
Doctoral Programme Newsletter



June 2020

Dear all,

Our summer term programme is slowly coming to an end. We are glad that we could rearrange to offer most of the scheduled seminars online (many thanks to the trainers and lecturers for their flexibility!) and hope that you have enjoyed the courses you have attended so far.

It is a busy time just before the summer break. The doctoral student met for their general assembly (see a report from the student representatives below) and the reform of the DP is on its way (more on this in the next newsletter). I am also very happy to assume the position as academic director again and look very much forward to working with all of you in this role.

At the same time, we still work from home, sticking to our new routines (see a report on this from So Young below).

Please note that, as usual, the next newsletter will only be published in August due to the summer break.

Enjoy the summer!

Best wishes,
Maren



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News

[Anna Fünfgeld](#) is teaching two courses at the University of Freiburg on “Introduction to International Politics”. She also published a GIGA Focus Asia issue with the title “[Coal vs Climate – Indonesia’s Energy Policy Contradicts Its Climate Goals](#)” and participated as a speaker in a roundtable discussion on climate change, mining, and social wellbeing which was organized by an Indonesian environmental organization in May.

[Jan Bellgardt](#) successfully defended his dissertation with the title „The Development Concept of „Buen Vivir” and its Institutions- An Analysis of the Political Economy of Ecuador’s Transformation Policy” at the University of Hamburg on 24th of February. Congratulations!

[Lisa Hoffmann](#) organized the Virtual Conference “[Sustainable Rural Transformation in Africa](#)” which took place on the 26th and 27th May. In this context she was also participating as a speaker in the panel “Large-scale land acquisitions and livelihoods”.

[Michael Strautmann](#) successfully defended his dissertation with the title „Harmonization is Dead, Long Live Complementarity: An Explorative Study of Interorganizational Coordination for Aid Effectiveness in Development Cooperation in Indonesia and Madagascar” at the University of Hamburg on 29th May 2020. Congratulations!

[Martin Ostermeier](#) has submitted his dissertation to the University of Göttingen. Congratulations!

Spotlight on ... General Assembly

On June 3, the doctoral students held an extraordinary general assembly. For the first time, it took place virtually. At least from the perspective of the student representatives, it was a successful format. Having an extraordinary general assembly was necessary, because the corona situation prevented us from having our annual retreat to discuss relevant issues.

Of course, the working from home situation was one of the major discussion points, including funding situations and news. Overall, the foundations seem to have settled on case to case decisions here. Although this makes sense, the doctoral students find this quite problematic as the rules currently foresee prolongation of scholarships only if working steps, which were impossible due to corona, could not be replaced by something else in the meantime. This neglects that these

challenging times are slowing down everyone’s projects nevertheless. We welcomed GIGA’s offer to support us individually vis-à-vis the scholarship providers wherever possible.

The other major points to be discussed were the pending reform of the DP and the update of the doctoral students’ statute. Regarding the former, we had a very constructive discussion about the ideas which are currently deliberated. The general outline was appreciated by the doctoral students, we collected remarks and caveats, which we have communicated to the GIGA leadership. Regarding the statute, this document has so far been relatively vague in many aspects and needs more specification. For example, it does not provide concrete rules or guidelines for the mode of electing the student representatives. We have discussed a new version of the statute at the general

assembly, will further talk about it with other relevant GIGA bodies, and plan to adopt the new version at the next regular general assembly at the end of this year.

At this occasion, we also want to welcome Maren Wagner in the position as academic director, look forward to work with her in the

newly resumed position and wish her the best of success for her work.

All the best,

Your Student Representatives (Jan, Swantje and Pedro)

Spotlight on ... So Young Chang in her home office

In Praise for Plants – As a clumsy and clueless new arrival in Berlin, furnishing an empty apartment by myself was a challenge. Eventually, weeks of vigilant eBay sightings allowed me to gather the fundamental pieces, but ultimately, what made my eclectic collection of bric-a-brac feel like home was a rubber tree in my living room. Like the echo of a gong after a long and confused melody, it brought harmony to the space. Fast forward two and a half years, as we find ourselves working from home, I am accompanied by two additional plants. The trio of house plants have been named after my favourite female leaders: Michelle, Jacinda, and Angela. They remind me that growth is wondrous, even if

imperceptible at minute scale. Also, they inspire to plant myself in my seat as I try to make progress on my dissertation. Together, we do home office.



Jobs and Career Opportunities

[Lecturer in Politics, Philosophy and Economics](#)

The Australian National University - School of Politics and International Relations
 Deadline: 30 June 2020

[Assistant Professor of International Relations](#)

Radbaud Universiteit - Nijmegen School of Management
 Deadline: 30 June 2020

[Research Fellow – Health Governance](#)

The Hertie School Berlin
 Deadline: 21 June 2020

[Postdoctoral Research Fellow](#)

University of London – Department of Politics & International & Philosophy
 Deadline: 2 July 2020

[Assistant Professor/Professor of Economics](#)

The Hertie School Berlin
 Deadline: 30 September 2020

[Assistant Professor/Professor of Macroeconomics](#)

The Hertie School Berlin
 Deadline: 30 September 2020

[Postdoctoral Researcher - Oxford Martin Programme on Technological and Economic Change](#)

University of Oxford – Oxford Martin School

Deadline: 8 July 2020

[One-Year Postdoc Position: An Intellectual History of Global Inequality, 1960-2015: Argentina](#)

University of Aarhus – School of Culture and Society

Deadline: 26 July 2020

Save the date

19 & 26 June 2020	Soft Skills Seminar: Advanced Academic Writing (Alexander Egeling)
22 - 23 June 2020	Summer Term Seminar: Qualitative Interviews (Alenka Jelen-Sanchez)
24 June 2020	Colloquium: Niklas Krösche
29 - 30 June 2020	Summer Term Seminar: Regression Analysis (Michael Dorsch)
1 July 2020	Colloquium: Jan Klenke
12 August 2020	DP Jour Fixe