



## Politics and International Studies Newsletter



### Introductions

The **Department** welcomes Dr **Hagar Kotef** who has joined the department as Senior Lecturer in Political Theory and Comparative Politics.



Before assuming her position at SOAS **Hagar** was a co-director of the Minerva Humanities Center, At Tel Aviv University. Beforehand she held research positions at the Department of Politics and Government at Ben Gurion University, the Society of Fellow at Columbia University, and the University of CA, Berkeley. She received her PhD in philosophy from Tel Aviv University in 2009. Her book *Movement and the Ordering of Freedom* (Duke University Press, 2015) examines the roles of mobility and immobility in the history of political thought and the structuring of political spaces. Ranging from the writings of Locke, Hobbes, and Mill to the sophisticated technologies of control that circumscribe the lives of Palestinians in the Occupied West Bank, it shows how concepts of freedom, security, and violence take form and find justification via different and differentiated regimes of movement. Her new project examines the construction of political belonging in settler colonies.

We also welcome Dr **Kerem Nisancioglu** who has joined the department as a Lecturer in International Studies.



Before coming to SOAS, **Kerem** was a Visiting Lecturer in International Relations at the University of Westminster

and Adjunct Lecturer at Richmond University. He received his PhD in International Relations from the University of Sussex in 2014. **Kerem's** research focuses on Eurocentrism in international relations, and how this Eurocentrism can be subverted in both theory and history. His co-authored book *How the West Came to Rule: The Geopolitical Origins of Capitalism* (with Alexander Anievas) was published earlier this summer by Pluto Press. **Kerem** also blogs at [The Disorder of Things](#).



### Appointments, Awards, Honours

Professor **Lawrence Saez** became interim Head of Department, replacing Professor **Salwa Ismail**. Professor **Saez** celebrated his 50th birthday and prepared himself for the mental and physical rigours of being HoD by climbing the pyramids of the sun and the moon at Teotihuacán, Mexico.

The Department congratulates the following doctoral students who have passed their vivas: congratulations to **Marco Jowell**, “An institutional analysis of peacekeeping training centres in Africa”; **Amir Khnifess**, “The Collective Action of the Druze in Israel: Between Politics of Accommodation and Politics of Contention”; **Myung Ja Kim**, “Diaspora and Divided Homeland: Geopolitics, Nation-Building Policies and the Zainichi Diaspora”; **Jeremy Taylor**, “Japan is back” Japan’s (re)engagement in Africa: The Case of South Sudan”;

Dr **Freya Irani**, who defended her dissertation successfully in March, has been awarded a position as Postdoctoral Research Scholar at **Columbia Law School**, for two years, starting in late September.

Doctoral student **Indrè Balčaitė** has started a post-doctoral research fellowship at the Department of International Relations of the Central European University in Budapest, Hungary.

**Jamil Mouawad** has begun a post-doctoral fellowship at Institut Francais du Proche Orient (IFPO) in Beirut funded by the Arab Council for the Social Sciences (ACSS).

**Gerasimos Tsourapas** has been appointed Senior Teaching Fellow in International Relations in September 2015. In July 2015, he was also awarded the 2015 SOAS Director’s Teaching Prize.

**Gerasimos Tsourapas's** paper “Nasser’s Educators & Agitators Across al-Watan al-’Arabi: Tracing the Foreign Policy Importance of Egyptian Regional Migration, 1952-

1967” won the 2015 Wadad Kadi Travel Fellowship for MESA. His ”Labour Emigration and State Strength during the Arab ‘Cold War’” has been selected as the winner of the MESA 2015 Graduate Student Paper Prize as well as the winner of [Khayrallah Center](#) Graduate Student Article Prize. The committee of the Khayrallah Center prize was impressed with the quality of his research, the clarity of his writing and the strength of his argument, and commended his “intervention into Nasser’s political use of migration and diaspora (and the limitation of the state to control both) [as] a novel way of thinking about transnationalism in the Middle East”.

**Gerasimos Tsourapas**, together with Dr. Maria Koinova (University of Warwick) won a International Studies Association venture research workshop grant (\$10,310). The workshop is titled “Unpacking the Sending States: Regimes, Institutions, and Non-state Actors in Emigration and Diaspora Politics.” It will gather fifteen scholars from prestigious universities in Europe and the US to discuss how regimes, institutions and non-state actors shape sending states’ extraterritorial engagement with migrant populations abroad. The workshop will take place at the ISA convention in Atlanta in March 2016, and a small follow-up workshop will be conducted at Warwick University in the fall of 2016. Results will be further disseminated through the London Migration Research Group, and edited special journal issues are envisaged as a result of this workshop.

**Arshin Adib-Moghaddam** was invited to the editorial board of the *FWU Journal of Social Sciences*, Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University, Peshawar (Pakistan).

**Leslie Vinjamuri** was elected to the Council at Chatham House. Chatham House, the Royal Institute of International Affairs, is an independent policy institute based in London. In the University of Pennsylvania’s 2014 Global Go To Think Tanks Report, Chatham House is ranked the second most influential think tank in the world after the Brookings Institution, and the world’s most influential non-U.S. think tank.

In July, **Akanksha Mehta** was awarded both first and second place in the Annual SOAS Photography competition for her photo essays on Hebron, Palestine and Marrakech, Morocco. Select photographs have been displayed at SOAS.



Occupied Childhoods - Hebron Old City by Akanksha Mehta

Description: Taken in Hebron’s Old city, this photograph depicts the children of the last Palestinian family that remains at this end

of the old city. Surrounded by Israeli settlers and IDF soldiers on three sides, the family lives a caged existence where even their windows must remain shut at all times. However, their very presence and their ‘everyday’ life signifies resistance and subversion to settler-colonialism and its violence. The children of this family find new sites of fun and play, inventing games and new worlds, and carving spaces of happiness and laughter with their occupied childhoods.

Professor **Stephen Chan** has been appointed 2016 George Soros Chair of Public Policy at Central European University, Budapest, after a global search. He will take up this post during his leave in the first part of the new calendar year. This will be the second year of the Soros Chair. For **Chan** it follows upon his 2015 appointment to the inaugural Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Chair of Academic Excellence at Bir Zeit University in Palestine.



## New Publications

**Arshin Adib-Moghaddam’s** articles have been published in two edited books. His “India in the Iranian imagination: Between Culture and Strategic Interest” was published in *Competing Visions of India in World Politics: India’s Rise beyond the West*, edited by Kate Sullivan (Palgrave); and his “Global Intifadah? September 11<sup>th</sup> and the Struggle Within Islam” in *The International Relations of the Middle East Vol. 3*, edited by Morten Valbjorn and Fred H. Lawson (Sage).

**Yuka Kobayashi’s** piece on ”[India in Climate Change – the view from Japan via China](#)“ appeared in *Competing Visions of India in World Politics: India’s Rise Beyond the West* edited by Kate Sullivan (Palgrave). The chapter examines how India is perceived in climate change through the trilateral relationship between India, Japan and China, contributing to the literature on non-Western perspectives on rising India.

In November, doctoral student **Mohammad Ali Shabani** contributed a chapter on Iran-Iraq relations for the publication *Iraq at Crossroads*, published by Madrid-based Casa Arabe.

In November, **Phil Clark** published a [working paper](#), “All These Outsiders Shouted Louder Than Us’: Civil Society Engagement with Transitional Justice in Uganda”, as part of the Security in Transition research project at LSE funded by the European Research Council and the MacArthur Foundation.

**Fiona Adamson** published the article “[Blurring the Lines: Diaspora Politics and Globalized Constituencies](#)“ in the *World Politics Review* in July.

**Michael Farquhar’s** “Saudi Petrodollars, Spiritual Capital, and the Islamic University of Medina: A Wahhabi Missionary Project in Transnational Perspective” was published in the *International Journal of Middle East Studies* in October. The article tells the story of an institution that,

since the early 1960s, has played a key role in efforts by Saudi actors to project religious influence abroad. It argues for new ways of thinking about the processes by which Wahhabi religious authority was remade and extended beyond the kingdom's borders in the latter decades of the twentieth century. In September, **Michael** [wrote a review](#) of Pascal Menoret's *Joyriding in Riyadh: Oil, Urbanism, and Road Revolt* for the London School of Economics Middle East Centre Blog.

**Kristin Surak** published the chapter "Guestworkers Globally" in the *Handbook of the Political Economy of Migration*, edited by Simon McMahon. Her article "Re-Selling Japan" was translated into Korean at *Nyurep'ũt'ũ Ribyu*, a local annual edition of the *New Left Review*. She also published the piece "Japan's Battle for Peace" with *Jacobin*.

Doctoral student **Lewis Turner** published "[Explaining the \(Non-\)Encampment of Syrian Refugees: Security, Class and the Labour Market in Lebanon and Jordan](#)" in the journal *Mediterranean Politics*.

**Rahul Rao** published an article titled "Global Homocapitalism" in *Radical Philosophy* 194 (Nov/Dec 2015). The article offers a critique of recent initiatives on LGBT rights taken by international financial institutions such as the World Bank and the IMF, with particular reference to India and Uganda. **Rahul** has also written the entry on 'Hijra' in the recently published *Key Concepts in Modern Indian Studies*, edited by Gita Dharampal-Frick, Rachel Dwyer, Monika Kirloskar-Steinbach & Jahnvi Phalkey (Oxford University Press).

Professor **Lawrence Saez's** article, titled "The Political Budget Cycle and Subnational Debt Expenditures in Federations: Panel Data Evidence from India", has been published in *Governance*.

**Laleh Khalili's** "[Counterterrorism and Counterinsurgency in the Neoliberal Age](#)" has been published in *The Oxford Handbook of Contemporary Middle-Eastern and North African History* edited by Amal Ghazal and Jens Hanssen.

Together with colleagues from Canada (working on Malaysia), New Zealand (Sri Lanka), and India (India), **Matt Nelson** published "Is the Rule of Law an Antidote for Religious Tension? The Promise and Peril of Judicializing Religious Freedom" in the *American Behavioral Scientist* (October 2015). **Matt** also published a special report for the National Bureau of Asian Research in Seattle and Washington, D.C. titled "Informal Agencies of Influence: The Interdependence of Social, Religious, and Political Trends in Pakistan".

As part of a Brookings Institution project *Rethinking Political Islam*, **Matt Nelson** published a working paper titled "Islamist Parties and their Proxies Working with--and against--the Pakistani State". (This paper is expected to become an OUP book chapter next year.) **Matt** also published an online policy brief for The Foundation for Law, Justice, and Society in Oxford titled "Islamic Law in an Islamic Republic: What Role for Parliament?"

In November, **Michael Buehler** [published an article](#) in *New Mandala* on covert lobbying activities in the context of Indonesian President Joko Widodo's visit to the United States of America. The article triggered strong reactions from the Government of Indonesia, the press, various Indonesian academics as well as the public.



Indonesian Minister of Foreign Affairs Retno Marsudi holding a press conference

In reaction, **Michael Buehler** reiterated his claims in [a follow-up article](#), available in English and in [Bahasa Indonesia](#). Ninety academics in Indonesia and abroad [signed a statement](#) in support of Michael Buehler and Academic Freedom. The statement is also available in [Bahasa Indonesia](#).

In August and September, **Michael Buehler** published several review essays and book reviews, including [a review of Dewi Kurniawati Hastuti's](#) *Indonesian women and local politics: Islam, gender, and networks in post-Subarto Indonesia*, and [a review of Patrick Ziegenhain's](#) *Institutional Engineering and Political Accountability in Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines*. He also [published a review essay](#) on subnational authoritarianism in *Publius-The Journal of Federalism*.

In August, SOAS Politics student **Timothy Simonson** [published an essay in New Mandala](#) on the moderation of the NLD in Burma, and [another on the opening of the first Kentucky Fried Chicken branch in Myanmar](#) and what it tells us about the country's 'democratic' transition.

Doctoral student **Neil Loughlin** [published a review](#) of Sarah Milne and Sango Mohanty's *Conservation and Development in Cambodia: Exploring Frontiers of Change in Nature, State and Society*.

Doctoral student **Elisa Brewis** [published a review](#) of Rattana Lao's *A Critical Study of Thailand's Higher Education Reforms: the culture of borrowing Abingdon*.



## Research Centres, Clusters, & Networks

### Centre for Comparative Political Thought

On 21 September, Banu Bargu was a guest of **Centre for Comparative Political Thought** and presented “Why did Bouazizi burn himself? Fatal politics and the politics of fate”.



[www.soas.ac.uk/ccpt](http://www.soas.ac.uk/ccpt)



On 22 September the **CCPT** held a one-day workshop on *Thinking Through Time Politically*, with presentations by Leigh Jenco (LSE), Robbie Shilliam (QMUL), Michael Freedon (University of Nottingham), **Felix Berenskoetter** (SOAS), **Rahul Rao** (SOAS), Shamira Meghani (University of Leeds), Victoria Browne (Oxford Brookes University) and Humeira Iqtidar (KCL).

### Centre for the International Politics of Conflicts, Rights and Justice

Dr **Ashley Lenihan** has joined the Politics Department this term. During her time at SOAS, Dr **Lenihan** is helping to direct the research and events at **CCRJ**. Dr **Lenihan's** research focuses on the evolution of the norms surrounding rape as war crime, and the relationship between political economy and security.

**CCRJ** welcomes its new postgraduate volunteers, **Adrien Chevaillier**, **Diana Naoum**, and **Maya Schkolne**. **Adrien**, **Diana**, and **Maya** are assisting with **CCRJ's** research and events.

### CCRJ Events:

Ambassador Stephen Rapp delivered [a public lecture](#) on “The Future of International Criminal Justice”. Ambassador Rapp was Ambassador-at-large for War Crimes in the United States Department of State from 2009-2015. **Leslie Vinjamuri** [interviewed Ambassador Rapp for SOAS Radio](#).

Professor Kathleen R. McNamara, Georgetown University, spoke on “Culture, Legitimacy and the EU in Crisis”. This talk, part of the Dahrendorf Forum, was jointly hosted by CCRJ, SOAS and the London School of Economics.

Emile Hokayem, Senior Fellow for Middle East Security, at the International Institute of Strategic Studies, delivered a talk at **CCRJ** on “Syria: between escalation and diplomacy”.

### Centre for Taiwan Studies

**Dafydd Fell** and **Chang Bi-yu** organized the following **Centre of Taiwan Studies Seminars** since the last newsletter:

2 July, 2015: *Film Screening: Formosa Betrayed and Q&A with Producer and Actor Will Tiao*

11 September: *2015 Asia Pacific Security Forum* (Co-organized with Taiwanese Thinktank Institute for National Policy Research.

28 October: *Colonial Haunting and Exorcisement: Pre-war and Post-war Taiwan Literature and The Period of Japanese Rule*, Speakers: Professor Huang Mei-E & Professor Liou Liang-ya (National Taiwan University)

30 October: *Film Screening: Vincent Who? and Q&A with Director, Mr Curtis Chin*

### Migration, Mobility and Membership Cluster

The Department's **Migration, Mobility and Membership Cluster** organised a two-day workshop on “Migration, Diaspora, and the Global South” in London, on 2 and 3 July. The workshop, which began with an opening address by Professor James F. Hollifield, included research by many departmental staff including **Fiona Adamson**, **Phil Clark**, **Myung Ja Kim**, **Kristin Surak**, and **Gerasimos Tsourapas**. It also allowed current PhD and staff from other SOAS departments to present and receive feedback on their work.

## London Migration Research Group (LMRG)

The **London Migration Research Group** has organised the following events:

27 October 2015

[Rahsaan Maxwell](#) (UNC at Chapel Hill)

Disloyal to the nation: Do immigrants or natives get punished more?

8 December 2015

[Kelly Greenhill](#) (Tufts)

Weapons of Mass Migration: Forced Displacement as an Instrument of Coercion in the European Migration Crisis and Beyond

For further details, see [the LMRG website](#), join [the LMRG Facebook page](#), or read below. To attend, please send an email to [gt16@soas.ac.uk](mailto:gt16@soas.ac.uk).

## London's Asia Pacific Centre for Social Sciences



<b>2.30-2.45pm Introduction to the Centre</b>	<b>Prof Richard Black (SOAS) &amp; Prof Joanna Newman (KCL)</b>
<b>2.45-3.45pm Opening address: China's growth: The making of an economic superpower</b>	<b>Speaker: Dr Linda Yueh (Oxford University &amp; London Business School) Chair: Dr Tat Yan Kong (SOAS)</b>
<b>4-5.30pm Political Economy: Where is the Asia Pacific heading after the Global Financial Crisis?</b>	<b>Speakers: Dr Lena Rothel (Warwick University), Prof Nobuyuki Sato (Chatham House &amp; Japan Ministry of Finance) &amp; Dr Ulrich Volz (SOAS) Chair: Dr Andy Sumner (KCL)</b>
<b>5.45-7.15pm International Relations: Towards conflict or cooperation in the Asia Pacific?</b>	<b>Speakers: Prof Shaun Breslin (Warwick University), Prof Chris Hughes (LSE) &amp; Dr John Nilsson-Wright (Cambridge University) Chair: Dr Jim Hoare (Chatham House)</b>
<b>7.30-8.30pm Closing Address: What hope for Asia?</b>	<b>Speaker: Prof Danny Quah (LSE) Chair: Dr Ramon Pacheco Pardo (KCL)</b>

The **London Asia Pacific Centre for Social Sciences** was launched on 18 November 2015, hosting speakers from **SOAS**, **KCL**, **LSE**, **Warwick**, **Oxford**, **Cambridge** and **Chatham House**.

An initiative between social scientists at **SOAS** and **KCL** (Co Directors: **Tat Yan Kong** **SOAS** and **Ramon Pacheco Pardo** **KCL**) the Centre pursues the following objectives:

- Academically, the objective is to publicize, disseminate and, eventually, produce research on the Asia Pacific region - especially from **SOAS** and **KCL** academics.
- Thematically, the four key research areas are comparative and political economic systems, international relations, regional integration, and East Asia-EU relations.
- Institutionally and at **SOAS's** level, the goal is to bring together social scientists researching the the Asia Pacific region, publicize and support their activities, and engage strategic partners and other institutions in East Asia.



## Presentations and Conferences

In October, **Dafydd Fell** presented “Taiwan’s Party System in the Eve of the 2016 Elections: Splinters and Alternatives” at Taiwan’s Democracy at a Cross-Roads Conference at Stanford University.



In July, **Simona Vittoria** travelled to Paris to attend the 6th European Conference on African Studies (ECAS) presenting a paper with Dr David Harris titled “Perceptions of ‘development’ in Indian-Ghanaian relations”.

In October, doctoral student **Mohammad Ali Shabani** attended workshops on the Middle East crises gathering regional experts; in Cyprus, organized by the International Institute for Strategic Studies, as well as in Belgium, organized by the East West Institute in collaboration with the Center for Applied Research in Partnership with the Orient. In October, **Mohammad** presented a paper on regional implications of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action at the International Student/Young Pugwash conference in Nagasaki, Japan. **Mohammad** also attended the 61<sup>st</sup> Pugwash Conference on Science & World Affairs in early November. **Mohammad** participated in a workshop on the crises in the Middle East hosted by Peking University in China in November.

In November, **Yuka Kobayashi** was invited to give a lecture on ‘China Since the WTO’ at the University of Cambridge, Department of Politics and International Studies (POLIS). The lecture was based on her manuscript which examines China’s first decade in the WTO.

**Bhavna Dave** presented a paper "Russia's Migration Regulatory Regime: Can Russia Avoid the 'Liberal Paradox'?" at the IX World Congress of the International Council for Central and East European Studies (ICCEES) in Makuhari, Japan, in August.

In September, **Mathilde Zederman** presented a paper at the COHAB conference in Stockholm "diaspora: a one day conference on a travelling concept", titled "The Distinctiveness of the Tunisian Diasporic Political Space in France". In November, she presented at the conference "Power and the Mediterranean", University of Michigan a paper titled "The diasporic Tunisian political space in France after the 2011 revolution: towards new power relations dynamics?"

In July, **Salwa Ismail** gave the keynote address to the HEFCE-funded training course *Research in Arabic-based Area Studies*, organised by the Department of Languages and Cultures of the Near and Middle East at SOAS. Her talk was titled "Language and Ethnography in the Study of the Politics of the Arab Middle East".

In July, **Phil Clark** and **Reem Abou-El-Fadl** presented at the Essex Human Rights Summer School on "Economic and Social Dimensions of Transitional Justice".

In July, **Phil Clark** organised a workshop in Kigali on research theory and methods in the social sciences and a series of writing and publishing trainings for Rwandan researchers, as part of his role as director of research, policy and higher education at the Aegis Trust in Rwanda.

In September, **Phil Clark** chaired the King's College London launch of Dr Nicola Palmer's book, *Courts in Conflict: Interpreting the Layers of Justice in Post-Genocide Rwanda* (Oxford University Press).

In October, **Phil Clark** and **Stephen Chan** were discussants at the launch of Dr. Nic Cheeseman's (University of Oxford) book, *Democracy in Africa* (CUP). Also in October, **Phil Clark** chaired a special lecture by Prof Mia Swart (University of Johannesburg) on the controversy surrounding the International Criminal Court and Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir's recent visit to South Africa.

**Fiona Adamson** presented the paper "Sending States and the Making of Intra-Diasporic Politics: Turkey and Its Diaspora(s) in Europe" at the Council for European Studies (CES) Annual Conference in Paris in July. In September, she presented "Islamic Humanitarianism: Transnational Action at the Nexus of State, Ummah and Humanity," (co-authored with Daniel DeHanas) at the American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting in San Francisco. In October, **Fiona** presented "Spaces of Global Security: Beyond Methodological Nationalism" at the ISSS-ISAC Conference in Springfield, MA. In November, **Fiona** gave a keynote lecture on "Globalized Politics: Migration, Diaspora and Institutional Change" at the conference *Migration, Institutions, and Institutional Change* at Witten/Herdecke University in Germany.

In October, **Fiona Adamson** organized the workshop "Researching and Writing About Narratives in World Politics" with Professor Ronald Krebs (University of Minnesota). The workshop was attended by 10 PhD students and postdoctoral scholars from SOAS, LSE and UCL.



**Michael Farquhar** co-organised a panel on "Authoritarianism, Repression and Mobilization in the Middle East" at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association in San Francisco in August, and presented a paper titled "Towards an Account of the Politics of Law and Order in Neoliberal Egypt: Police Discourse on Crime, Security and Economic Transformation" as part of that same panel.

**Benjamin Schuetze**, doctoral student in the department, was invited to an international conference in Paris, organised by SciencesPo Paris, Université Sorbonne-Paris-Cité and INALCO, on the topic of *Peut-on comparer les "révolutions de couleur" et les "printemps arabes"?*. **Benjamin** gave a presentation on "The Eastern European origins of US democracy promotion in Jordan: Liberal democratic identity formation and the reinforcement of authoritarian stability".

In September, **Michael Buehler** briefed businessmen and investors with an interest in Myanmar at the "Smart Cities Group report on Myanmar". The talk was organized by British Expertise, "the leading UK private sector organisation for British companies offering professional services internationally." Also in September, **Michael** spoke at a Roundtable discussion on "Remembering the forgotten: Commemorating the 50th anniversary of the atrocities in Indonesia" at the Amnesty International Headquarters in London. The event was organized by TAPOL and Amnesty International. Further, he delivered a talk "[Islam and Democracy in Indonesia](#)" at Chatham House, where he presented his latest field research results. His findings were discussed in a report by the UK Parliament's All-Party Human Rights Group.

In August, **Michael Buehler** [delivered a talk](#) on the diffusion of Islamic laws in Indonesia at the SOAS alumni reception in Jakarta. The alumni reception and talk were

held at the Habibie & Ainun Library in Jakarta and around 100 people attended.



**Michael's** talk at the SOAS alumni event in Jakarta was covered in Indonesia's largest daily newspaper Kompas, and in [the Jakarta Post](#), Indonesia's main English newspaper.

**Kristin Surak** presented the paper "Guestwork Regimes: A Global Comparison" at the American Sociological Association's annual conference in Chicago, and the paper "Migration Industries and the State" at the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics annual conference in London. **Kristin** also delivered the keynote lecture at the international symposium "The Culture of Tea in Japan" held at Ca'Foscari University in Venice. She also gave talks on migration regimes across the world at the University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, and Cornell University, Ithaca.

In September **Akanksha Mehta** presented a paper titled "Nurturing Violence: Familial and Maternal Space in the Politics of right-wing women in India and Israel-Palestine" at the biennial conference of the Feminist and Women Studies Association (FWSA) of the UK and Ireland. In October, she presented "Politics of Pleasure within the Politics of Violence: Affect and Agency of Zionist Settler Women" at the 10th Annual Palestine Society Conference at SOAS- Settlers and Citizens: Critical Perspectives of Israeli Society. Also in October, she conducted a workshop titled "Using Visual Methodologies for Feminist Research in Politics and IR" at the LSE Gender Institute.

**Mark Laffey** and **Vinothini Kanapathipillai** presented "Beyond Privatisation: Global Security in a Corporatized World" co-authored with **Suthaharan Nadarajah** (CISD), at the 'Interdisciplinary Approaches to Security in the Changing World' conference, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland, 18-20 June.

In October, **Rochana Bajpai** travelled to Madison, Wisconsin for the Annual South Asia conference. She presented a paper "Beyond Patronage: Minority MPs and representation- work in election campaigns in India, 2014." In November, **Rochana** presented a paper at Royal Holloway University of London Politics departmental seminar titled "Minority representation and electioneering in India, 2014".

In July, **Meera Sabaratnam** was invited by Professor James Wilsdon, chair of the Independent Review of the role of metrics in Research Assessment, to comment on the Review's findings, alongside policy makers from HEFCE and other stakeholders. Her comments are available [here](#), and also appeared on the [LSE's Impact of Social Sciences](#) blog.

In September, Professor **Lawrence Saez** delivered a lecture at the University of Tallinn, Estonia, to discuss India's emergence as a global power. Lawrence also gave a lecture at Casa Asia in Madrid, Spain, on China's engagement with South Asia. In November, Professor **Saez** travelled to Myanmar to observe that country's historic general election. **Lawrence** had the opportunity to attend Aung San Suu Kyi's last campaign speech before the election.



In September, the Politics Department hosted the annual workshop of the Colonial, Postcolonial, De-colonial Working Group of the British International Studies Association (BISA), titled *Thinking with / past / against the Subaltern*. **Meera Sabaratnam** co-chaired and convened the day, and reports are available [here](#).

In July, **Gerasimos Tsourapas** presented a paper "Why Do States Develop Multi-Tier Emigrant Policies? Evidence from Egypt." at the 2015 International Conference of Europeanists in Paris. In September, he presented a paper "Migration & Authoritarian Regime Cooperation: Egypt in the Arab Regional System" in the 2015 APSA Annual Meeting in San Francisco. Also in

September 2015, **Gerasimos** presented a paper "Labour Emigration, Soft Power, and State Strength in Nasserite Egypt" in a workshop on "Authoritarian Governance of Overseas Citizens" held at the University of Amsterdam.

On 18-19 September **Julia Strauss** attended a two-day workshop at the Center for Historical Research at Ohio State University on State Formations. This meeting will result in a volume co-edited by **Julia** and John Brooke.

Doctoral student **Veronica Ferreri** presented "On the porousness of warfare, bureaucracy and governmental practices in the shadow of the Syrian displacement in Lebanon" at the *The 'state' of Lebanon: concepts of political order*

*in crisis?* workshop organised by the Orient-Institut Beirut in October.

In September, **Felix Berenskoetter** presented a paper on “Time, Anxiety and Agency” on two occasions: at the Annual Workshop of the Department’s **Centre for Comparative Political Thought** and at the European International Studies Association’s (EISA) conference in Sicily. At the latter venue, **Felix** also presented a paper on “Friendship, Security and Power”. In November, **Felix** was invited to participate in a workshop on *Heidegger and the Global Age* organised by the Centre for Advanced International Theory (CAIT) at the University of Sussex, where he presented a paper titled “Interrogating the notion of Authentic Being”.

**Reem Abou-El-Fadl** was joined by **Charles Tripp**, Adam Hanieh, Kerem Oktem and Miriyam Aouragh in a panel discussion to launch her edited volume *Revolutionary Egypt: Connecting Domestic and International Struggles*, published in 2015 by Routledge. The event was co-organised by the **Politics Department** and the London Middle East Institute, featuring in its Lecture Programme on the Contemporary Middle East. Participants reflected on the nature of revolutionary process and on both turning points and forgotten moments during the past five years in Egypt.

In July, **Laleh Khalili** participated in a day-long workshop on her book *Time in the Shadows* at the University of Brighton. Also in July, she presented “The New Spirit of Work” at *Labour, Capital, Institution: A Forum on Feminisms* a workshop organized by 98 Weeks Arts Collective in Beirut. In October, **Laleh Khalili** gave the keynote lecture at a three-day conference/workshop on logistics, *Turbulent Circulation: Toward a Critical Geography* at University of Toronto. Her lecture was titled “Colonial Spectres Haunting Logistical Landscapes”. She also spoke about the same subject at Haus der Kulturen de Welt in Berlin and at Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research.



### Politics Department Seminars for Term 1

30 September 2015

Indonesia’s Anti-Leftist Violence in Comparative Perspective

Geoffrey



Robinson

7 October 2015

Historicising the neoliberal spirit of capitalism

Matthew Eagleton-Pierce

14 October

Adventures in Field-Building: On the history of area studies/ Middle East studies in the United States

Zachary Lockman

21 October

Transcending Punishment: Black Liberation, Resistance and the Criminalisation of America’s Most Vulnerable

Donna Murch



28 October

Narrative and the Making of US National Security

Ronald R. Krebs

11 November

Territory, Expertise, Authority: Ocean Governance and the Counter-Piracy Assemblage

Christian Bueger



16 November 2015

Contested Memory Regimes in Turkey: The Armenian Genocide 100 Years On  
Kerem Öktem

18 November

How the West came to rule: The geopolitical origins of capitalism  
Kerem Nisancioglu and Alexander Anievas

25 November

Deep Theorizing in International Relations  
Felix Berenskoetter

9 December

Rumor has it: The adoption and dissemination of unverified information in Southeast Asia conflict zones  
Kelly Greenhill

For abstracts and speaker bios, see <https://www.facebook.com/PoliticsDeptSOAS/events?key=events>

The Department research seminar podcasts are also available [here](#)

Academia Sinica, from which she was able to collect wonderful materials in the National Central Library (Taiwan division), as well as revisiting the archive for the Taiwan provincial government in the wilds of central Taiwan.

**Bhavna Dave** spent three weeks conducting field research in the Russian Far East (Vladivostok, Khabarovsk and Blagoveshchensk) on her project, "The effects of high modernist development strategies on Asian Migrants in the borderlands in the Russian Far-East". She also participated at [a roundtable discussion](#) on "The Russian Far East: From a periphery to a region of priority development?" at the Far Eastern Federal University in Vladivostok on 14 August 2015.

In September, **Salwa Ismail** travelled to France to interview different generations of exiled Syrians for her book project on the politics of memory and violence in Syria. In October, she conducted further interviews with Syrian youth activists in Lebanon.

During July-September, **Rochana Bajpai** travelled to Delhi and Bangalore as part of her research fellowship project, to conduct interviews and a constituency study.

Between June and September, **Michael Buehler** conducted field research in West Sumatra, Indonesia, on the diffusion of shari'a regulations across districts.



Thanks to a BA/BASAS grant **Simona Vittorini** spent seven weeks in New Delhi India. She carry out fieldwork on the spectacular and performative politics of Narendra Modi's government attending a number of government events and interviewing government actors, politicians, and media persons. For this purpose, she travelled to India on two separate occasions in August and then again in



## Current Research

In early November, **Charles Tripp** was in Tunis carrying out research for his work on Tunisian politics in the aftermath of the revolution. A particular focus on this occasion was the 5-day arts festival 'Dream City' throughout the old Medina of Tunis in which public spaces are reclaimed by various kinds of artistic interventions.



Interrogation room at the *National Museum of the State Security Apparatus, Dream City, Tunis 2015*

**Julia Strauss** spent the month of August in Taiwan as a Visiting Scholar at the Institute of Taiwan History at

October. On the last visit, she was able to attend the Third India-Africa Forum Summit.



## Outreach

In conjunction with iMedia Associates and support from prominent journalists, **Matt Nelson** convened a Foreign Office short course titled “Political Islam in South Asia”. The course will run at least four times--in March, October, and November 2015, as well as February 2016--reaching at least 100 British officials both within and outside the Foreign Office.

**Fiona Adamson** attended the Parliament of World Religions in Salt Lake City, UT, in October.

**Yuka Kobayashi** addressed the World Energy Council in July on China’s Energy profile and East Asian Energy conditions. She has since been advising the World Energy Council on their scenario-building, which covers the present till 2050.

In October, **Yuka Kobayashi** [received a delegation of trade negotiators](#) from Brazil’s Ministry of Development, Industry and Foreign Trade. The seven negotiators from the Secretariat of Foreign Trade were on a study tour in the EU. The meeting covered various trade topics such as market access, barriers to trade, trade in services, and the WTO.

In August, **Michael Buehler** met with prospective students and offer holders from Indonesia during his stay in Jakarta. **Michael** also met with Pak Hendra, the director of the Indonesian-Britain Education Centre (IBEC) to discuss student recruitment efforts in Indonesia. Finally, **Michael** held two drop-in sessions at IBEC for students interested in studying at SOAS.

In October, **Michael Buehler** facilitated a meeting between Jason Tedjasukmana from the Google Cultural Institute and members of the Centre of Southeast Asian Studies to discuss how to bring content on Southeast Asia collected at SOAS online.

In July, **Phil Clark** hosted a [Public Dialogue on Peace and Reconciliation in Sri Lanka](#), featuring Tamil and Sinhalese leaders and chaired by **Sutha Nadarajah**. The event was part of **Phil’s** ongoing project funded by the Fetzer Institute on the role of “middle tier leaders” who connect national and community level peace processes. So far, the project has included dialogues on Colombia and Sri Lanka, with upcoming events on Northern Ireland and Uganda.

In July, **Phil Clark** coordinated an Aegis Trust short course in Kigali on causes of, and responses to, mass violence. The course was attended by 40 Rwandan and international policymakers, practitioners, academics and students.

In August, **Phil Clark** and **Stephen Chan** taught modules on transitional justice and strategic diplomacy, respectively, to southern African policymakers and trade unionists as part of the School of Leadership at the Soweto campus of the University of Johannesburg.

In October, **Phil Clark** (along with Laura Hammond from Development Studies, Mashood Baderin from Law/African Studies and Richard Dowden from the Royal African Society) gave a briefing on conflict in Africa to Forest Whitaker, the Academy Award-winning actor and CEO of the Whitaker Peace and Development Initiative.

In November, **Phil Clark** participated in a transitional justice experts roundtable at the Houses of Parliament designed to give advice on the Colombia peace talks.

**Tom Young** provided commentary for a film about Guinea Bissau called [The Vanished Dream](#) directed by Juan Betancor and Victor Giner. The film is described by its makers as “a story about a time when changing Africa and the world seemed possible.” The notes on the trailer for the film describe how after the hard-won independence of Guinea-Bissau “Hundreds of European volunteers move to the country, chasing their dreams of a better world. Those were years of enthusiasm and idealism, when the building of a socially just nation in Africa was a dream within reach.



Time passed and those dreams were hit by the reality of political instability and turmoil. Most of the volunteers returned home, but the bittersweet memories of their lost paradise remain as vivid as the day they left.” The trailer can be viewed [here](#).

In mid-October, **Charles Tripp** gave evidence to the European Union Committee of the House of Lords in its inquiry into the strategic review of the EU’s foreign and security policy with a particular focus on the Middle East and North Africa. Also in October, **Charles** carried out a two-day review of the programmes and structure of the Centre for Arab and Middle Eastern Studies at the American University of Beirut, Lebanon.

**Marco Jowell** has co-founded the [Africa Research Group](#), an organisation providing rigorous research, policy advice and training for international approaches to Africa. **Marco** is also leading a study on cross-border trade between DR Congo, Rwanda and Uganda for DFID.

**Leslie Vinjamuri** spoke at an International Expert Meeting held at the Peace Palace in The Hague. The

meeting considered the peripheries of justice intervention. **Leslie** spoke about the political effects of preliminary examinations undertaken by the International Criminal Court, especially in ongoing conflict situations. The Grotius Centre for International Legal Studies sponsored this meeting together with the Centre for International Law Research and Policy.

**Leslie Vinjamuri** also spoke on a panel on “[Will the 21st Century be Asian](#)” at the London School of Economics alongside Professors Mick Cox and Danny Quah of the LSE.

**Leslie Vinjamuri** presented a paper on “Peace Negotiations and International Justice” at a workshop that was held at the United States Military Academy at West Point. This was the second meeting of a project on *Ethics, Technology and War* that is sponsored by the American Academy of Arts and Science and directed by Professor Scott Sagan of Stanford University.

Professor **Lawrence Saez** was a finalist in a photography contest sponsored by the Camden city council. His entry was exhibited digitally at the National Portrait Gallery in London.



## Media and Blogs

In July **Dafydd Fell** published an essay [‘KMT’s Presidential Nomination: Significance and Historical Comparisons’](#) on the University of Nottingham’s *China Policy Institute Blog*; later in the same month, **Dafydd** appeared on [Woman’s Hours](#) to discuss Taiwan’s main parties’ presidential election nomination. In November, **Dafydd** appeared on the [BBC World Service](#) to discuss the first meeting between Taiwan and China’s presidents.

**Arshin Adib-Moghaddam** has published several opinion pieces including: “No Professor Walt, ISIS is not a revolutionary state”, in [Muftah.org](#); and “Arabs vs. Persians, Sunni vs. Shia, “hatred” vs. reality” on [opendemocracy.net](#).

**Bhavna Dave** [gave an interview](#) “India in Central Asia: Better late than never,” to a Kazakhstan publication [atameken.info](#) on the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s visit to Kazakhstan in July 2015.

In August, **Mohammad Ali Shabani** [wrote](#) on the impact of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action on Iran’s regional policies as well as how Iranian domestic politics is [seeping into Iraq](#) for Al-Monitor, and in September, he [wrote](#) on the use of mercenaries in Yemen by Arab states, also for Al-Monitor.

**Simona Vittorini** contributed with commentaries on both Modi’s visit to the UK and on the Third India-Africa Forum Summit. On Modi’s UK visit, on Friday 13 November **Simona** was on a live audio link from Wembley Arena during Modi’s visit to the UK for the programme The Report on Islam Channel. She also took part to [BBC UK Black](#) on the Davon Daley show commenting on Modi’s visit to the UK in relation to India’s economic donations to Africa. On the Third India-Africa Forum Summit, she was interviewed in New Delhi by [the Financial Times](#) on the India-Africa Forum Summit. **Simona** also contributed to two editions of the International Affairs evening news bulletin ([Esteri](#)) of [Radio Popolare](#) (in Italian) on Wednesday 28 October and 29 October. In addition, she submitted a piece to [South Asia Monitor](#) titled “India-Africa Summit: Will it give a new thrust to age-old ties?”

In August, **Johannes Makar**, a masters student in Middle East Politics, published a piece on openDemocracy’s Arab Awakening blog. **Johannes’** piece, titled “[Persecution lurks for converts from Islam in Egypt](#),” covers the story of Egyptian activist Bishoy Armeya, who was jailed after petitioning the Egyptian government to change his religion from Islam to Christianity.

In August, **Yuka Kobayashi** was interviewed along with Rana Mitter (Oxford) on Sino-Japanese relations on VJ day for BBC radio 4. In October **Yuka** was interviewed by BBC radio on Xi Jinping’s visit to the UK. She also discussed Narendra Modi’s visit to the UK on BBC’s South Asia programme.

In July, **Michael Buehler** was quoted in the [Nikkei Asian Review](#) on David Cameron’s meeting with Indonesian president Joko Widodo; [in the Guardian](#) on David Cameron’s visit to Malaysia amidst a growing corruption scandal in the former British colony; and in article on ‘Indonesia on alert over lure of Isis’ [published by the Financial Times](#). In August, **Michael** was [quoted in a Financial Times Background Analysis](#) on the state of Islam in Indonesian politics. The same month, **Michael** commented on the Bomb attacks in Bangkok on the BBC Radio Show Program 5, [the Daily Telegraph](#) (The article is available here) as well as on the Islam Channel. In September, **Michael** discussed the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the anti-communist massacres in Indonesia on Monocle 24 and [was interviewed by Monocle 24](#) on the political economy of the illegal orchids trade in Southeast Asia, and [on peace negotiations in Myanmar](#).

In October **Michael Buehler** discussed the visit of Indonesian president Joko Widodo to the White House in Washington D.C. on [Monocle 24’s the Globalist](#) and also

on [Monocle24](#) the role radical Buddhist groups play in Myanmar's election campaign.

In November, over 1000 articles in both Bahasa Indonesia and English discussed **Michael Buehler's** articles on covert lobbying activities in the context of President Widodo's visit to the United States, around 10 in positive terms. **Michael** reiterated the points raised in his New Mandala articles in [an interview with BBC Indonesia](#). Also in November, **Michael** discussed the elections in Burma with Wai Hnin from Burma Campaign and and Yalda Hakim [on BBC World News](#); and he was quoted in [an Associated Press article](#) on the elections in Myanmar and why and how Aung San Suu Kyi plans to be 'above the president' as well as [in an Associated Press](#) article on post-election challenges Aung San Suu Kyi is facing. In the same month, **Michael Buehler** was interviewed on [Monocle24's 'The Briefing'](#) on the visit of Chinese President Xi Jinping's visit to Vietnam and the protests it triggered. Finally, **Michael** discussed the post-election parliament in Myanmar, purges within the Thai military and police force, attempts to contain peat fires in Indonesia and female martial arts fighters in Southeast Asia on [Monocle 24's 'The Daily'](#).

In July, the [OneWorld](#) website quoted **Phil Clark** on pre-election violence in Burundi. Also in July, the [House of Commons research unit](#) quoted **Phil Clark** on the UK's arrest of Rwandan intelligence chief, Gen. Karenzi Karake; and in July and August, [Deutsche Welle interviewed Phil](#) several times on the consequences of President Nkurunziza's election victory in Burundi. In August, **Phil** appeared on [Monocle 24's "Midori House"](#) programme to discuss Europe's migrant crisis and the impact of China's economic woes on Africa; gave a [live radio interview](#) (05:15) in Kigali to Deutsche Welle about the new government in Burundi; and a [Deutsche Welle](#) news article quoted him on violence in Burundi. Also in August, the Swedish newspaper [Mankslig Sakerhet](#) quoted **Phil Clark** on post-election violence in Burundi; and he was a guest on a [Monocle 24](#) panel discussing the impact of Paul Kagame's presidency in Rwanda. In September, [Deutsche Welle](#) interviewed **Phil Clark** about the struggles of the opposition Democratic Green Party in Rwanda and [The East African](#) published an article on a programme run by **Phil Clark** which supports researchers in Rwanda. Also in September, the [Sudan Vision](#) quoted **Phil** on the politics of the International Criminal Court in Africa. In October, **Phil Clark** was interviewed by [Deutsche Welle](#) about continuing violence in Burundi; appeared on [Monocle 24's "Midori House"](#) programme to discuss Russia airstrikes in Syria and new World Bank and Mo Ibrahim Index statistics on poverty and governance in Africa; and did the [Monocle 24 "Globalist"](#) (49:00) news review, focusing on the US bombing of the MSF hospital in Afghanistan and France's dropping of charges against Rwandan genocide suspect, Wenceslas Munyeshyaka. Also in October, [BBC Newsday](#) (31:33 and 35:40) interviewed **Phil Clark** on the Rwandan Supreme Court's ruling on a possible 3rd term for President Paul Kagame; the [Sudan Vision](#) quoted him on the challenges of International Criminal Court

investigations in Africa; and he was interviewed by the [Democracy in Africa](#) website on the recent conviction in Germany of two leaders of the Congolese rebel group, the FDLR. Further, the [Igihe news website](#) in Rwanda quoted **Phil Clark** on the FDLR convictions in Germany; [IRIN News](#) interviewed him about Uganda's troop withdrawal from South Sudan; and he was interviewed by the [Financial Times](#) about elections in east Africa.

In November, the [Sudan Vision](#) quoted **Phil Clark** about the African Union's fraught relationship with the International Criminal Court; he appeared on [Radio FM4](#) in Austria to discuss the latest violence in Burundi; he was a guest on [Monocle 24's "Midori House"](#) programme to discuss the Islamic State bombings in Beirut and the UN's inaction to stop violence in Burundi; and he was interviewed by [Deutsche Welle](#) (04:28) about the UN Security Council resolution to condemn atrocities against civilians in Burundi.

**Kristin Surak** was interviewed about military developments in East Asia on Radio France International and Channel News Asia TV, the anniversary of the end of World War II by Kyodo News, freedom of the press in Japan on Channel News Asia TV, and Japan's economic policies on Share Radio.

In October, **Meera Sabaratnam** featured alongside other IR scholars in a *Disorder of Things* podcast on what a [leftist foreign policy might mean after Corbyn's victory](#).

Professor **Lawrence Saez** was interviewed on BBC radio's *Focus on Africa* programme to comment on India's economic relations with Africa. He was also interviewed on BBC News to comment on Narendra Modi's visit to the UK in November.

**Rahul Rao** published a blog titled "Love in the Time of El Período Especial", as part of a [symposium on Megan Daigle's book](#) *From Cuba with Love: Sex and Money in the Twenty-First Century*.

Alexander Anievas and **Kerem Nisancioglu** were [interviewed in Periode magazine](#) on their co-authored book, *How the West Came to Rule: The Geopolitical Origins of Capitalism* (Pluto).



## Events

The **Politics Department** held a Departmental Away Day to reflect on last year's achievements and to plan its ongoing research strategy and future teaching needs. We also hosted Valerie Amos, the School's new director and held a detailed and frank discussion with her about the challenges facing the School. As part of our team building exercise, colleagues then held a fun dinner party at Guanabara, London's most renowned Brazilian dance clubs. The soirée was highly enjoyable and, literally, some

colleagues danced the night away. Apparently, film footage of the revelry is available.



Caroline Strickson, Meera Sabaratnam and Michael Beuhler



Hagar Kotef, Reem AbouEl Fadl and Lawrence Saez



Meera Sabaratnam and Charles Tripp



## Notices

**Victoria Bird**, our extraordinary subject librarian for Politics, will begin maternity leave in February 2016. The exact date is yet to be confirmed, but the recruitment process for a maternity cover is well in hand and further details will be available in due course. **Vicky** plans to return to SOAS after her leave.



## Alumni Notes

A young Saudi woman and former SOAS postgraduate student, Sarah Masry, has been living and studying in Iran over the course of the last year. She details her experiences there in a [blogpost for France24](#). In her blogpost she writes: “Most of the time, I blog [at her own blog [saudiiniran.com](#)] about social and cultural experiences, and about my travels throughout the country. My goal is to create a bridge between people in both nations, to dispel myths and stereotypes. Right now, I write in English, but I plan to translate it into Arabic... Next step, Persian!”



*Are you a graduating Politics student or one of our alumni? Let us know what you will be doing or have done after graduation. Email Laleh Khalili at [lk4@soas.ac.uk](mailto:lk4@soas.ac.uk)!*

The Department of Politics and International Studies is one of the most cutting edge politics departments in the United Kingdom, and uniquely positioned for the study of the politics of Asia, Africa, and the Middle East.

There are at present nearly 500 students studying for degrees (BA, Certificate, MSc and MPhil/PhD) in the Department. The Department also hosts visiting students who are here as part of their work towards degrees in other countries (notably the United States, EU, Korea and Japan).

Apart from providing students with a firm grounding in the discipline, the department has particular strengths in the following areas:

- Regional Politics: Middle East, East Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, Central Asia, and Africa
- International Relations: IR theory, security, human rights, transnational justice, international migration, IPE
- Comparative Politics: comparative political sociology, comparative political economy, comparative political thought
- Political Theory: political Islam, non-western political thought, multiculturalism

The current officers of the department are:

#### **Head of Department**

Prof Lawrence Saez

#### **Undergraduate Admissions Tutor**

Dr Meera Sabaratnam

#### **Undergraduate Programme Convenors**

Dr Michael Buehler (BA Politics)

Dr Fiona Adamson (BA International Relations)

#### **Undergraduate Tutors**

Dr Carlo Bonura (Student Welfare Tutor)

Dr Reem Aboul-El-Fadl (First Year Tutor)

Dr Tom Young (Second Year Tutor)

Dr Matthew Eagleton-Pierce (Third Year Tutor)

#### **Postgraduate Tutor**

Dr Dafydd Fell

#### **Postgraduate Admissions Tutors/Programme Convenors**

Dr Phil Clark (African Politics; Terms 1 and 3)

Dr Dafydd Fell (Asian Politics)

Dr Kerem Nisancioglu (International Politics)

Prof Charles Tripp (Middle East Politics)

Dr Yuka Kobayashi (Politics of China)

Dr Tat Yan Kong (State, Society and Development)

Prof Stephen Hopgood (Conflict, Rights and Justice)

Dr Matt Nelson (Comparative Political Thought)

Dr Phil Clark (MRes in Politics with a Language; Terms 1 and 3)

#### **Research Tutor**

Dr Felix Berenskoetter

#### **Research Admissions Tutor**

Dr Bhavna Davé

This newsletter is produced three times per academic year by Laleh Khalili. Send any announcements or notices to [lk4@soas.ac.uk](mailto:lk4@soas.ac.uk)

Department of Politics is on twitter; please follow [@soaspolitics](https://twitter.com/soaspolitics)  
On Facebook, you can find and befriend us at SOASPolitics