



Politics and International Studies Newsletter



Introductions



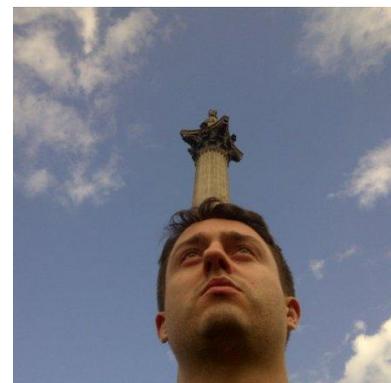
The Department of Politics and International Studies welcomes **Professor Jack L. Snyder** as a part-time and visiting Research Professor in the Department. Professor **Snyder** will be visiting the Department regularly to offer seminars and participate in research activities. **Jack Snyder** (Ph.D., Columbia, 1981) is the Robert and Renée Belfer Professor of International Relations at Columbia University. His books include *Electing to Fight: Why Emerging Democracies Go to War* (MIT Press, 2005), co-authored with Edward D. Mansfield; *From Voting to Violence: Democratization and Nationalist Conflict* (Norton Books, 2000); *Myths of Empire: Domestic Politics and International Ambition*, (Cornell University Press, 1991); *The Ideology of the Offensive: Military Decision Making and the Disasters of 1914* (Cornell 1984); and *Religion and International Relations Theory*, editor (Columbia University Press, 2011).

His articles on such topics as crisis diplomacy ("The Cost of Empty Threats: A Penny, Not a Pound," *American Political Science Review*, August 2011, co-authored with Erica Borghard), democratization and war, nationalism, imperial overstretch, war crimes tribunals versus amnesties, international relations theory after September 11, and anarchy and culture have appeared in *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy*, *International Organization*, *International Security*, and *World Politics*. A Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, editor of the W. W. Norton book series on World Politics, and an elected member of Columbia's Arts and Sciences Policy Planning Committee, **Snyder** received a B.A. in government from Harvard University in 1973 and the Certificate of Columbia's Russian Institute in 1978.

Dr. **Enze Han** (below) joined the Department of Politics and International Studies at SOAS as Lecturer in International Security of East Asia in 2012. Dr. **Han** received his Ph.D. in Political Science from the George Washington University in 2010, and afterwards he was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the China and the World Program at Princeton University. Dr. **Han's** research interests include ethnic politics in China, and China's foreign relations, particularly with Southeast Asia. He will be teaching Introduction to Comparative Politics, International Politics of East Asia, Government and Politics of China and State and Society in the Chinese Political Process.



Dr **Carlo Bonura** has accepted the post of teaching fellow and is teaching Government and Politics of Modern Southeast Asia, and Southeast Asian Government and Politics this year. And Dr **Tara Povey** has also joined us as a teaching fellow and is teaching Comparative Politics of the Middle East.



Our new faculty support officer, **Christian Gates** (above) writes: "I moved to London in June, following two years in the Student Cases team in Cardiff University Registry, where I worked predominantly with student appeals, disciplinary and unfair practice cases. In 2010 I completed an MSc in Advanced Music and Media

Production at the University of Glamorgan, Cardiff, with my specialist areas of interest being sound design for radio & film, and electronic music production. When I'm not being a busy Academic Support Officer I also work freelance as an audio dialogue editor/audio content producer. I'm also a keen photographer."



Kimberly Hovish (above) is the new Faculty Officer on the Student Support team, responsible for the undergraduate students in the department whilst Yvonne Henry continues to work with postgraduate students.

Kimberly studied Psychology as an undergraduate student at Ball State University (USA) and Social Research as a postgraduate student at the University of Liverpool. She has worked in higher education in administrative and research roles since 2003 at University of Chester, St. George's and the Institute of Education. She wisely spends her free time furthering her education by taking tap dancing, yoga and creative writing classes. **Yvonne Henry** is now the Politics PGT Student Support Officer, and will be focused on supporting the Department's MSc programmes and students."

Welcome to our new student representatives. They are **Thomas Elias** and **Joe Miller** (UG Y1), **Dag Joel Johannes Svensson** and **Cristiana Moiescu** (UG Y2), **Sandra Sfeir** and **Kristian Bruun Anderson** (UG Y3), **Cory Winter** (MSc General Rep & also PG rep for MSc State, Society and Development), **Katherine Soroya** (MSc International Politics), **Lana Khattab** (MSc Middle East Politics), **Charlene Bello** (MSc Africa Politics), **Marcello Kolax** (MSc Asian Politics/ MSc Politics of China), **Najia Mukhtar** (PGR Y2), **Priya Kumar** (PGR Y3) and **Sruthi Muraleedharan** (PGR Y1).



New Publications

Tat Yan Kong's article "Cooperation in Unlikely Settings: The Rise of Cooperative Labor relations Among Leading South Korea Firms" was published in *Politics & Society* 40(3). Additionally, Dr **Kong's** chapter "Neo-Liberal Restructuring in South Korea Before and After the Crisis" was published in Chang Kyung-Sup, Ben Fine and Linda Weiss (eds), *Developmental Politics in Transition: The Neoliberal Era and Beyond* (Palgrave-Macmillan IPE Series).

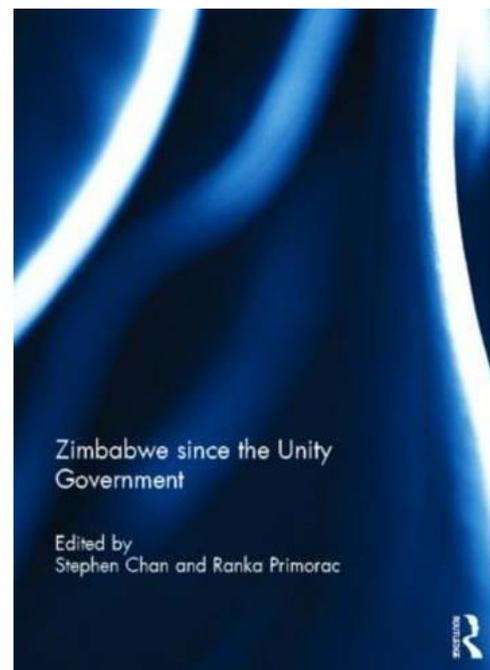
Lawrence Saez's latest article (co-authored with Giovanni Capoccia and Eline de Rooij), entitled "When State Responses Fail: Religious Fundamentalism and

Secessionism in India, 1952-2002," was published in the *Journal of Politics* 74(4).

Felix Berenskoetter published an article discussing the "Parameters of a National Biography" in the *European Journal of International Relations* (online first, October 2012). An essay co-authored by **Felix** entitled 'Hegemony by Invitation: Neoclassical realism, soft power and US-European relations' appeared in an edited volume published by *Manchester University Press* in June.

Stephen Hopgood and **Leslie Vinjamuri** published "Faith in Markets" in Michael Barnett and Janice Stein (eds) *Sacred Aid: Faith and Humanitarianism* (Oxford University Press). This chapter argues that faith operates not only as an identity, but also as a branding device for humanitarians. The most successful humanitarian NGOs, most notably World Vision, have developed flexible organisational and marketing strategies that allow them to play up, or down, their faith-identity across markets and, so, to maximize income streams from private and public donors. Major humanitarian NGOs operate in an environment that requires them to adopt professional and secular standards to secure public funding. Niche players in the humanitarian market with secure access to private funding may benefit from emphasizing their faith identities.

Professor **Stephen Chan's** new edited book (co-edited with Ranka Primorac), *Zimbabwe since the Unity Government*, has just appeared with Routledge. It is the second co-edited book with Dr Primorac (of the University of Southampton) who is also Professor Chan's partner. They are now working on a co-authored book on Zambian political and literary history.



Salwa Ismail's "The Egyptian Revolution against the Police" was published in *Social Research* 79(2).

In October, **Phil Clark** (along with Nicola Palmer at King's College London), published a report for REDRESS, the London-based NGO, entitled, "Testifying

to Genocide: Victim and Witness Protection in Rwanda". The report was based on field research conducted in Rwanda in April this year and recommends a range of legal and policy reforms by the Rwandan government: <http://www.redress.org/downloads/publications/TestifyingtoGenocide.pdf>

Jack Snyder and **Leslie Vinjamuri** published an article "Principled pragmatism and the logic of consequences" in the November issue of *International Theory*. This article forms part of a Special forum on the volume *Moral Limit and Possibility in World Politics* (edited by Richard Price). Other contributors to this forum included Richard Price, Toni Erskine, and Nicholas Rengger.

Laleh Khalili's *Time in the Shadows: Confinement in Counterinsurgencies* has been published in simultaneous paperback and hardcover by Stanford University Press. *Time in the Shadows* investigates the two major liberal counterinsurgencies of our day: Israeli occupation of Palestine and the U.S. War on Terror. The book narrates the stories of Abu Ghraib, Guantánamo Bay, CIA black sites, the Kham Prison, and Gaza, among others, and links them to a history of colonial counterinsurgencies from the Boer War and the U.S. Indian wars, to Vietnam, the British small wars in Malaya, Kenya, Aden and Cyprus, and the French pacification of Indochina and Algeria. The book argues that whatever the form of incarceration—visible or invisible, offshore or inland, containing combatants or civilians—liberal states have consistently acted illiberally in their counterinsurgency confinements. As our tactics of war have shifted beyond slaughter to elaborate systems of detention, liberal states have warmed to the pursuit of asymmetric wars. Ultimately, **Khalili** confirms that as tactics of counterinsurgency have been rendered more "humane," they have also increasingly encouraged policymakers to willingly choose to wage wars.



Mark Laffey and Suthaharan Nadarajah (CISD) published "The Hybridity of Liberal Peace: States, Diasporas and Insecurity" in *Security Dialogue* 43(5). This article is part of a

special issue on "Governing (in)security in the postcolonial world."

Rahul Rao's book *Third World Protest: Between Home and the World* was reissued in paperback by Oxford University Press in June. In addition, he has also published "Cosmopolitanism" in *International Relations: Perspectives for the Global South*, eds. Bhupinder S. Chimni & Siddharth Mallavarapu (Pearson) and "Postcolonial Cosmopolitanism: making place for nationalism" in *Democracy and Diversity*, eds. Jyotirmaya Tripathi & Sudarshan Padmanabhan (Routledge).

Arshin Adib-Moghaddam published "What is Radicalism: Power and Resistance in Iran" in the most recent issue of *Middle East Critique* 21(3). He contributed an article entitled "What is the Clash of Civilisations? Contrapuntal Reflections" to Mojtaba Mahdavi and W. Andy Knight's book *Towards the Dignity of Difference: Neither End of History nor Clash of Civilisations* (Ashgate). **Adib-Moghaddam's** article on "Iranian-American Relations and the Future Security Architecture in Western Asia" was published in India in Ali Ahmad, Jagannath P. Panda, Prashant K. Singh (eds.), *Towards a New Asian Order* (Shipra Publications). His "The Theory and Praxis of Iranian-American Relations" was published in Iran's *International Studies Journal* 9(1). Finally, **Adib-Moghaddam's** article "Discourse and Violence: The Friend-Enemy Conjunction in contemporary Iranian-American affairs" was republished in Ondrej Beranek (ed.), *Europe, the Middle East, and the Global War on Terror* (Peter Lang).

Rochana Bajpai's recent publications include "Liberalisms in India: A Sketch" in Ben Jackson and Marc Stears (ed.) *Liberalism as Ideology: Essays in Honour of Michael Freedon* (OUP). Her recent book, *Debating Difference: Group Rights and Liberal Democracy in India* (OUP, 2011) was reprinted.

Doctoral student **Silvia Feraboli's** "The Arab Spring: between revolution and consensus" has been published in *Ciências & Letras* 51. *Ciências & Letras* is a journal published by the College of Porto Alegre (Faculdade Porto-Alegrense). Her paper discusses the role(s) played by the Gulf Cooperation Council and the Islamist Parties in the on-going Arab Spring, and can be seen at <http://seer1.fapa.com.br/index.php/arquivos/article/view/146/142>

Doctoral student **Priya Kumar** has published "Transnational Tamil networks: Mapping engagement opportunities on the Web" in *Social Science Information* 51(4).

Laleh Khalili's "Fighting Over Drones" was published in *Middle East Report* 264 (<http://www.merip.org/mer/mer264/fighting-over-drones>) and her "Al-Jindir wa Hurub Mukafaha Al-Tamarrud Al-Haditha" (Gender and Modern Counterinsurgencies) was published in a volume edited by Jean Said Makdisi et al (eds.), *Al-Nasawiyya Al-Arabiyya: Raviyya Al-Naqdiyya* (Centre for Arab Unity Studies).



Research Centres, Clusters, & Networks

Since October, **Arshin Adib-Moghaddam** chairs the Centre for Iranian Studies at SOAS which was established in 2010. The Centre draws on the range of academic research and teaching across the disciplines of SOAS, including Languages and Literature, the Study of Religions, History, Economics, Politics, International Relations, Music, Art and Media and Film Studies. It has collaborated to introduce an MA in Iranian Studies which will be offered from the academic year 2012/2013. The Centre is pleased to announce that due to the generous contribution of the Fereydoun Djam Charitable Trust, the School is in the position to advertise several scholarships in Iranian Studies on all academic levels. The Centre's webpage can be found here <http://www.soas.ac.uk/lmei-cis/>

The SOAS Centre for Taiwan Studies

Between July 9 and July 11 **Dafydd Fell** and **Monique Chu** co-organized the Centre of Taiwan Studies Summer School. This year's programme included lectures on gender politics, social movements, history and social work given by a number of Taiwan's leading scholars in their fields. The research methods sessions focused on interview and archival work in Taiwan studies. The interview methods training was taught by Dr **Fell**, **Monique Chu** and our recent PhD graduate Dr **Isabelle Cheng**. The programme attracted over 50 students from a range of UK and other European universities. A number of our politics students gave presentations on their dissertation research projects. These included **Gavin Goh** (MSc Politics of China), **Song Huichun** (MA Taiwan Studies) and **Lu Wan-tzu** (Visiting JYA).

Centre for the International Politics of Conflict, Rights and Justice (CCRJ)

The **CCRJ** is hosting a research project during the 2012-2014 academic years on the Power of Human Rights Reconsidered. This initiative seeks to develop a new framework for theorising and researching core challenges to human rights. Participants Ruti Teitel (NYU), **Jack Snyder** (Columbia and SOAS), Christian Reus-Smit (EUI), Jennifer Welsh (Oxford), David Karp (Glasgow), and Anthony Dworkin (European Council on Foreign Relations) joined members of the Politics and Law Departments at SOAS on October 18th-19th for an initial meeting for this initiative. The Workshop was directed by **CCRJ** co-directors **Stephen Hopgood** and **Leslie Vinjamuri** who can be contacted for further information.



Appointments, Awards, Honours

The Department of Politics and International Studies is honoured and pleased to learn that Professor **Charles Tripp** was elected as a Fellow of the British Academy, joining the Politics and International Relations Section of the Academy.

David Harris is leaving SOAS at the end of the 2012 for a new post, Lecturer in African Studies, at Bradford University. "I'm very sad to leave, having enjoyed the Masters, PhD and seven years of teaching at SOAS and having made some excellent friends, but this is an exciting opportunity not to miss. Many many thanks to everyone who has provided help and humour along the way. Dave."

Congratulations to **Hannes Baumann**, **Renee Horne**, **Steve Itugbu**, **Sam Gundimeda**, and **Latife Reda** all of whom obtained their doctoral degrees in the last few months.

Many congratulations to doctoral student **Michael A. Innes** who was elected Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society.

Welcome to doctoral students **Gerasimos Tsourapas** who was awarded a 2012 SOAS Research Scholarship for a project titled "Moderation under authoritarianism: the Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood," **Eddie Walsh**, the recipient of SOAS Doctoral Scholarship for "Persuasive Securitization: Existential Threats in Archipelagic Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands," ESRC doctoral students **Johann Chacko** for "Redefining Pakistan: Nationalism in Deobandi Political Institutions 1977-2008" and **Hugh Lamarque** whose project is titled "Insulating the Borderland: Exploring Security and Securitization along Rwanda's Western Frontier," and finally, **Jeremy Taylor** who is the Commonwealth scholar working on "Sino-Japanese energy competition in post-conflict African countries."

Congratulations to **Jamil Mouawad** who has been granted the Orient Institut Beirut residential fellowship for 2013. **Jamil** is researching the making of the Lebanese state in the margins and the title of his thesis is "Lebanon: The Negotiated State."

Polly Pallister-Wilkins, a recent PhD and senior teaching fellow in the department has been appointed to the post of assistant professor in international relations at the University of Amsterdam. She started in Amsterdam on 1 August.

Hannes Baumann who also received his PhD from the department this summer, has moved on to an adjunct professorship at Georgetown University in Washington DC.

Dave Rampton who received his PhD from the department in 2010 was appointed this summer to a three-year Fellowship in Global Politics with the IR and Government Departments at LSE.

Doctoral student **Eddie Walsh** was recently named a Senior Fellow at the Center for Australian & New Zealand Studies at Georgetown University and the Director of the Emerging Technologies and High-end Threats Project at the Federation of American Scientists.

In August, doctoral student **Shirin Shafaie** received an academic certificate in Russian Language from the Peoples' Friendship University of Russia, Moscow Summer School. <http://ido.rudn.ru/Msg.aspx?id=286>

Professor **Lawrence Saez** was appointed to lead the World Economic Forum's global agenda council on India's committee on geopolitics.

In July, doctoral student **Marco Jowell** was appointed as the Political Affairs Officer for the UN Group of Experts on DR Congo.

Congratulations to **Lawrence Saez** who was promoted to professor in the political economy of Asia. **Laleh Khalili** is now a reader in politics (with reference to the Middle East). Also congratulations to **Leslie Vinjamuri** who has been promoted to senior lecturer in international relations.



Presentations and Conferences

Manjeet Ramgotra presented a paper on "Two Concepts of Republicanism" in a panel on Methods in Practice at MANCEPT Manchester Workshops in Political Theory in Sept. 2012.

Doctoral student **Peter Brett** gave a presentation entitled "'Lawyer's work' and the pitfalls of transformative justice" at the biannual conference of the African Studies Association of the UK (ASAUK) in Leeds in September.

Doctoral student **James Eastwood** co-presented a paper with Nivi Manchanda entitled "Neo-liberal constructions of the enemy as social fantasy: some interfaces between securitisation theory and the psycho-analytic critique of ideology" at the *Dismantling Security* conference at Cambridge University. The paper is planned to appear as a chapter in the edited volume arising from the conference

In September, **Felix Berenskoetter** presented a paper on "Friendship as Empowerment" at the Conference of the Central and East European International Studies Association (CEEISA) taking place at Jagiellonian University, Krakow.

In June, **Mark Laffey** presented "Security, Insecurity and Utopia" at the *Dismantling Security* conference at Cambridge University. He will also be co-editing a volume of selected papers from the conference.

In June **Dafydd Fell** gave a paper titled "Should I Stay or Should I Go? Patterns of Party Switching in Multi-party Taiwan" at the European Association of Taiwan Studies Conference, University of South Denmark. He then joined the China Impact Conference at Tubingen University, Germany. The title of his paper was

"Marketing China: Cross-Strait Economic Integration through the lens of Election advertising in Taiwan."

Doctoral student **Eddie Walsh** attended the 2012 WSD-Handa Forum in Geneva, Switzerland as part of his 2011-2012 non-resident fellowship at Pacific Forum CSIS.

On 14 November, **Sanaa Alimia** presented her paper, "Disciplining the "Dangerous" Afghan Body in Pakistan: Harassment, Humiliation, and Identity Cards" at the American Anthropological Association's 111th Annual Convention in San Francisco. She was speaking as part of the panel, "Dialectics of Terrorism: Sites of Terror: Imagined Monsters, and 'Real Bad Guys.'"

Gerasimos Tsourapas attended the 2012 Workshop on Religion, Culture and Society at the University of Antwerp, Belgium whose theme this year was "Secularism(s) and Religion in Society." He presented a paper titled "Revisiting moderation under authoritarianism: the Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood."

In June, **Laleh Khalili** gave the third Sadighi Annual Lecture in Amsterdam under the auspices of the International Institute of Social History and the Sadighi Lecture Fund. Her lecture was titled "Women in and after the Arab Uprisings." She also gave one of the keynote lectures at the Bergen Summer School. Her lecture there was titled "The Semiotics of Martyrdom in the Arab Uprisings."

Rochana Bajpai presented a paper "Heuristics of hegemony: Debating affirmative action in India and Malaysia" at the Institute of Historical Research seminar on Comparative Histories of Asia in March 2012, and a paper on India's constitutional settlement at Bergen at a workshop on Dalits and Muslims in the History of India's state formation in November 2012. **Rochana** also participated in several international conferences and workshops including Gendered Ceremony and Ritual in Parliament (London), and the Internationalisation of Dalit and Adivasi activism (London).

In October, **Julia Strauss** presented "From the Great Wall to the New World: China and Latin America in the 21st Century" at a panel discussion open to the public at the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars, Washington DC.

Salwa Ismail presented a paper titled "Violence as a Modality of Government" at the Conference *Inside Syria: 18 Months On*, organised by the Middle East Studies Centre at the LSE in September.

Bhavna Dave gave presentations ("Kazakhstan's Informal Labour Migration Regime: Evidence from the Bazaars in Almaty and Astana") at University of Tsukuba and at Institute of Developing Economies, Japan External Trade Organization (IDE-JETRO) in Chiba, Japan in August 2012. She spent the month of September in Kazakhstan, conducting interviews with Central Asian labour migrants in the cities of Almaty, Astana and Shymkent.

Doctoral student **George Fernee** gave a talk entitled “The U.S. regime of truth: American benevolence and the rearing of Iran” on October 22 to the U.N. regional outfit in Kristiansand, Norway. The seminar, “Iran and the nuclear question,” is this year’s topic for the annual mock U.N. Security Council, which brings together various upper secondary schools from the south of Norway to play the roles of Security Council members.

In September, **Leslie Vinjamuri** spoke about the ICC’s role in Libya at a closed high-level Seminar hosted by the Grotius Centre for International Legal Studies (Leiden University) in cooperation with the MacArthur Foundation, under Chatham House Rules. This seminar consisted of a day and a half of consultations among selected experts from governments of States Parties and Non-States Parties, international organizations, and civil society, including representatives from ICC situation countries.

Leslie Vinjamuri spoke at Chatham House on an evening panel that evaluated the results of this year’s Transatlantic Trends, a survey of public attitudes across Europe conducted annually by the German Marshall Fund.

In June, **Phil Clark** spoke at a workshop in London which explored the intersections between transitional justice and forced displacement. The event was hosted by the Brookings Institution, the Refugee Studies Centre at the University of Oxford, and the Forced Migration Review. In the same month, **Dr Clark** co-organised an international colloquium at the University of Oxford, exploring transitional justice methodologies. The event was hosted by Oxford Transitional Justice Research and the Transitional Justice Data Base Project.

In July, **Phil Clark** gave a lecture on post-genocide politics and justice in Rwanda, at a conference entitled “Rwanda from Below” hosted by the Institute for Development Policy and Management, University of Antwerp.

In July and August, **Phil Clark** conducted research for a project entitled, “Finding it within Ourselves: Forgiveness and Reconciliation after Mass Atrocity in Rwanda and Uganda.” The two-year project is funded by the Fetzer Institute and, among other activities, will lead to a radio programme to be broadcast in Kinyarwanda, Acholi and English on Radio Rwanda, Mega FM (northern Uganda) and internationally.

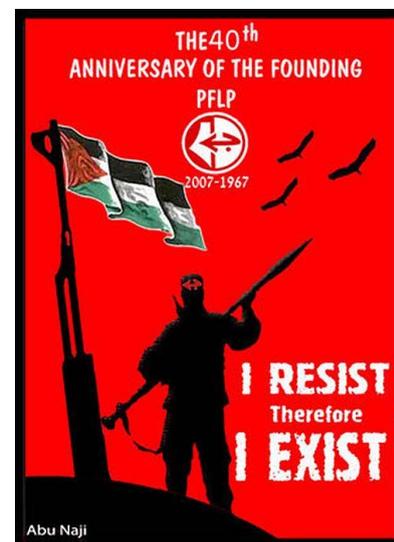
In August, **Phil Clark** gave a presentation on researching post-genocide politics and justice at a workshop in Kigali entitled, “Translating Freedom.” The event was part of a series of activities run by the AHRC Research Network on “Translating Freedom” which comprises academics from York University and King’s College London.

In September, **Phil** spoke at a workshop in Berlin on “Institutions for Sustainable Peace”, organised by the German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA), as part of a Leibniz Institute-funded consortium of seven academic institutions, including GIGA and SOAS. Also in September, **Phil Clark** spoke at the Fetzer Institute Global Gathering in Assisi, Italy, which explored questions

of peace, forgiveness and reconciliation, particularly in post-conflict societies.

In November, **Phil Clark** gave a lecture on justice and security issues in the Great Lakes region at the Institute for Security Studies in Pretoria.

In September, **Charles Tripp** took part in a panel discussion on “Iraq: escalating violence and sectarian divides” at the Frontline Club, London. In October, Professor Tripp participated in a conference on “Muslim Democracy as Christian Democracy? Comparative explorations and cross-cultural dialogue” organized by the Milan-based Istituto per gli Studi di Politica Internazionale (ISPI), the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Government of the Autonomous Province of Trento at Trento, Italy and participated in a public panel on “Religion, Democracy and the State: the crisis/reinterpretation of secularism in Europe and in the Muslim world.”



Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine poster (2007)

On 12 June, **Charles Tripp** gave a talk on “Palestine and the Art of Resistance” at the Palestine Place project, Grays Inn Road <http://www.wix.com/palestineplace/palestine-place#!>. The pictures above and below formed the visual landscape of the lecture.



The Wall near Qalandiya checkpoint 2011 [photo courtesy of Emily Tripp]

In June, **Charles Tripp** gave a talk on “The Art of the Arab Uprisings” at a joint seminar between the

Department of Politics at Birkbeck College and this Department, while in July he participated in a three day workshop on 'Writing the Modern History of the Gulf' organized by the Al-Tajir Foundation, held at Ashridge Hall.

Matt Nelson presented a paper entitled "Chatterjee v. Democracy: Political Society in Pakistan" at Queen Elizabeth House (Oxford) in May 2012. In July, he presented a paper entitled "Islamic Law in an Islamic State: What Role for Parliament?" at the Rockefeller Bellagio Centre (Italy).

In September, Dr **Nelson** presented a paper entitled "Democracy and the Rule of Law" at Quaid-e-Azam University and Gujrat University (Pakistan). During the same trip to Pakistan Nelson led a three-day workshop for PhD students from different parts of Pakistan entitled "History and Political Science." The workshop was held in Islamabad under the auspices of the American Institute of Pakistan Studies (AIPS) and Pakistan's Higher Education Commission (HEC).

In November, **Matt Nelson** presented a paper entitled "Supporting Subversion? International Organisations and 'Freedom of Conscience' in Islamic States" at the European University Institute in Florence (Italy) in November 2012. A related piece was presented at the recent CCRJ Conference (SOAS) in October.

Doctoral student **Shirin Shafaie** presented a paper on "From Philosophy of History to Oral History: A critical Analysis" at the Fifth Doctoral Symposium on "Politics of Experience: Theorizing the politics of the past" organised by the Finland-Institut in Berlin.

Remaining Politics Department Seminars for Term 1 Wednesdays 3-5 in room 4418

November 14

Daryl G. Press (Dartmouth College)

Weapons of the Weak: The End of Nuclear Weapons, or the New Nuclear Age?

November 15 (venue and time TBC)

Kellee Tsai (Johns Hopkins University)

Developmental Diasporas in China and India: A Reconsideration of Conventional Capital

November 21

Nandini Gooptu (University of Oxford)

New Spiritualism, Democracy and Politics in Contemporary India

December 12

Luis Cabrera (University of Birmingham)

The Dalit Human Rights Campaign: Globalized Resistance and Insights for Shared Global Governance

The International Relations Speaker Series, chaired by **Leslie Vinjamuri**, hosted Jennifer Lind (Dartmouth College), Daryl Press (Dartmouth College), Christian Reus-Smit (European University Institute), and Daniel Philpott (Notre Dame University). These speakers visited SOAS during October and November to speak about topics including the Politics of Apology in East Asia, Nuclear Deterrence, Individual Rights in the International System, and Reconciliation.



Current Research

Leslie Vinjamuri conducted field research in Cairo for a project on the politics of human rights advocacy and transitional justice in transitional states. During her trip she interviewed leaders from local human rights NGOs, local development organisations, and international organisations.

Michael A. Innes spent a month in Indonesian Papua conducting field research among highland and lowland villages, and several weeks in Kabul, Afghanistan as Adviser to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.



Outreach

Professor **Stephen Chan** was one of the principal panelists at the conference convened by the UN Economic Commission for Africa to open the 8th African Development Forum. The event was held in Addis Ababa, with Professor Chan speaking on 22 October about negotiating strategies with the Chinese.

Leslie Vinjamuri spoke to an audience of 200 Chevening Scholars at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on the "Future of Global Governance." Approximately 700 Chevening Scholarships are awarded each year for postgraduate study in the UK. The scholarships are awarded to individuals from more than 100 countries (but not Europe or the United States).

In May, **Arshin Adib-Moghaddam** gave a talk to diplomats at the German Foreign Office in Berlin as a part of an event organised by the Agha Khan Foundation. In July, he presented on the theme of pan-Asian cooperation at the 2012 Gulf Research Meeting at the University of Cambridge. In October, **Adib-Moghaddam** gave a talk to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly's Mediterranean and Middle East Special Group who met in Catania, Italy. In the same week, he was invited to participate in the Istanbul Forum in Turkey. At the end of the month, **Adib-Moghaddam** presented at Georgetown's School of Foreign Service in Doha, Qatar.

Professor **Lawrence Saez** has recently given talks at the Carnegie Europe centre in Brussels to comment on EU relations with India and China.

<http://www.carnegieendowment.org/2012/10/02/eu->

[relations-with-china-and-india-courting-dragon-wooing-elephant/dyfr](#) A podcast of the event can be heard at <http://dl2.newmediamill.net/media/carnegie/2012-10-02-DragonElephant.mp3> He also spoke at the United Nations Geneva to comment on the Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review of India (podcast at: <http://www.kmsnews.org/news/2012/09/13/kceu-host-human-rights-in-india-a-kashmir-perspective-at-the-united-nations.html>). Professor **Saez** also gave a presentation at the South Asia Democratic Forum's conference held in Brussels to comment on European lessons for the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). Over the summer, doctoral student **Marco Jowell** co-authored a Joint Assessment of Conflict and Instability (JACS) of Eastern Africa with Dr Andrew Stewart of King's College London for the British Government's Africa Conflict Prevention Pool (ACPP) to inform future peacekeeping training initiatives in East Africa and the Horn.

Between June 25 and July 2 Dr **Dafydd Fell** gave a course titled Government and Politics in Taiwan at Heidelberg University's Institute of Chinese Studies. The course participants came from a number of German universities. This visit was supported by the ERASMUS programme. Most of the lectures on the course are available as a podcast at http://www.zo.uni-heidelberg.de/sinologie/research/tls/taiwanlec12_en.html

In May, **Phil Clark** was a rapporteur at the International Victimology Symposium in The Hague, which focused on victim-related issues within transitional justice. In June, he briefed the new Irish ambassador to Uganda on national political and social issues. Also in June, Dr **Clark** gave a presentation at the official conference in the Rwandan parliament to close the decade-long process of genocide trials through the gacaca community courts.

In August, **Phil Clark** (along with Nicola Palmer from King's College London) gave a one-day training on witness protection issues for members of the Rwandan judiciary and police service. The event was hosted by the Institute of Legal Practice and Development in Nyanza, Rwanda. Also in August, he briefed the UK High Commissioner to Rwanda and staff from DFID and the FCO in Kigali on political and military issues in the Great Lakes region.

In September, **Phil Clark** gave a presentation on justice and security issues in central Africa at the UK government Stabilisation Unit, which comprises experts from the Ministry of Defence, DFID and the FCO.

In November, **Phil Clark** provided written evidence to the House of Commons International Development Committee on UK aid to Rwanda. Also in November, **Phil** gave a lecture on transitional justice at a consultation of the Ivorian diaspora in the UK, hosted by the Government of Côte d'Ivoire's Commission for Dialogue, Truth and Reconciliation and Concordis International.



Media and Blogs

Arshin Adib-Moghaddam's commentary on world politics appeared globally in a range of media outlets including El Nacional (Venezuela), Penza News (Russia), The New Indian Express (India), Outlook Magazine (India) and Pravda (Slovakia). In August he gave an interview to News.Az in Baku Azerbaijan on the danger of a war with Iran

(<http://www.news.az/articles/politics/65946>) which was republished by Veteran's News Now (VNN) in the United States

(<http://www.veteransnewsnow.com/2012/08/08/war-on-iran-would-have-disastrous-consequences-that-would-destabilize-everything/>). **Adib-Moghaddam's** opinion piece on German's militarised foreign policy was published by IranReview in Tehran (<http://www.iranreview.org/content/Documents/Germany-s-Militarised-Foreign-Policy.htm>) and VNN in the US (<http://www.veteransnewsnow.com/2012/07/27/germanys-militarised-foreign-policy/>)

Bhavna Dave published "Getting by as a gastarbeiter in Kazakhstan" in *OpenDemocracy* on 20 September. The piece can be found at <http://www.opendemocracy.net/od-russia/bhavna-dave/getting-by-as-gastarbeiter-in-kazakhstan>

Doctoral student **Peter Brett** wrote two review essays for *E-International Relations*. The first on Kathryn Sikkink's *The Justice Cascade* (<http://www.e-ir.info/2012/06/15/review-the-justice-cascade/>), and the second on two recent textbooks treating the international politics of human rights and international law (*Human Rights: Politics and Practice*, edited by Michael Goodhardt, and *International Law for International Relations*, edited by Başak Çali; <http://www.e-ir.info/2012/06/21/student-book-features-human-rights-and-international-law/>).

Julia Strauss conducted an interview with BBC Brazil on the relations between China and Brazil which is Julia's new area of research. The interview (which has been translated into Portuguese) can be found at http://www.bbc.co.uk/portuguese/noticias/2012/11/121107_entrevista_julia_strauss_lh.shtml

Salwa Ismail published an opinion piece titled "Assad's grip may be slipping, but Syria remains at an impasse" in the *Guardian Online* on 19 July: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2012/jul/19/syria-assad-grip-slipping-impasse>

Laleh Khalili was quoted in a number of different media including <http://thedisorderofthings.com/2012/11/04/female-terrain-systems-engagement-officers-militarism-and-lady-flows/> on gendering of counterinsurgency, and by Reuters <http://in.reuters.com/article/2012/07/19/egypt-mursi-idINDEE86I0I720120719> on the relationship between the US and the Egyptian military.

Laleh Khalili's "Liberal Sophistry about the Drones" was published on the *MERIP Blog* at <http://www.merip.org/liberal-sophistry-about-drones>

Doctoral student **Sanaa Alimia** was featured on the Opinion Pages of Al Jazeera writing a piece on the difficulties that Afghan refugees face in Pakistan. <http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/2012/07/20127291012146593.html>

Doctoral student **Lucas Robinson** has published two opinion pieces on the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), respectively addressed to the new development minister in Canada on how to be a success at CIDA (in the Ottawa citizen): <http://www.ottawacitizen.com/opinion/op-ed/success+CIDA/6889788/story.html> and written on CIDA's development track record in Afghanistan, published in Canada's National Post at <http://fullcomment.nationalpost.com/2012/10/17/lucas-robinson-cida-is-hardly-a-wasted-enterprise/>

An article based on **Indre Balcaite's** field notes from a trip to the Thailand-Myanmar border has been published at <http://asiapacific.anu.edu.au/newmandala/2012/09/01/glimpses-of-the-thailand-myanmar-border/>

Rahul Rao's blog on the Olympics opening ceremony and citizenship in the UK can be read here: <http://thedisorderofthings.com/2012/08/09/how-many-buddhists-are-there-in-northern-ireland/>. Over the summer, **Rahul Rao** spent a month in Uganda, continuing to research gender and sexuality, with particular focus on the commemoration of Uganda Martyrs' Day.

Doctoral student **Shirin Shafaie** was interviewed by the Russian news channel RT on 06 October 2012 about "US Congress mulls extending Iran sanctions" (at <http://rt.com/news/us-extend-sanctions-iran-786/>).

In June, doctoral student **Shirin Shafaie** participated in a debate on "Iran's nuclear programme: Can Moscow talks make a difference?" on Voice of Russia with Dmitry Kosyrev, David Hartwell and Matthew Harris. The debate can be watched at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JGfGyxdZFU8>

Doctoral student **Shirin Shafaie** published a policy recommendation paper titled "Iran Should Not Allow the Talks to Be a 'Success' If..." in *Iran Review* ahead of the P5+1 negotiation with the Islamic Republic in Moscow in June. The piece was also published by Muftah.org and can be viewed at <http://muftah.org/the-moscow-talks-a-policy-recommendation-paper-for-iran/>

Doctoral student **Shirin Shafaie** conducted an interview with the independent Russian analyst Dr Nikolay Kozhanov titled "After Moscow: Will There be War or Peace?" which was published in two parts by *Fair Observer* at <http://www.fairobserver.com/article/after-moscow-will-there-be-war-or-peace-part-12> and <http://www.fairobserver.com/article/after-moscow-will-there-be-war-or-peace-part-22>

In August, **Felix Berenskoetter** commented on whether we are at "The end of IR Theory as we know it" for the *Disorder of Things* Blog, which sparked a lively exchange with other

scholars: <http://thedisorderofthings.com/2012/08/03/the-end-of-ir-theory-as-we-know-it/>

Additionally, **Felix** wrote two pieces on German-Israeli relations published on the *LSE IDEAS* Blog in October. The first post discusses the controversial poem by Günter Grass (<http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/ideas/2012/10/an-act-of-friendship-re-reading-grass-on-german-israeli-relations/>) and the second post evaluates whether it makes sense to speak of friendship between Germany and Israel (<http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/ideas/2012/10/germany-and-israel-is-it-friendship/>)

In May, **Phil Clark** published an op-ed entitled "Do War Crimes Trials Really Help Victims?" on the CNN website (<http://www.cnn.com/2012/04/26/opinion/charles-taylor-victims/index.html>) and in August, he published an article entitled "Rethinking the International Response to the Congo Conflict" on Huffington Post (<http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/dr-phil-clark/rethinking-the-international-response-to-the-congo-conflict-1824289.html>).

In August, **Phil Clark** was quoted by the Financial Times on the ICC's work in Africa: (<http://allafrica.com/stories/201208070499.html>) and by Think Africa Press on aid cuts to Rwanda because of alleged crimes in eastern Congo (<http://thinkafricapress.com/rwanda/donors-withhold-funding-aid-darling-drc-m23>). Also in August, Consultancy Africa Intelligence quoted Dr **Clark** on the gacaca genocide trials in Rwanda (http://www.consultancyafrica.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1088:gacaca-courts-lessons-learned-in-transitional-justice-&catid=60:conflict-terrorism-discussion-papers&Itemid=265) and he was quoted on the same subject by the Rwandan Patriotic Front website (<http://rpfinkotanyi.org/wp/?p=1958>).

In October, **Phil Clark** appeared on the BBC World Service "World Have Your Say" programme, alongside the Rwandan justice minister, to discuss human rights in Rwanda: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00yfp1s>

Also in October, **Phil Clark** was interviewed by the Institute for War and Peace Reporting on the ICC's reparations programme for victims in eastern Congo (<http://iwpr.net/report-news/making-reparations-work-congo>) and by Reuters on the guilty verdict against Rwandan opposition leader, Victoire Ingabire (<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2012/10/30/uk-rwanda-court-idUKBRE89T15B20121030>)



Events

At the end of the course **Dafydd Fell**'s Taiwan politics class had a football match against a team of China Studies academics from the Institute. The score was 13-9 to China.



Notices

Issues in Turkish Politics

The department of politics will be offering this new half-unit course for Y3 students in the spring term. This course will consider not only the key political issues, processes and dynamics in the history of the Turkish Republic, but also contemporary trends and developments in Turkish politics. Keeping students' attention and focus on their respective topic throughout the term, this will give each in-depth knowledge of an important aspect of Turkish politics, and, at the same time, improve their skills and abilities to conduct research, organise findings, evaluate the literature critically and present their ideas and arguments in both oral and written form. All student papers will be distributed to the class at the end of the term to enhance the understanding of the students on the specific issues covered during the course and to encourage their further engagement in studying Turkish politics. For more information, see

<http://www.soas.ac.uk/courseunits/78541.html>

Postgraduate Research Studentships 2013

<http://soaspolitics.org/excellent-new-doctoral-opportunities-at-soas/>

The Department of Politics at SOAS is pleased to announce a number of studentships for doctoral and postdoctoral students. The deadline for consideration for funded places (beginning September 2013) is 31st January 2013. Applicants whose applications are received after this date may be considered for admission but not funding.

SOAS Research Studentships (application guidelines [here](#)).

SOAS offers two doctoral studentships in the Faculty of Law and Social Science (which includes the Department of Politics) each year. Applications for these scholarships are accepted from all new full-time students in the Faculty of Law and Social Science; they cover fees at the UK/EU rate plus a maintenance allowance of around £12,790/year for up to three years. Candidates are normally expected to receive a distinction in their Master's degree.

SOAS Doctoral Studentships (application guidelines [here](#)).

The Department of Politics at SOAS offers one such studentship each year. Applications for these scholarships are accepted from all UK/EU students applying to SOAS for full and part-time MPhil/PhD study in Politics; they cover fees at the UK/EU rate for up to three years. Candidates are normally expected to receive a distinction in their Master's degree.

ESRC (Bloomsbury DTC) Studentships (application guidelines [here](#)).

The Departments of Politics at SOAS and Birkbeck *share* two prestigious ESRC studentships each year. Within the terms of ESRC Residential Eligibility Rules, these Scholarships are open to UK/EU students applying for full or part-time study in Politics; they cover UK/EU fees plus a maintenance allowance of around £15,590 per year for the following three programme options:

- 2+3 (2-year MRes in Politics with Language + 3-year PhD)
- 1+3 (1-year MSc in Politics + 3-year PhD)
- +3 (3-year PhD)

Additional allowances are available for advanced quantitative methods training, difficult languages training, and overseas fieldwork. Candidates for the +3 programme will normally be expected to receive a distinction in their Master's (with evidence of ESRC-recognised Master's-level methodology training). For more information, contact Politics research tutor, Dr Matt Nelson, mn6@soas.ac.uk.

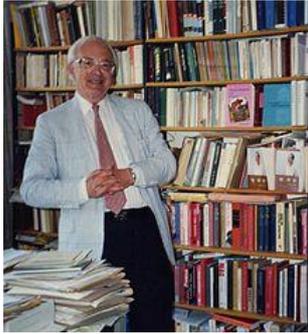


In Memoriam

We regret the passing of **Stuart Schram**, founder and head of the Contemporary China Institute at the time when the *China Quarterly* came under its umbrella, who died in July. Before becoming a political scientist and sinologist, Professor **Schram** had been a nuclear physicist and had worked on the Manhattan Project. Professor **Schram** taught in the Department of Politics between 1967 and his retirement in 1989. He was the prolific author of a number of books on Mao Tse-Tung. Upon retirement from SOAS, he worked on a ten-volume translation of Mao's revolutionary writings, seven volumes of which have thus far been published. His obituary in the

New York Times can be found at

http://www.nytimes.com/2012/07/22/world/asia/stuart-r-schram-physicist-and-mao-scholar-dies-at-88.html?_r=0



Professor Schram in his SOAS office, 1989



Donal Cruise O'Brien

We also fondly remember **Donal Cruise O'Brien** who was a great scholar of francophone Africa, and who taught in the Department for 39 years. **Donal** published a number of influential books including *The Mourides of Senegal* (1971), *Saints and Politicians* (1975), and *Symbolic Confrontations: Muslims Imagining the State in Africa* (2003). His memorial service was noted for its gentility and quiet humour. An epigram from Beckett's *Death of Malone* on the programme notes set the scene for a dignified service. Afterwards, SOAS hosted a reception where **Donal's** widow, Rita, acted as the gracious hostess. People attending the service received a copy of **Donal's** autobiography, replete with photos of the man smiling through the years. Professor **Stephen Chan** remembers **Donal** as always smiling, even through the hardship of his multiple sclerosis. **Professor O'Brien's** obituary was published in a number of different places including the *Irish Times*

(<http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/obituaries/2012/0804/1224321436943.html>) and *The Guardian*:

(<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2012/oct/31/donal-cruise-obrien-obituary>).

The Department of Politics and International Studies is one of the most cutting edge 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 a year's 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.
- Political Theory: political Islam, non-western political thought, multiculturalism.

The current officers of the department are:

Head of Department:

Fiona Adamson, fa33@soas.ac.uk

Senior Tutor & Director of Student Welfare
Rochana Bajpai

Undergraduate Tutors:

UG Tutor – Steve Hopgood

Deputy UG Tutor – Yan Kong

UG Admissions Tutor - Bhavna Dave

Year 1 Tutor – Rahul Rao

Year 2 Tutor – Tom Young

Year 3 Tutor – Arshin Adib-Moghaddam

UG Exams Officer and Exam Board Chair – Tom Young

Postgraduate (MSc) Tutors:

PG Tutor - Leslie Vinjamuri

PGT Training Coordinator – Phil Clark

MSc Convenors

African Politics – Phil Clark

Asian Politics – Enze Han

International Politics – Mark Laffey

Middle East Politics – Charles Tripp

Politics of China – Dafydd Fell

State, Society and Development – Yan

Kong (Term 1) and Julia Strauss (Terms

2/3)

PGT Exams Board Chair – Lawrence Saez

Postgraduate (Research) Tutors:

Research Tutor – Matthew Nelson

MPhil Research Methods Course Convenor – Felix Berenskoetter

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

Department of Politics is on twitter; please follow @soaspolitics

On Facebook, you can find and befriend us at SOASPolitics

Also find our blog at soaspolitics.org