

Doctoral Programme Newsletter



August 2019

Dear GIGA Doctoral Students,

I hope you have enjoyed the summer so far. Many of you have been or are still busy with attending summer schools, doing field research, and, of course, also visiting family back home.

We are currently planning the winter term programme and the welcoming of the new doctoral students in October. If you still have any wishes for particular courses, please get in touch.

Some of you are also in the final steps of organizing the student-led conference on career planning – we hope that many of you can attend and benefit from this event. Many thanks to the orga-committee for their efforts.

In this newsletter, Viviana is reporting from her fieldwork in Colombia and Swantje is introducing her research.

Best wishes,
Maren

P.S. Are you going on a conference trip or research stay?

Did you come across an interesting job announcement or summer school? This newsletter lives on your Input just send an email to paula.denker@giga-hamburg.de.



Index

August 2019.....	1
Index.....	1
News.....	2
Spotlight on ... Viviana García Pinzón on fieldwork.....	3
Spotlight on ... Swantje Schirmer.....	4
Jobs and Career Opportunities.....	5
Save the date.....	5

News

Welcome back from summer break! Many doctoral students used the past two months to attend Summer School or visited some interesting conferences.

[Lisa Hoffmann](#) participated at the [Annual International Conference of the Research Group on Development Economics](#) in Berlin from the 13th – 14th of June where she presented a poster.

[Christoph Huber](#) presented together with Matthias Basedau their paper “Peaceful or Violent? Analyzing “Religious Minorities at Risk”” at the [19th Jan Tinbergen European Peace Science Conference](#) in Den Haag from 24th – 26th of June.

[Daniel Geissel](#) attended at Summer School of the [Paris School of Economics \(PSE\)](#) where he visited classes on Development Economics.

At the [European Conference of Politics and Gender \(ECPG\)](#) in Amsterdam from 4th – 6th of July, [So Young Chang](#) was on a panel on intersectionality and presented a chapter of her thesis.

In July, [Anna Fünfgeld](#) participated at two conferences. On the one hand, the Conference [Constructing the 21st Century Silk Road: Southeast Asia in the Race for Connectivity and Geopolitical Interests](#) at the University of Freiburg. And on the other, the [11th International Convention of Asia Scholars](#) in Leiden/Netherlands where she got the opportunity to present two of her recent papers.

[Jayane Maia](#) visited the [Sociedad Argentina de Análisis Político \(SAAP\)](#) from the 13th-24th of July.

From the 8th – 19th of July, the [Summer School in Utrecht](#) took place. [Jorge Rincón](#) got a closer insight into the different drivers, consequences and participant agents in large-scale land acquisitions in developing countries.

[Swantje Schirmer](#) attended at the [Summer School on human rights](#) in Strasbourg. Besides that, she took part in a workshop to improve her scientific writing at the University of Göttingen.

[Hana Attia](#) and [Jan Klenke](#) participated in the [ECPR summer school](#) in Budapest. The Summer School focused on Methods and Techniques for qualitative and quantitative research. Jan attended a course in Qualitative Data Analysis and, in addition, refreshed his skills in a course on Maths for Social Scientists.

[Tevin Tafese](#) attended the [GSE Summer School](#) in Barcelona.

[Cordula Tibi Weber](#) was at the [IPSA Interim Meeting of Research Committee 09 – Comparative Judicial Studies](#) in Prato/Italy from the 25th – 26th of July. She delivered a presentation titled “Latin American Courts Going Public: Institutional Innovations for Social Participation in the Judicial Decision-Making Process.”

[Vivian García Pinzón](#) is currently on fieldwork in El Salvador and Columbia. Amid this, she participated at the [X Conference of Latin American Association of Political Science \(ALACIP\)](#) in Monterrey, Mexico from 31st of July – 3rd of August where she presented a paper titled “Violence, extralegal actors, and local governance in secondary cities of Colombia: the case of Pereira.”

At the same conference, [Pedro Costa](#) presented a working paper before he went to Mexico City to start with his fieldwork.

Last but not least – [Jan Bellgardt](#) submitted his Dissertation titled “Institutions, Development and Living the Good Life in Ecuador: A Political-Economy Analysis of Policy Making Under the Buen Vivir Development Paradigm” to the University of Hamburg. Congratulations!

Spotlight on ... Viviana García Pinzón on fieldwork

Hello everyone,

Greetings from beautiful Colombia's coffee region. I am currently amid the second phase of fieldwork and data collection in both El Salvador and Colombia. As some of you know, my research focuses on the variation of violence among secondary cities in both countries and the role of violence in the (re)production of urban order. I have had a hectic work agenda with visits to the four cities that make up my case studies, archival research, and the participation at the X Conference of the Latin American Association of Political Science ALACIP in Monterrey (Mexico).

To be back in the field has been an exciting experience. Since my analysis is mainly qualitative, I mostly rely on interviews with a variety of actors that range from politicians and public servants to grassroots leaders and members of the communities. In the first phase of field research, conducted in 2017 and 2018, most of my interviewees were local authorities, civil servants, police officials, experts, and some grassroots leaders. Due to time constraints and difficulties to reach, I only managed to talk with a few members of the communities most affected by violence. Thus, this visit was the opportunity to resume my efforts to engage with these hard-to-reach populations. To my surprise, this time has been easier to contact them, in part, because some of the gatekeepers have been more willing to facilitate my access to the potential research participants. My feeling is that, as I already was in the cities and demonstrate that the collected information was only for research purposes, they deem me a reliable person. Trust

is critical in the research process and, in some settings, it takes some time to gain it.

Among the many interesting aspects, two have particularly struck me. First, the way how people navigate in a context characterized by the presence of multiple political (and often competing) authorities. Populations develop individual and collective strategies to cope not only with violence but also with exclusion and state neglect. Related to this is the second aspect, which is how communities struggle to provide alternatives to avoid young people joining illegal groups. Some of the citizens have a better diagnose and understanding of violence's causes and required policies than security policymakers. Many of the persons I talk with are aware that the key lies in integration rather than iron fist measures. Unfortunately, they do not have the resources to implement large-scale programs. Against this backdrop, sports and culture have become crucial tools for communities to avoid violence and promote a better live-together. In this regard, I visited a football school in Sonsonate (El Salvador) and was impressed with the work they do, which serves more than a hundred children in one of the most vulnerable neighborhoods (see the photo).



Spotlight on ... Swantje Schirmer

Dear all,

many of you already know me as I have been working at GIGA since September 2018 by now. In April 2019, I then officially enrolled in Göttingen as a doctoral student. I started working at GIGA as a research fellow in Prof. Dr. Tobias Lenz new project on “The Sources and Consequences of Legitimation in Regional Organisations”, a large-scale research project that empirically examines the legitimation strategies of 30 regional organisation all over the world. In this research project, we code written output of these organisations as well as different institutional characteristics. We are a team of two doctoral students and a postdoc researcher. In autumn, a fourth team member, a postdoc researcher, will join our team. As we are working on regional organisations all around the world, our area focus is quite diverse. I, for myself, while having worked on Latin America and taking a keen interest in this region, am affiliated to IMES. Before coming to the GIGA, I studied political science with a focus on international relations and comparative area studies in Freiburg, Germany and Aix-en-Provence, France. During this period, I focused on human rights, civil society movements and democratization in the Middle East and more specifically in Lebanon and Tunisia.

For my own PhD project, I intend to further pursue my personal research interest in human rights by combining it with the topic of the research project I am affiliated to. I thus intent to examine the link between human rights and



legitimation in regional organisation. Relevance of regional organisations mostly stems from their institutions as some of them dispose of regional human rights courts capable of adjudicating on hu-

man rights, while others have monitoring bodies allowing to shed light on human rights violations within the member countries. Therefore, I will partake in a summer school in Strasbourg in July 2020 that explicitly focuses on human rights institutions in regional organisations. There, I hope to better understand the differences in the institutional designs of human rights institutions in the different organisations.

Aside from my research and therefore my presence in different colloquia and meetings, you might also know me as the student representative at GIGA, a role I took on in December 2018. Ever since, I have supported a team at GIGA drafting a new working agreement, represented the DP students in different fora and first and foremost, organised this year's DP retreat in Blücher in April 2019.

I look forward to meeting all those, I have not had the chance to exchange with up until now. Feel free to stop by and exchange my office (R – 661).

Jobs and Career Opportunities

[Lecture in International Political Economy](#)

University of London, School of Arts & Social Sciences – Department of International Politics

Deadline: 26 August 2019

[Lecturer in Public Policy](#)

Teesside University, School of Social Sciences, Humanities & Law

Deadline: 29 August 2019

[Lecturer in Politics](#)

Swansea University Prifysgol Abertawe

Deadline: 2 September 2019

[Postdoc Position](#)

Project "Ökonomie des Klimawandels" at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research

Deadline: 31 August 2019

[Postdoctoral Research Associate](#)

Princeton University

Deadline: 15 November 2019

[Research Associate/Senior Research Associate](#)

The Alan Turing Institute, London

Deadline: 25 August 2019

[Head of Research Group](#)

Freie Universität Berlin

Deadline: 29 August 2019

[Associate Professorship of Development Studies](#)

University of Oxford, Oxford Department of International Development in association with St Anne's College

Deadline: 13 September 2019

[Post-doctoral Researcher](#)

Erasmus University Rotterdam, International Institute of Social Studies

Deadline: 9 September 2019

[Research Fellowship](#)

Zukunftskolleg at Universität Konstanz

Deadline: 15 October 2019

Save the date

28 August 2019	Colloquium: Jorge A. Rincón Barajas and Pedro Costa: "Enhancement policies and dynamics of land allocation programs for rural welfare in Colombia" and "Political coalitions and social policy design: the overlooked role of the Brazilian Congress in shaping the Bolsa Família Program"
2 – 4 September 2019	DP conference: Career Development of the doctoral Students
4 September 2019	Alumni Day
25 September 2019	Colloquium: Jayane Maia and Hager Ali