

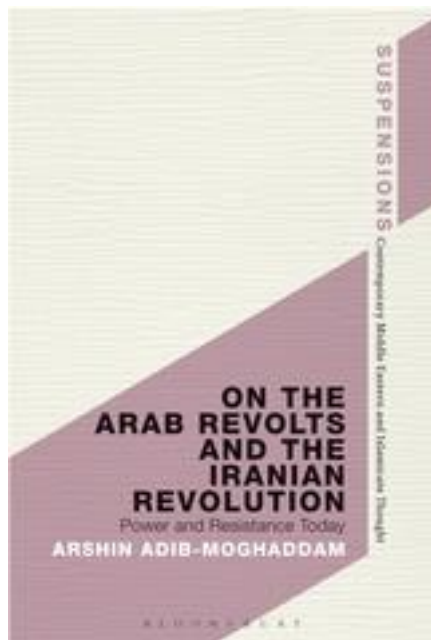


Politics and International Studies Newsletter



New Publications

Arshin Adib-Moghaddam's newest study *On the Arab Revolts and the Iranian Revolution: Power and resistance today* has been published by Bloomsbury Press as a part of the *Suspension: Contemporary Middle Eastern and Islamic Thought* series edited by Lucian Stone and Jason Mohaghegh. The book presents the first comparative analysis of two central political events that have altered world politics forever: the Iranian revolution of 1979 and the Arab uprisings which started in Tunisia in 2010. **Adib-Moghaddam** demonstrates how contemporary forms of protest are changing our understanding about the way power and resistance function. In order to illuminate this argument, the study is organised around conceptual terms that feed into forms of power and resistance, such as revolution, radicalism, dissent, knowledge, neighbour and reform. These terms and concepts are discussed with reference to a wide array of primary material and in relation to the forms of protests that we have experienced globally in the past years.



Matthew Eagleton-Pierce published an article, 'The Concept of Governance in the Spirit of Capitalism' in a special issue of *Critical Policy Studies* on the notion of governance. Elsewhere, he has been continuing to work on a new book – *Neoliberalism: The Key Concepts* – which seeks to dissect major expressions that reflect and constitute processes of neoliberalisation.

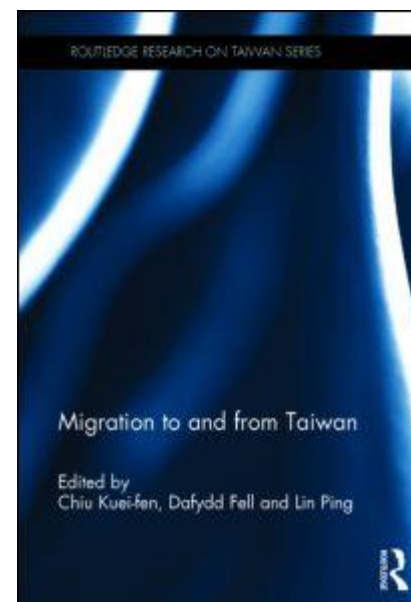
Salwa Ismail has published 'The Politics of the Urban Everyday in Cairo: Infrastructures of Oppositional Action' in *The Routledge Handbook on Cities of the Global South*, edited by Susan Parnell and Sophie Oldfield (Routledge, 2014).

Rahul Rao published a review of Naisargi Dave's book *Queer Activism in India: A Story in the Anthropology of Ethics*, which can be viewed [here](#).

In February, **Phil Clark** published an article, 'Bringing Them All Back Home: The Challenges of DDR and Transitional Justice in Contexts of Displacement in Rwanda and Uganda' in the *Journal of Refugee Studies*.

Kristin Surak published the article '[Guestwork: A Taxonomy](#)' in the *New Left Review*. The piece analyses the global flow of temporary migrant labour since the late nineteenth century. It isolates the characteristics distinctive to this mode of labour migration, identifies its inherent contradictions, and develops a typology of the forms guestworker programmes can take based on the ways foreign labour is integrated into a national economy and on the type of state-society relationship in which this occurs.

In December 2013 **Dafydd Fell's** co-edited volume (with Kuei-Fen Chiu and Ping Lin) *Migration to and From Taiwan* (London: Routledge, 2013) was published. The book launch will take place on March 13, 2014. **Dafydd** has a chapter titled 'Migration through the lens of political advertising: How Taiwanese parties discuss migration'. He co-authored a chapter with **Isabelle Cheng** (former SOAS Politics PhD student) and Tseng Yu-chin titled 'The politics of the mainland spouses' rights movement in Taiwan'.



In December Dr **Fell** published an article in the *Taiwan Journal of Democracy* 9(2) titled [‘Party Candidate Selection before and after the Change of Ruling Parties: A Study of the 2005 and 2009 Local Executive Elections in Taiwan’](#). This was co-written with Jonathan Sullivan (Nottingham) and Eliyahu Sapir (Maastricht). In January **Dafydd** published ‘Should I Stay or Should I Go? Patterns of Party Switching in Multiparty Taiwan’ in *Journal of East Asian Studies* 14(1).

Banu Bargu’s article [‘Human Shields’](#) has appeared in journal *Contemporary Political Theory* 12(4). Her [‘Theorizing Self-Destructive Violence’](#) was published as part of the Roundtable on Violence and the Middle East in the *Journal of Middle East Studies* 45(4).

Doctoral student **Hae Won Jeong’s** article ‘Lessons Gleaned from the Political Participation of Children in Bahrain Uprising’ has been published for the special edition on Children and Arab Spring in the *Journal of International Women’s Studies* 14(5).

Leslie Vinjamuri published a chapter (with Aaron P. Boesenecker), ‘Charting the Path of Justice in Peacebuilding’ in *Restorative Justice, Reconciliation, and Peacebuilding*, edited by Jennifer Llewellyn and Dan Philpott (Oxford University Press).

Dr **Enze Han** published two articles, ‘External Kin, Economic Disparity, and Minority Ethnic Group Mobilization’ (with Joseph O’Mahoney and Christopher Paik) in *Conflict Management and Peace Science* 31(1); and ‘Interstate Relations, Perceptions, and Power Balance: Explaining China’s Policies toward Ethnic Groups, 1949-1965’ (with Harris Mylonas) in *Security Studies* 23(1).



Research Centres, Clusters, & Networks

Centre for the International Politics of Conflicts, Rights and Justice

The **Centre for the International Politics of Conflict, Rights and Justice (CCRJ)** hosted several events in December, chaired by co-director, **Leslie Vinjamuri**. Professor Jennifer Welsh, University of Oxford and United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Responsibility to Protect spoke about the evolution of R2P and its future. Peter Trubowitz, Professor of International Relations at the London School of Economics, delivered a lecture on ‘Obama’s not so Grand Strategy’. Dr **Phil Clark** chaired a **CCRJ** event with Dr Nadine Ansoarg who spoke about [‘Wars without borders: Conditions for the development of regional conflict systems in sub-Saharan Africa’](#).

Also in December, **CCRJ** hosted a panel discussion on ‘Humanity’s Law’, a new book by Professor Ruti Teitel of New York Law School. Professor Gerry Simpson (University of Melbourne), Anthony Dworkin (European Council on Foreign Relations), Professor Teitel, and Dr

Leslie Vinjamuri (SOAS), spoke on this panel.

In February, **CCRJ** hosted a meeting with Marc DuBois, executive director of MSF-UK, chaired by Dr **Stephen Hopgood**. Mark spoke about the challenges of humanitarianism in conflict situations.

In March, **CCRJ** hosted Professor Elizabeth Shakman Hurd, Northwestern University, for a discussion chaired by **Leslie Vinjamuri** on ‘International religious freedom and the politics of religious difference’.

Centre for Taiwan Studies

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

20 November 2013, ‘The embedment of Guns: A case study of Taiwanese indigenes in history’, Susan Lin (Nottingham Trent)

28 November, Book launch: *Technology Transfer between the United States, China and Taiwan: Moving Knowledge*, Dr. Douglas Fuller (Zhejiang) and Professor Murray Rubinstein (Columbia)

29 November, ‘Reflections on the State of Taiwan Studies’, Murray Rubinstein (Columbia). [Video](#) of the lecture is available.

5 December, ‘Taiwan India Relations’, Dr **Joe Karackattu** (SOAS Centenary Visiting Fellow and Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai) for a video of the event see [here](#).

9 December, ‘The Social Basis of Taiwan’s Cross-Strait Policy Liberalization: 2008-2012’. Chen Chih-jou (Academia Sinica, Sociology)

5 February, 2014, Book Launch: *Taiwanese Identity in the 21st Century*, Jens Damm (Editor, Chang Jung) **Dafydd Fell** (SOAS), Winnie King (Bristol), Malte Kaeding (Surrey)

10 February, ‘How Can Cross-Strait Relations Be Pacified? Peace as a Source of Efficacy in Taiwanese Consciousness’, Shih Chih-Yu (Department of Political Science, National Taiwan University). [A video](#) of the event is available.

19 February, ‘Funding Opportunities for Study in Taiwan and Taiwan Studies’, Speakers: Mr Yen-Heng Ouyang, Ms Suzen Tseng, Miss Olivia Saunders (Taipei Representative Office in the UK), Dr **Chang Bi-yu**, Dr **Dafydd Fell** (CTS).

26 February, ‘Taiwan’s Expansion of International Space: Opportunities and Challenges’, Professor Lee Wei-chin (Wake Forest University).

Dafydd Fell also organized a series of film screenings on the *Understanding Taiwan through Film and Documentaries* Film programme. These included Q&A sessions with film directors and film scholars from Taiwan and the United States. Part of this programme included the first SOAS Taiwan Film Week:

12 December, 2013, screening of *The Right Thing* (廣場) with Q&A session with film director Chiang Wei-hua (江偉華).

23 January, 2014, *62 Years and 6,500 Miles Between* with Q&A with film director Anita Chang [Video of the Q&A](#) is available.

24 January, *Tongues of Heaven* with Q&A with film director Anita Chang. [Video of the Q&A](#) is available.

10 February, *The Affair of Three Cities: The Game* (台北京之比賽) (Taiwan Film Week)

11 February, *The Chai-Wan Matchup* [我們] with Q&A with film director Chung Chuan (鐘權) (Taiwan Film Week). [Video of the Q&A](#) is available.

12 February, *Face to Face* [正面迎擊] with Q&A with film director Chung Chuan (Taiwan Film Week). [Video of the Q&A](#).

13 February, Book launch Documenting Taiwan on Film “Issues and Methods in New Documentaries” & screening of *Viva Tonal: The Dance Age* 跳舞時代 with Q&A with film scholar Sang Tze-lan (Michigan State) (Taiwan Film Week). [Video of the Q&A](#).

14 February, *Boys from Fenggui* [風櫃來的人] with Q&A hosted by film scholar Dr **Ming-yeh Rawnsley** (SOAS, CTS) (Taiwan Film Week): [Video of the Q&A](#).

London Migration Research Group

Dr Flavia Jurje (University of Lucerne) spoke on ‘Issue Linkage in International Migration Governance: Trade Agreements as Venues for Market Power Europe’ at the London Migration Research Group (LMRG) on February 4. The LMRG also hosted a seminar chaired by **Fiona Adamson** on February 18th in which Dr Amanda Klekowski von Koppenfels (Brussels School of International Studies, University of Kent), presented her recently published book *Migrants or Expatriates? Americans in Europe*. The LMRG is a collaboration between scholars at SOAS, LSE and UCL and is co-organised by **Fiona Adamson** and **Kristin Surak**.



Appointments, Awards, Honours

Many warm congratulations to **James Sunday**, **Cornelia Shiller**, and **Hagar Taha** who have successfully completed their PhDs and defended their theses.

Doctoral student **Indre Balcaite** has been awarded a Lithuanian Foundation scholarship as well as a Santander Mobility Award.

Laleh Khalili has been appointed to the editorial board of the *International Studies Quarterly*.

Matt Nelson was nominated to serve on the Religion and Politics Committee of the American Political Science Association (2014-16).

Adib Arshin Adib-Moghaddam has been nominated to the advisory board of *Asian, Politics & Policy* published by Wiley.

Meera Sabaratnam has been appointed to the Web Advisory Board of *International Studies Quarterly*.

Matthew Eagleton-Pierce was appointed a Members-at-Large on the Executive Board of the International Political Sociology section of the International Studies Association.

Phil Clark was appointed to the Commonwealth Scholarships selection panel, overseen by the Association of Commonwealth Universities.

Professor **Stephen Chan’s** book *The Morality of China in Africa*, was one of the *Guardian’s* books of the year 2014 on development issues.

Doctoral student **Eddie Walsh** was made an Academic Guest of The Universität der Bundeswehr München and The Universität Zürich for the duration of his doctoral fieldwork.

Shirin Shafaie has been awarded a six-month research grant by the Soloman Academic Trust to conduct her research on ‘An Inter-Faith Reading of the Story of Joseph in the Bible and the Quran’, as part of the project on *Reading the Bible in the Context of Islam*, at the [Centre for Muslim and Christian Studies](#) (CMCS) in Oxford. She is particularly interested in differences in narrative perspectives in each telling of the story and the ways in which these differences impact construction of meaning with regard to the story in question (but also in more general terms) in each tradition.

Shirin Shafaie is co-convening (with Dr Nikolay Kozhanov) an MA course on the Political Economy of Modern Iran / Iranian Energy Sector as part of an MA Programme on [Energy Politics in Eurasia](#) at the European University of St. Petersburg in Russia. She has been teaching there as a Visiting Lecturer in February 2014.

Former doctoral student **Silvia Ferraboli**, who wrote her doctoral thesis on Arab regional cooperation, has been appointed Assistant Professor at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul in Brazil. Silvia writes, “The IR course at UFRGS has recently been assessed the best IR course in Brazil! This is a permanent position and I will teach both undergrads and graduate students and I will also help the department to develop the IR research programme with a focus on South-South cooperation. People from all over South America and Lusophone countries in Africa come to study at this programme. Now we can attract students from the Middle East too, especially from the Arab world.”

Former doctoral student and senior teaching fellow **Hardina Ohlendorf** has been appointed a lecturer in the Social Science Division of the International College of Mahidol University, Thailand.



Presentations and Conferences

Enze Han gave talks at Kings College London, University of Nottingham, and at St Anthony College at Oxford about his newly published book *Contestation and Contestation: The Politics of National Identity in China*.

Professor **Lawrence Saez** was a keynote speaker at an international conference on youth unemployment, entrepreneurship, and inclusive growth in Africa. The event was held in Nairobi, Kenya, and was sponsored by Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and the Partnership for African Social and Governance Research (PASGR). In addition, he also attended the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda summit in Abu Dhabi, UAE. Professor **Saez** is a member of the WEF's regional council on India.



Rahul Rao continues to research and write on queer politics in the postcolonial world. Over January and February 2014, he presented various portions of this work at a retirement symposium for Kevin Ward at the University of Leeds, and at departmental seminars at Newcastle and Sussex. He also gave a talk at the University of Oxford on the December 2013 Indian Supreme Court judgment, which recriminalised homosexuality by overturning the progressive Delhi High Court judgment of 2009. He helped to organise London-based events for the Global Day of Rage that Indian activists called in response to this judgment. He has received faculty and departmental funding for new exploratory fieldwork on related controversies in the Caribbean.

In November, **Felix Berenskoetter** was invited by the International Relations and European Politics (IREP) group at the University of Bath to give a talk on 'German-American relations and the Question of Peace in Europe'. **Felix** also participated in a two-day workshop on 'Theorizing in Times of Crisis' held in Weimar, Germany, at the end of January.

In December, **Bhavna Dave** presented a paper 'Kazakhstan: From a nationalizing to a migrant-receiving state' at a Workshop *Catastrophe and Resurrection: New Approaches to a Changing Slavic Eurasia* at the Slavic Research Centre, University of Hokkaido, in Japan. **Bhavna** is

spending a 5 month term as a Visiting Research Fellow at the Institute of Developing Economies, Chiba, Japan. Her research focuses on processes of (il)legalization and inclusion of Central Asian migrants in Russian cities and on informal labour migration in Kazakhstan. She conducted 10 days of field research on migrant legalization and integration in Vladivostok and Khabarovsk in the Russian Far East in January.

Banu Bargu gave the keynote lecture titled 'Why Did Bouazizi Burn Himself? Fatal Political Action as Embodied Critique' at the *Praktiken der Kritik/Practices of Critique: 4th Annual Graduate Conference of the Cluster of Excellence "The Formation of Normative Orders,"* at Goethe Universität (Frankfurt, Germany) in December. **Bargu** also presented her new work on the topic of sovereignty and enforced disappearances at the International Theory Workshop at LSE on 13 January and at the Social and Political Thought Seminar Series at Brunel University on 29 January.

In January, **Rochana Bajpai** presented a paper 'Challenges of multiculturalism: Indian trajectories' at a conference on Multiculturalism in the British Commonwealth at University of California at Berkeley, organized by Prof Mark Bevir. In February, **Rochana** gave a talk, 'From exception to norm: Constitutional group rights in the India', at the Centre for South Asia, Stanford University.

In November, **Salwa Ismail** participated in a panel discussion on the Arab Revolutions organised by *ISIS Magazine* at the University of Oxford. In February, Professor **Ismail** presented 'The Politics of the Urban Everyday in the Arab Revolutions' as the inaugural seminar of a new series on *Social Movements and Popular Mobilisation in the MENA*, organised by Dr John Chalcraft at the LSE. The [podcast of the seminar](#) is available.

In January, **Phil Clark** gave a lecture on conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo to the Friends of *Le Monde Diplomatique* in London.

Dr **Leslie Vinjamuri** delivered a presentation, 'Why is there a backlash against the International Criminal Court and does it matter?' at a conference on *Justice and Imagination: Building Peace in Post-Conflict Societies* at Mount Holyoke University in Massachusetts. This conference brought leading authorities from around the world to analyse which processes of transitional justice, forms of reconciliation and memory, and conditions for economic and social policies increase the effectiveness of peace building and reconstruction following conflict. In March, **Vinjamuri** delivered a presentation, 'Contestation, backlash, and the politics of international justice twenty years', on to the International Institutions Workshop at the London School of Economics chaired by Jens Meierhenrich.

In December, Dr **Stephen Hopgood** chaired a meeting of the International Relations Speaker Series with Professor Michael Barnett who spoke about '[American Jews, the Rise of Jewish Humanitarianism, and the Distancing from Israel](#)'.

In December 2013 and January 2014 **Dafydd Fell** chaired Q&A sessions with two former Taiwanese prime ministers at SOAS. On December 11, 2013 former prime minister and presidential candidate [Frank Hsieh visited SOAS](#) and had a two hour long Q&A session with SOAS postgraduate politics students and scholars specializing on Taiwan. Then on January 24 former prime minister and leader of Taiwan's largest opposition party Su Tseng-chang [visited SOAS](#). He gave a short speech and then had a Q&A session with an invited audience. The latter event received much press attention in Taiwan. Both events allowed politics department students to directly engage with two of the most prominent Taiwanese politicians of the last three decades.



Former Prime Minister of Taiwan speaking at SOAS

Yuka Kobayashi gave a talk on 'India and Climate Change' at the Nissan Centre at Oxford University, January 2014. The contents of the talk will be published as a chapter in an edited book forthcoming with Palgrave.

Doctoral student **Behar Sadriu** delivered a paper on Turkey, networks and soft power at the French Institute for Anatolian Studies (IFEA) in Istanbul in February.

In December, **Arshin Adib-Moghaddam** gave a keynote lecture on Iran and the new President Rouhani at the University of Leiden.

In December, **Matt Nelson** presented a paper regarding the political sociology of Pakistan, titled 'Democratic Transition and Security in Pakistan' for a conference at the University of Durham. In January, **Matt** presented a 'Rough and Ready Justice: Panchayats and Community Arbitration in South Asia', about panchayats and democratic politics in Pakistan for a conference at SOAS.

In February, **Matt Nelson** delivered one of the Severyns-Ravenholt lectures at the University of Washington (Seattle). His lecture was titled 'Islamic States and the Securitization of the Muslim Self'.

In November, **Kristin Surak** and Christoph Tagsold co-organized a two-day workshop on "Japanese Traditions Beyond Invention" at the University of Dusseldorf and presented a paper on "outlaw" tea ceremonies. This will appear in a forthcoming journal issue she is co-editing based on the proceedings. **Surak** also delivered a keynote speech on the praxeology of public rituals at the

conference "Pathos, Ritual, and Public Feeling: Social and Cultural Economies of Presence" at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg. In December, **Surak** gave talks on the tea ceremony and cultural nationalism at Sophia University and Ochanomizu University in Tokyo, and in January she presented a paper on regional variation in family reunion policies at the WZB in Berlin.

In December, **Fiona Adamson** delivered a keynote address titled 'Rethinking the Topographies of "Diaspora" and "Security": Beyond the Triadic Model' for the workshop *Security and Diasporas* at the Conflict Analysis Research Centre, University of Kent, Canterbury. In January, Dr **Adamson** presented the paper 'The Global City as a Space for Transnational Identity Politics' at the workshop *Diasporas and International Politics* at University of Warwick.

In November, doctoral student **Priya Kumar** participated in the MODE workshop, 'Research and Analysis in Mobile Technology Environments', held at the London Knowledge Lab. In January, **Priya** presented the paper 'Palestinian Virtual Networks: Mapping Contemporary Linkages' at the workshop *Diasporas and International Politics* at University of Warwick.

In November **Charles Tripp** gave a talk on 'The Arab Uprisings: the re-emergence of the public in Arab politics' to the Gulf Cultural Club, London. Also in November, Professor **Tripp** took part in the second workshop – 'Art and Resistance' – at Goldsmiths College as part of the ongoing joint research project on *Art and Conflict* with the Royal College of Art and Goldsmiths College. Also in November, **Charles Tripp** gave a talk on 'Art and Power in the Arab Uprisings 2011-2013' for the SOAS New Outreach project *SOAS Scholars – Thinking Globally!* organised for Year 12 students from schools across London.

In January, Professor **Tripp** took part in the second three-day workshop organised by the Al-Tajir Trust at Ashridge to coordinate the multi-authored publication *The Gulf Arab States in Modern History*. Also in January, Prof **Tripp** gave a talk on the city as the site of protest, resistance and repression in the Middle East at the University of Lancaster in the Politics, Philosophy and Religion Seminar Series.



Egyptian officials visit Tahrir Square on the 3rd anniversary of the 25 January 2011 uprising (AP Photo – Amr Nabil)

Also in January, **Charles Tripp** was in conversation with Mateo Capasso about his recent book *The Power and the People* as part of the one-day workshop on *Ecologies of Protest* organised by SGIA and the Department of Geography at Durham University.



El Zeft 'Return of the Prodigal Son' [also known as 'Return of the Bastard'] graffiti on Qasr al-Nil street, Cairo 2013

In February **Charles Tripp** introduced and chaired the discussion after the showing of the film *The Do-Gooders* by Chloe Ruthven and Lubna Masarwa, described as 'a guerrilla road movie into the murky world of foreign aid in the Middle East', organised by SOAS Palestine Society.

In January, **Laleh Khalili** presented her first paper on the ports and transport infrastructure project, "Agile Opportunist in the Making of Transport Infrastructures in the Middle East" at two conferences: a three-day *Transnational American Studies* conference at the American University in Beirut and a day-long workshop titled *The Ship of Empty Boxes: Responses to Containerised Global Trade* at Birkbeck.

In January, **Najia Mukhtar** participated in a panel "Contemporary Cultures of Opposition in South Asia". The panel forms part of a series of panels on the topic 'Cultures of Opposition in Asia, Africa and the Middle East' organised by SOAS's Centre for Cultural, Literary and Postcolonial Studies (CCLPS). **Najia's** paper covered aspects of her research on the Sufi and fusion music project, Coke Studio, and was called 'Approaching Difference Differently: Contemporary Formats of Sufi Poetry in Pakistan'.

Sanaa Alimia organised a graduate conference at the Department of Political Science, University of Peshawar in December 2013. The conference, *Critical Migration Studies*, focused on the analysis of oral history interviews and poetry in order to understand the political significance of migration in the Afghanistan and Pakistani region.

Sanaa Alimia was a speaker at the [MUSA "Big Star Rising Star" Speak Series](#) in February 2014. During the

conference, which focused on 'Muslims in South Asian Cities: Trajectories of Marginalisation', Sanaa discussed her work on the marginalisation of Afghans and Pakistani Pakhtuns in Karachi.

In November, doctoral student **Eddie Walsh** attended the [Partnership of Peace Consortium's Emerging Security Challenges Working Group Meeting at the Swedish National Defence College](#) as a core member of the working group. In January, **Walsh** delivered a paper titled 'An Institutional Approach to the Social Construction of Security Threats' at the Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main. The paper was delivered before the weekly colloquium of the Department of Political Science.

In February, Dr **Dafydd Fell** gave a talk on "Taiwan's Party System in Transition: More or Less Space for Identity Politics?" at the book launch for *Taiwanese Identity in the 21st Century*. Also in February, **Fell** spoke at University Ca' Foscari (Venice, Italy) on 'Taiwan's Political History in Ten Advertisements'.



In December 2013-January 2014 **Dafydd Fell** made a fieldwork trip to Taiwan. He was a Visiting Researcher at the Faculty of Social Sciences, National Sun Yat Sen University, Kaohsiung. During his stay he gave two talks on 'Publishing in Taiwan Studies: Opportunities and Challenges' presented at the Institute of Taiwan History, Academia Sinica, and 'The electoral fortunes of small parties in Taiwan, presentation given at Faculty of Social Science' at National Sun Yat Sen University. In addition he continued his research on Taiwan's Green Party with interviews of party leaders and hosting two party member focus groups in Kaohsiung and Taipei.

Doctoral student **Bala Liman** participated in a Delphi small roundtable discussion session on Boko Haram and Ansaru at RUSI on November 7, 2013. He presented a paper 'An Understanding of Islamic Radicalism in Northern Nigeria' at Chatham House on December 19, 2013. He was also part of Think Africa's roundtable discussion group; [Who are Boko Haram?](#)

Remaining Politics Department Seminars for Terms 2 and 3

19 March, Prof Page Fortna (Columbia University),
'Choosing Terror'

20 March (5-7pm, Room 4429), Dr Anna Stavrianakis
(University of Sussex), 'W(h)ither Militarism?'

30 April, Dr Manjari Chatterjee Miller (Boston University),
'Wronged by Empire: Post-Imperial Ideology and Foreign
Policy in India and China'



Outreach

Matt Nelson participated in a meeting of the FCO's South Asia Advisory Group in February.

Lauge Poulsen was invited to South Africa in February to speak at a policy advisory seminar about the South African government's investment treaty obligations. Also in February, **Lauge Poulsen** appeared before the House of Lords to give a testimony on investment protection provisions in the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership. His testimony was based, in part, on the report he co-authored for the British government in 2013 on the same topic.

Meera Sabaratnam has been working on questions of higher education policy and university governance. She has been invited to speak on panels at the Women's Assembly Against Austerity and the Kent Critical Legal Studies Conference.

In December, doctoral student **L. Muthoni Wanyeki** attended the European Union (EU) annual Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) forum in Brussels. This year's forum, intended to enable policy dialogue between the EU and civil society, focused on accountability. She presented on Kenya and the ICC during a forum session. She also served as the overall rapporteur for one of the two streams of the forum, focused on international and transitional justice. In January, **Wanyeki** attended the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's (FCO) roundtable on human rights. The roundtable covered debates around international justice in Africa, using several ICC situation countries as examples. She presented on Kenya and the ICC. Faculty members from the **Department of Politics and International Studies** were also present, with **Phil Clark** also presenting on the ICC's cases in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Uganda. In February, **Wanyeki** attended a FCO briefing on pan-Africanism for the Africa Director and some of his team. Together with Stephen Chan and Nic Cheeseman

of the Centre for African Studies at Oxford University, she contributed to critique of an internal FCO paper on pan-Africanism and its implications for the FCO.

Throughout March, **Phil Clark** is appearing as an expert witness for the Crown Prosecution Service in an extradition case concerning five Rwandan genocide suspects. Part of the proceedings in the Westminster Magistrates Court relates to **Phil's** expert report on 'Fair Trial Standards in Genocide Trials in Rwanda'.

In December, the [Emerging Science and Technology Policy Centre](#), founded by doctoral student **Eddie Walsh**, was registered as a nonprofit organization. It has since launched national chapters in DC, Zürich, Lyon, and Tokyo. In January, **Walsh** was one of 32 young leaders from CSIS, Asia Society, and USIP invited to attend the "Young Public Intellectuals Kakehashi Project Visit 2014." The program was managed by the Japan Foundation with support from the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. His required post-trip reports can be found on the [FAS Blog](#).

In January, **Leslie Vinjamuri** spoke on the Africa Human Rights Roundtable, a meeting of the Africa Research Group of the Foreign and Commonwealth. **Vinjamuri** also moderated a meeting of the Council on Foreign Relations, London group, for a discussion with Professor Peter Trubowitz (LSE) of partisan politics and its impact on U.S. foreign policy.



Media and Blogs

In December, **Laleh Khalili** and **Charles Tripp** took part in the BBC Radio 4 programmes on '[The Making of the Modern Arab World](#)' that went out weekly for four weeks in December. The programme explored the history of the Arab world in the twentieth century, the better to understand the roots of the Arab uprisings that began in 2011.

Sanaa Alimia published [an article](#) on Open Democracy in January on Afghan refugees in Pakistan challenging dominant constructions of "suffering" and "victimhood".

Shirin Shafaie [was interviewed by](#) the Azerbaijani news agency regarding the historic (interim) nuclear deal between Iran and P5+1 and prospects for the future success of a permanent nuclear agreement with Iran.

In November, doctoral student **Seyed Ali Alavi** was interviewed by [Russia Today](#) on Franco-Saudi connection and its impact on France policies towards Iran's nuclear talks.

Dr **Leslie Vinjamuri** spoke on Canadian TV News about the United Nations Commission of Inquiry Report on North Korea, released in February 2014.

Steve Hopgood stirred up controversy with his opinion piece in the *Washington Post* on "[The End of Human](#)

[Rights](#).” He also appeared on BBC Radio 4, debating Bianca Jagger on the same subject.

Rahul Rao appeared on [BBC Radio 4’s Sunday Programme](#) (13:31) to debate issues surrounding Uganda’s Anti-Homosexuality Act, with US evangelical anti-gay activist Scott Lively.

Leslie Vinjamuri contributed an opinion piece to the *New York Times*, titled ‘Lessons from Africa’s Efforts at Transitional Justice’ as part of a debate on how states deal with past atrocities.

Professor **Stephen Chan** was interviewed a dozen times on international television news channels and BBC radio networks on various African issues, including the death of Mandela and the 90th birthday of Mugabe. The channels included BBC World Television, Al Jazeera America, Al Jazeera UK, Al Jazeera Doha, Sky, Press TV, Arise (Nigeria), and the Reuters web channel. Radio networks included BBC Radio 4 and BBC World Service. He also consulted for the FCO and several other organisations.

Laleh Khalili was interviewed by Denmark’s *Information.dk* [on sectarianism in the Middle East](#). She also appeared on the BBC World Service’s Weekend programme in February. She was [also interviewed on the Letters and Politics programme](#) of the Pacifica Radio Network of the US on her book *Time in the Shadows*. Lebanese magazine, *Thawra Da’imiyya*, translated her talk on ‘[Women in the Arab Uprisings](#)’ into Arabic.

Visiting research student **Leila Stockmarr** has published “[Seeing Is Striking: Selling Israeli Warfare](#)” on *Jadaliyya*.

Arshin Adib-Moghaddam was commissioned to write [an opinion](#) piece on the nuclear deal between the west and Iran by *Outlook Magazine* in India. Adib-Moghaddam also gave several feature length interviews: On his second book (*Iran in World Politics: The Question of the Islamic Republic*) [with the Fair Observer](#) in London; with Duke University’s *Islamic Commentary* [on the occasion of the republication](#) of *A metahistory of the Clash of Civilisations: Us and them beyond Orientalism* by Oxford University Press; [on the Iranian nuclear deal](#) with the west with *Mebr News Agency* in Tehran; [on Iran’s relations with Russia](#) and the new world order on the front-page of *Tebran Times*; [on Syria](#) with *Mebr News Agency*; and [on the prospects of renewed Iranian-American relations](#) with *Iran Review* in Tehran.

Adib-Moghaddam’s interview on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of Samuel P. Huntington’s clash of civilisations article was re-published in an edited book, [available for download](#).

Kristin Surak was interviewed on *PrimeTime* (FM 103.3) in Seoul on South Korea-Japan relations.

On November 26, *Le Monde* carried [a feature-length interview](#) with doctoral student **L. Muthoni Wanyeki** exploring the background to and politics surrounding the Kenyan cases before the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the African Union (AU)’s resistance to them before the United Nations (UN) Security Council and the ICC’s Assembly of State Parties (ASP).

In November, **Phil Clark** was interviewed by [Press TV](#) on whether African courts have the capacity to replace the International Criminal Court, appeared on [Monocle 24’s “The Globalist”](#) (48:10) programme to do the morning newspaper round-up.

In November, **Phil Clark** published an [article](#) on researching in repressive and post-conflict societies was on the front page of the Times Higher Education which sparked a [series](#) of [counter-articles](#) and [letters](#) to the editor.

In December, **Phil Clark** published [an op-ed in The European foreign policy magazine](#) on the new momentum for African domestic prosecutions of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity.

In December, [Deutsche Welle](#), [BBC Focus on Africa](#) and the [International Business Times](#) interviewed **Phil Clark** on the UN’s use of peacekeeping drones in eastern Congo. Also in December, **Phil** was interviewed by [La Presse](#) in Canada about reconciliation in Burundi and Rwanda.

In January, **Phil Clark** appeared on [Monocle 24’s “The Globalist”](#) (45:08) programme to do the morning newspaper round-up and was interviewed by the [Institute for War and Peace Reporting](#) on the budget increase for the International Criminal Court’s investigations in Africa. He was also [interviewed by AFP](#) on the African Union summit and the AU’s role in resolving conflicts in Central African Republic and South Sudan.

In February, **Phil Clark** took part in a panel debate on “[Rwanda: Beacon of hope or dictatorship?](#)” on Press TV’s Africa Today programme, was interviewed by [the Standard newspaper in Kenya](#) about the ICC’s collapsing case against President Uhuru Kenyatta, and [by Al Jazeera](#) about the ICC trial of Congolese rebel leader Germain Katanga. He also did the morning newspaper round-up on [Monocle 24’s “The Globalist” programme](#) (45:10; covering Ukraine, Uganda and Zimbabwe). Also in February, **Phil Clark** was interviewed by [Radio France International](#) about the Paris trial of Rwandan genocide suspect, Pascal Simbikangwa, and by [Voice of America](#) about the possibility of Russia handing over Viktor Yanukovych to the International Criminal Court.

Rahul Rao published [a blog post](#) on current controversies in US-India diplomatic relations

In January, **L. Muthoni Wanyeki** published an article with PinPoint Politics, a collaborative venture of British-based graduate students. The [article](#) dealt with the AU’s stance on the Kenyan cases before the ICC and can be found here

In December doctoral students **Eddie Walsh** and **Jeremy Taylor** published “[Time to reconsider the Japanese peacekeeping mission in South Sudan](#)” on *African Arguments*. **Taylor** and **Walsh** also published an article with the National Bureau of Asian Research on [Japan’s ability to advance its military normalisation agenda through African peacekeeping](#).

Doctoral student **Bala Liman** wrote an online article for ThinkAfricaPress.com titled [Boko Haram: Government Silence Does Little to Inspire Confidence](#).



Events

The **Muslim South Asia Research Forum (MUSA)** held two successful events in its *Big Star Rising Star* Speaker series, which aims to bring established academics in conversation with early career scholars on a research theme of mutual interest. The first talk in January hosted Dr Faisal Devji (Oxford University) with Adeel Hussain (University of Cambridge) discussing trajectories of exclusion and militancy in South Asian Muslim movements. The second event in February showcased the work of Dr **Sanaa Alimia** (SOAS) with Professor Christophe Jaffrelot (Sciences Po, KCL) on marginalised urban communities in contemporary South Asia.



From left - Professor Christophe Jaffrelot, Dr James Caron (Chair), Dr Sanaa Alimia, SOAS KLT 20 Feb 2014

[MUSA](#) is a multidisciplinary research-network organised by Politics PhD students **Najia Mukhtar, Johann Chacko, Sameen Mohsin Ali** and **Maria Rashid Zaidi** and History PhD Student Francesca Fuoli.



Notices

The **Department of Politics and International Studies** is delighted to announce its annual MPhil conference scheduled to take place on 5 June 2014. The conference is an opportunity for current MPhil students to present their research and for the audience to discuss issues and trends with established SOAS scholars. The

conference is open to all. Details of the programme and how to register will be announced closer to the time.

SOAS will host a one-day workshop and public roundtable on 'The Global Colonial 1914-18' on September 18th 2014, examining the events of the period with respect to the Global South. Speakers confirmed for the public evening roundtable (6pm-8pm, Khalili Lecture Theatre) include Dr Hakim Adi, Professor **Charles Tripp** and Parmjit Singh from the UK Punjabi Heritage Association. In addition, we are pleased to note that the Brunei Gallery at SOAS will be hosting an exhibition on 'Empire, Faith and Kinship: The Sikhs in the Great War', curated by the UK Punjabi Heritage Association. The evening will include a visit to this exhibition.

Details are available [here](#) or via **Meera Sabaratnam** (ms140@soas.ac.uk).



Source: <http://www.1914.org/news/empire-faith-war-major-project-on-sikhs-and-first-world-war-gets-go-ahead/>

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!

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.
- Political Theory: political Islam, non-western political thought, multiculturalism.

The current officers of the department are:

Head of Department

Prof Salwa Ismail

Undergraduate Admissions Tutor

Dr Meera Sabaratnam

Undergraduate Tutors

Dr Arshin Adib-Moghaddam

Dr Carlo Bonura (Student Welfare Tutor)

Dr Banu Bargu (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 Tom Young (African Politics - Term 2)

Dr Enze Han (Asian Politics)

Dr Mark Laffey (International Politics)

Prof Charles Tripp (Middle East Politics - Term 1)

Prof Laleh Khalili (Middle East Politics - Terms 2-3)

Dr Yuka Kobayashi (Politics of China)

Dr Tat Yan Kong (State, Society and Development)

Dr Leslie Vinjamuri and Dr Stephen Hopgood (Conflict, Rights and Justice)

Dr Rahul Rao (Comparative Political Thought)

Dr Matthew Nelson (MRes in Politics with a Language)

Research Tutor

Dr 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