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Research Bulletin

Upcoming events, latest publications and other research activities

15 February 2021 (no. 2, 2021)

Upcoming Research Events (online, CET)

15 Monday

#DFS PART 3
Women in Tech >
15:00–16:00

16 Tuesday

#DGH
**COVID Response
and Digital Trust:
A Discussion on
Proximity Tracing
Applications >**
15:00–16:00

17 Wednesday

INTERNATIONAL
MACRO HISTORY
SEMINAR
**The Great
Demographic
Reversal: Ageing
Societies, Waning
Inequality, and an
Inflation Revival >**
17:00–18:00

18 Thursday

GLOBAL HEALTH
CENTRE
**Book Launch: "A
Guide to Global
Health Diplomacy"
>**
16:00–18:30

19 Friday

NO EVENTS

22 Monday

NO EVENTS

23 Tuesday

NO EVENTS

24 Wednesday

LIVE ISSUES LIVE
WEBINAR
**What Future for
Advocacy
Campaigns? Case
Study of "Black
Lives Matter" >**
12:30–13:30

INTERNATIONAL
MACRO HISTORY
SEMINAR
**It Takes Money to
Make MPs: New
Evidence from 150
Years of British
Campaign
Spending >**
17:00–18:00

25 Thursday

TASC PLATFORM
**Telemigration and
Digitally Enabled
Service Exports:
Potential and
Risks as a
Pathway for
Development >**
16:00–17:00

GLOBAL HEALTH
CENTRE WEBINAR
**The
Implementation of
the TRIPS
Agreement by
Least Developed
Countries >**
16:00–17:00

GENDER CENTRE
**Male Survivors of
Wartime Sexual
Violence >**
18:30–20:00

26 Friday

NO EVENTS

[See all events +](#)

Gateway to Publications by Theme



Gender



Governance



Conflict, Dispute
Settlement and
Peacebuilding



Culture,
Identity
and Religion



Environment
and Natural
Resource



Global Health



Development
Finance, Policies
and Practices



Trade
and Economic
Integration



Human Rights,
Humanitarian
Law and Action



Migration
and
Refugees



Gateway to Other Relevant Information



Awarded
Grants



Calls
for
Prizes



Awarded
Prizes



Upcoming
PhD
Defences



Publications by Themes



Gender

DISCUSSION PAPER

The Gender Aspect of Immigrants' Assimilation in Europe

This paper explores the understudied gender dimension of the labor market convergence between immigrants and natives in the EU and in Switzerland over 1999–2018 (IZA Discussion Paper no. 13922, December 2020). **Tae Hoon Lee,**



Research Assistant in International Economics, Giovanni Peri and **Martina Viarengo** measure convergence of labor market outcomes for male and female migrants to similar natives before and after the Great Recession and across countries of destination. They notably find that in most countries female migrants start with a larger employment gap but converge more rapidly than male migrants do and that there is a very strong correlation between attitudes towards immigrants and their employment convergence across subnational regions.

PDF >

ARTICLE

Gendering Foreign Policy in Colombia's Peace Process with the FARC

This article aims at understanding the entanglement of domestic and international preferences – the “two-level games” – in the gendering of the peace agreement between the Colombian government and the Colombian Revolutionary Armed Forces (FARC) (in *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, online February 2021. To that end, Alumnus **Felipe Jaramillo Ruiz**, Research Affiliate at the Gender Centre, and María Catalina Monroy analyse the domestic pressures that drove the formulation and incorporation of a gender perspective in the negotiations with the FARC, and how this gender dimension was incorporated in the Colombian government's foreign policy strategy.

DOI >



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Governance



EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Due Diligence in International Environmental Law: A Fine-grained Cartography

This chapter by **Jorge E. Viñuales** conducts a fine-grained analysis of the legal topography of the duty of due diligence as applied to the protection of the environment in international law. It

conducts two inquiries (in *Due Diligence in the International Legal Order*, H. Krieger, A. Peters and L. Kreuzer, eds., Oxford University Press, December 2020). The first identifies the norms from which this duty arises; their duty-bearers; their correlative right-holders; the type of action/inaction covered by the duty, the outcome it seeks to govern; and the outer limits of the duty. The second examines what makes the targeted behaviour “duly” diligent: in the choice of means; having regard to the time, activity and capacity of the duty-bearer; and in the scope of the duty, encompassing adoption and proactive enforcement of relevant measures.

Publisher >



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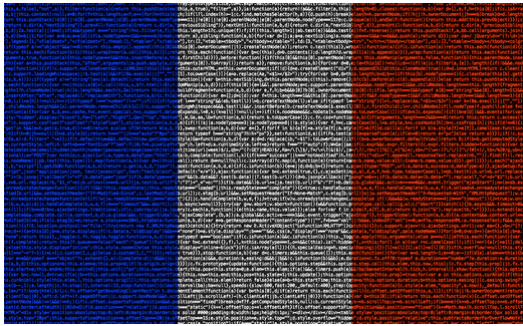


Conflict, Dispute Settlement and Peacebuilding

TWO EDITED BOOK CHAPTERS

– Cybersecurity Governance in Brazil: Keeping Silos or Building Bridges?

In their chapter for the *Routledge Companion to Global Cyber-Security*



Strategy (January 2021), Visiting Fellow **Luisa Cruz Lobato** and Louise Marie Hurel discuss conflicting notions of risk arising from the first decade of cybersecurity governance in Brazil (2008–2018). Its findings show that this process was marked by tensions between institutional responses based on internal vs. external threat framings vis-à-vis the transversality

of cyberspace threats and by gaps in communication, collaboration and governance among different sectors, which created “silos” of like-minded groups with similar understandings of threats and hampered the possibility of extensive collaborations outside of these niches.

– **Cybersecurity in the French Republic**

In their chapter for the same volume, **Amber Darwish**, PhD Candidate in the International Relations/Political Science and International Law programmes and SYLFF Fellow, and Scott N. Romaniuk analyse the cyber security strategies of the French Republic.

Book's DOI >

ARTICLE

Is Normative Power Cosmopolitan? Rethinking European Unity, Norm Diffusion, and International Political Theory

Despite the apparent consensus that European Union (EU) normative power embodies a Kantian cosmopolitan approach to world politics, such a consensus is typically presupposed by scholars, rather than being critically examined by them. By offering macro-historical reflections, **Kazushige Kobayashi**, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding, Cooperation and Conflict, argues that EU normative power deviates from the Kantian cosmopolitan ideal and in fact replicates the Hobbesian logic of normative homogenisation (in *Cooperation and Conflict*, online December 2020).

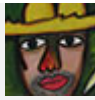
DOI >

REPORT

Managing Conflicts and Disasters: Exploring Collaboration between Employers' and Workers' Organizations

Oliver Jütersonke, Emilio Rodriguez and **Sina Zintzmeyer**, from the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding, explore the leadership function that employer and business member organisations (EBMOs) have deployed to maintain an environment for continued economic activity and the key role that workers' organisations take to assist workers, in particular those who have been made vulnerable by a crisis (ILO, April 2020). They importantly examine how EBMOs and workers' organisations have collaborated through social dialogue and other means of collective action to promote peace, prevent crises, enable recovery and build resilience.

Access >



Culture, Identity and Religion



CHAPITRE D'OUVRAGE COLLECTIF

Les formes chrétiennes du religieux au Kenya

Ce chapitre présente un panorama historique de l'univers du christianisme au Kenya (in *Le Kenya en marche, 2000-2020*, M.-A. Fouéré, M.-E. Pommerolle et Chr. Thibon, dir., Africae, décembre 2020).

Yvan Droz et Yonatan Gez abordent

ensuite les transformations récentes du champ du religieux, avant d'interroger le rôle politique des Églises au Kenya. En dernier lieu, ils décrivent certaines pratiques religieuses et montrent qu'elles dépassent les religions instituées pour présenter une pratique «butinante» qui participe de diverses formes religieuses, tant dans le quotidien que dans les itinéraires religieux des Kényans.

DOI >

ARTICLE

Telltale

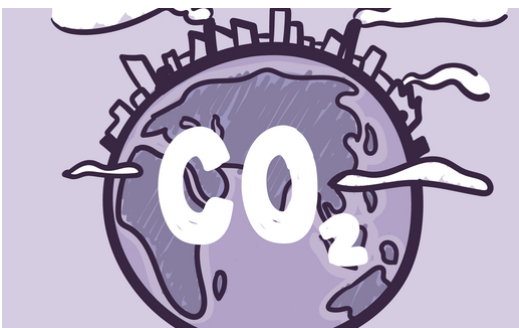
This essay is **Patricia Spyer's** contribution to *Mary Steedly's Anthropology of Modern Indonesia: A Collection of Keywords*, a volume that she coedited and **introduced** with Smita Lahiri and Karen Strassler (in *Indonesia*, no. 109, April 2020). "Telltale" speaks to the acute attention and thinking that Steedly brought to her work, to the subtlety, nuance, power, and persuasiveness of her writing, and to the way Indonesianists and other scholars may recall and draw on her insights and contributions for years to come.

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Environment and Natural Resource



ARTICLE

Two Layers of Self-Regulation

The purpose of this essay is to connect two narratives: one concerning biospheric self-regulation, which has been formulated in increasing detail, and the other concerning human self-regulation, which remains inchoate and scattered (in *Transnational Legal Theory*, vol. 11, no. 1-2, 2020). The

starting point of the analysis is the curious fact that, whereas in the past most accounts of the world embedded humans within nature, in the last two centuries, the prevailing accounts have assumed or postulated a disconnection between human and

natural history, despite the fact that the empirical connection has become inescapable. **Jorge E. Viñuales** first characterises the conceptual disconnection and the empirical connection between human action and geological processes, and then revisits, in this light, the link between biospheric self-regulation and human self-regulation, paying attention to the role of the social practices we call law.

[DOI >](#)

PAPER

Certification or Cash Prize: The Heterogeneous Effect of Venture Competitions

Venture competitions usually reward winners with a certification of their startup's quality and a cash prize. Gaétan de Rassenfosse and **Matthias van den Heuvel**, Research Assistant at the Centre for International Environmental Studies, model and estimate the impact of these rewards on startup performances using original data on about 1000 startups that have participated in a highly-regarded venture competition. They find that winning in the competition improves startups' performances on average but does not affect all technology types equally. They also show that the competition's certification provides valuable information to both entrepreneurs and outside investors, which accelerates the termination of low-quality startups and improves external funding opportunities for high-quality startups.

[Access >](#)

A summary is available in this [CIES Policy Brief >](#)

ARTICLE

Le projet de Pacte mondial pour l'environnement de 2017

Cet article de Yann Aguila et **Jorge E. Viñuales** présente, dans sa première partie, les bases conceptuelles du projet d'adoption d'un Pacte mondial pour l'environnement (PME) (in *Revue juridique de l'environnement*, vol. 45, no. 2, 2020). Il inscrit la recherche d'un instrument-cadre mondial sur la protection environnementale dans une perspective à long terme, puis examine les principales raisons pour lesquelles il est nécessaire; dans ce contexte, il s'intéresse à l'expression actuelle de cette tendance sous la forme d'un projet de PME et évoque l'élan que ce projet a suscité dans les milieux politiques. Dans sa seconde partie, l'article s'attache au contenu du projet de 2017 et présente les grands principes qu'il consacre, tout en analysant sa portée.

[Accès >](#)



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Global Health

ARTICLE

The Trojan Horse: Digital Health, Human Rights, and Global Health Governance

In response to the pandemic, many countries are scaling up the use of new



digital tools and artificial intelligence (AI) for tasks ranging from digital contact tracing, to diagnosis, to health information management, to the prediction of future outbreaks, with the active support of numerous private actors and public actors. In particular, UN development agencies provide normative guidance and technical cooperation while global health financing

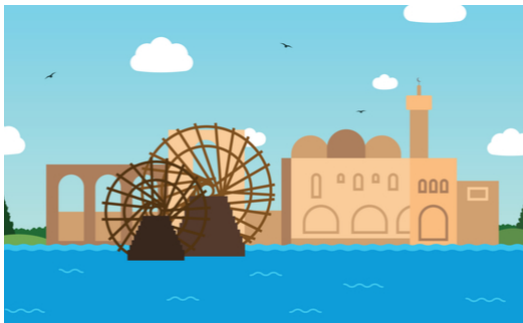
agencies finance these technologies through aid to national health programmes and public-private partnerships. In this major effort to spur low- and middle-income countries to race toward the digital future, **Sara L.M. Davis**, Senior Researcher at the Global Health Centre, outlines risks that international development agencies should consider (in “Big Data, Technology, Artificial Intelligence and the Right to Health”, a special section of *Health and Human Rights Journal* that she coedited and **introduced** with Carmel Williams, vol. 22, no. 2, December 2020).

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Development Finance, Policies and Practices



REPORT

Management of the Jalamah, Mirkan and Jawban Water Supply Networks in Northwestern Syria: Water Users Associations and Social Cohesion

Ronald Jaubert, Ahmed Haj Asaad, scientific collaborator, and Omar Shamali describe a project aimed at restoring and managing the Jalamah, Mirkan and Jawban

water supply networks in northwestern Syria and conducted by Geo Expertise in collaboration with the Graduate Institute (January 2021). The project shows that water users associations (WUAs) can be vital to provide safe water at an affordable cost to the populations when state agencies have collapsed. WUAs are also key in managing the functioning of water networks in close collaboration with local councils and committees, and fostering communication between locals and IDPs. After ten years of conflict, social cohesion – such as achieved through the work of WUAs – is as important as access to basic needs. However, social cohesion is largely ignored by most actors involved in the conflict.

Repository >

WORKING PAPER

Update to Figure 1 in “Macroeconomic Shocks and Their Propagation”

This International Economics Department Working Paper (no. 1, January 2021) proposes an update to Figure 1 in **Ramey (2016)**. Figure 1 reports impulse-response functions (IRFs) of variables of interest to a shock in the Federal Funds Rate,

following the baseline and variations of the vector autoregression (VAR) models in **Christiano et al. (1999)**. **Edoardo Chiarotti**, PhD Candidate in International Economics, shows that, when using a time series for FED non-borrowed reserves that is not corrected for regulatory changes in reserves requirements, the results for the period 1983–07 are robust to the inclusion of monetary variables.

[Repository >](#)

EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

Pandemic and Panic: Government as the Supplier of Last Resort

Yi Huang and others provide a simple model to regulate “panic run” behavior in this chapter of *Impact of COVID-19 on Asian Economies and Policy Responses* (S. Agarwal, Z. He and B. Yeung, eds., World Scientific, January 2021), originally published in 2020 as a **working paper** of the Asian Bureau of Finance and Economic Research and listed in the **May 2020 Research Bulletin**).

[DOI >](#)

PHD THESIS

Black Monday: The Acid Test for Global Financial Deregulation: A Socio-History of the October 1987 Crash

The 1987 crash has been completely forgotten since it had no apparent consequences on the world economy. **Johanna Gautier-Morin** 's PhD thesis in International History rehabilitates the event as the first global and modern crash that announced all the following crashes. Black Monday serves as a proxy to observe the geopolitical, legal, sociological, technological and cultural transformations of the financial world since the collapse of the Bretton Woods agreements through a transnational perspective. The thesis identifies an alternate geography of modern financial globalisation and analyses the performative representations prevailing in financial milieus through a prosopographic database of almost 3,000 financiers from more than 20 countries involved in brokerage firms, merchant banks, commercial banks, and asset management firms active in October 1987.

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Trade and Economic Integration



ARTICLE

How Did Rising Labor Costs Erode China’s Global Advantage?

This paper aims to evaluate the effects of rising labor costs on China’s attractiveness to multinationals and its competitiveness in exports by using regional variations in minimum wage distortion as possibly exogenous shocks to unskilled-labor costs

(in *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, vol. 183, March 2021). **Yi Huang**, Liugang Sheng and Gewei Wang first develop a two-sector model by introducing the

minimum wage into a general equilibrium model which integrates production and trade in a multiregional setting. Consistent with model predictions, they find that rising minimum wage distortion reduces more of the exports in unskilled-labor intensive industries. Moreover, exports by foreign invested firms are more sensitive to changes in minimum wage distortion than exports by domestic firms, and both intensive and extensive margins matter for this distinction.

[DOI >](#)

BRIEFING PAPER

Trade Related Aspects of a Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism: A Legal Assessment

This briefing provides a legal assessment – under WTO and EU law – of three policy options for an EU carbon border adjustment mechanism (Briefing Paper for the EU Parliament, August 2020). These options are (1) a carbon tax adjusted at the border, (2) the inclusion of importers under the EU emission trading scheme and (3) import tariffs on products from third countries that do not pursue climate policies in line with the Paris Agreement. **Joost Pauwelyn** and David Kleimann evaluate these three policies against the benchmark of vulnerability to WTO legal challenge and then assess the EU decision-making procedures that are applicable to the three policies and the varying degrees of efficiency and democratic participation they imply.

[DOI >](#)

WORKING PAPER

Social Clauses in Trade Agreements Implications and Action Points for the Private Sector in Developing Countries

In their Tradelab report for the International Organisation of Employers (IOE), **Gaia Grasselli, Jarrod Suda** and **Anna Liz Thomas**, Master Students in International Affairs, aim to give an overview of the existing kinds of labour provisions in free trade agreements, and their implications for employers and businesses in developing countries (International Economic Law Clinic/TradeLab, January 2021). Based on case studies on the implementation of labour standards in Guatemala, Mexico and South Korea, they provide a list of best practices recommendations for businesses to ensure effective compliance with labour provisions.

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Human Rights, Humanitarian Law and Action



EDITED BOOK CHAPTER

The Persistence of Chinese Rights Defenders

Scholars have recently critiqued human rights as a purely Eurocentric construct now on the decline. Some cite the apparent success of China's repressive political regime in support of this

argument, but depicting China as uniformly authoritarian risks missing the persistence of domestic forms of human rights advocacy and mobilisation. Reviewing the history of civil society mobilisation in China since 2000, **Sara L.M. Davis** shows that some Chinese human rights defenders do find innovative ways to persist in rights-based advocacy, such as the practice of weiguan, public counterveillance during political trials (in *The Oxford Handbook of Law and Anthropology*, M.-Cl. Foblets and others, eds., online December 2020). The author argues that the world has entered a more intense phase of struggle over the meaning and application of human rights norms in diverse local contexts, and that the human rights framework facilitates transnational solidarity.

[DOI >](#)

PHD THESIS

Into the Post-Backlash Human Rights Law

An increasing number of states around the world are dissatisfied with global human rights institutions and NGOs. In her PhD thesis in International Law (2021), **Sanja Dragić** enquires into the narratives of both the opposing states and the international human rights community related to three post-backlash norms: rules governing reservations and withdrawals from human rights treaties; the right of civil society to foreign funding as part of the right to freedom of association; and the norm of immunity of senior state officials as envisaged in the Malabo Protocol. These norms, she finds, have not resulted in a more “humane” law but in a tendency to create a law that is essentially augmenting the power of the global human rights structure.

[Interview with Dr Dragić >](#)

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Migration and Refugees



ARTICLE

The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration: A Kaleidoscope of International Law

The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration has prompted an intense political debate at both the international and domestic levels. Most controversies focus on its legal stance and highlight the

hybrid character of the Compact as a soft-law instrument. While acknowledging the political nature of the Compact, **Vincent Chetail** delves into its legal dimensions from the perspective of international law and discloses three main features: (1) the Compact is not a codification of international legal norms governing migration; it is an instrument of both (2) consolidation and (3) expansion of international law to foster intergovernmental cooperation and promote safe, orderly and regular migration (in *International Journal of Law in Context*, vol. 16, Special Issue 3, September 2020).

[DOI >](#)

Disentangling Mining and Migratory Routes in West Africa: Decisions to Move in Migrantised Settings

This article scrutinises the trajectories of African men whose cross-border movements intersect two types of mobility routes: mining and migration routes (in *Social Inclusion*, vol. 9, no. 1, March 2021, now in press). Drawing on field research in Mali and Guinea, as well as phone interviews with male miners/migrants in North Africa and Europe, **Matthieu Bolay**, Postdoctoral Researcher in the project **Transparency: Qualities and Technologies of the Global Gemstone Industry**, provides a case to empirically question some of the premises in the approach to migration decision-making by giving a voice to African men moving across borders who do not necessarily identify as (prospective) “migrants”.

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Other Relevant Information



Awarded Grants

Three Students Granted SNSF doc.CH Funding

- **Daniel Ricardo Quiroga Villamarín** has received CH 226,962 CHF to carry out his 39-month doctoral project in International Law “Architects of the Better World’: The Birth of the International Conference Complex (1918–1998)”, starting June 2021.
- **Zhubin Chen** has received CHF 217,143 to carry out his 30-month doctoral project in International Economics on “The Impact of Social Health Insurance on the Incentives of Health Care Providers in East Africa: A Mixed-Methods Approach”, starting March 2021.
- **Nina Khamsy** has received CHF 170,499 to carry out her 30-month doctoral project in Anthropology and Sociology on “Scales of Mobility of Afghan Migrant Youth in the Digital Era”, starting March 2021.

Three Researchers Granted Two-Year EU Marie-Curie Individual Fellowships

EUR 191,149 have been granted respectively to

- **Aiko Holvikivi** to work on “Agency, Victimhood and Deviance: Making Sense of ‘Sexual Exploitation and Abuse’” at the Gender Centre
- **Norita Mdege** to work on “Women Politicians in Africa: War of Symbols and the Struggle for Political Legitimacy” at the Gender Centre
- **Caitlin Procter** to work on “REACT – Reintegration from Armed Conflict: A Comparative Study of Youth Reintegration from Armed Conflict in Iraq and Gaza” at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding.



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Calls for Prizes

📅 31 mars

Prix Jean-Baptiste Duroselle 2021: appel à candidatures

L'Institut d'histoire des relations internationales contemporaines (Paris) récompense les meilleures recherches en histoire des relations internationales en offrant deux prix: l'un à l'auteur de la meilleure thèse, l'autre à l'auteur du meilleur mémoire de master.

Plus d'infos >



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Awarded Prizes

2019 Paul Guggenheim Prize Awarded to Dr Astrid Wiik

Dr Wiik has received this prize for her extensive study *Amicus Curiae before International Courts and Tribunals* (**Hart Publishing**), whose great relevance for both the theory and practice of international law won over the jury.

More info >

Global Migration Award 2020 Goes Ex Aequo to Silvan Oberholzer and Yaël Parrotta

Silvan Oberholzer (Master in Development Studies) and Yaël Parrotta (Master in International Affairs) convinced the jury with their respective dissertations, *Education as Humanitarian Response: Access to Compulsory Education for Venezuelan Migrant and Refugee Children in Barranquilla* (available **here**) and *Redefining Humanitarianism in the Making: Grassroots/Volunteer Organizations in Samos (Greece)* (available **here**), both of which will be published in the Global Migration Research Paper Series.

More info >



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Upcoming PhD Defences

📅 Monday 15 February

🕒 16:30–18:00 (online)

Three Essays in Development Microeconomics

By **Shiqi Guo**, Development Economics. Committee members: Martina Viarengo, President and Internal Reader; Jean-Louis Arcand, Thesis Director; Harald Hau, Professor, Geneva School of Economics and Management

(GSEM), University of Geneva.

[More info >](#)

📅 Monday 22 February
🕒 15:00–17:00 (online)

Meat in the Heat: A History of Tel Aviv under the British Mandate for Palestine (1920s–1940s)

By **Efrat Gilad**, International History. Committee members: Cyrus Schayegh, President and Internal Reader; Davide Rodogno, Thesis Director; Lisa Haushofer, Senior Research Associate, Institute for Biomedical Ethics and History of Medicine, University of Zurich.

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