers at least **one month before** the Lecture takes place. For more organizational information, please contact Veselina Spiridonova. Occasional Lectures can often be combined with Multidisciplinary Research Workshops.

## Multidisciplinary Research Workshops

You have an opportunity to organize a day or half-day workshop or mini-conference involving other Fellows, possibly one or two external speakers, and often a number of EUI Faculty and researchers as well. Such workshops are expected to involve Fellows from more than one discipline. Again, do make suggestions to the Director.

Organisation of the workshops that have been selected is coordinated with the MWP Team and must be finalized by the organizers at least **one month before** the workshop takes place. For more organizational information, please contact Veselina Spiridonova.

## Interdisciplinary Research Clusters (IRC)

The interdisciplinary research clusters are created to further increase the strong impact on research conducted in the Social Sciences and Humanities in Europe. The clusters are centred around a topical societal interest; they are broad enough to allow diversity between and within disciplines; and they carry substantial policy relevance, especially in the EU context. The various activities within the clusters will focus on the presentation and discussion of research. The clusters are led by two or more Professors of different Departments, and they will bring together Professors, Fellows and researchers from across the Institute.

You are expected to indicate your preference, if you would like to join a cluster, at the beginning of the academic year. Later, if you would like to join a different cluster than that you have indicated,

you are free to do so. Please, inform the MWP Team of your preferences.

## Communication Beyond Discipline

The Communication Beyond Discipline activities aim at helping you develop and refine your written, oral and creative skills necessary for effective communication of science beyond your closest expert and discipline communities. During your Fellowship, you are required to produce a communication item or series of items that have the potential to attract the attention of this wider audience. The items may include brief pieces of communication, such as tweets, FB posts; middle sized features, such as blog posts, podcasts or web sections; or truly complex tasks, such as the production of an online interdisciplinary journal issue.

To produce items of the desired quality, you can join various support activities, which are offered by the EUI and external experts in the form of workshops, small working groups and individual feedback sessions.

## ACADEMIC PRACTICE ACTIVITIES

The Academic Practice Activities aim at improving your competencies in areas essential for academic excellence. They offer a wide range of activities, which focus on skills highly valued in global academia, that can be tailored to your individual needs. They take diverse forms: one-off seminars and workshops, small series of seminars and workshops, whole modules, small working groups working towards similar goals, and individual feedback. There is no requirement on you to take part in those activities, with the exception of the Draft Publication, which is compulsory.

### Writing for Publication – Draft Publication

The Draft Publication is a compulsory part of the MWP. This is a way of ensuring that you produce a piece of research of publishable quality that has benefited from peer feedback from both a substan-

tive and formal (linguistic and presentational) point of view. You are invited to view the requirement flexibly as an occasion to produce draft articles, book chapters or working papers.

The MWP supports your writing throughout the year. We expect you to select out of your work one draft publication and submit it to the MWP by 2 April 2024. Extensions are granted in exceptional circumstances; if necessary, please contact Alyson Price. If you publish outside the EUI, you are expected to inform the MWP Team about the publication. The MWP should also be credited within such publication. You can also opt to publish on the EUI's open-access repository Cadmus. You are encouraged to submit information about your publications to the MWP Newsletter and required to list your Draft Publications in the MWP Annual Report.

## Academic Communications Skills

The Academic Communications Skills activities are designed to help you develop and refine the oral and written skills necessary for effective academic practice. Offered by the in-house (EUI) members of the FIESOLE Group and external experts, they take three forms: workshops and short modules; facilitating of small groups of Fellows working towards similar goals; individual feedback and consultations.

Activities tend to take place on Wednesday mornings or other days/times by prior arrangement. To participate in the workshops, you need to sign up; for some activities, you can sign up a few days before they take place; in the modules and writers' groups, it is essential to express your interest by 6 October. For further information prior to arrival, contact Laurie Anderson (Laurie.Anderson@eui.eu).

## Individual feedback on September Presentations

Individual feedback on September Presentations provides the opportunity for one-on-one sessions with a member of the Academic Communications Skills team to identify and discuss areas of your potential growth in the area of academic public speaking skills. You

will be assigned a time for your session. (Monday 2 October and Tuesday 3 October).

## Presenting and Public Speaking Module

This Module offers a comprehensive guide to public speaking in a global academic setting. You will learn, for example, how to conduct a target audience analysis, develop content and structure it for maximum impact, create and effectively use visual aids that support your ideas, or handle tough questions. We aim to show you that public speaking in an academic setting may be an exciting, enjoyable and energising experience. (Tuesday 17 October and Wednesday 18 October)

## Developing an Effective 'Job-Market Package'

Introductory workshop on developing an effective 'job-market package' (CV, cover letter, supporting documents) and targeting it to a specific job call/position in order to 'make the match' most effectively. The workshop is designed for those of you who anticipate being on the job market during the current academic year or are interested in general in how to strategically present your academic profiles with specific career opportunities in mind. (Wednesday 11 October, 9:30-11:00)

## Self-Management Workshop

Your stay at the EUI is independent and self-organized to a great extent. This places increased demands on your self-discipline. This session is designed to make you aware of strategies that can improve your self-management and time-management and ensure that the quality of your performance and your well-being are balanced and maintained in a sustainable way. The product of this session is a plan of time, activities and goals for your Fellowship. (Monday, 16 October, 15:00-18:00)

## Conference Skills

The Conference Skills workshops are designed to familiarise early-stage researchers with the core principles of effective organisation of academic conferences. It addresses both stages, planning and managing a conference, and focuses on practicalities related to diverse issues, such as writing the conference call, team development, communication before, during and after the conference, timetabling, slot chairing or choice of conference session formats. (Monday 6 November and Tuesday 7 November, 17:00-19:00) These workshops can be particularly useful to those of you involved in the June Conference organisation. If we identify more issues for development, we can organise more workshops.

## Creative Thinking

This two-session workshop is designed to improve the creative thinking of early-stage researchers. It presents creativity in the context of several theoretical concepts and addresses questions of creative potential, processes, situations and barriers. You will be engaged in a series of participative activities which will enable you to reflect on your own creative thinking and identify strategies that can broaden your repertoire of creative strategies. (Monday 20 November and Tuesday 21 November, 17:00-19:00)

## Writing a Teaching Statement/Teaching Philosophy

Applications for teaching positions in some national settings may ask for a 'teaching statement/philosophy', a short document detailing your conception of teaching/learning, teaching experience and classroom practices. If you are planning to make applications for teaching positions during the current academic year and do not already have a draft teaching statement, join us for this introductory session. This workshop is designed for those of you not following the Teaching Certificate Module, where these issues and text genre will be addressed in more detail. (Wednesday 11 October, 11:30-12:30)

## Academic writing and publishing

### *Writers' Groups and Writing Modules (expressions of interest by 8 October)*

#### **Writers' Groups.**

Organised on a disciplinary basis, Writers' Groups (usually 4 to 6 Fellows) provide a supportive setting for obtaining focused, hands-on peer feedback on draft articles (or portions thereof) prior to journal submission. If you are interested, contact Laurie Anderson to arrange the schedule.

#### **Style in Research Writing.**

This 8-session module, run in the first term, takes your own research writing and that of established scholars in their fields as a starting point to explore the interface between form (grammar/syntax), style/rhetoric and argumentative structure. The overall aim is to expand your expressive range and enhance scholarly 'voice' and effectiveness. (First term, Wednesdays 9:30-11:00 starting 18 October)

#### **Draft-to-Submission in 8 Weeks.**

Adapted from Belcher's *Writing your journal article in 12 weeks* with the postdoc situation specifically in mind. You will profit most from this module if you already have a draft ready to be revised. (Second term, Wednesdays 09:15-10:45, starting 17 January)

#### **Dissertation-to-Book.**

Articulated into three blocks (book proposal; sample chapter; theme/draft conclusions), this course/work group runs across the year (with intervals between each 4-session block), and is designed to help you get your revised dissertation on the road to publication in book form. (First, second and third term, Wednesdays 11:15-12:45. First block starts 8 November)

## *Workshops*

### **The Journal Review Process: A Disciplinary Perspective (with senior academic staff)**

During these informal sessions (four workshops, one per discipline),

two faculty members with journal editing experience will provide a behind-the-scenes view of the various steps involved in the journal review process (e.g. deciding whether to desk reject, selecting reviewers and sending out for review, handling R & R) and give advice about publishing strategies for early-career scholars. You will have a chance to both pose specific queries in advance and during the sessions. (First and second term.)

### **Writing a Successful Book Proposal** (editor's rep & ACS staff)

This activity offers input and a Q & A session with a commissioning editor from one of the major academic publishers (in recent years, e.g. OUP, CUP) to get a better understanding of what makes for a successful book proposal. It is a part of block 2 of the 'Dissertation to Book' Module, but also open by sign-up to other interested Fellows. (First and/or second term.)

## Text Revision and Editing

All written work (articles, book reviews etc.) for revision/editing needs to be sent directly to Alyson Price (Alyson.Price@ext.eui.eu). When sending your work please give Alyson the following information: title; genre (article, conference paper, book review, PowerPoint presentation etc.); length; how soon you need the work back. Note that she tries to return work within ten working days. All documents submitted will be reviewed using Track Changes in Word (taking account of work submitted as pdfs), showing Alyson's remarks and suggested changes. Discussion follows if appropriate.

## Individual Consultations

Individual consultations provide the opportunity for one-on-one sessions with a member of the Academic Communications Skills team to discuss and revise research writing in progress. These sessions can also be used to look over your application materials, revise book or research proposals, prepare and practice 'dry runs' of conference presentations and job talks, do interview practice,

or support other professional communication needs. You can also arrange for on-site and online teaching observation and relative feedback. (Wednesdays; in person and online)

## Teaching Certificate

The Teaching Certificate Module reflects global trends in the domain of teaching and learning practices in Higher Education (HE). Reconciling traditional and innovative teaching theories with the day-to-day pragmatics is often easier said than done, especially when students' and institutions' expectations grow and external factors keep changing the rules of the game unexpectedly. This is why this programme is set to enhance your ability to develop your own teaching skills set and adapt to diverse teaching environments of national and institutional cultures in a fully flexible and professional manner.

The programme includes creation of your own teaching portfolio that will be based on your previous formal, informal and non-formal experience and training; four face-to-face workshops focused on (a) introduction to teaching at HE institutions and course design, (b) lesson design, (c) teaching tools and methods, and microteaching practice, and (d) feedback, assessment and reflection; your Teaching Practice experience at a FIESOLE Group university; and on a personal reflection. Apart from the Portfolio development, you will be expected to engage actively in individual and group assignments and discussions. The Teaching Certificate Module runs from 5 October 2023 to 9 June 2024.

## Academic Practice Groups

As a MWP Fellow, you become automatically a member of an Academic Practice Group. These groups are independent and self-organized discipline-based working groups which meet regularly through the year. They have the double objective of improving different aspects of the academic practice of their members through peer review, and helping to define standards of excellence, possibly with the support of scholars and other professionals. The success

of each Academic Practice Group is the collective responsibility of all its members. All Academic Practice Groups work in close cooperation with the MWP Academic Coordinator and are expected to be engaged in MWP activities, such as Max Weber Lectures, Occasional Lectures, Multidisciplinary Research Workshops, June Conference and Academic Careers Observatory.

## ACADEMIC CAREERS OBSERVATORY (ACO)

ACO activities include an initiative with the aim to facilitate the diffusion of knowledge among early-career researchers about national academic careers and research opportunities in the social sciences and humanities, throughout Europe and beyond. The ACO is not an academic career advice service, but it may help you clarify your ideas about different career options. It includes a variety of activities, such as webpage information development, a series of workshops and individual practice.

We encourage you to engage in the ACO development, to practice job talks and interviews, which the MWP Team is happy to organize for you, or to participate in a series of Grant Application Skills workshops, which focus on the development of grant proposals and provide a forum for practice-oriented debate on the academic grants and projects, international mobility and funding opportunities for early career scholars. The Grant Application Skills runs from 18 October 2023 to 21 February 2024.

## RESEARCH AND MISSION FUNDING

You receive 1,000 euros for research activities such as missions (attendance at conferences and workshops, visits to archives and libraries), registration fees for events, memberships and journal submission fees and/or hiring an EUI PhD researcher for short-term research assistance. All your research activities **must be approved in advance** with a draft budget prepared. With the budget approved and checked with Ognjen Aleksić, you have to submit a **Mission Order Request** on the **EUI reimbursement platform** well in advance of the intended date of departure. You can discuss your

planned research activities beforehand with Ognjen Aleksić, who can give approval, advice and help with putting together the necessary forms. If your request has not been approved or if you have submitted your request after the mission, you will not be able to claim back any expenses.

If you are planning to publish with a journal that requires a submission fee or publication related costs, such as fee by page or extra fee for (necessary colour) figures, you can additionally apply for covering such costs. To apply, you need to clearly indicate the outstanding quality of the journal, the type of cost, the reason why covering it is necessary and the sum expected with a link to the webpage indicating the cost. This support does not cover publishing with “predatory” journals or extra features, such as opening a publication for all to read.

If you are a Fellow with a two-year Fellowship, you may carry over up to 500 euros from your first year, which gives you a maximum of 1,500 euros in your second year.

If you are on the job market, you can additionally apply for up to 1,000 euros to cover the high costs of attending major job market meetings, or for attending job interviews. Appropriate evidence that the additional funds are used for this purpose is required and, in the latter case, you will need to provide evidence that you have an interview and affirm that your prospective employer has not covered your expenses.

## **EXTERNALLY-FUNDED FELLOWSHIPS AND EXTENSIONS FOR A SECOND YEAR**

The Max Weber Programme believes it is in your interest to move on and find a permanent job elsewhere. However, we accept that for some of you an externally-funded continuation of your MWP Fellowship provides a suitable next step in your career. Those of you considering this possibility should discuss it first with the Direc-

tor. You will also need a support statement from your mentor and the Head of the Department you are affiliated with. The application deadline is 10 April. The criteria for an externally-funded position are described on the MWP web page.

Also, if you are not successful in your job search by the end of your time in the MWP or if you have a short gap between finishing at the EUI and starting your new position, the MWP Team endeavour to help you by providing you with the status of a Visiting Fellow. This does not give you access to mission funds but if you are in Florence, you will be able to use the library and a desk here and to attend all the activities of the MWP.

Finally, only in extraordinary cases can a Fellowship be extended to a third year.

## **DEPARTMENTS AND MENTORS**

Each of you is attached to either a Department, the RSC, or the STG, sometimes to two of these. You are also allocated a mentor within your unit. Departments and different fields operate in different ways, some having closer and others looser involvement with you. However, at a minimum you can expect to see your mentor, who should ensure you can become more generally involved in the life of the Department, at least twice a term. Mentors typically read and comment on the Draft Publication and research proposal, they may also offer career advice concerning publication strategies and job and grant applications. You are expected to be the active agent in the Fellow-Mentor relationship.

All Departments have a Professor responsible for co-ordinating links with the Max Weber Programme, who sits on the MWP Steering Committee. For 2023-2024 they are:

**Economics**

Sule Alan (Sule.Alan@eui.eu)

**History and Civilisation**

Benno Bastian Gammerl (Benno.Gammerl@eui.eu)

**Law**

Mathias Siems (Mathias.Siems@eui.eu)

**Political and Social Sciences**

Simon Hix (Simon.Hix@eui.eu)

**Robert Schuman Centre**

Erik Jones (Erik.Jones@eui.eu)

**School of Transnational Governance**

Claudio Radaelli (Claudio.Radaelli@eui.eu)

## REPRESENTATIVES AND GOVERNANCE

### Director

The Director represents the Max Weber Programme on the Executive Committee (EC) and in the Academic Council (AC) and is responsible for communication and coordination of activities with the EUI and Max Weber Representatives. The Director meets Max Weber Representatives regularly. The Representatives may request meetings with the Director at any time.

### A Steering Committee

A Steering Committee (SC), which is chaired by the President (or the Director), and that consists of representatives of the departments (the Departmental Leads), the RSC and the STG, oversees the MWP. The SC meets typically twice a year: once in late November or early December, to agree the selection of Fellows for the following year and discuss the Annual Report, once at the end of June/early July to discuss the feedback from the surveys and self-assessment and to launch the call for applications and any changes that might be necessary.

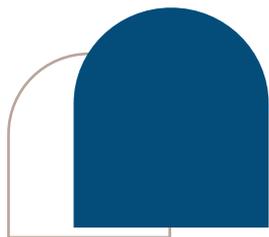
### Representatives

Postdoctoral Fellows have an elected representative at the Executive Committee (EC) and the Academic Council (AC). In addition, each Department and the RSC and STG group choose a Representative who also attends the departmental meetings and those of the RSC and the STG. All in all, there are six, possibly seven, Max Weber Representatives (Reps). The Reps also meet with the MWP Director regularly. Moreover, they may request meetings with the MWP Director at any time. The Reps should talk with their disciplinary colleagues on a regular basis and raise any issues with either the MWP Director, the Departmental Leads, or the AC Representative, and of course bring issues up at the regular meetings. The Reps may also wish to organise an informal or formal consultation

with all Fellows on particular issues. The MWP Team will be happy to facilitate such a meeting. Representatives of the Fellows meet with the Research Council every year. Fellows also sit on EUI committees, e.g. the Ethics, Gender and Social Welfare Committees.

## Quality Assurance

All Fellowships need to be approved by the Executive Committee. The MWP presents a more detailed self-assessment on a regular basis, which involves external assessors from outside the EUI, such as funders of other major postdoctoral programmes, and is presented to the Research Council.



# THE MAX WEBER PROGRAMME TEAM

Below you will find brief details about members of the Max Weber Team. We are all happy to help you with any information you may need and will try our best to ensure the Programme is tailored as closely as possible to your requirements.



## **Juho Härkönen**

is Dean of Postdoctoral Studies and Director of the Programme. He is also Professor of Sociology at the European University Institute. He joined the EUI in February 2018, while on leave from Stockholm University. He took his PhD from the EUI in 2007, and was a postdoc at Yale before moving to Stockholm in 2009. He was visiting professor at the University of Turku (2010-18). He oversees the selection of Fellows and the overall running of the Programme.

Email: [Juho.Harkonen@eui.eu](mailto:Juho.Harkonen@eui.eu)  
Tel.: +39-055-4685-426 (ext. 2426)  
Office no. BF 049



## **Libor Štěpánek**

is the Academic Coordinator and Teaching and Learning Expert of the Programme. His multidisciplinary academic background combines Linguistics, History and Political Science. His professional experience includes academic centre directorship, international project management and HE teacher training on a global level. His research interest focuses on creativity and its impact on teaching. Libor coordinates the academic activities of the Programme.

Email: [libor.stepanek@eui.eu](mailto:libor.stepanek@eui.eu)  
Tel.: +39-055-4685-660 (ext. 2660)  
Office no. BF 052



### **Ognjen Aleksić**

is the Administrative Coordinator. He coordinates all administrative matters (budget, research funding, office logistics, organization of events) and is the focal point for all administrative issues for the Team and MW Fellows.

Email: [Ognjen.Aleksic@eui.eu](mailto:Ognjen.Aleksic@eui.eu)  
Tel.: +39-055-4685-699 (ext. 2699)  
Office no. BF 053



### **Veselina I. Spiridonova**

is Project Assistant. She provides logistical/administrative support for the organization of the Programme's Multidisciplinary Activities (Max Weber Lectures, workshops), works on the promotion of the Programme events and manages the MWP social media channels.

Email: [Veselina.Spiridonova@eui.eu](mailto:Veselina.Spiridonova@eui.eu)  
Tel.: +39-055-4685-823 (ext. 2823)  
Office no. BF 055



### **Elisa Ciani**

is Administrative Assistant. She provides logistical/administrative support for the organization of the Programme's Teaching Practice Module and the other Academic Practice Activities.

Email: [Elisa.Ciani@eui.eu](mailto:Elisa.Ciani@eui.eu)  
Tel.: +39-055-4685-845 (ext. 2845)  
Office no. BF 054

## ACADEMIC COMMUNICATION SKILLS (ACS) TEAM



### Laurie Anderson

is the Academic Communication Skills Coordinator. She is the contact person for the (ACS) activities: Writers Groups, tutorials, Public Speaking and Presentations Skills module, Writing for Publication activities, job market input sessions, preparation for job talks etc.

Email: Laurie.Anderson@eui.eu  
Tel.: +39-055-4685-840 (ext. 2840)  
Office no. BF 055



### Alyson Price

is the MWP person responsible for editing and language revision; she also administers the Draft Publication procedure.

Email: Alyson.Price@eui.eu  
Tel.: +39-055-4685-838 (ext. 2838)  
Office no. BF 054



### Ben Carver

is an EAP teacher at the Language Centre and Academic Communications Skills trainer at the MWP.

Email: Benjamin.Carver@eui.eu  
Tel.: [+39] 055 4685 239 (ext. 2239)  
Office: Convento SD 51

## Academic Calendar 2023-2024

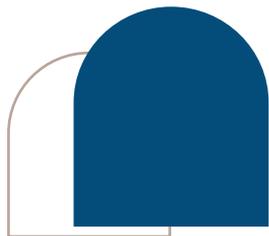
When	What
<b>4 September 2023</b>	Registration of MW Fellows
<b>2 October 2023</b>	First Term Starts
<b>1 November 2023</b>	Institute closed – All Saint's Day
<b>8 December 2023</b>	Institute closed Italian Immaculate Conception Day
<b>15 December 2023</b>	First Term Ends
<b>25 December 2023 - 5 January 2024</b>	Institute closed – Winter closure
<b>8 January 2024</b>	Second Term Starts
<b>27 March 2024</b>	Second Term Ends
<b>28 March - 1 April 2024</b>	Institute closed – Easter break
<b>2 April 2024</b>	Third Term Starts
<b>25 April 2024</b>	Institute closed Italian Liberation Day
<b>1 May 2024</b>	Institute closed – Labour Day
<b>14 June 2024</b>	Third Term Ends
<b>5-16 August 2024</b>	Institute closed – Summer break

## Max Weber Mandatory Activities and Deadlines 2023-2024

When	What
<b>4 September 2023</b>	Registration of MW Fellows
<b>18-19-20-25-26-27 September 2023</b>	<b>September Presentations</b>
<b>5-6 October 2023</b>	Preparatory meetings for the Teaching Module and Teaching Practice Weeks
<b>15 October 2023</b>	Expression of interest in the MWP Teaching Module
<b>4 October 2023 8 November 2023 23 November 2023 10 January 2024 7 February 2024 6 March 2024 3 April 2024 8 May 2024 5 June 2024</b>	<b>MW Monthly Lectures</b>
<b>10 November 2023</b>	Proposals for Multidisciplinary Workshops and Conferences
<b>24 November 2023</b>	Expression of Interest in being part of the Organising Committee of the MWP June Conference
<b>21 February 2024</b>	Research Grant Proposal
<b>4 March 2024</b>	<b>June Conference Paper Proposal - Abstract</b>
<b>2 April 2024</b>	<b>Draft Publication</b>
<b>10 April 2024</b>	Applications for Externally-funded Fellowships (internal applicants)
<b>9 June 2024</b>	Submission of the Teaching Portfolio
<b>12-14 June 2024</b>	<b>MWP Fellows June Conference</b>
<b>1 July 2024</b>	<b>Individual pages for MWP Annual Report</b>
<b>20 July 2024</b>	Fellows free to leave the Programme

# Max Weber Programme activities during the academic year

September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>September Presentations</b></li> <li>• September Presentations Feedback</li> </ul>
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MW Lecture &amp; Masterclass &amp; Interviews by Fellows</b></li> <li>• Developing an Effective 'Job-Market Package'</li> <li>• Grant Application Skills Workshop</li> <li>• MW Public Speaking (and Presenting)</li> <li>• MW Style in Research Writing</li> <li>• Writing a Teaching Statement/Teaching Philosophy</li> <li>• Self-Management Workshop</li> </ul>
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MW Lecture &amp; Masterclass &amp; Interviews by Fellows</b></li> <li>• Conference Skills Workshop</li> <li>• Creative Thinking Workshop</li> <li>• Grant Application Skills Workshop</li> <li>• MW Style in Research Writing</li> <li>• MWP – From Dissertation to Book</li> <li>• MW Teaching Module Workshop</li> </ul>
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MW Lecture &amp; Masterclass &amp; Interviews by Fellows</b></li> <li>• MW Style in Research Writing</li> </ul>
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MW Lecture &amp; Masterclass &amp; Interviews by Fellows</b></li> <li>• MWP – From Draft to Submission</li> <li>• MWP – From Dissertation to Book</li> <li>• MW Teaching Module Workshop</li> </ul>
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MW Lecture &amp; Masterclass &amp; Interviews by Fellows</b></li> <li>• MWP – From Draft to Submission</li> <li>• MWP – From Dissertation to Book</li> <li>• MWP Publication workshop (with every department) – tbc</li> <li>• Grant Application Skills Workshop</li> </ul>
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MW Lecture &amp; Masterclass &amp; Interviews by Fellows</b></li> <li>• MWP – From Draft to Submission</li> <li>• MWP Multidisciplinary Workshops by Fellows</li> </ul>
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Draft Publication Submission</b></li> <li>• <b>MW Lecture &amp; Masterclass &amp; Interviews by Fellows</b></li> <li>• MWP – From Dissertation to Book</li> <li>• Communication Skills Workshop – tbc</li> <li>• MWP Multidisciplinary Workshops by Fellows</li> </ul>
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MW Lecture &amp; Masterclass &amp; Interviews by Fellows</b></li> <li>• MWP – From Dissertation to Book</li> <li>• MWP Multidisciplinary Workshops by Fellows</li> <li>• MW Teaching Module Workshop</li> </ul>
June-July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MW Lecture &amp; Masterclass &amp; Interviews by Fellows</b></li> <li>• <b>MW June Conference</b></li> <li>• MWP Multidisciplinary Workshops by Fellows</li> <li>• MWP Teaching Module Completion and Certificate</li> <li>• <b>Individual pages</b> for MWP Annual Report</li> </ul>



# MAX WEBER FELLOWS 2023-2024

- ABEL Patrick (LAW)
- ALAYRAC Pierre (HEC)
- ALJABASSINI Abdullah (RSCAS)
- BEGG Harry (RSCAS)
- BENGHELLAB Nour (LAW)
- BERNATSKYI Bohdan (LAW)
- BI Wei (ECO)
- ÇINELI Ipek Tugce (SPS)
- DANNA Raffaele (HEC)
- DE LA VEGA Noa (ECO)
- DOMINIK Paulina Dominika (HEC)
- FUJIBAYASHI Hirotaka (RSCAS)
- GABER Goran (HEC)
- GRAEFRATH Moritz Sebastian (SPS)
- GREAVES Ellen Jennifer (ECO)
- GRUDNICKA Anastazja Maria (HEC)
- HAMM Marylou, Floriane, Juliette (STG)
- HUSSAIN Dima (LAW)
- JABBOUR Alexandra (SPS)
- KNAAP Aden (RSCAS)
- KOCEMBA Karolina (LAW)
- KÖKKIZIL Melike (ECO)
- KOVÁTS Bence (SPS)
- KOZIURA Karolina (HEC)
- KREJCOVA Eva (SPS)
- LANCEREAU Guillaume (HEC)
- LASHCHUK Iuliia (RSCAS)
- LE COZANET Laurène (LAW)
- LEBEDENKO Svitlana (LAW)
- LESCHKE Julia (SPS)
- MAJEWSKI Kacper (LAW)
- MANTHA-HOLLANDS Ashley (RSCAS)
- MARABOUTAKI Christina (HEC)
- MARČENKO Miha (LAW)
- MEISKE Biljana (ECO)
- MESAROVICH Alexander (STG)
- MIERKE-ZATWARNICKI Alex Jordan (RSCAS)
- MONTI Matteo (LAW)
- MOORE Deirdre (HEC)
- MUKALAZI Miriam Mona (RSCAS)
- NABBEN Kelsie Ann (RSCAS)
- PARIHAR Parth (ECO)
- PERERA Isabel (SPS)
- PILLAI Gauri (LAW)
- PEYCHEVA Anna (LAW)
- PORTIER Camille (SPS)
- QUINTANA Francisco-José (LAW)
- REILJAN Andres (RSCAS)
- REINL Ann-Kathrin (RSCAS)
- RITHOLTZ Samuel (SPS)
- ROCHA DA SILVA Virginia (SPS)
- ROMASHCHENKO Ivan (LAW)
- SAGE Lucas Christophe Marc (SPS)
- SCHAFF Felix S.F. (SPS)
- SEMMALAR Gee Imaan (HEC)
- SHI Siyu (ECO)
- STIENSTRA Kim (SPS)
- STILLER Kenneth Thomas (STG)
- TEZER Zeynep (HEC)
- TURTUR Noelle (HEC)
- URIBURU Justina (LAW)
- VAN DER BAAREN Lucas Jan (RSCAS)
- VAN ZEE Benjamin (HEC)
- VILLANUEVA COLLAO Vanessa A. (LAW)
- WADLIG Gabriele (LAW)
- WAGNER Paulus (SPS)
- ZEMLIAKOVA Tetiana (HEC)



# FELLOWS' BIOSKETCHES



## DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

- BI Wei
- DE LA VEGA Noa
- GREAVES Ellen Jennifer
- KÖKKIZIL Melike
- MEISKE Biljana
- PARIHAR Parth
- SHI Siyu



## **Bi, Wei (CHN)**

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Mentor: Prof. Laurent Mathevet

Wei Bi completed his PhD in Economics at the Paris School of Economics. His primary research interests lie in the area of microeconomics theory including game theory, bounded rationality, industrial organization, and behavioural economics.

As a Max Weber Fellow, he will continue to explore his research in two directions: i) how cognitive distortions bias agents' behaviour; ii) applying game theory in the study of industrial organization. He is interested in the mistakes that people make when taking action. Some mistakes are just carelessness. Others are worthy of attention, such as reverse causation, illusory correlation, and bounded rationality. Additionally, there is huge potential for applying economic theories in the studies of industrial organization such as advertising, research and development, and predatory pricing.

He spent two years as a lecturer (ATER) at ENS Paris-Saclay, teaching undergraduate

courses, including international trade, and graduate courses including decision theory, game theory, dynamics modelling, and public economics.



## DE LA VEGA, Noa (ISR)

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Noa de la Vega is a PhD candidate at the Eitan Berglas School of Economics, Tel Aviv University. She was a member of the Israel Polak fellows programme for outstanding PhD students and was awarded a prestigious scholarship from the Israeli Council for Higher Education. Noa earned her MA in Economics, cum laude, and her BA in Economics and Psychology, summa cum laude, from Ben-Gurion University.

Noa specializes in labour economics and applied econometrics. Her research interests include labour market behaviour, gender economics, behavioural economics, and tax policy. She has conducted research projects that examined the impact of first childbirth on parents' labour supply, the influence of economic incentives on fertility, and the role of information barriers in implementing public policies. Her work has been published in the *Labour Economics* journal.

During her Fellowship period, Noa plans to conduct studies on the differential effect of the education system lockdown on fathers' and mothers' careers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition to her research, Noa has been a lecturer for the undergraduate core course 'Introduction to Econometrics' at Tel Aviv University since 2020. She has been able to share her expertise and teaching experience to guide students in this field.



## **GREAVES, Ellen Jennifer (GBR)**

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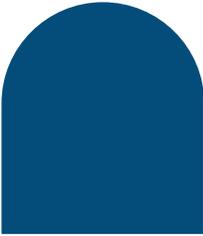
Office no. VF086

Mentor: Prof. Sule Alan

Ellen Greaves completed her PhD on the Economics of School Choice and Sorting at the University of Bristol in 2022. Before her PhD, Ellen worked for the Institute for Fiscal Studies as a Senior Research Economist, and at the Centre for Market and Public Organisation as a Research Assistant. Earlier projects during this time included child development, such as the role of month of birth and parents' marital status on educational and social outcomes; teacher bias; initial teacher training; an evaluation of reforms to teacher pay in England, and the interaction between public and private investments in education.

At the EUI, Ellen studies school effectiveness, the effect of school admissions priorities on inequality, and the effect of racial and social segregation on longer-term attitudes and behaviours. Ellen's PhD studied parents' preferences for school attributes, concluding that parents in England actively use school choice and value school

quality, for example by responding to the revelation of quality information. Another key question was how parents' residential choices depend on the school choice context. Structural modelling revealed the underlying mechanisms through which geographical school admissions criteria lead to property price premiums around good schools. However, empirical work found that only a minority of households use this residential channel to access their preferred school.



## **KÖKKIZIL, Melike (TUR)**

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Mentor: Prof. Sule Alan

Melike Kökkizil holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Milan-Bicocca (2021). Before joining the EUI, she was a post-doctoral fellow at the Faculty of Economics, Free University of Bolzano-Bozen.

Melike is an applied microeconomist with a keen interest in the subjects at the intersection of gender economics, cultural economics, and political economy. Her current research seeks to understand the determinants of inequality across various social groups, with the aim of contributing to the development of more egalitarian societies. In her PhD thesis, she specifically explored the gender-differential effects of Muslim religiosity on different educational outcomes, recognizing the crucial role of education in the social equalization process. Melike also has an ongoing study on the impacts of threats to identity on key factors influencing economic prosperity. Her research methodology encompasses a wide range of tools and skills,

including the implementation of quasi-experimental designs, the construction of geo-referenced databases, and the integration of historical and contemporary administrative and survey data.

During her time as a Max Weber Fellow, Melike aims to expand her research agenda, publish her current studies, and further enhance her teaching and research skills.



## **MEISKE, Biljana (SRB)**

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Mentor: Prof. Sule Alan

Biljana Meiske completed her PhD in Economics in 2022 from the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich and the Max Planck Institute for Tax Law and Public Finance. She comes to the EUI after a one-year post-doc at the Institute of Cognitive Sciences and Technologies of the National Research Council of Italy in Rome. Her research uses insights from behavioural economics and experimental methods to study conflict and cooperative behaviour. Her previous work studied the drivers of opposition to new immigration among established immigrants, punishing behaviour in social networks, the importance of monetary status for enjoyed influence, the effects of economic shocks on conflict behaviour etc.

During the Fellowship at the EUI, Biljana wants to pursue her research on understanding the origins and consequences of discriminatory behaviour and the policies employed to limit it. She is particularly interested in

cultural policies and collective memory institutions and their effect on the norms and behaviours in the societies subjected to them. At the EUI, Biljana plans to collaborate with the researchers centred around the 'Democracy in the 21st century' research cluster.



## **PARIHAR, Parth (USA)**

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Mentor: Prof. Laurent Mathevet

Parth Parihar completed his PhD in Economics from Princeton University in 2021. He came to the EUI after a one-year post-doc at the Wallis Institute of Political Economy at the University of Rochester. Parth's research interests lie in applied microeconomic theory, particularly in political economy. His work studies the forces that impel cooperation and conflict amongst agents with heterogeneous interests in dynamic settings, with a focus on bargaining and contribution games along with dynamic contests.

At the EUI, Parth aims to collaborate with the faculty and other Max Weber Fellows on a new research agenda that centres around the 'Crisis of Expert Knowledge and Authority' inter-disciplinary research cluster. He hopes to contribute to the cluster by analysing its guiding research questions from an information economics lens. Additionally, he hopes to continue to work on and complete several current working papers and

works in progress. He looks forward to fruitful research discussions and collaboration with his peers and faculty.

Parth has experience teaching graduate-level political economy theory at the University of Rochester, and serving as a teaching assistant for Introduction to Microeconomics, Intermediate Microeconomics, and a topics course in microeconomic theory (Economics of Uncertainty), as a graduate student at Princeton University.



## **SHI, Siyu (CHN)**

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Mentor: Prof. Alexander Monge-Naranjo

Siyu Shi completed his PhD in Economics at Arizona State University in 2023. He is a quantitative macroeconomist with research interests in technological change and inequality. He develops dynamic models to answer the questions at hand, uses microdata to document facts and parameterizes models. In his dissertation, he studies the impact of technological usage on life-cycle earnings. He develops a life-cycle model with a college decision, technology choice, and human capital investments to quantify the contribution of technology to earnings growth and earnings inequality.

As a Max Weber Fellow, Siyu aims to complete his ongoing projects and submit working papers. He also plans to develop new ideas with other researchers at the EUI.

Siyu has experience teaching undergraduate-level macroeconomics and as a teaching assistant for PhD-level macroeconomics at Arizona State University.



# FELLOWS' BIOSKETCHES



## DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND CIVILISATION

- ALAYRAC Pierre
- DANNA Raffaele
- DOMINIK Paulina Dominika
- GABER Goran
- GRUDNICKA Anastazja Maria
- KOZIURA Karolina
- LANCEREAU Guillaume
- MARABOUTAKI Christina
- MOORE Deirdre
- SEMMALAR Gee Imaan
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## **ALAYRAC, Pierre (FRA)**

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Mentor: Prof. Emmanuel Mourlon-Druol and Prof. Glenda Sluga

Pierre Alayrac is a historian and sociologist, working on internationalization and Europeanization processes, public and political bureaucracies, and economic knowledge and policies.

He obtained his PhD in social sciences from the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (Paris) in December 2022. He also graduated in social sciences from the École Normale Supérieure (Paris). He has taught a wide variety of courses (thematic, methodological, etc.) in political science, history and sociology at BA and MA level at the University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne and the École Normale Supérieure de Paris.

His first book focused on the kind of internationalism produced by the members of the Second International during a period of intense nationalization of European societies at the end of the nineteenth century.

At the EUI, Pierre is working on three projects. First, he is writing

a book based on his PhD. This work focuses on economists in EEC/EU institutions, and especially at the European Commission. It analyses how these economists have been recruited, how they have been put to work and their effects on the conduct of EEC/EU public action. Second, he works on original papers related to his thesis, especially on the kind of liberalism produced in Brussels. Finally, Pierre is starting a new research project on war reparations, and in particular the methods to evaluate the damage caused by conflicts.



## **DANNA, Raffaele (ITA)**

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Mentor: Prof. Lauren Kassell and Prof. Regina Grafe

Raffaele Danna received his PhD in History from the University of Cambridge in 2021 with his dissertation 'The Spread of Hindu-Arabic Numerals in the European Tradition of Practical Arithmetic: a Socio-Economic Perspective (13th–16th centuries)'.

Raffaele is interested in studying how the embodied circulation of knowledge contributes to economic, scientific, and technological change. During his PhD, he focused on the diffusion among European practitioners of Hindu-Arabic numerals (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9), reconstructing both an economic history and a social history of mathematics.

Before joining the EUI, Raffaele worked at the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies, where he contributed as an applied economist to the Horizon 2020 project ReCreating Europe. His research has been supported by, among others, the Cambridge Trust, the Faculty of History (University of Cambridge),

the Economic History Society, and the Cambridge Political Economy Society.

As a Max Weber Fellow, he will complete the publication of his first monograph. Meanwhile, he will work on a number of publications related to his PhD, and will start designing a new research project at the intersection of economic history and the history of science and technology.

In Cambridge, Raffaele taught late medieval history and historical methods, and contributed to courses on the history of capitalism, economic history, and the history of accounting in Pisa and Bologna.



## **DOMINIK, Paulina Dominika (POL)**

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Mentor: Prof. Corinna Unger and Prof. Pieter M. Judson

Paulina Dominik works at the intersection of global history and area studies. She earned her PhD at the Freie Universität Berlin where she was a doctoral fellow at the Graduate School of Global Intellectual History. She received her BA and MSt in Oriental Studies from the University of Oxford.

Her research interests include the history of imperialism and nationalism, the Ottoman and post-Ottoman Mediterranean, entanglements between Central-Eastern Europe and the Middle East, Polish political emigration in Europe and the Ottoman Empire, and the history of Orientalism.

As a Max Weber Fellow, Paulina is working on her first monograph, titled 'Poland and the Muslim World during the Age of Empire: A Global Biography of Seyfeddin Thadée Gasztowtt'. This project examines the emergence and dissemination of anti-imperial discourses and critiques of a Eurocentric world

order. It explores the cross-cultural transfer of ideas between Central-Eastern Europe and the Middle East through the biography of a Polish-French activist based in the Ottoman Empire and its former provinces in North Africa in the first two decades of the twentieth century.

At the EUI, Paulina is also developing a postdoctoral project that focuses on Polish imperial thought and the practices of informal imperialism after the dissolution of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth in 1795.

Paulina has mentored undergraduate students in global history and the history of the Ottoman Empire and co-taught a graduate seminar on informal empire.



## **GABER, Goran (SVN)**

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Mentor: Prof. Nicolas Guilhot and Prof. Lauren Kassell

Goran Gaber earned his PhD in Philosophy from the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales in Paris. He works at the crossroads of intellectual history, sociology of knowledge and political philosophy, and his current project employs digital research tools and methods to explore the early modern history of Critique.

After obtaining his doctorate, Goran was a postdoctoral researcher at the Leibniz-Zentrum für Literatur- und Kulturforschung in Berlin, the Oxford Centre for European History, and the Maison Française d'Oxford. He is the editor of the Slovenian translation of Max Weber's *Wissenschaft als Beruf* and has published several articles in English, Spanish, and French on Immanuel Kant, Michel Foucault and various figures in the history of historiography, like Francesco Robortello and Richard Simon.

At the EUI, Goran will continue his research on early modern books on the title pages

of which the notion of Critique originally appeared. He aims to expand his current *Corpus Criticorum* (1450-1650) to the end of the 17th century and collect information on the social, religious, and political characteristics of the authors, editors, translators and publishers of the above-mentioned writings. The digitally enhanced analysis of this bibliographic and prosopographic information will provide a fresh understanding of the various ideologies involved in Critique's early modern conceptualisation and propagation.



## **GRUDNICKA, Anastazja Maria (POL)**

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Mentor: Prof. Giancarlo Casale and Prof. Giorgio Riello

Anastazja is a historian of early modern Europe. Her research weaves cultural, intellectual, and social histories and explores the intersections of religion, identity, and culture. Anastazja read History at the School of Slavonic and East European Studies and at the University of Cambridge. She was a Wolfson Postgraduate Scholar in the Humanities at the Department of History, University College London, where she received her doctorate for a dissertation on the religious formation of Holy Roman Emperor Matthias Habsburg (1557-1619). Anastazja is currently writing a monograph which will offer the first full-length study of Matthias and a new interpretation of Habsburg Catholicism on the eve of the Thirty Years' War.

As a Max Weber Fellow, Anastazja is developing a new project which examines the relationship between peace and piety in early modern Europe. It explores how peace featured in Christian conceptions of piety and what role religion played in the practices of peace, especially

in multi-confessional contexts. This project seeks to further our understanding of a potent, yet still little understood, concept of peace and to illuminate an important, though often unappreciated, capacity for religion to foster peace.

Anastazja has taught courses in historical methodology and European history from the 15th to the 20th century to undergraduate students in History, Economics, and Politics, and mentored masters and doctoral students. Her teaching interests centre around early modern, religious, and Central European history.



## KOZIURA, Karolina (POL)

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Mentor: Prof. Monika Baar and Prof. Corinna Unger

Karolina Koziura is a historical sociologist whose work combines comparative studies of colonialism and empire, environmental history, and politics of knowledge in/about Eastern Europe. Karolina received her PhD in sociology and historical studies from the New School for Social Research in 2023. During her graduate studies, Karolina was a visiting fellow at the Institute for Human Sciences in Vienna, the NYU Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia, and at the Open Society Archives in Budapest. Her research was published in, among other places, *European Journal of Sociology* and *East European Politics, Societies, and Culture*.

As a Max Weber Fellow, Karolina will revise her dissertation for a monograph, tentatively titled: 'Erasing violence: political contest over the recognition of the Great Ukrainian Famine of 1932-1933.' Based on multinational and multilingual archival research conducted in seven countries, interviews,

and ethnographic observations the project examines the emergence, dissemination, and contestation of different global narratives about the Ukrainian famine, known today as the Holodomor, from the 1930s until the post-socialist moment. At the EUI, Karolina also plans to develop her second project on the uneven distribution of epistemic power in writing the environmental history of European borderlands.

At the New School, Karolina taught numerous courses related to historical sociology, politics of memory, comparative history of mass violence and reckoning. She also gave public lectures at the Institute for Human Sciences in Vienna, Central European University, and Maynooth National University of Ireland.



## **LANCEREAU, Guillaume (FRA)**

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Mentor: Prof. Nicolas Guilhot and Prof. Pieter Judson

Guillaume Lancereau is a historian of nineteenth-century Western Europe and Russia with a particular interest in transnational intellectual history. After graduating from Sciences Po Paris and the *École Normale Supérieure*, he was a visiting scholar at Princeton University, while teaching history at Science Po Toulouse and the Sorbonne.

Guillaume received his PhD on the historiography of the French Revolution from the *École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales*. The thesis studied the political uses of history in Third-Republic France and analysed the symbolic struggles over competing conceptions of the historian's craft, while putting a spotlight on Russian scholars to reveal the making of cross-border controversies and transnational academic reputations.

At the EUI, Guillaume will be conducting a research project on the global history of positivism from Auguste Comte to

the interwar years. He intends to shed new light on one of the most widely diffused intellectual movements across the planet, with active branches from Russia and Turkey to Western and Central Europe, India, and the Americas. Acknowledging positivism as a key missing link in the history of modernity, this research will focus on how positivists responded to challenges such as secularization, slavery and colonization, and the place of women and the proletariat in a globalized, industrial world. It will also help understanding of how positivist politics, developed under the motto 'Order and Progress,' resonates with contemporary technocratic governance and anti-democratic policies.



## **MARABOUTAKI, Christina (GRC)**

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Mentor: Prof. Benno Gammerl

Christina Maraboutaki comes from the fields of law, sociology and political science with a specific and clear interest in gender studies.

In 2021 she received her PhD in Documentation Studies, Linguistics and Literature from La Sapienza, University of Rome. In her doctoral thesis, titled 'Technology and (the Promise of) Pleasure: a Study on Gender, Sexuality and Subjectivity from a Posthuman Perspective', she examined the sex industry's appropriation of robotics, artificial intelligence technology and virtual reality technology, focusing on the gender and sexual connotations of this convergence. Christina also holds an MA in political science and sociology from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and an MSc in gender and sexuality studies from Birkbeck, University of London.

As a Max Weber Fellow, she is undertaking a research project, titled 'In Greece Too: Gender

Violence and the Greek Women's Movement(s), 1984-2023', examining the institutional responses (criminal justice system and media) to gender-based and sexual violence in the last few decades in Greece and the role of the feminist and women's movements and LGBTQ community in informing and shaping them.

In 2022 Christina co-taught a seminar on the History of Gender and Sexuality at the EUI at the doctoral level.

Since 2016 she has been a member of the Athens Bar Association.



## **MOORE, Deirdre (CAN)**

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Mentor: Prof. Lauren Kassell and Prof. Giorgio Riello

Deirdre Moore received her PhD in the History of Science from Harvard University in 2021 with her dissertation, 'The Heart of Red: Cochineal in Colonial Mexico and India'. Her research focuses on how complex relationships between humans, plants and animals led to the production of valued commodities in the early modern period with a concentration on the history of cochineal dye insects in Europe, Asia and the Americas.

Deirdre's research has been supported by the American Indian Studies Graduate Student Fellowship, Newberry Library, Chicago, the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies Summer Research Grant, the Tyler Fellowship, Garden and Landscape Studies Department, Dumbarton Oaks and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada among others.

As a Max Weber Fellow, she will revise her dissertation for a monograph and work on

additional publications from her dissertation research and a second project.

At Harvard, Deirdre helped teach courses on technology and democracy and the historiography and methodology of the history of science. Her teaching interests include the history of early modern commodities, the history and origins of international trade in the early modern period and the history of entomology and insect interactions with human communities.



## **SEMMALAR, Gee Imaan (IND)**

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Mentor: Prof. Benno Gammerl and Prof. Pieter Judson

Gee Semmalar is an activist, artist and scholar working on legal histories, queer epistemologies, archival studies, critical colonial studies and critical caste studies. He is expected to be awarded a doctorate in Law by the University of Kent, UK by December 2023. He secured the Vice Chancellor's Research Scholarship (2019-2022) at the University of Kent for his PhD.

During the MWP Fellowship at the EUI, he will be working with Prof Benno Gammerl and Prof Pieter Judson on his first monograph. Based on his doctoral dissertation, it is an interdisciplinary legal history work on the legal and administrative production and regulation of gender deviance as caste categories in nineteenth-century British India. He has published several academic and journalistic publications on caste, gender and resistance in South Asia, many of which have been included in undergraduate syllabi in universities in India and the US. He has taught

undergraduate Law students at the University of Kent in several modules including, 'A Critical Introduction to Law' and 'Criminal Law'. In 2022, he was awarded the *Modern Law Review's* Simon Roberts Award for research granted to the best applicant in the field of legal anthropology, legal ethnography and socio-legal studies'. He has experience in creative writing, films, theatre and performance.



## **TEZER, Zeynep (TUR)**

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Mentor: Prof. Giancarlo Casale and Prof. Lauren Kassell

Zeynep Tezer is a historian of the early-modern Ottoman Empire working at the intersection of social and cultural history. She earned her PhD from the University of Chicago in 2023. Her dissertation project, entitled 'The Poet Smiles to the Fool: Critical Discourse and Marginalization in the Ottoman Empire, ca. 1550 ca. 1650,' investigates the reappropriation of the Ottoman regime and institutions through the criticisms and subversive actions of the socially disadvantaged groups and individuals. At the EUI, she will work on transforming her dissertation into a book manuscript. She will continue to build on her research interests, including the connection between literary form and subversive dissent in the Ottoman Empire, the role of humour in social and political arguments, and the processes of social marginalization.



## **TURTUR, Noelle (USA)**

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Mentor: Prof. Lucy Riall and Prof. Pieter Judson

Noelle Turtur is a historian of modern Europe and European empires. She received her doctorate from Columbia University in 2022. She studies Italian migration and imperialism primarily through the lens of business history. Her work uses Italy as a case study to examine the respective powers of the nation-states, citizens, and subjects, the different ways states exercise power beyond their borders, and the transformation of imperial power over time.

As a Max Weber Fellow, she will revise her manuscript, 'Making Fascist Empire Work: Italian Enterprises, Labor, and Organized Community in Occupied Ethiopia, 1896-1943'. A study of enterprises in Italian East Africa, her book reveals that 'fascist settler colonialism' was facilitated by a violent military occupation and a disciplinary corporatist state, yet depended on the capital, labour, and knowledge of Africans, members of the Ottoman diaspora, and Italians. She is

currently preparing an article on the political economy of fascist imperialism and another on the conflicts between fascist racial and corporatist hierarchies in Italian East Africa.

Noelle teaches courses about imperialism, migration, political economy, and political philosophy. As the Eugen and Jacqueline Weber Fellow at UCLA, she taught the seminar 'Empires of Profit: Case Studies in the Co-Evolution of Imperialism and Modern Business' and the lecture 'Migration and the Making of Modern Europe, 1789 to the present day.' At Columbia, Noelle taught 'Contemporary Civilizations,' a year-long seminar on history and philosophy.



## **VAN ZEE, Benjamin (USA)**

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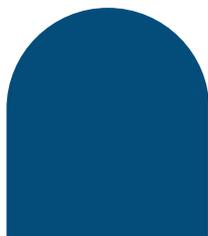
Mentor: Prof. Pieter Judson and Prof. Lucy Riall

Ben Van Zee is a cultural historian of modern East Central Europe and the world. His research interests include the histories of modern Germany and Poland, the Habsburg Monarchy and the successor states, comparative empires, migration, and transnational history. He holds a PhD from the University of Chicago and an MA from the Freie Universität Berlin.

He is currently working on a book manuscript tentatively titled, 'The Underdog Imperialists: Poles, Germans, and Interwar Emigrant Colonialism.' It charts the history of a novel style of imperialism that several traditionally emigrant-sending states pioneered in the years after the Great War. At a time when the world was divided among the Great Powers, self-styled second-rate powers like Poland and Germany, Italy and Japan developed a strategy of organizing their outflows of emigrants to expand their respective nation's political and economic footprint overseas. By strategically

settling their compatriots in nationally homogeneous company towns on isolated frontiers in South America and Africa, emigrant colonialists aimed to forge enclaves of self-governance abroad. By analysing German and Polish primary sources alongside the existing scholarship on Italy and Japan, this book shows how all four of them – through their rivalry and mutual inspiration – collaboratively developed emigrant colonialism as a new form of modern imperialism.

Ben Van Zee has taught courses on divided Germany and Korea in the Cold War, on the history of human rights, and on modern East Central Europe.



## ZEMLIAKOVA, Tetiana (UKR)

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Mentor: Prof. Nicolas Guilhot

Tetiana Zemliakova is an intellectual historian of modern disciplinary knowledge. In her work, Tetiana investigates the intersection between the institutional development of modern research universities and the rise of academic disciplines in Germany and the US.

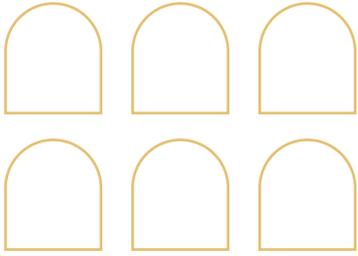
Tetiana obtained her PhD in History and Civilization from the European University Institute in 2022. Her thesis explores a formative period in the history of American political science from the mid-1850s to 1903 and reconstructs how the nineteenth-century collegiate political learning, or moral philosophy, became the twentieth-century university political discipline, or political science.

In 2018–2019, Tetiana worked on German-American cultural transfer studies as a Research Fellow at Harvard University. In 2017–2018, she investigated the comparative institutional development of university systems as a Senior Researcher at

the Center for Institutional Analysis of Science and Education (EUSP). She also holds her BA and MA in Political Science from Kyiv-Mohyla Academy and the European University at St. Petersburg.

During her time as a Max Weber Fellow, Tetiana will be rewriting her doctoral thesis as a book. She is also developing a post-doctoral research project on what she preliminarily called ‘the institutional logics of modernity’ the comparative study of parliamentary politics and university knowledge as two emanations that emerged after traditional institutions adapted to process the participation of novel actors.

Tetiana worked as a teaching assistant for graduate courses in comparative politics, history of political ideologies, and sociology of knowledge.



# FELLOWS' BIOSKETCHES

DEPARTMENT OF LAW

- ABEL Patrick
- BENGHELLAB Nour
- BERNATSKYI Bohdan
- HUSSAIN Dima
- KOCEMBA Karolina
- LE COZANET Laurène
- LEBEDENKO Svitlana  
(joint affiliation LAW&RSC)
- MAJEWSKI Kacper
- MARČENKO Miha
- MONTI Matteo
- PEYCHEVA Anna
- PILLAI Gauri
- QUINTANA Francisco-José
- ROMASHCHENKO Ivan
- URIBURU Justina
- VILLANUEVA COLLAO Vanessa A.
- WADLIG Gabriele



## **ABEL, Patrick (DEU)**

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Mentor: Prof. Joanne Scott

Patrick Abel is Assistant Professor (Akademischer Rat a.Z.) at the University of Passau, Germany. As a Max Weber Fellow, Patrick is researching the role of the State and the EU in the 'Great Transformation' towards a decarbonised economy and society. He explores how constitutional law governs this process, and how this process may in turn, even if inadvertently, change fundamental concepts of constitutional law. Patrick's research interests further include EU and international economic law – especially its interaction with environmental law –, energy law, and German constitutional law, EU law and public international law more broadly.

Patrick is a fully qualified German lawyer (First and Second German State Exams in Law) with a German and Colombian background. He holds a Magister Juris degree from the University of Oxford and a PhD from the University of Göttingen, Germany. His dissertation in international investment law

on 'International Investor Obligations' won several awards, including the 2022 Roman Herzog Award for the best dissertation on the social market economy in 2021, and the 2022 Körber Prize for Doctoral Studies for the second-best German dissertation in the humanities in 2021.

Patrick publishes and teaches on the full range of German constitutional law, EU law and international law. He has advised state institutions, NGOs, national and international companies on legal issues of decarbonisation and sustainability, including as an expert for the German Bundestag's Committee on Climate Action and Energy.



## **BENGHELLAB, Nour (CAN)**

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Mentor: Prof. Martijn Hesselink

Nour Benghellab completed a PhD dissertation at the School of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences, Paris (École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales) in Law, Political Studies, and Philosophy. Her dissertation focuses on the literary aesthetics of Carl Schmitt's literary writings to understand the mythopoetic procedures at the heart of his political-legal project. She is also a lecturer of International Public Law and Legal Theory at the University of Quebec in Montreal for undergraduate and master's degrees. Her main research fields are Legal History, Theory and Philosophy of Law, Public International Law, and Constitutional Law.

During her stay as a Max Weber Fellow, Nour Benghellab intends to approach Nazi legal thought as a genuine part of European legal thought. Racism, colonialism, anti-Semitism, social Darwinism, eugenics and extractivism do not belong solely to Nazi ideology, but were (and still are) widely

spread in Western (European) societies and academia. In this perspective, she intends to focus on the genealogy of Nazi legal concepts in modern legal thought, as it relates to both the conquest of human lifeworld and the extractive relation to the environment.



## **BERNATSKYI, Bohdan (UKR)**

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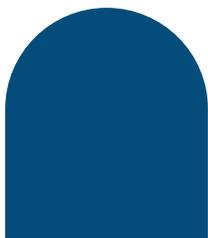
Bohdan Bernatskyi is a Senior Lecturer at the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (he teaches diplomatic law and a course on sanctions). His current research as a Max Weber Fellow focuses on the prohibition of political parties and international sanctions. In 2019, Bohdan defended a PhD thesis on Forming the Ukrainian model of the prohibition of political parties in light of international standards and practices at the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy.

Bohdan is contributing to the work of Project Expedite Justice in Ukraine. He is a founder of an online sanctions platform, Sanctions Finder, with information about all designations imposed by the US, EU and UK. The concept of his platform is to cultivate a culture of good governance by properly managing open data in the sanctions area.

During the 1st-year of his Fellowship at the EUI, Bohdan worked on the academic paper Why and when democracies ban political parties: a classification of

democratic orientations to party bans. The following academic priorities include accomplishing the project about sanctions from a data perspective.

Bohdan has participated in numerous working groups in the Ukrainian Parliament and government, including groups on political party reform and transitional justice design.



## **HUSSAIN, Dima (SYR)**

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Mentor: Prof. Sarah Nouwen

Dima Hussain is a researcher in law at the European University Institute where she is expected to complete her PhD in law. Her thesis, 'Tribal Laws and Legal Pluralism in Syria: Societal Justice Beyond Legal Centralism,' is interdisciplinary in the field of legal anthropology. The thesis examines tribal law in Syria and its resilience in a complete cycle of governance, from pre-state to a failed state, passing by various forms of central state and other non-state governing actors. It further analyses how tribal law interacts with state law and shari'a law in a legal pluralistic sphere. Dima has a Master of Laws in Comparative, European, and International Laws from the European University Institute. Her first Master of Laws was in American Law and was obtained from Syracuse University in New York in the United States and her Bachelor of Laws is from Damascus University in Syria.

As a Max Weber Fellow, Dima will focus on working on a book manuscript that builds on her

PhD thesis research and conclusions. The book explores two central topics: tribal law's interaction with state law since the 19th century, and tribal law's interaction with shari'a law after the 2011 Syrian Uprising. Employing scholarly arguments derived from legal pluralism theory, the project will explore tribal law in historical and contemporary Syria.



## **KOCEMBA, Karolina (POL)**

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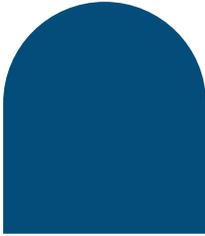
Mentor: Prof. Claire Kilpatrick Prof. Gráinne de Búrca

Karolina Kocemba is a researcher at the Centre for Legal Education and Social Theory, University of Wrocław. There, she defended her PhD thesis, 'Interactions in spaces of legal education,' devoted to the spatial influence on interactions in places of legal education (mainly in Poland but compared with the law faculties in the Czech Republic, Netherlands, and Australia). At the same university, she graduated with two master's degrees in law and administration. She is also a graduate of the International Master in Sociology of Law of the International Institute of Sociology of Law, Oñati (Spain).

In her work, Karolina focuses on women's rights, constitutionalism, strategic litigation, legal education, and sociology of law. At the EUI, she will examine the constitutional litigation undertaken to limit women's rights in CEE countries in the populist moment. The research object is the actors' participation in constitutional cases on women's

rights and their legal strategies and arguments. She will analyse the participation of actors, especially right-wing organizations and churches, the type of participation, their legal strategy and arguments, and convergence with the arguments in the Constitutional Courts' rulings.

Karolina mainly taught the sociology of law classes for law students (MA) and co-led a three-year seminar series on strategic litigation at the University of Wrocław. Karolina was also a teacher and tutor of the Empirical Legal Research course in the International EDELNet+ PhD Training Programme.



## **LE COZANET, Laurène (FRA)**

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Mentor: Prof. Deirdre Curtin

Laurène Le Cozanet received her PhD in Political Science from Paris Dauphine PSL University (2019). Her research focuses on the governmental uses of digital technologies and their regulation. In other words, she examines what the rise of digital technologies is doing to politics. Co-winner of the Eicher Prize 2022 for her thesis on the ‘vocationalisation’ of university curricula, she has held postdoctoral positions at CNAM and IFRIS / EHESS (France).

As a Max Weber Fellow, Laurène intends to begin new research on European interoperability policy, promoting the ability of digital technologies and services to share information. She will explore the way in which the pursuit of interoperability calls into question the boundary between the public and the private, constitutive of politics in its modern definition. This project follows on from her previous research on the history of personal data protection, combining science and technology studies

(STS) with history and sociology of Law.

Laurène has taught Political Science, History of Anthropology, Sociology of Education, STS and social science fieldwork at undergraduate, masters and doctoral level at various institutions including Paris Dauphine PSL University, Sciences Po Paris, École Normale Supérieure and Université de Lyon. She has co-organised doctoral workshops in STS in France and India, seminars (contemporary forms of industry; multidisciplinary approach to data) and conferences (relations between universities and the ‘economy’; history of the social security number; publics of quantification).



## **LEBEDENKO, Svitlana (UKR)**

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Mentor: Prof. Peter Drahos and Prof. Deirdre Curtin

Svitlana Lebedenko is on leave from the European University Institute where she has been a Max Weber Fellow since 2022.

In 2023–2024, she is appointed as a Post-Doctoral Global Fellow at the Hauser Global Law School Program at NYU School of Law affiliated with the Engelberg Center on Innovation Law and Policy. Her research focuses on regulation of technology markets, intellectual property law, and innovation systems.

She holds a PhD in Law from the European University Institute, where she was awarded the EUI Special Doctoral Fellowship in Law (Hans Kelsen Grant). She is trained in information technology and intellectual property law, comparative, international, and European Union law.

At NYU School of Law, Svitlana Lebedenko is completing a book project tentatively entitled ‘Russian Innovation and Intellectual Property: What Went Wrong’, a historically and

empirically informed case study with a focus on information technology and biotechnology sectors. The manuscript examines Soviet and Russian 100-year history of institutional experiments with legal forms, incentives, and organizational arrangements in search of an optimal system of knowledge production and diffusion. In addition to the book project, Svitlana Lebedenko continues her research on the regulation of technology markets in the context of China-Russia innovation cooperation. She is also developing a new comparative law project on intellectual property legal transplants and innovation in transition economies.



## **MAJEWSKI, Kacper (POL)**

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Mentor: Prof. Urška Šadl

Kacper Majewski's research lies at the intersection between legal and constitutional theory, and public law.

While at the EUI, Kacper intends to study the role of certain legal concepts in structuring interactions between public institutions. Kacper is particularly interested in the idea of unconstitutionality as it functions in legal systems, such as that of the UK, where actions of public institutions can be lawful despite being unconstitutional. Another idea Kacper wants to explore is the doctrine of the margin of appreciation, focusing especially on its reception by the domestic courts of ECHR member states.

For his DPhil at the University of Oxford, Kacper tried to understand how, even in a deep constitutional crisis, everyday legal practice is capable of carrying on largely as before. More generally, his thesis seeks to develop a framework for theorising non-state legal practices, which often lack

many of the systematic qualities that characterise modern legal systems.

Before joining the EUI, Kacper was Lecturer in Law at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, where he taught constitutional, administrative, and EU law. He has taught undergraduate courses in constitutional law, administrative law, EU law, and jurisprudence at several Oxford colleges and at Queen Mary University of London. He holds a BA from the University of Oxford and an MSc from the London School of Economics and Political Science.



## MARČENKO, Miha (SVN)

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Mentor: Prof. Urška Šadl and Prof. Arnulf Becker Lorca

Miha Marčenko is an international law scholar who holds a PhD in Public International Law from the University of Amsterdam. His dissertation, entitled 'The Role of the City as a Discursive Practice in International Law and Governance' explores the rise of the city as a discursive frame for (counter)hegemonic struggles in international law and policy-making. Beyond the connection between cities and international law, he is interested in the socio-legal examination of international institutional practices in the fields of human rights and sustainable development. During his PhD, Miha was a member of the Asser Institute for International and European Law in The Hague, Netherlands. In addition to academic work, he also worked with international law as a researcher at an NGO called the Syrian Legal Development Programme and as an intern at the UN Codification Division and the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia.

As a second year Max Weber Fellow, Miha will continue his research into how the local is shaped as a distinct type of agency and a scale of governance in international legal discourse. In particular, he is interested in the legal and political significance of the narratives of localisation and local representation within the United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda and international human rights law.

During his first year of the Fellowship, Miha obtained a teaching certificate. Additionally, he presented his work as a guest lecturer in international law courses.



## **MONTI, Matteo (ITA)**

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Mentor: Prof. Nicolas Petit

Matteo Monti received his PhD in Comparative Constitutional Law from the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies (Italy). His PhD project dealt with the relationship between asymmetric federalism and secession in multinational federalizing processes. Prior to joining the EUI, he was a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Pisa and at Luiss Guido Carli. During these experiences, he worked on the regulation of digital platforms, digital populism, and free speech online.

His research interests cover both comparative and Italian constitutional law and EU law, especially multi-level protection of fundamental rights, new media and the Internet, and comparative federalism.

As a Max Weber Fellow, Matteo Monti will work on how the EU protects, and could protect, online public discourse from digital populism, looking especially at the issues of disinformation and electoral manipulation.

In his academic career, he has also been involved in many teaching activities both in English and Italian. He taught courses and lessons in Comparative Constitutional law and Law and Technologies at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels at the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Luiss Guido Carli, Bocconi University, and the University of Pisa.



## **PEYCHEVA, Anna (BGR)**

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Mentor: Prof. Deirdre Curtin

Anna Peycheva obtained her doctorate from Kent Law School, University of Kent, analysing the informal legislative influence of the European Central Bank in the overhaul of European economic and crisis governance in response to the sovereign debt crisis. Anna has been an Early Career Visiting Fellow at the University of Turin Law Department, where she developed a Marie Curie grant proposal focused on the institutional evolution of the European Stability Mechanism (ESM). She has served in government as advisor on Economic and Monetary Union issues to the Bulgarian Minister of Finance in the Caretaker Government of Fall 2021. She has also worked in the Brussels think-tank sector, most recently as a Visiting Fellow with the Wilfried Martens Centre for European Studies in Brussels, where she published research on the treaty reform of the ESM.

At the EUI Anna will embark on a research project set to explore the constitutional repercussions

of the European Central Bank's Strategy Review under the supervision of Professor Deirdre Curtin. Wherever possible, Anna engages with her academic research through the lens of Critical Legal Studies, in the vein of Professor Christian Joerges, and is an avid proponent of the explanatory potential of Niklas Luhmann's Systems theory for the resolution of complex legal framework problems.



## **PILLAI, Gauri (IND)**

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Mentor: Prof. Gráinne De Burca

Gauri Pillai graduated with a Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Oxford in 2022. Her doctoral thesis locates India as a player on the global stage for reproductive rights. Set against frantic negotiations on abortion across the world, she examines India's (often ignored) contributions to the conversation, and how the Indian Constitution's potential can be fully realised. She specifically interrogates what a discrimination law framing brings to the debate, and constructs a new 'constitutional home' for reproductive rights in India.

She is, currently, Assistant Professor (Law) at the National Law School of India University, Bangalore, where she teaches Constitutional Law and Family Law. She is also Vice-Chair of Research and Faculty Chair for the Academic Fellow Programme. During her time at Oxford, she was Graduate Teaching Assistant on the Bachelor of Civil Law, teaching Comparative Equality and Human Rights Law. She was

also Managing Editor of the Oxford Human Rights Hub. Before the DPhil, she read for the Bachelor of Civil Law at Oxford on a Rhodes Scholarship. Gauri enjoys the process of writing and bringing her research to varied audiences.

At the EUI, apart from working on her monograph, Gauri will study why different constitutions (and courts) present different answers to certain seemingly universal questions on abortion. She asks what this reveals about constitutionalism, and whether it disrupts historically entrenched hierarchies within constitutional law.



## QUINTANA, Francisco-José (ARG)

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Mentor: Prof. Sergio Puig

Francisco-José Quintana is a legal scholar interested in the politics, history, and theory of international law and global governance. He will defend his PhD in Law thesis at the University of Cambridge in 2023. He holds an LLM from Harvard Law School (where he obtained two Dean's Scholar prizes), an LLM in Public International Law from the London School of Economics and Political Science (with distinction), and a Degree in Law (Abogacía) from the Universidad Torcuato Di Tella (UTDT). He was previously a Research Associate at the Geneva Graduate Institute and a fixed-term Lecturer at UTDT, and has also taught at other universities including Cambridge.

As a Max Weber Fellow, Francisco will study the potential of employing regional frameworks as leverage for international legal change in the interests of the Global South. His research will delve into instances where Latin American states sought to use regional law and institutions to

change international economic law. This project builds on his doctoral research on the rise of human rights in inter-American law and organisation, which he intends to develop into a book.

Francisco's work has been published in journals such as the *European Journal of International Law* and the *American Journal of International Law*. He has been a Gates Cambridge Scholar, a Chevening Scholar, a Fulbright Scholar, and a De Fortabat Fellow.



## **ROMASHCHENKO, Ivan (UKR)**

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Mentor: Prof. Mathias Siems

Ivan Romashchenko has the research goal to assess the interconnection between digitalisation and human rights in company law, and to suggest recommendations for the improvement of regulations and practice in this area. He has more than 10 years of research experience, as well as teaching company law, civil law, international private law, and cultural rights to undergraduate and postgraduate students at the Department of Civil Law at Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv (Ukraine) as well as business law at the American University of the Middle East (Kuwait). He has significant experience in comparative legal research.

In 2020, he defended his PhD thesis 'Related Party Transactions and Corporate Groups: When Eastern Europe Meets the West' at Leiden University (the Netherlands) with an extensive comparative overview of Dutch, German, Polish and EU company laws and published a book in Wolters Kluwer. While writing

his PhD he was a guest researcher at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law (Hamburg, Germany) in 2016 (July and August; the Institute's scholarship) and 2017 (August; the DAAD scholarship). During 2021-2023 he was working as a Senior Researcher of the Law School's LegalTech (Legal Technology) Centre at Mykolas Romeris University (Vilnius, Lithuania) within the project 'Digitalisation of Company Law: Harmonisation Challenges and Opportunities in Selected Jurisdictions (DigiCoL)' and published several articles.



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Mentor: Prof. Sarah Nouwen

Justina Uriburu is a PhD Candidate in International Law at the Graduate Institute, Geneva. Her research focuses on international adjudication, the history and theory of international law, and Latin America and international law. As a Max Weber Fellow, Justina will explore the influence that law firms exert on states' decisions on whether and where to resort to international adjudication, and how they frame their legal claims. She will combine doctrinal, critical, and sociological approaches to shed light on corporate influence in international adjudication and examine its impact, particularly on the Global South.

Justina completed her Degree in Law at Universidad Torcuato Di Tella (UTDT) in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where she graduated second in her class. She obtained an LLM in International Law at University College London as a Chevening Scholar. She has extensive experience teaching international law at the undergraduate and master

levels, including at the Graduate Institute's LLM in International Law, UTDT's Law degree and MSc in International Relations, and the Swiss School for International Relations.

Justina's works have been published in the *American Journal of International Law*, the *Leiden Journal of International Law*, and the *London Review of International Law*. Justina combines academic expertise with first-hand experience in international adjudication. She has worked as an international lawyer, including in a case before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and in the campaign for the election of Professor Marcelo Kohen to the ICJ.



## VILLANUEVA COLLAO, Vanessa A. (PER)

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Mentor: Prof. Mathias Siems

Vanessa's foremost research interests are at the intersection of law and technology, with a particular focus on corporate law (Business Law, Securities Regulation, Corporate Technologies, and Fintech). Her secondary interests are Comparative Law, Contracts, and Empirical Methodologies in Law. As a Max Weber Fellow, Vanessa plans to develop Models of Governance for Accessible Cryptomarkets, running a lab experiment.

Vanessa holds a JSD (expected 2023) from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she served as a senior editor for the *Comparative Labor Law and Policy Journal*. Her dissertation assesses how cryptointermediaries can address conflicts of interest in decentralized finance. She has been a teaching assistant in Contracts and Civil procedure and a research assistant in Securities Regulation. Currently, Vanessa is a research fellow for the 'South EU Google Data Governance Chair' project at the Roma Tre

University, where she teaches Empirical Methodology to Doctoral Students and Corporate Technologies to JDs.

Her scholarship includes peer-reviewed articles in English, Italian, and Spanish law reviews. Moreover, her work has been selected for presentation at the Young Comparativists Committee section of the American Association of Comparative Law, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, the Law and Society Association, and Jean Monnet Chairs events, among other prestigious venues.

Vanessa Villanueva is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley (LLM) and the University of Genova, Department of Law (JD) and Department of Economics (MA).



## **WADLIG, Gabriele (AUT)**

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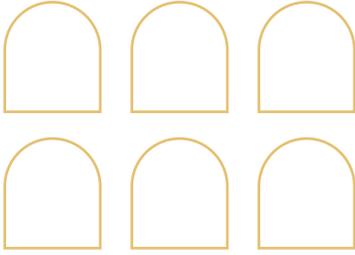
Mentor: Prof. Neha Jain

Gabriele Wadlig is interested in questions concerning international and transnational dimensions of the global governance of nature, technology, and infrastructure. She is also a post-doctoral research associate at the Chair of Legal and Constitutional Studies with Interdisciplinary Relations at TU Dresden, where she works on the 'Legal and Political Challenges of the Cyber-Physical Social Road System' (part of the project 'Digital Twin of the Road System — Physical-Informational Representation of the Future Road System').

Gabriele's previous work has focused on the role of international organizations in international law as related to the history and theory of international legal concepts. She attended the Juridical Science Doctorate (JSD) Program at New York University (NYU) School of Law where she wrote her dissertation on 'The International (Un)making of Tenure Security'.

Prior to her doctoral studies, Gabriele obtained an LLM in International Legal Studies from NYU (funded by Fulbright), a Mag.a iur. from University of Graz, and a Joint Master's Degree in Sustainable Development (MSc) from the Universities of Venezia/Graz/Leipzig. She also holds a BSc from the Vienna University of Economics and Business.

During her doctoral studies at NYU, Gabriele co-facilitated the Feminist Legal Theory Reading Group and convened several reading groups for upper-level students on critical approaches to international law and co-taught a course on 'The Nature of Governing' at the University of Melbourne.



# FELLOWS' BIOSKETCHES

DEPARTMENT OF  
POLITICAL AND  
SOCIAL SCIENCES

- ÇINELI Ipek Tugce
- GRAEFRATH Moritz Sebastian
- JABBOUR Alexandra
- KOVÁTS Bence
- KREJCOVA Eva
- LESCHKE Julia
- PERERA Isabel
- PORTIER Camille
- RITHOLTZ Samuel
- ROCHA DA SILVA Virginia
- SAGE Lucas Christophe Marc
- SCHAFF Felix S.F.
- STIENSTRA Kim
- WAGNER Paulus



## ÇINELI, İpek Tugce (TUR)

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Mentor: Prof. Elias Dinas

İpek Çineli received her PhD in Political Science from the University of California, Davis. In Spring 2020, she was a visiting graduate student at UC Berkeley. İpek holds an MSc in Comparative Politics from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). Before receiving her PhD, she completed MA degrees in Economics at Bogazici University and Political Science at Sabanci University.

İpek's main research interests are in comparative politics and political economy focusing on state building and state capacity. In her dissertation, she explores the interactions between international and domestic factors in shaping state capacity and policy outcomes. She is particularly interested in understanding how the development of the modern state in early modern Europe affected the state development trajectories outside Western Europe and why bell-curve theories of state building fail to fully explain the relationship between war and state building

all around the world.

As a Max Weber Fellow, İpek will work on turning her dissertation research into a book project by examining the diffusion of the modern state at the intersection of international relations and comparative politics. She will also work on expanding her dissertation research to generate new research questions. For instance, she will investigate how international and domestic factors interact and impact variations in nationalism.

İpek has experience teaching quantitative research methods, comparative politics, and international relations at UC Davis at the undergraduate level.



## **GRAEFRATH, Moritz Sebastian (DEU)**

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Mentor: Prof. Stefanie Hofmann

Moritz S. Graefrath earned his PhD in political science with a specialization in international relations (IR) from the University of Notre Dame in 2023. Before joining the Max Weber Programme, he served as a Grand Strategy, Security, and Statecraft fellow with a joint appointment at Harvard University's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs and the Security Studies Program at MIT.

His research operates at the intersection of IR theory and international security, focusing on great power politics and conceptual innovation. It has appeared in *International Theory*, is under review at several journals, and he has presented it at meetings of APSA, ISA, ISSS-IS, MPSA, and several other venues.

During his graduate studies, Moritz taught three undergraduate classes as an instructor of record and served as a teaching assistant with independently led sections for several years. He

has taught classes both alone and with co-instructors and has experience with in-person and virtual formats. Like his research, the classes he has taught have covered a diverse range of topics in IR theory and international security and were often interdisciplinary in nature.

While at the EUI, Moritz plans to work on several article-length projects to submit for publication by the end of the academic year. He will also begin the process of turning his dissertation, which investigates the nature and role of power vacuums in great power politics, into a book manuscript.



## **JABBOUR, Alexandra (FRA)**

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Mentor: Prof. Filip Kostelka

Alexandra Jabbour is a political scientist who did her undergraduate and doctoral studies at the Université de Montréal in Canada. During her PhD Alexandra was a visiting fellow at Aarhus University in Denmark.

Alexandra's research focuses on the intersection of political opinion, geography, and economy. She also explores topics related to political behaviour, group identity, and the political implications of the housing market. She uses quantitative methods with a keen interest for causal inference, employing experimental designs or quasi-experiments.

In her dissertation, Alexandra examined how an individual's everyday environment and repeated exposure to a familiar setting shape their perception, particularly economic perceptions.

As a Max Weber Fellow, she will work on publishing the remaining articles from her dissertation

while starting new research projects. She will study the impact of upward economic mobility on political attitudes and investigate the political consequences of the housing market.

Alexandra has gained valuable experience as both a Teaching Assistant and a Lecturer. As a Lecturer, she has taught courses on Political Behaviour and Political Representation at the undergraduate level. Additionally, she has served as a Teaching Assistant for various courses, including Elections, Political Science Research Methods, Canadian Political Institutions, Politics and Economy, Introduction to Political Science, and a graduate seminar on US Politics.



## **KOVÁTS, Bence (SVK)**

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Mentor: Prof. Ellen Immergut

Bence Kováts obtained his PhD in Sociology from the Corvinus University of Budapest in 2021 and received his MSc degree in Urban Studies as part of the 4 Cities Master's programme run by six European universities. In his research, Bence focuses on the political economy of housing. Specifically, he examines how global structural determinants and changes, and local path dependencies affect local housing-related political and social practices.

In his prior research, he looked into the relationship between countries' positions in the world economy and characteristics of their housing systems such as the role of the family, the state and the market in housing access. In his PhD research, he analysed changes in the extent and form of parental support in young adults' housing access through Hungarian housing market cycles in the past decades.

As a Max Weber Fellow, Bence is examining the origins of differences in European countries' housing policies and housing conditions. Through country case studies, he is analysing mechanisms, such as path dependencies, global economic cycles, and political regime changes producing long-term differences in countries' housing policies, housing tenure structures, urban densities and overcrowding.

Bence taught Economic Sociology as well as his own course in Urban Studies at the Corvinus University of Budapest at both the undergraduate and the graduate level.



## **KREJCOVA, Eva (CZE)**

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Mentor: Prof. Ellen Immergut

Eva Krejцова is currently completing her PhD in Politics and International Studies at the University of Cambridge. She holds an MA in Comparative Politics from Sciences Po. Previously, she was a visiting student at the University of Oslo and the University of Montreal, and held a research fellowship at Princeton University.

Eva's research focuses on electoral behaviour and public opinion in contemporary Europe. She is particularly interested in how contextual factors affect individual political attitudes and vote choice. Her methodological interests include advanced spatial analysis, automated image recognition, and experimental methods.

In her PhD dissertation, Eva studies the recent divergence in public attitudes towards immigration between Western and Central-Eastern Europe. Her doctoral research has been funded by YouGov and received the Charles V European Award

Research Grant. Her other research projects include an analysis of public attitudes in cross-border areas supported by the ESPON Young Researcher Grant and a co-authored study on election frequency and voter turnout recently published in *Comparative Political Studies*.

As a Max Weber Fellow, Eva's main objectives will be to publish her dissertation research and develop two new projects that explore various aspects of the formation, persistence, and change in individual political attitudes.

Eva has experience teaching statistics and quantitative methods at the undergraduate level.



## **LESCHKE, Julia (DEU)**

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Mentor: Prof. Simon Hix

Julia holds a PhD in Political Science at the Department of Government at the London School of Economics and Political Science. Prior to this, she obtained an MSc in Politics Research from the University of Oxford and obtained a BA in Social Science from Humboldt University Berlin.

In her PhD thesis Julia develops an approach to measure populist and anti-populist positions in multilingual texts to explain their variation across time and parties, as well as an approach to understand the effects of spatial exposure to out-groups on voting behaviour. Julia's substantial research interest is in the causes and measurement of political positions and ideologies of political actors, as well as political attitudes and behaviour; her methodological interests focus on multi-lingual quantitative text analysis, machine learning, causal inference and innovative applications of geospatial network analysis. As a Max Weber Fellow Julia examines the causal

effects and measurement of authoritarian indoctrination in education on democratic attitudes.

Julia has been funded by the LSE studentship and the German Academic Scholarship Foundation. She has won several prizes and grants, such as the EUSA Ernst Haas Fellowship, the Phelan US Centre Summer Grant, and the STICERD Small Grant, among others. She is also a Visiting Fellow at the Department of Government, LSE.

Julia has taught courses on parties, research design, data science and machine learning at LSE and Humboldt University.



## **PERERA, Isabel (USA)**

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Mentor: Prof. Waltraud Schelkle and Prof. Ellen Immergut

Isabel M. Perera is on research leave from Cornell University, where she is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Government. She researches and teaches courses on how politics shape the social policies, labour markets, and overall economies of affluent democracies, focusing on the United States and Western Europe.

As a 2023-2024 Max Weber Fellow, she is completing a book project, provisionally titled 'The Welfare Workforce', that shows how public sector trade unions shape the welfare state. She demonstrates this relationship by examining the political economy of mental health care, with cross-national statistics and comparative-historical analyses of the American, French, Swedish, and Norwegian cases.

She holds a doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania and an undergraduate degree from Johns Hopkins University.

For more information about her work and background, please visit [www.isabelmperera.com](http://www.isabelmperera.com).



## **PORTIER, Camille (FRA)**

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Mentor: Prof. Juho Härkönen

Camille is a sociologist who uses quantitative methods and sociological and demographic perspectives to study the production of inequality across the life course and over time. In her dissertation and adjacent work, she focuses on occupational characteristics, a relatively understudied but important aspect of how work produces inequality. She investigates how the content and context of work interact with individual characteristics, i.e. gender and race, to create heterogeneity in work-related outcomes. She is also interested in health as a dimension and outcome of social stratification.

At the EUI, Camille will shift her focus from studying how occupational characteristics shape people's outcomes and life chances to work contexts and occupational outcomes that structure careers across the life course. She plans to study the dynamics and trajectories of the occupational characteristics individuals experience across the life course.

Camille completed her PhD in 2023 at Cornell University and previously earned an MSc in Sociology from the University of Oxford. At Cornell, Camille contributed to teaching quantitative methods classes at both the undergraduate and graduate levels and large undergraduate classes such as Introduction to Sociology and Social Inequality.



## **RITHOLTZ, Samuel (USA)**

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Mentor: Prof. Jeffrey Checkel

Samuel Ritholtz's work lies at the intersections of comparative politics, international relations, and political theory. They completed their DPhil and MSc at the University of Oxford's Refugee Studies Centre and their BSc at Cornell University. They have held visiting research fellowships at Hertie School (Centre for International Security) in Berlin, and at the Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá. Samuel has worked for the United Nations, in the Executive Office of the Secretary General, as well as for human rights organizations in Washington DC and Buenos Aires.

Samuel's research centres marginalized social groups in studies of contentious politics. Their doctoral dissertation investigated collective violence against LGBTIQ+ people during the Colombian civil war and tied these dynamics to wartime social transformation processes. At the EUI, they will continue to explore the roles of marginality, brutality, and spectacle during

the Colombian civil war, with a renewed focus on the concept of 'social cleansing'.

At the EUI, Samuel will pursue a secondary research interest in LGBTIQ+ displacement from both theoretical and empirical perspectives. They will complete their co-authored manuscript 'Toward a Queer Theory of Refuge' for the University of California Press. And they will finish a collaborative, SSHRC-funded field project on the lives of LGBTIQ+ Venezuelan migrants in Colombia and Brazil.

Samuel has served as a lecturer for Somerville College, the University of Oxford, and Stanford University.



## **ROCHA DA SILVA, Virginia (BRA)**

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Mentor: Prof. Miriam Golden

Virginia Rocha received her PhD in Political Science from the Federal University of Pernambuco (UFPE, Brazil) in 2022, from which she also holds an MA and undergraduate degree in Political Science. During her PhD, she was also a visiting scholar at the University of Oxford (2018-2019). Virginia is a researcher at the Brazilian Institute of Applied Economics Research. Before receiving her PhD, she also worked in the government and the third sector, monitoring a project on education in partnership with the World Bank and coordinating a social project on civic engagement for public school students, respectively.

Her main research interests are in comparative politics, including corruption, public transparency, accountability and political dynasties. Virginia examined the relationship between political dynasties and government transparency for her doctoral research by developing a novel way to collect information on dynastic kinship. During her

time as a Max Weber Fellow, she will expand this work and explore the effects of dynastic politicians on the quality of government.

Virginia has also taught courses for undergraduate students on Political Science, focused on political institutions and Political Theory as a temporary professor at UFPE, Brazil. Before that, she taught courses on evidence-based public policy for citizens and public servants at the Legislative Assembly of Pernambuco.



## **SAGE, Lucas Christophe Marc (FRA)**

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Mentor: Prof. Arnout Van De Rijt

Lucas Sage is a sociologist whose research interests span the areas of social stratification and inequality. He holds a PhD in sociology and social research from Sorbonne University and from the University of Trento (double degree) in 2022. In his dissertation he analysed the mechanisms generating wage inequality both between and within sociodemographic groups. He identified assortative sorting, i.e. the tendency for highly-skilled workers to be overrepresented in high paying organizations and occupations. This produces a cumulative (dis)advantage phenomenon that contributes to explaining both between- and within-group wage differences.

As a Max Weber Fellow Lucas will work on a new project dissecting inequality formation in the scientific realm. Notably he will study how co-authors can learn from each other through interactions and how this mechanisms may interact with team formation mechanisms

to exacerbate divergences in career trajectories. In his work, Lucas uses both statistical modelling on large scale administrative and digital sources data and agent-based modeling. He is particularly interested in creating fruitful synergies between the two techniques, always focusing on how micro decisions aggregate to form macro-level patterns of inequality.

Lucas has taught statistics and social stratification courses at Sorbonne University at the undergraduate level.



## SCHAFF, Felix S.F. (DEU)

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Mentor: Prof. Juho Härkönen and Prof. Andrea Ichino

Felix Schaff obtained his PhD in economic history from the London School of Economics. He received BA and MSc degrees in Economics and Management from Witten-Herdecke University and Bocconi University, and an MPhil in Economic and Social History from the University of Cambridge.

Felix's main research interests are in the fields of economic history, political economy, economic inequality and mobility. He tries to find answers to a major puzzle in economic history: why was economic inequality already high when industrialisation and modern economic growth began?

In his PhD project Felix first reconstructed inequality statistics, such as the top 10% wealth share and the Gini coefficient, from archive documents, from the Black Death in the 14th century until the Industrial Revolution in the 19th century. Second, he investigated the causal effects of three forces grounded

in the political economy of early-modern Europe: the Protestant Reformation, warfare, and oligarchic governmental institutions.

In his new research project, 'Wealth and gender inequality in a historical developing economy: Württemberg 1545', Felix studies the effect of inheritance practices on wealth and gender inequality. At the heart of this project lies the idea that inheritance practices, arguably the most important resource allocation mechanism outside markets, can be inequality-promoting or reducing. These practices are historically so persistent that the same customs prevail in many areas of Württemberg today.



## **STIENSTRA, Kim (NLD)**

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Mentor: Prof. Herman Van De Werfhorst

Kim Stienstra is a sociologist with a research interest in social stratification and inequality. She wrote her PhD dissertation at the Department of Sociology at Utrecht University, as part of the Interuniversity Center for Social Science Theory and Methodology (ICS) graduate school. In her PhD project, Kim studied the role of the school environment in explaining educational inequality. Using twin methods, she examined whether schools compensate or exacerbate the influences of children's family background, gender, and genes on their educational performance.

At the EUI, Kim will continue her research on the compensatory and cumulative effects in explaining educational inequality. She intends to study why children have different learning trajectories during primary education, and what the consequences are for future educational outcomes.

Kim taught a course on statistics and social stratification for

bachelor and pre-master students. Additionally, she supervised students writing their bachelor's thesis.



## **WAGNER, Paulus (AUT)**

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Mentor: Prof. Anton Hemerijck

During his Max Weber Fellowship, Paulus Wagner will be working on comparative mixed-methods research on the policy feedback effects of welfare reforms in European countries. Notably, he tests hypotheses on whether welfare cuts, increasing welfare conditionality and social investment-oriented policies each show different short- and long-term effects on support for inclusive vs. exclusive conceptions of public solidarity among recipients. Paulus also takes an interest in workplace sociology and the effects of workplace relations on political attitudes, as well as in the study of right-wing populism.

Paulus is defending his PhD in Comparative Politics from Sciences Po Paris in November 2023. He holds an MRes (Social Science) from EHESS, MA (International Political Economy) from KCL, and BA (Translation/Interpreting) from the University of Vienna. He has been a visiting student researcher at UC Berkeley Sociology (2019-20). He has

further experience in the study of post-socialist and specifically Russian political economy/political sociology. As Co-PI of the interdisciplinary research project 'Building Bridges in Polarized Societies' (funded by the City of Vienna MA-7, 2021-23) he has experience with collaboration between social science and film.

Paulus has taught BA-level courses on Introduction to Political Science and Comparative Politics and MA-level courses on European Welfare States, Political Populism, and Political Analysis at Sciences Po Paris. He is proficient in qualitative and quantitative methodologies of social scientific research and speaks German, English, French, and Russian at C2-level.



# FELLOWS' BIOSKETCHES



## ROBERT SCHUMAN CENTRE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES

- ALJABASSINI Abdullah
- BEGG Harry
- FUJIBAYASHI Hirotaka
- KNAAP Aden
- LASHCHUK Iuliia
- MANTHA-HOLLANDS Ashley
- MIERKE-ZATWARNICKI Alex  
Jordan
- MUKALAZI Miriam Mona
- NABBEN Kelsie Ann
- REILJAN Andres
- REINL Ann-Kathrin
- VAN DER BAAREN, Lucas Jan



## **ALJABASSINI, Abdullah (SYR)**

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Mentor: Prof. Olivier Roy

Abdullah al-Jabassini holds a PhD in International Relations from the University of Kent, Canterbury. His main research interests include political violence and civil war, rebel governance, peacebuilding and reconciliation processes, rebel-military integration, authoritarian conflict management, and local governance in areas of limited statehood.

In his PhD dissertation, al-Jabassini introduced a new phenomenon in the study of civil war: wartime social order in tribal regions. Bridging insights from anthropology and sociology with civil war studies, his PhD research offers a comparative study that investigates wartime social order in tribal regions. By theorising the relationship between rebel leaders and tribal shaykhs, his doctoral research delves into the dynamics of insurgency formation, governance under rebel rule, civilian agency, and their impact on the conduct of war in southern Syria.

As a Max Weber Fellow, al-Jabassini will engage in two work packages. First, he will refine and publish journal articles derived from his doctoral research. Second, he will launch his book project, which examines how border politics, regional contentions, and Russia's authoritarian approach to conflict management have contributed to conflict transformation rather than resolution or termination in southern Syria.

Al-Jabassini was a teaching assistant for graduate-level courses on theories of conflict and violence, as well as on international security, at the University of Kent. His teaching interests encompass political violence, rebel governance, conflict management, reconciliation processes, and local governance in areas of limited statehood.



## **BEGG, Harry (GBR)**

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Mentor: Prof. Thorsten Beck

During his time as a Max Weber Fellow at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies Harry Begg will also be affiliated to the Florence School of Banking and Finance (FBF), where he will be continuing his research on the political economy of financial crisis and reform. Harry's ongoing projects include a book project evaluating financial reform as punctuated episodes of democratic politics; and an early-stage investigation which uses computational methods to understand how global financial crises and scandals evolve transnationally through news media. His main research areas are financial services regulation, globalization and urban economics, which he studies primarily through a comparative and political lens.

At the EUI, he will also be involved in projects at the FBF. Harry completed his doctorate at Oxford University's Blavatnik School of Government, where he was a European Research Council scholar researching

post-2008 financial policymaking across several wealthy democracies. Most recently, he was a Lecturer in Political Economy at King's College London. He has taught undergraduate courses in Comparative Political Economy, the Political Economy of Finance, and Comparative Politics. Harry completed his studies at Oxford, UCL and Harvard.



## **FUJIBAYASHI, Hirotaka (JPN)**

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Mentor: Prof. Martin Ruhs

Hirotaka Fujibayashi is a comparative political scientist focusing on the politics and political economy of immigration and refugee reception. He studied for his PhD in International Relations and Political Science at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID) in Geneva, Switzerland. He holds an MA in International Studies and an LLB from the University of Tokyo, Japan.

As a Max Weber Fellow, Hirotaka will continue developing a cross-national dataset on the de facto entitlement of refugee rights, stemming from his PhD project. Building on his original data, he intends to explore cross-national variation in host states' policies regulating the rights of refugees and asylum seekers.

Prior to joining the EUI, Hirotaka was a visiting graduate student at the Center for Comparative Immigration Studies of the University of California San Diego, and a visiting scholar

at the Institute of International and Civil Security of Khalifa University in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

Hirotaka has experience teaching research design, statistical methods in social science research, and various seminars on refugee and migration studies both at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels.



## **KNAAP, Aden (AST)**

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Mentor: Prof. Glenda Sluga

Aden Knaap is a historian and legal scholar. He received a doctorate in history from Harvard University in 2023 and a law degree from the University of Sydney in 2016. He specializes in the history of international law, international relations, and empire.

Aden's current book project, 'Judging the World: International Courts and the Origins of Global Governance', explores how international tribunals organized world politics in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Against the view that international courts in this period were narrow legal bodies, it argues that they operated as 'world organizations', arbitrating disputes over everything from imperialism to capitalism to decolonization. The book follows these courts around the globe: from The Hague to Central America, from Iran to Soviet Karelia, and from Goa to Namibia. For this project, he has conducted research in archives on six continents. At a time when

international courts appear as solutions for everything from the Russo-Ukrainian War to climate change, 'Judging the World' explores both their promise and their peril.

His next book project will explore the history of international 'condominiums:' territories in which sovereignty is shared between multiple powers, like late nineteenth-century Egypt, Allied-occupied Germany, and post-1959 Antarctica. In addition to these two book projects, Aden has published articles in history and law journals, including the *Journal of Global History* and the *European Journal of International Law*.

Aden teaches British and European history, international and global history, and legal history.



## **LASHCHUK, Iuliia (UKR)**

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Mentor: Prof. Andrew Geddes

Iuliia Lashchuk is a second-year Max Weber Fellow working at the Migration Policy Centre (RSCAS). Iuliia received her PhD (Summa Cum Laude) in philosophy from the University of Warsaw in 2021. She is focusing her research on the categories of otherness and strangeness with the specific focus on gender issues and female migration. Iuliia is interested in issues of identity, belonging, and diversity, as well as ethical dimensions of hospitality. She is a member of the Research Network on Ukrainian Migration. During her PhD she was an intern at the University of Federico II in Naples and the Academy of Fine Arts of Catania.

This year, Iuliia will continue her research on Ukrainian female migration. In her research she will focus on the analysis of the receiving and integration of Ukrainian female refugees at three levels such as policies, civil society, and diaspora.

Iuliia has taught undergraduate courses on Ethics at the University of Warsaw and Sociology of Communication and Digital Cultures at the Academy of Fine Arts of Catania.



## **MANTHA-HOLLANDS, Ashley (CAN)**

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Mentor: Prof. Maarten Vink

Ashley Mantha-Hollands holds a Master's degree in Public Policy from the University of Toronto and a BA (Honours) in Political Science and History from Concordia University. Ashley completed her PhD in Political Science at the Humboldt University in Berlin.

Ashley's research broadly focuses on comparative citizenship law, political theory, and feminist philosophy. Her work appears in the *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, the *International Journal of Constitutional Law*, and the *William and Mary Bill of Rights Journal*. In 2020, Ashley's work was recognized by the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada doctoral award. She has teaching experience on topics related to citizenship, political participation, and migration.

Her research has had direct policy impact and has fed into policy processes at the national and international level. Ashley recently co-authored three reports

for the European Commission on citizenship laws, political participation, and electoral rights among EU Member States. She has also worked as an Analyst for the OECD and as a Policy Analyst for the Government of Canada.

As a Max Weber Fellow, Ashley is interested in studying the relationship between reproductive laws, mobility, and citizenship. She also hopes to continue to develop her work using feminist approaches to analysing citizenship law into a manuscript.



## **MIERKE-ZATWARNICKI, Alex Jordan (CAN)**

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Mentor: Prof. Daniele Caramani

Alex Mierke-Zatwarnicki is a political scientist interested in party competition and group representation in advanced democracies. Her research focuses on how new parties articulate group conflict as they construct a party coalition and build a foothold in electoral politics. What are the different ways political outsiders can frame the group stakes of politics, and what influences their choice of (and success with) a representational strategy? In her doctoral work at the Department of Government at Harvard University, Alex focused on these questions with a largely historical purview, conducting a mixed-methods study of socialist and fascist party-building in the early 20th century. As a Max Weber Fellow, Alex will bring her research into the contemporary period with a focus on green and radical right parties, exploring how these newcomers have constructed and drawn upon group boundaries in recent decades. Simultaneously, she will be working with historical British text data

collected during her PhD to better understand the interactive aspects of communicating group representation: how are the strategies of outsider parties and established parties responsive to each other?

While at Harvard, Alex worked as a teaching fellow on a variety of undergraduate courses related to the electoral politics of advanced democracies, including courses on Europe, the United States, and Japan; she also supervised two undergraduate theses on related topics.



## **MUKALAZI, Miriam Mona (GER)**

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Mentor: Prof. Stephanie Hofmann

Miriam is a political scientist with research interests in decentering Eurocentrism in EU security policies focusing on gender. As a Max Weber Fellow, she will examine how Eurocentrism in Feminist Foreign Policies manifests itself and how different forms of Eurocentrism relate to each.

Miriam pursued her PhD in Political Science at the Heinrich-Heine-University in Düsseldorf. She compared the African Union's and European Union's legitimation practices with regard to gender, peace and security policies. As a visiting researcher, Miriam worked at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. and at the Institute for Peace and Security Studies in Addis Ababa.

For her research project on EU Gender Policies, Miriam was selected for the International Charlemagne Prize Academy. Further scholarships and fellowships include a ZEIT Fellowship, Bertelsmann

Foundation Fellowship, as well as the Deutschlandstiftung Integration scholarship with the German Chancellor as patronage.

Recent consultancies include the Centre for Feminist Foreign Policy, the World Bank as well as the EU Commission. As an expert on feminist security policies, Miriam was invited to the Foreign Affairs Committee of the German Bundestag. Moreover, her work can be found in German media outlets such as SWR, WDR and Deutschlandfunk Nova.

Before her academic career, Miriam worked at UN Women Germany, specialising in the UN's Women, Peace and Security agenda.



## **NABBEN, Kelsie Ann (AST)**

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Mentor: Primavera De Filippi

Kelsie Nabben is an ethnographic researcher specialising in the social impacts of emerging technologies, notably decentralised digital infrastructure and Artificial Intelligence. Her post-doctoral research focuses on accountability in blockchain governance, specifically how these communities achieve and maintain self-governance. She conducted her PhD from RMIT University's Centre of Excellence for Automated Decision-Making & Society, with a thesis on 'resilience in decentralised technologies'. Nabben's research aims to understand the use of technology across diverse communities and to generate insights that can improve societal outcomes. This involves a critical analysis of the interplay between social and technical elements of digital infrastructure. Her research has been applied in various settings, including contributions to an Australian Federal blockchain working group and the development of international policy toolkits on 'Decentralised Autonomous Organisations' for

the World Economic Forum. Additionally, she has worked on blockchain industry projects with BlockScience and frequently shares her perspectives through peer-reviewed publications, and on national news and radio.



## **REILJAN, Andres (EST)**

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Office no. VS031

Mentor: Prof. Ellen Immergut and Prof. Simon Hix

Andres Reiljan defended his PhD at the EUI (Department of Political and Social Sciences) in 2021. From 2021 to 2023 he conducted his research at the University of Tartu as a postdoctoral fellow, managing his own project, which was funded by a personal grant from the Estonian Research Council.

His main fields of expertise are comparative politics and political behaviour. Both his PhD and postdoctoral project focused on the concept of affective polarization, which refers to a tendency among people to hold positive feelings for some political parties, while viewing other parties and their supporters as disliked out-groups.

During his Max Weber Fellowship, Andres will continue his work on affective polarization. His objective is to consolidate his extensive research on the topic since 2015 into a comprehensive book that enhances our understanding of the nature, origins, and ramifications of this

deeply concerning phenomenon in contemporary democracies.

Andres has also worked on numerous voting advice application (VAA) projects and during his Fellowship he will contribute to euandi2024, an EUI-developed VAA for the European Parliament elections, set to be launched for its fourth edition in April 2024.

During his stay at the University of Tartu, Andres taught two different master's level courses on political behaviour and party politics. He has also supervised four master's theses on topics ranging from political behaviour to education policy.



## **REINL, Ann-Kathrin (TUR)**

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Mentor: Prof. Waltraud Schelkle

Ann-Kathrin Reinl received her PhD from the University of Cologne (with distinction) in 2021 with a dissertation on transnational solidarity in times of crises. During her doctorate, she completed research stays at Nuffield College and the Department of Politics and International Relations at the University of Oxford as well as at the EUI. Following her PhD, she was a postdoctoral researcher at the Geschwister-Scholl-Institute for Political Science at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität (LMU) München, where she was responsible for the 2019 Euro-manifesto project. Before taking up her Max Weber Fellowship, she was an FWO Research Fellow at Ghent University, working on her LOTSEU research project, which explores the importance of local contextual factors for solidarity in the European Union.

As a Max Weber Fellow, she is continuing the work on her project by expanding its methodological approaches and

targeting a corresponding book publication. In addition, Ann-Kathrin is interested in studying political attitudes and participation in democratic regimes.



## **VAN DER BAAREN, Lucas Jan (NLD)**

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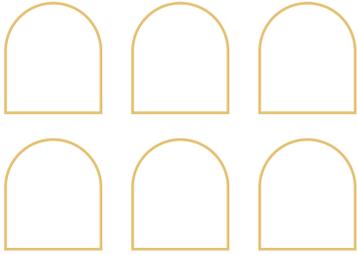
Office no. VS091

Mentor: Prof. Maarten Vink

Luuk van der Baaren is a legal researcher whose interests focus on citizenship and immigration law. He specializes in comparative law and empirical legal studies. He obtained his PhD degree in Law in 2020 at the University of Liège and Maastricht University with a thesis titled 'On emigrant nationality: A comparative analysis of the toleration of dual nationality from an emigration perspective'. He is on leave from Copenhagen University, where he is based as a postdoctoral researcher at the DNRf Center of Excellence for Global Mobility Law (MOBILE). Previously, Luuk was a research associate at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies.

As a Max Weber Fellow, Luuk will work on several research projects that study the nexus between citizenship and mobility. These projects aim to build empirical legal frameworks for the study of legal regimes for entry and settlement rights. The projects also examine from an infrastructural lens how the

issuance and recognition of travel documents shape human mobility.



# FELLOWS' BIOSKETCHES

SCHOOL OF  
TRANSNATIONAL  
GOVERNANCE

- HAMM Marylou, Floriane, Juliette
- MESAROVICH Alexander
- STILLER Kenneth Thomas



## **HAMM, Marylou Floriane Juliette (FRA)**

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Mentor: Prof. Claudio Radaelli

Marylou Hamm is a political sociologist whose research focuses on European instruments and professionals accompanying (member-)state reforms. Before coming to the EUI, she was a doctor-assistant at the College of Europe (Bruges). She holds a PhD in political and social sciences from the Université libre de Bruxelles and Sciences Po Strasbourg (double degree). In her thesis entitled 'The conditions of Europe. A sociology of European technical assistance in the Greek crisis (2011-2015)', she analyses the intervention of European staff in the implementation of macroeconomic conditionalities in Greece.

As a Max Weber Fellow, Marylou's research will focus on the creation of a transnational market of expertise on 'capacity building' for member states. To do so, she puts forward an innovative approach that brings together a micro sociology of European instruments and professionals, on the one hand, and a macro political

theory of European integration and national sovereignty, on the other. In addition, she coordinates, together with colleagues, collective research on the growing use of consultancies by European administrations.

Marylou has taught extensively in the fields of European studies, sociology and political science. She has served as a lecturer, at the postgraduate and undergraduate levels, for the ULB, the College of Europe, for Paris-1 Panthéon-Sorbonne and Paris-Dauphine.

Her main research interests are crisis management and conditionality, technical assistance and expertise, European integration, conflicts of legitimacies and practices of resistance.



## MESAROVICH, Alexander (HUN)

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Mentor: Prof. Michael Bauer

Alexander Mesarovich earned his PhD (Politics) at the University of Edinburgh. His thesis analysed the impact of informal political networks on the EU accession processes of Slovenia, Croatia, and Serbia. Since finishing his PhD, Alexander has been a teaching assistant at the University of Edinburgh and the University of Stirling and has worked as a Temporary Lecturer in Politics at the University of Strathclyde. He has also worked on the H2020 projects ENGAGE, on EU external action, and REDEMOS, on EU democracy support to the Eastern Partnership. Alexander has published in Europe-Asia Studies, written book chapters and working papers, presented at numerous conferences, and has contributed to research for the US government's Chairmen's Action Group advising the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

At the EUI, Alexander will be studying the impact of transnational linkages on the diffusion of illiberalism and populism

across Central and Eastern Europe. This will involve using Social Network Analysis paired with elite interviews and field work to understand the impact of such connections on the diffusion of populist political frames and illiberal policy.

Alexander's research interests include populism and illiberalism, diffusion, Europeanization, informality, the politics of Central and Southeastern Europe, and EU politics more generally. He has run undergraduate seminars on UK politics, political theory, and comparative methodology, and has lectured on US National Security Policy, EU internal and external politics, and democratization.



## **STILLER, Kenneth Thomas (DEU)**

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Mentor: Prof. Kalypto Nicolaidis

As a Max Weber Fellow, Ken Stiller will be working on the rise of transnational public authority and the institutional design of cooperation. This multi-dimensional project comprises theoretical work, the creation of a database as well as the analysis of the role of the public perception of foreign states and societies. In a separate project building upon his previous work, he will prepare for publication research on the collective agency of trading blocs.

Ken is receiving his DPhil in International Relations from Nuffield College, University of Oxford. Prior to this, he obtained a master's degree (distinction) in International Relations also at the University of Oxford, where he was an Adam von Trott scholar.

Before academia, Ken also gained experience working for international organisations, such as the United Nations

Economic Commission for Europe, the German Federal Foreign Office and the United Nations Development Programme, a non-governmental environmental organisation, as well as the Chilean institute for local and regional studies.

Ken is interested in the design of public policies that reach beyond states, the political economy of institutions and quantitative methods. In his DPhil dissertation, Ken analysed the agency of trading blocs in international relations and the role of state capacity in the design of international cooperation. Ken has experience teaching methodology classes such as Data Analysis in R and Causal Inference at undergraduate and graduate level.