

## **Working Group**

### **IR Theory Working Group**

**Department of Social Political Sciences**

#### **ABSTRACT**

This group meets every two weeks during the academic year; it is for researchers and post-doctoral fellows working with Checkel and Guzzini, and is run by them.

We use it as a forum for presentations of work-in-progress (prospectuses, thesis chapters, drafts of conference papers); discussing current trends and controversies in IR theory, be they over ethics, data, meta-theory, theory or method; and critically evaluating arguments in the literature (journal articles, book chapters). The focus is on helping researchers and fellows make better arguments in their projects; skill building; and a bit of professional socialization.

#### **CONTACT**

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### Schedule of Talks, Third Term, Academic Year 2024-2025

- **Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> of May**  
10:00-12:00 CEST: Presentation by Dr Alvina Hoffman (SOAS University of London) Human rights elites at the United Nations: Felix Ermacora's travelogues of the first UN human rights fact finding missions (1967-1993) • European University Institute Badia Fiesolana (Teatro) and Zoom
- **Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> of May**  
13:00-15:00 CEST: Book talk by Dr Kerry Goettlich (University of Reading) From frontiers to borders: how colonial technicians created modern territoriality • European University Institute Badia Fiesolana (Teatro) and Zoom
- **Tuesday, 27 May**  
11:00-13:00 CEST: Talk by Dr. Mina Pollman (Independent Researcher) and Dr. Trevor Incerti (University of Amsterdam).  
Co-organized with the EU-Asia Project (Robert Schuman Centre).  
Causes of Alliances, Effects of the Bureaucratic Revolving Door • European University Institute Badia Fiesolana (Teatro) and Zoom
- **Tuesday, 29 April**  
15:00-16:30 CEST: Talk by Prof. Peter Finkenbusch (Coventry University). Resilient Life in Neoliberal Ruins: Foregrounding Hope and Optimism in the Face of Biopolitics and Governmentality • European University Institute Villa Schifanoia (Mansarda) and Zoom
- 17:00-18:30 CET: Talk by Prof. Tanja Börzel (Freie Universität Berlin). The globalization of academic freedom: contestation and resilience • European University Institute Villa Schifanoia (Sala Belvedere) and Zoom

## **Schedule of Talks, Second Term, Academic Year 2024-2025**

- **Thursday, 16 January**  
11:00-13:00 CET: Talk by Dr Mirko Palestino (Queen Mary University of London). Military Victory Beyond the Battlefield: Outside Wartime • European University Institute Villa Schifanoia, Sala Belvedere
- **Wednesday, 29 January**  
14:30-16:00 CET: Session with Dr Alexander Mesarovich (EUI Max Weber Fellow) Complex, changeable, or just complicated • European University Institute Villa Schifanoia (Sala Belvedere) and Zoom
- **Thursday, 20 February**  
11:00-13:00 CET: Presentation by Dr Pablo De Orellana (King's College London). Hand of the Prince: How diplomacy describes subjects, territory, time, and norms • European University Institute , Badia Fiesolana (Teatro) and Zoom
- **Friday, 21 February**  
16:00 - 17:30 CET: Book Launch with Dr Nele Kortendiek (EUI Max Weber Fellow) Global Governance on the Ground: Organizing Migration and Asylum at the Border • European University Institute, Badia Fiesolana (Teatro) and Zoom

## Schedule of Talks, First Term, Academic Year 2024-2025

- **Thursday, 28 November**

15.00 - 17.00 CEST: Event presented by Anna Wojciuk (EUI Fernand Braudel Fellow)

*"Polish geopolitical vertigo: Popular geopolitics meets right-wing populism".*

Seminar Room 2 (Badia Fiesolana) and Zoom.

- **Wednesday, 2 October**

11.00 - 16.00 CEST: Author Workshop with Dr Maria Birnbaum (University of Basel), *Recognizing*

*Religion: Politics, History, Critique* (forthcoming Cambridge University Press). Discussed by Professors

Olivier Roy and Stefano Guzzini (EUI). Badia Fiesolana, Seminar Room 3.

## Schedule of Presentations, Third Term, Academic Year 2024-2025

- **09 April 2025**  
10:00-12:00 | (Seminar Room 3, Badia)  
2nd Year Presentations  
#1: Anna Reißig, *Time and Power in the Borderscape*  
#2: Esteban Scuzarello, *Performing Identity: The Role of Identity in RSD Processes in Brazil and Mexico*  
Discussant: Natasha Rupesinghe
- **22 April 2025**  
10:00-12:00 | (Seminar Room 2, Badia)  
Prospectus Session  
#1: Meindert Boersma, *Towards a Gramscian Approach to Climate Change and Global Disorder*  
#2: Saniah Matengu, *TBA (Young People in Memory Politics)*  
#3: Snizhana Diachenko, *TBA (Identity and EU Enlargement: The Cases of Ukraine and North Macedonia)*  
Discussants: Nina Krickel-Choi, Maxine Both, Jan Lepeu
- **23 April 2025**  
10:00-12:00 | (Seminar Room 3, Badia)  
Prospectus Session  
#1: Carlotta Rudolph, *Continuous Violence, Resisting Communities: Queer Experiences in Post-Conflict Colombia*  
#2: Paweł Baçal, *Conceptual History of the Figure of the Politician*  
#3: Oda Flekkøy, *Resisting Islamophobia: Collective Action among Muslim Women in Sweden*  
Discussants: Nora Söderberg, Tamás Peragovics, Anastasia Prokhorova
- **07 May 2025**  
10:00-12:00 | (Seminar Room Mansarda, Villa Schifanoia)  
Anastasia Prokhorova, *The Global Politics of Peacekeeping Training*  
Discussant: Miranda Loli
- **28 May 2025**  
10:00-13:00 | (Seminar Room 3, Badia)  
#1: Tamás Peragovics, *Diplomacy, Becoming Related, and Pioneering Encounters (Draft Book Introduction)*  
#2: Nora Söderberg, *TBA*  
Discussants: Anastasia Prokhorova, Anna Reißig
- **11 June 2025**  
10:00-13:00 | (Seminar Room, Villa Malafrasca)  
#1: Jan Lepeu, *European Security (Dis-) Assembled: NATO Art.5 vs EU Art.42.7 and the (Non-) Emergence of Collective Defense*  
#2: Nina Krickel-Choi, *Securing the Future in the Anthropocene: An Archive to Last a Billion Years*  
Discussants: Zuzanna Samson, Esteban Scuzarello

## Schedule of Presentations, Second Term, Academic Year 2024-2025

- **08 January 2025**

09:00-11:00 | (Seminar Room 3, Badia)

Mariusz Bogacki, Thesis Empirical Chapter, *Unraveling Hong Kong Cultural Identity*

- **22 January 2025**

09:00-12:00 | (Seminar Room 4, Badia)

#1: Zuzanna Samson, Thesis Empirical Chapter, *Burying the "Unwanted": The Response of Local Communities to Migrant Deaths on the Polish-Belarusian Border*

#2: Maxine Both, Thesis Empirical Chapter, *Immigration Detention as a Transborder Space: Institutional and Legal Foundations*

- **05 February 2025**

10:00-12:00 | (Seminar Room 3, Badia)

#1: Esteban Scuzarello, Thesis Theory Chapter, *Identity Unboxed: Theoretical Hunches*

#2: Anna Reißig, Thesis Theory Chapter, *Borderscapes, Memory and the Problem of Time*

- **19 February 2025**

10:00-12:00 | (Seminar Room 3, Badia)

Natasja Rupesinghe, Draft Article, *Political Alignment to Jihadist Rebels in Civil War: Resource Rivalries and Civilian Agency*

- **19 March 2025**

10:00-13:00 | (Seminar Room 3, Badia)

#1: Miranda Loli, TBA

#2: Raffaele Mastrorocco, *The Far-Right in Security Organizations*

## Schedule of Presentations, First Term, Academic Year 2024-2025

- **16 October 2024**

16:00-18:00 | (Sala Triaria, Villa Schifanoia)

Liv Moe, Thesis Chapter, 'The Subjectivity of Counter-Terrorism: Positionality, Practice, and Practitioners'

- **30 October 2024**

15:00-18:00 | (Seminar Room Mansarda, Villa Schifanoia)

Max Lesch, Draft Article, 'Law in Letters? Article 51 Reports on Self-Defense and the Politics of Norm Change in International Law'

Tamas Peragovics, Draft Article, 'When Talking Peace Favors the Aggressor: The Discursive Construction of Appeasement in Viktor Orbán's Conception of Russia's War in Ukraine'

- **13 November 2024**

16:00-18:00 | (Seminar Room 3, Badia)

Jan Lepeu, Thesis Chapters, Chapter 6: 'The Balkan War and the Improvisation of EU Sanctioning'; and Chapter 7: 'Targeted and Globalized – The Era of Liberal Sanctioning'

- **21/22 November 2024**

EUI-IHEID Workshop, Geneva

- **04 December 2024**

10:00-13:00 | (Seminar Room 4, Badia)

Mariusz Bogacki, Thesis Empirical Chapter(s)

Maxine Both & Marta Maria Nicolazzi, Draft Article, 'Mutual, Reflexive and Dialectical: On the Constitutive Role of the Research Assistant in Ethical Knowledge Production'

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## Schedule of Talks, Second and Third Terms, Academic Year 2023-2024

- **10 June** Talk, 10.00 - 12.00 CEST: Presentation by Professor Michal Onderco (Erasmus University Rotterdam) and discussed by Simone Tholens (European University Institute and John Cabot University) "So close or so far: The domestic determinants of EU Member States' preferences on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict". Badia Fiesolana (Sala del Capitolo)\* and Zoom.
- **03 June**, 10.00 - 11.30 CEST: Presentation by Marius Ghincea and discussed by Alexander Mesarovich, 'Shrouded in secrecy: Explaining why some countries refuse to disclose their military aid to Ukraine.' Badia Fiesolana (Refectorio).
- **15 April**, 16.00 - 17.30 CEST: Presentation by Prof. Giulio Pugliese 'Leadership and Japan's China policy: From diplomacy to grand strategy'. Villa Schifanoia (Sala Belvedere)\* and Zoom.
- **20 March**, 14.00-15.30: Presentation by Dr. Tobias Pforr (EUI), 'International Relations and the Collective Memory of the Global Financial Crisis: The case of the 'Economics Nobel Prize' in 2022'. Badia Fiesolana, Seminar Room 2.
- **15 March**, 10.00-12.00: Book presentation by Prof. Elizabeth Saunders (Columbia University), 'The Insiders' Game: How Elites Make War and Peace'. Badia Fiesolana, Seminar Room 2.
- **28 February**, 14.00-15.30: Presentation by Prof. Tobias Lenz (Leuphana University). 'EU-centrism in comparative regionalism'. Badia Fiesolana, Sala del Capitolo.
- **20 February**, 13.30-15.00: Presentation by Prof. Michael Zürn (Berlin Social Science Centre / WZB), 'Five Types of Contestations of the Liberal Script'. Badia Fiesolana, Sala del Capitolo and Zoom.
- **15 February**, 09.00-13.00: Author Workshop with Prof. Peter Katzenstein (Cornell University). Badia Fiesolana, Sala del Capitolo, and Zoom.
- **22 January**, 15:00-17:00: Book Launch - Reluctant Remilitarisation: Transforming the Armed Forces in Germany, Italy and Japan After the Cold War. Presented by Fabrizio Coticchia (University of Genoa), [Matteo Dian](#) (University of Bologna), and Francesco Niccolo Moro (University of Bologna & Johns Hopkins University SAIS Europe). Discussed by Giulio Pugliese (EUI & University of Oxford). Badia Fiesolana (Sala del Capitolo) and Zoom.



### **Schedule of Talks, First Term, Academic Year 2023-2024**

- **7 December**, 16:00-17:30: Presentation by Veronica Anghel (EU), From Club to Common Resource Pool: Effects of Enlargement and Resource Sharing on International Organisations. Discussed by Waltraud Schelkle (EUI). Badia Fiesolana (Refectory) and Zoom.
- **31 October**, 14:30-16:00: Presentation by Simon Frankel Pratt (University of Melbourne), Modular Sovereignty and Intelligence Contracting. Discussed by Stefano Guzzini (EUI). Badia Fiesolana (Sala del Capitolo) and Zoom.

### Schedule of Talks, Second and Third Terms, Academic Year 2022-2023

- **6 June**, 16-18: Presentation by Inés Bolaños Somoano (EUI), The Know-How to Rule: Knowledge Creation, Dissemination, and Orchestration of P/CVE Governance among European Practitioners. Discussed by Kalypso Nicolaidis (Chair in Global Affairs, STG/EUI), Badia Fiesolana (Seminar Room 2) and Zoom.
- **23 May**, 10:00-12:00, Natalia Tellidou (EUI alumna), Sponsorship relationships in proxy wars. Evolving state strategies in conflicts, Teatro (Badia) and Zoom
- **27 April**, 16:00-18:00, Elizabeth Maloba (EUI), Reimagining global security governance, Villa Malafrasca (Seminar Room) and Zoom
- **22 March**, 16:30-18:30 – Two presentations jointly organised with the European Union Studies Working Group, Villa Malafrasca (Seminar Room) and Zoom;
  - Andrea Carlo Martinez (German Historical Institute in Rome), Europe constructed, Europe contested: Italian media responses to the Treaties of Rome.
  - Marius Ghincea (EUI), *Zeitenwende*. Making Sense of Germany's Ukraine Policy.
- **23 February**, 16:30-18:30, Christiern Santos Rasmussen (EUI), Russia's strategical alignment of disinformation narratives and Nord Stream 2, Villa Malafrasca (Seminar Room) and Zoom  
Wednesday 1 February, 16:00-17:30, Inés Bolaños Somoano (EUI), Remote Fieldwork: From a desperate measure to a conscious research design, Badia Fiesolana (Teatro) and Zoom, co-organised with the Qualifie Working Group

### **Schedule of Talks, First Term, Academic Year 2022-2023**

- **10 October**, 17:00-18:00, Nicolas Mulder (Cornell University), The Economic Weapon: Sanctions and globalisation from the interwar period to today. Joint event with the Political Economy Working Group.
- **6 October**, 16:00-18:00, Nina Hall (Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies – Europe), Transnational Advocacy in the Digital Era, Think Global, Act Local (book discussion), Sala del Capitolo (Badia Fiesolana) and Zoom.
- **28 September**, 16:30-17:00, Sandra Destradi (EUI, Robert Schuman Centre), Theorising populist foreign policy. Joint event with Europe in the World Seminar Series.

## Schedule of Presentations, Second and Third Terms, Academic Year 2021-2022

- **24 January**, 15:00-17:00 - Senior-year Researchers Presentations; Badia Fiesolana, in-person session. o Melanie Sauter - Not a target: Violence against humanitarian aid workers o Wolfgang Minati - Legitimation in Civil War: Processes of Legitimation and Governance in Columbia o Marius Ghincea - How Strong is the Nuclear Taboo? Experimental Evidence from Romania.
- **8 February**, 15:00-17:00, Joshua David Kretzer (Harvard University), Elite Misperceptions and the Domestic Politics of Conflict (paper presentation), on Zoom.
- **22 February**, 16:00-17:00, Roundtable with Anne-Marie Slaughter (New America), Thomas Wright (Brookings Institution), and Stephanie Hofmann (EUI) on the U.S. Foreign Policy Consensus and the Transatlantic Relations, on Zoom.
- **23 March**, joint session with 'Europe in the World Seminar', Simone Dietrich (Geneva), States, Markets, and Foreign Aid, in-person session.
- **4 April**, 15:00-16:30, Derek Beach (Aarhus University) and Levante Littvay (Central European University), A More Conscious Experimental Design: How Process Tracing Can Improve Experimental Research (paper presentation), on Zoom.
- **20 May**, 10:00-12:00, Glenda Sluga (EUI), The Invention of International Order: Remaking Europe after Napoleon; Theatre, Badia Fiesolana, hybrid session.
- **14 June**, 13:00-15:00, Or Rosenboim (City University London), The Uses of the History of Political Thought in International Relations, Sala del Capitolo, Badia Fiesolana, and Zoom (hybrid session). (continued next page) Schedule of Presentations, First Term, Academic Year 2021-2022
- **19 October**, 17:00 (in-person) – Joint PEWG/IRWG round table on G20 Summit in Rome in partnership with the Robert Schuman Centre. • 22 October, 10:00 (in-person) – Roundtable: The Future of International Relations with Stefano Guzzini (Uppsala University), Stephanie Hofmann & Kalypso Nicolaïdis.
- **10 November**, 15:00 – Uncertainty in International Relations by Peter J. Katzenstein (Cornell University). • 24 November, 15:00 (online) – Joint IRWG/Qualifie event: Rethinking causal explanation in interpretive international studies by Ludvig Norman (University of Stockholm).

### **Schedule of Presentations, First Term, Academic Year 2021-2022**

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