Milena Arsic
Fellowship period: 1 April 2019 - 30 June 2019

Milena Arsic works for the Australian Public Service on international trade matters. She is also part of the Women in National Security subcommittee of the Institute for Regional Security, supporting the professional development of women in a traditionally male-oriented field.

Milena has previously worked as an Investigator for the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and interned at the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization in Vienna. She holds a European Master’s in Law and Economics from the University of Bologna/University of Vienna, where she was awarded the Best Master’s Thesis prize. At the EUI, Milena will explore ways to strengthen transnational security governance, drawing on lessons learned from the EU experience.
Aiza Azam
Fellowship period: 3 September 2018 - 3 December 2018

Aiza Azam is currently Vice President of the Centre for Strategic and Contemporary Research, which engages in policy initiatives by working with stakeholders from civil society, the government and the media. Previously, she was the Director of Projects at the Pakistan-China Institute, where she helped implement their key initiatives in promoting people-to-people relations between China and Pakistan.

She has served as a member of the Visiting Faculty for the International Relations department at the National Defence University, Islamabad. Her MPhil and Masters's degrees are in International Relations from the NDU, and she is an alumna of the university’s National Security Workshop. Her Bachelor’s degree is in foreign languages (Spanish and Mandarin), from the National University of Modern Languages. During her time as an undergraduate, she received scholarships to study in China and Spain. She plans to use her time at the STG to further her work on the capacity-building projects her institute is engaging in, with provincial governments in Pakistan.
Prior to the Policy Leaders Fellowship, Tamer Badr Fahmy Badawi Badr worked as a research fellow at Al Sharq Forum, an Istanbul-based policy research platform. He received an M.A. degree in International Relations from Central European University in 2016 and a B.A. degree in Oriental Studies from Alexandria University in 2013. He contributed analysis on a semi-regular basis to Sada, an online publication managed by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, and to Aljazeera Center for Studies.

His comments appeared in a number of media outlets including Reuters, Sputnik International, Al-Monitor, and Al Araby TV among others. His research is focused mainly on the political economy of Iran’s foreign policy in the Middle East and Iran’s relations with Sunni political Islam movements in the region. His project at STG is preparing a survey-based research paper assessing the interest of Arab and Iranian political think-tanks in engaging with each other in second-track diplomacy talks to contribute to resolving regional conflicts in the post-Arab Spring period.
Dr. Fatima El Issawi is a Senior Lecturer in Journalism at the University of Essex and Senior Visiting Research Fellow at LSE International Development Department. She is the author of “Arab National Media and Political Change” (Palgrave).

Since 2012, she has been leading research on the interplay between media and the political change in the context of the Arab Spring, leading the projects “Arab Revolutions: Media Revolutions” funded by the Open Society Foundation and “Arab National Media and Politics: Democracy Revisited”, funded by the Middle East Centre of the London School of Economics. Her expertise in the media industry with a specific focus on Middle East and North Africa (MENA) crosses journalism, public communication, policy and academia. She has over fifteen years of experience as international correspondent in conflict zones in the region.
Dr. Ander Errasti is a political philosopher with expertise in how globalisation is reshaping nations and nationalism, subsequently transforming European democracies. He is currently a researcher at Globernance: Institute of Democratic Governance. He has been a visiting doctoral student at Oxford University's Department of Politics and International Relations (under Professor Kalypso Nicolaïdis’ supervision).

He has also developed a policy-research project at the University of Edinburgh’s Centre on Constitutional Change (with professors Nicola McEwan and Michael Keating) to analyse the impact of devolution, the independence referendum and Brexit on Scotland’s self-government. Dr Errasti has also worked as a member of the University of Barcelona’s GISME group in the Coordination of European Social Innovation and Disruptive Education projects, including the European Commission’s SIforAGE project and the European Institute of Innovation and Technology’s Health area’s (EIT Health) CCentre educational programme. He participates in Spanish, Catalan and Basque media (press, radio and TV). As a fellow of the EUI’s School of Transnational Governance’s Policy Leaders Fellowship, Dr Errasti will be working on policy recommendations that may contribute to overcoming the territorial political and constitutional tensions in Spain.

Ander Errasti-Lopez
Fellowship period: 7 January 2019 - 7 July 2019
Tatiana Falcão  
Fellowship period: 3 September 2018 - 3 March 2019

Tatiana Falcão is a senior tax lawyer with over 10 years of experience in international taxation and policy development, working with the academia, industry, not-for-profit institutions and intergovernmental organisations. She is a consultant for the United Nations in tax issues, a member of the United Nations’ Subcommittee on environmental taxation, and is a recurrent contributor to the work of the United Nations, the OECD and the ILO. Prior to joining EUI, Tatiana was a Schumann Fellow in Muenster University (Germany), and a visiting professor at Fundação Getúlio Vargas (Brazil). She integrated the secretariat of the United Nations twice, overseeing the work of the Tax Committee.

Her research interests include international environmental taxation and the development of policies that aim to curb carbon emissions on a cross-border basis, international trade regulations associated to environmental tax reform, and the taxation of the digital economy. Her work has been published in academic journals and presented widely in conferences and workshops. Tatiana has a monthly column in Tax Notes International and is a regular commentator in international tax topics. Tatiana holds a Ph.D from Vienna University of Economics and Business, a LL.M from Cambridge University, and a LL.M from New York University.
Luther-King Fasehun is a medical doctor with expertise in global public health, healthcare management, and policy, especially in the sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health and nutrition (SRMNCAH+N) continuum. His experience spans the private and public health sectors, including philanthropy, and, in 2014, he led separate, national-level analyses on two landmark issues: the potential of the private sector to improve family planning, for the UN Foundation; and the Every Newborn Action Plan (ENAP), for the WHO and UNICEF. Dr Fasehun earned his medical degree at the University of Lagos, and graduated with a Master's degree (with distinction) at the SDA Bocconi.

Here at the European University Institute, he will be on leave from his Director of Policy position at Four ACES Consulting Services Ltd, working to build a policy advocacy group for maternal and newborn health across sub-Saharan Africa, emphasising quality and equitable maternal health services.
Martina Francesca Ferracane
Fellowship period: 3 September 2018 - 3 December 2018

Martina Ferracane is passionate about policy-making and technological innovation. She is writing her Ph.D. on the topic of cross-border data flows in the context of international trade at Hamburg University and she is a Fellow at Columbia University and the California International Law Center. During her Policy Leaders Fellowship at the European University Institute, she will work on finalising her Ph.D. and will focus on data flows restrictions related to privacy and their implications on trade. Martina is interested in digital entrepreneurship and was selected in the Forbes 30Under30 list for Healthcare for her work with Oral3D, a start-up she co-founded in the area of 3D printing and dentistry.

Martina also founded and manages FabLab Western Sicily, a non-profit organisation that brings digital fabrication to Sicilian schools. She is a Research Associate at the think-tank European Centre for International Political Economy (ECIPE) and previously worked at the European Commission and the United Nations.
Ilgar Gurbanov is a Research Fellow in the Centre for Strategic Studies (SAM) under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and a Deputy Editor-in-Chief for Caucasus International Journal. He is a co-author of “Gas Diversification Policy of Georgia: Role of External Actors — Azerbaijan, Russia and Iran” published by SAM. He has previously worked for Khazar University (Lecturer; Azerbaijan); Centre for Strategic Studies (Consultant; Azerbaijan); Strategic Outlook (Research Fellow/Editor-in-Chief; Turkey); Azerbaijan State Economic University (Teaching Assistant); and UNDP-Azerbaijan (Project-Consultant). He received his MA from the College of Europe (Belgium), and BA/MSc from the Azerbaijan State Economic University; and he is an alumnus of the Riga Graduate School of Law.

His research area covers EU-Azerbaijan relations, energy security (Azerbaijan), and Azerbaijan’s military/defense policy. He speaks Azerbaijani, Turkish, English, Russian, and French. At the STG, he will make research on the topic of “Understanding Azerbaijan’s foreign policy behaviour towards the EU”.

Ilgar Gurbanov
Fellowship period: 3 September 2018 - 3 December 2018
Fatema Jafari
Fellowship period: 1 August 2019 - 30 June 2020 (externally funded)

Fatema Jafari is a Member of the Provincial Council of Herat in Afghanistan and a Women’s Rights Activist. A midwife by training, she was first elected to the provincial consult of Herat in 2009. In 2012, she received training on governance as part of the International Visitors Leadership Program in the United States. She was re-elected in 2014 despite threats from the Taliban.

In 2016, she was a Greenberg World Fellow at Yale University and as a result, she wrote and published a book titled “Women Political Participation in Afghanistan”. As part of a grant award from Protect Defender, Fatema is currently a Policy Leader Fellow at the EUI’s School of Transnational Governance, where she is focusing on women’s role in the fight against corruption in Afghanistan.
Tomáš Jungwirth has a background in law, human rights, and the Western Balkans, and has recently developed a strong passion for human migration and mobility. His interest is not merely an academic one. Rather, he strives to obtain a thorough understanding of the relevant laws and practices on the national, European and global levels, and to translate it into concrete policy recommendations in the face of current challenges. For the past two years, he has been doing advocate on behalf of the Czech Consortium of Migrants Assisting Organizations, also collaborating with pan-European networks such as PICUM or CONCORD, and getting a foot in the UN-led process leading to the adoption of the Global Compact for Migration.

He intends to make use of the fellowship at EUI to further study the interlinkage between migration governance and environmental matters, border regimes or demographic challenges, to develop his partnerships with policy-makers and experts in Europe and beyond, and to produce outputs capable of making a difference in the real world.
Shelly Hsieh
Fellowship period: 7 January 2019 - 7 April 2019

Shelly Hsieh is a Regulatory Policy Analyst at the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in Paris, where she works with governments, regulators and oversight bodies to improve regulatory policy in OECD and non-OECD countries.

Her research interests focus on the intersection of energy and regulation. Prior to joining the OECD, Shelly helped develop the Southeast Asia programme at the International Energy Agency (IEA) and served as the IEA’s focal point for the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Energy Working Group. She holds a Master’s degree in Sustainable Development from Sciences Po, France and a Master’s Degree in International Relations from Peking University, China. During the EUI fellowship, Shelly will conduct research on the governance of the Southeast Asian regional power grid.
Reuben Joseph Babatunde Lewis
Fellowship period: 3 September 2018 - 3 June 2019

Reuben Lewis is a peace-building practitioner. He recently completed his Ph.D. studies at the Graduate School for International Development and Cooperation, Hiroshima University, Japan where he conducted research on cooperative institutionalisation of conflict prevention mechanisms in regional subsystems in Africa with a concentration on West Africa. He currently works as programmes coordinator on the Programme for Global Human Resource Development for Peacebuilding and Development commissioned by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan at the Hiroshima Peace Builder’s Centre in Hiroshima.

His career in peacebuilding involved working for West Africa Network for Peace Building in Sierra Leone and the ECOWAS Commission on operationalising early warning and conflict prevention mechanisms. He has also worked on country risk assessment studies in Sierra Leone and West Africa as well as supporting various peace-building initiatives across local communities and institutions in Sierra Leone. During his fellowship, Reuben will explore the emergence of transnational arrangements of Infrastructures for Peace as a mechanism for conflict prevention and in responding to democratic state-building processes in West Africa.
Rosario Sergio Maniscalco
Fellowship period: 3 September 2018 - 3 February 2019

Rosario Sergio Maniscalco holds a Master in European Studies and International Relations at the Sapienza University in Rome, and obtained his Ph.D. at the University of Turku, Finland, within the Doctoral Programme on Comparative Research on Educational Policy. He has extensive experience in the field of EU policy-making and governance. Over the last ten years, he has published several scientific articles and worked in the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research as a policy analyst, and project coordinator, and contributed to the EU policy-making as a member of the Council of the EU's Education Committee.

He has served as a national delegate and expert in several Committees and Working Groups of the European Commission and the OECD. At the STG, he investigates new tools and modes of governance emerging in the EU as an evolution of the Open Method of Coordination and their potential impact, with particular reference to the education sector.
Melissa Terni Mestriner has served more than fifteen years in public services, as a Legislative Adviser in the Brazilian Federal Senate; as a General-Coordinator in the Secretariat for Legislative Affairs of the Ministry of Justice; as a legal assistant at the Finance Department of the city of Guarulhos/São Paulo; and as a lawyer with public law consultancy for public entities.

She holds a Master’s degree in General Theory, Philosophy and Sociology of Law from the University of São Paulo and Post-Graduation latu sensu in Legislative Law. At STG, Melissa Mestriner will research policy and legislative evaluation assessments currently applied in the European Union and European countries, then compare findings with Mercosur and Brazilian scenarios to identify necessary changes and adopt similar methodologies. The implementation of analogous instruments will make the Mercosur and Brazilian institutional environment more favourable, accountable, efficient, and predictable within future partnerships between countries.
Balasubramanian Munuswamy
Fellowship period: 3 September 2018 - 3 December 2018

Bala Munuswamy holds an MBA (BIM, India) and a Sustainability partnership specialisation from the University of Cambridge and is backed by 18+ years of extensive experience of working at senior levels in Private Sector, NGO, and Government organisations in inclusive policy and large sustainable development programs (Concept to Scale). In the recent past, he was associated with United Nations Development Program (UNDP) as Chief Operating Officer for GoI’s ‘Skill India’ scheme with annual budget management of $500 million with a target to skill and gainfully employ 2 million underprivileged rural youth as a globally relevant workforce.

Earlier as Private Sector Development Advisor with Department for International Development (DFID), he was accountable for managing a portfolio of over £50 million with projects ranging from tapping emerging SDG Opportunities amongst large corporates and SMEs in India to strengthening skills and entrepreneurship ecosystem.
Musaraj Adanela has 15 years of dynamic experience in research and development in educational institutions and UN agencies. She has been a Programme evaluator for the European PHARE Strategy and Programme Unit in the Ministry of Education, Albania; an Expert evaluator for CHAFEA; Adviser of the Minister of Agriculture, Albania; Independent expert for the EC, Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, DGRI; Expert evaluator on climate action, environment and resource management (EA for SME); Climate and environment FAO international consultant; IUCN expert on Business and Biodiversity, World Commission on Protected Areas member; Associated professor at the University of Montpellier France, Invited professor at the University of Pristina; Lead Albania Fellowship; Science for Diplomacy Fellow, CNR. As a Policy Leaders Fellow at the STG, Dr. Musaraj Adanela will analyse the food law prohibition on medicinal claims in relation to the concept of a medicinal product by presentation, as well as the Balkan country policy on Food security.
Nirrosion Perera
Fellowship period: 7 January 2019 - 7 July 2019

Nirrosion Perera is a professional social worker with expertise in conflict resolution, peacebuilding, social development, and community tourism. He is currently the Program Officer at Ceylon Mercantile and General Workers Union (CMU), one of the oldest and biggest trade unions in Sri Lanka. Prior to joining CMU, Nirrosion worked with several Government and International Organizations including the Ministry of Internal Trade and Cooperative, Stromme Foundation Asia, Sewa Lanka Foundation, and the Intellectual Asset Management Agency (iAMA). He is interested in the rise of right-wing extremism and populism and the challenges this poses to trade unions in Europe.

Nirrosion completed his post-graduate diploma in Tourism, Economic travel and Hotel management at the University of Colombo in 2009. He obtained a two-year professional Social Work diploma in 2002 from the National Institute of Social Development in Sri Lanka. He participated in a South and Central Asian Regional Legislative Fellow program organized United States Department of State, and implemented by World Learning, in 2013. In 2003, Nirrosion carried out a one-year internship with several grassroots-level organisations in India where he received exposure to India’s different cultural, social, and economic practices. Nirrosion is a founding member of the Movement of Young Social Workers, a social work organisation in Sri Lanka.
Natalia Pushkareva completed her Bachelor’s degree at Lomonosov Moscow State University (Law, summa cum laude), after which she pursued Masters in Law and Finance at the University of Oxford on a Hill Foundation scholarship. Prior to joining the EUI, Natalia was involved in public policymaking in Russia for over four years mostly doing research in economics, taxation, and law for Gaidar Institute for Economic Policy.

Natalia’s professional interests concentrate on addressing challenges of the digital economy and issues brought up by technology and innovation such as inequality and disruption. Her ambition is to contribute to the creation of fair, well-thought, and evidence-based policies adequate to modern reality and resulting in increasing the quality of life for many. During her time at EUI Natalia will be working on a project dealing with rethinking the international taxation system and changing the role of tax in general.
Dr. Velomahanina Razakamaharavo obtained her PhD in International Conflict Analysis from the University of Kent, BSIS (Politics and International Relations department). At the EUI, as a Policy Leader Fellow within the STG, she is working on gender training in UN and NATO peace operations.

Velomahanina is a 2017 WIIS Next Generation Scholar, was a Visiting Fellow at the Center on Conflict Development and Peacebuilding at the Graduate Institute of Geneva, and a Visiting Researcher at the Université Catholique de Louvain’s Center for Political Science and Comparative Politics where she developed a methodology bridging Qualitative Comparative Analysis and in-depth narrative analysis, studying the dynamics of conflict transformation and recurrence. She was a Teaching Assistant in Comparative Research Design at the European Consortium of Political Research (ECPR) winter school and she is also a former Intern of the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations/ the Department of Field Support, serving the Policy and Best Practices team.
Anna Sakurai
Fellowship period: 3 September 2018 - 3 March 2019

Following degrees at the University of Oxford, Anna Sakurai joined the United Nations’ Rome-based agencies, where she effectively led research on gender and agricultural policy with a specific focus on food security outcomes, and then helped to facilitate and coordinate a number of multi-stakeholder decision-making forums.

Anna’s time as a Policy Leaders Fellow at the School of Transnational Governance at the European University Institute will be dedicated to investigating pathways to strengthen soft law mechanisms through investment decision-making. This builds on her work with inclusive decision-making fora which has often resulted in soft law. Anna’s interests include civic and social innovation, as well as the politics of policy adoption.
Massimiliano Santini
Fellowship period: 3 September 2018 - 3 May 2019
and 3 June - 3 July 2019

Massimiliano Santini is a senior economist on leave from the World Bank, where he led the policy dialogue with governments to design and implement reforms that improve countries’ competitiveness, governance, and business environment. During the fellowship with the EUI, Massimiliano will assess globalisation’s shortcomings and propose practical solutions that address people’s fears and needs in a coherent and positive narrative.

Massimiliano has 18+ years of experience in private sector development, investment climate, and entrepreneurship. He has worked in 20+ countries, including Colombia, Hungary, Tanzania, India, and most recently, the Western Balkans. Prior to joining the World Bank, Massimiliano held a variety of positions in multilateral organisations and in the private, non-profit, and media sectors. Massimiliano graduated from the Master in Public Administration in International Development (MPA/ID) program at Harvard Kennedy School and holds a Bachelor’s degree in Economics from the University of Modena in Italy.
Daniela Segovia worked for the Venezuelan Ministry of Foreign Affairs for more than 10 years, most recently as First Secretary at the Venezuelan Embassy in Australia. Her previous experience includes the UN Leadership Program (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean); the Doctoral School of Latin American, European and Comparative Regionalism (Andean University Simon Bolívar / UN University); and doctoral research in Global Governance (Organization of American States / Andes University in Colombia).

She holds a BA in Political Science (Central University of Venezuela), an MA in History of the Americas (Catholic University Andrés Bello); and a Master’s in Careers in International Organizations (University of Granada). During her stay at the EUI, Segovia plans to focus on the role of International Organizations in a much-needed resolution of the current Venezuelan political crisis, improving her capabilities to build gender-sensitive and strategic agendas for peace and greater democracy.