Global governance structures are increasingly described as highly complex, fragmented, and polycentric. In many issue areas, the creation, design, evolution, and effectiveness of individual governance institutions are fundamentally shaped by how these institutions relate to and interact with other institutions operating in their domain. A large swathe of recent work in international relations and international law acknowledges the importance of institutional complexity for understanding global governance. However, much existing work focuses on developing typologies to better grasp the phenomenon and, empirically, are often based on the study of single cases, or limited to particular issue-areas. Thus, despite a fast proliferating literature on institutional complexity, major conceptual, theoretical, and empirical questions remain. The papers presented at this workshop address this research gap. Using new data and innovative methods, they map institutional complexity in a broad range of issue areas of world politics and develop new theoretical arguments to explain the emergence, development, and consequences of institutional complexity. Together, they make important theoretical and empirical contributions to the study of global governance and open up avenues for future research.
PROGRAMME

14.00-15.15  Session I: Regime Complexity and Contested Multilateralism
Consequences of Institutional Complexity in Global Governance
Mette Eilstrup-Sangiovanni | European University Institute
Oliver Westerwinter | European University Institute
Contested Multilateralism as Credible Signaling: How Strategic Inconsistency Can Induce Cooperation among States
Benjamin Faude | WZB Berlin Social Science Center
Michal Parizek | Charles University Prague
Discussant: Stephanie Hofmann | Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies Geneva

15.15-15.45  Coffee break

15.45-17.00  Session II: Institutional Interactions and Overlap
Bureaucratic Empowerment and Organisational Overlap: How the European Commission entrenches its European security actorness
Stephanie Hofmann | Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies Geneva
Catherine Hoeffler | Sciences Po Bordeaux
Contextual Design: Existing International Institutions and New Transnational Governance
Oliver Westerwinter | European University Institute
Discussant: Ole Jacob Sending | Norwegian Institute of International Affairs

SPEAKERS

Mette Eilstrup-Sangiovanni | European University Institute and Cambridge University
Benjamin Faude | WZB Berlin Social Science Center
Stephanie Hofmann | Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies Geneva
Oliver Westerwinter | European University Institute and University of St. Gallen
Ole Jacob Sending | Norwegian Institute of International Affairs