

Swiss Network
for International
Studies

Réseau suisse
pour les études
internationales

Schweizerische
Forschungsgemeinschaft
für Internationale Studien

SNIS

Annual Report

2017



SNIS Annual Report 2017

Table of Contents

6	Message from the Director	56 - 61	Facts and Figures
8 - 25	Research Projects Overview of submitted pre-proposals Abstract of Funded Projects 2017	63 - 67	SNIS Structure
26	Launch Workshop of SNIS Projects 2017		
29 - 35	Events International Geneva Debate: Young Migrants in Switzerland - Current Situation and Reflections for the Future, May 2017, University of Neuchâtel International Geneva Debate: Respect, Protect, Fulfil - Human Rights and Migration, October 2017, University of St Gallen		
37	Podcast: Marie McAuliffe		
38 -50	Research Outputs World Heritage and Human Rights Migrant Workers and the Dynamics of Illegalization, Racialization and Labour Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in Public Health Care Facilities - Taking into Account Gender Specific Needs Taxation and International Development: North - South Conflicts over Capital Flight and International Taxation Issues after World War II (1945 - 1970) Civilian Victimization and Conflict Escalation Trust Funds as a Lever of Influence at International Development Organizations Protecting Labour Rights in Preferential Trade Agreements: the Role of Trade Unions, Left Governments, and Skilled Labour		
51	Awards		
52	Snis Award		
53 -55	International Geneva Award		

Message from the Director



Dr Bernhard Fuhrer
Director of the SNIS

Focus on migration and a new online format

The SNIS is pleased to present you with its annual report 2017 focusing on migration. We decided to illustrate this highly relevant topic with an online format that expands on the traditional text form by including videos and podcasts. Consequently, you can watch SNIS project coordinator Dr. Peter Larsen talk about the impact of his film in Vietnam or hear Marie McAuliffe (IOM) talk about her dual role as member of the International Geneva & Scientific Committees. You can use the menu up top to quickly navigate the long page.

The continued success of our call and new forms of scientific communication

We are very happy to report that our main activity – the SNIS call for projects – continues to be highly attractive. In 2017 we received no less than 77 pre-proposals while we could only fund eight projects. Researchers seem to increasingly seek out what has become our trademark innovative funding scheme. This is true for the issue area – international studies broadly defined – but also for the form – pluri-disciplinary applied research that bridges the gap between academia and International Geneva. In order to promote the quick dissemination of research results the secretariat also encourages our network members to try novel approaches to scientific communication. In this vein, we asked the winners of the Call to present their projects at our launch workshop with a short film and a PeschaKuscha-style presentation (Japanese presentation format only allowing 20 slides that are shown for 20 seconds each). Needless to say, our academics first felt thrown off track, but quickly found these new communication forms to free up a lot of time and allow for more interactive discussions. You can find a more detailed account in the section call for project.

Outreach and publications

In terms of outreach we organised migration-focused events in Neuchâtel, St. Gallen and Lucerne where speakers from international organizations connected with students. These events complemented the various publications that resulted from the SNIS funded projects.

Financial matters

Finally, despite small but continuing cuts in funding, the SNIS has managed to maintain the envelope for scientific activities by saving money in administration.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and wish you an enjoyable multi-format experience with our online annual report 2017.

Research Projects

Migration in the Lens of the Sustainable Development Goals

Thematic focus 2017



Syrian refugees crossing the Serbian-Croatian border (IOM/ Photo: Francesco Malavolta)

Call for Projects 2017

In 2017 the SNIS launched its tenth call for projects. Pre-proposals can be in the general field of international studies or focus on a special theme defined by the International Geneva Committee. This committee is composed of representatives of international organisations headquartered in Geneva. This year the committee proposed the cross-sectorial theme 'Migration in the lens of the sustainable development goals (SDGs)', including the following sub-themes:



Demography and Migration



Environmental Change and Migration Nexus



Gender and Migration



Innovation and Migration



Migration Governance and Human Rights



Transnational Connectivity and Migration



Technology and Migrant Integration



Urban landscape in Bogotá, Colombia

Environmental Change and Migration: The Role of Urbanization in Conflict Processes

Research Questions : How does rural-to-urban migration generated by climate change affect urbanization? What are the economic and political settings that contribute to or impede the emergence of political violence and conflicts?

Environmental degradation and climate change are important push factors contributing both to internal and cross-border migration. As a result, migrants may lead to increased levels of competition over scarce resources in the receiving areas, potentially spurring violent conflict. This project proposes to examine the nexus of environmental change, migration, and conflict in more detail to address the theoretical and methodological gaps identified in the existing literature. The researchers will focus on internal and rural-to-urban migration and argue that environmental migration accelerates the process of urbanization with ambivalent consequences for the receiving areas.

On one hand, urbanization can foster economic development and improve economic efficiency of local governments and the provision of essential public goods and services. On the other hand, growing urbanization caused by large flows of in-migration can also pose substantial economic, social, and political challenges, generating conditions under which political violence and conflict are likely to emerge as locals compete with the newcomers.

They also argue that local political and economic conditions as well as governmental capacity are important in determining whether conflict actually materializes. To test this theory, the research carried out will compile original micro-level data for both environmental migrants to urban areas and residents in these urban locations as well as interviews of local stakeholders, e.g., politicians and city administrators. Five countries from three continents are selected according to their level of vulnerability to environmental change and to high levels of urbanization, thus satisfying the “most likely case” criterion.

In addition, the project will empirically investigate how aggregate migration flows to urban settings induced by adverse environmental conditions affect actual violence in these areas. This research will thus shed light on the highly complex nature of the migration-conflict nexus and provide an important foundation for the decisions to be taken by policymakers at national and international fora who have a responsibility to tackle these challenges.

Lead

Vally Koubi, Professor, Center for International and Comparative Studies (CIS), ETH Zurich

Geographical Scope

Developing Countries

Disciplines

Demography – Development – Economics – Environment – Geography – Political Science

Partners

Academic Institutions

Department of Economics, University of Bern

Department of Political Science, University of Lucerne

Department of Political Science and Sociology, University of Salzburg (Austria)

Government Department, University of Essex (UK)

International Organisation

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

NGOs, States or other Institutions Peach Research Institute, Oslo (Norway)



Engendering Migration, Development and Belonging: The Experiences of Recently Arrived Afghans in Europe

Research Questions : What are the experiences of recently arrived Afghans in Europe and how is the understanding of home, belonging and the 'self' shaped by gender? How does this understanding affect their capacity and willingness to engage with development in Afghanistan?

This project examines how gender shapes understandings of home, belonging and the self among recently arrived Afghan migrants in Europe. It explores the implications of these understandings for the capacity and willingness of Afghan migrants to engage with development in Afghanistan. The project expands on relationships between migration and development as seen in policy such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), considering also the hopes, desires and capacities of migrants.

A multi-disciplinary framework, drawing on theories of gender, self-identity, migration and development is used to analyse qualitative data on four important destinations for recently arrived Afghans: Denmark, Germany, the UK and Switzerland. The project has three objectives. First, the project examines how subjective and socio-cultural understandings of gender in their communities of origin and host countries shape young Afghans' desires. Second, it investigates how policy affects these desires and how receiving societies perceive and incorporate recently arrived Afghan migrants. Third, the project examines the implications of gendered desires for Afghan migrants' identities and their contributions as development actors.

The project will make four contributions to academic and policy discourses on migration and development, and the SDGs specifically. First, its gender focus on the specific backgrounds and reception conditions of recent Afghan migrants re-evaluates the assumptions of theory and practice of migration and development. Second, it specifies how gendered everyday experiences in Europe affect aspirations and capacities to contribute to Afghanistan. Third, it connects development of the 'self' with development of the 'home country'. Finally, it refines the development contributions of migrants to countries with protracted conflict.

Lead

Carolin Fischer, Researcher,
Laboratory of Transnational Studies
and Social Processes, University of
Neuchâtel

Geographical Scope

Afghanistan – Denmark - Germany –
Switzerland – United Kingdom of Great
Britain and Northern Ireland

Disciplines

Anthropology – Development –
Human rights – Law – Political Science
– Sociology

Partners

Academic Institutions

Graduate Institute of International and
Development Studies, Geneva

Centre for Trust, Peace and Social
Relations, Coventry University (UK)

Centre on Migration, Policy and Society,
University of Oxford (UK)

Department of Anthropology, Aarhus
University (Denmark)

Department of Sociology, City University
London (UK)

NGOs, States or other Institutions

Coventry Refugee and Migrant Centre
(CRMC)

Danish Refugee Council Youth (DFUNK)

Refugee Support Network (RSN)

Swiss Refugee Council (OSAR)



View on a green space in Chennai, India

Green Public Spaces and Sustainable Cities in South and Southeast Asia: Integrating Needs and Societal Wellbeing

Research Question : How do green public spaces meet the human needs and contribute to the societal wellbeing in urban settings and according to cultural context and across social groups?

The significance of green public spaces towards sustainability is well documented in relation to both social inclusiveness and environmental promotion. Yet the relation between green public spaces, societal wellbeing, and sustainable city development is less understood. This research assumes that green public spaces can act as synergic satisfiers towards human wellbeing, in that they provide satisfaction for a diversity of needs, but how this plays out in practice may differ according to the cultural context and across social groups. With a focus on four coastal mega-cities of South and Southeast Asia, this proposal seeks to understand human needs in relation to green public spaces as a satisfier towards societal wellbeing in relation to three main questions:

- How do people practice green public spaces in daily life, in relation to material arrangements, dispositions, and social norms?
- Towards what needs and for whom do green public spaces act as satisfiers?
- What are the implications for the management of green public spaces and urban planning, at the local and cross-regional level

Inter- and trans-disciplinary methods will be applied to field research in: Chennai (Republic of India), Metro Manila (Republic of the Philippines), Shanghai (People's Republic of China) and Singapore (Republic of Singapore). The timing is critical: in emerging economies, green public spaces are increasingly being encroached upon by commercial and state interests, posing direct threats to sustainability. By uncovering opportunities for promoting more sustainable urban development and societal flourishing, this research proposal is relevant to cities in the region and beyond.

Lead

Marlyne Sahakian, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Geneva

Disciplines

Environment – Philosophy – Sociology

Geographical Scope

China- India - Philippines - Singapore

Partners

Academic Institutions

Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Basel

Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Ateneo de Manila University (Philippines)

Energy Research Institute, Nanyang Technological University (Singapore)

School of Liberal Arts, Saint Mary's College of California (USA)

School of Sociology and Political Science, Shanghai University (China)



Some of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Effectiveness of Partnerships for Advancing the Sustainable Development Goals

Research Question : What are the effectiveness and the impact of public-private partnerships for advancing the Sustainable Development Goals?

Partnerships between public and non-state actors for the provision of collective goods have become important instruments for addressing core issues on the sustainable development agenda such as health, education, humanitarian issues, or clean energy. The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) emphasize the role of partnerships in the implementation of sustainability. Yet, while the academic literature provides valuable insights on the rise of public-private partnerships (PPPs), we know considerably less about their variable effectiveness and impact. Do PPPs simply repackage existing practices with effect and accountability, or do they contribute new and additional instruments and development outcomes?

This project will draw on political science, economics, management studies and public policy to advance the study of partnerships effectiveness both theoretically and empirically with respect to the SDGs. The main research questions guiding the project are:

How can we conceptualize and operationalize the effectiveness for PPPs? Through what mechanisms are PPPs effects likely to materialize?

What are the sources and limitations of the effectiveness of PPPs for sustainability?

How do PPPs interact with other forms of governance at the international and subnational level to influence results for the SDGs?

The research methodology will proceed to elaborate collaboratively a mixed-methods approach to disentangling different types of effects of PPP activities, as well as limitations of PPP governance. The methods will combine quantitative and qualitative techniques, namely: comparative case studies, new coding indicators, cases and surveys across several SDG issues, economic methods (e.g. randomized control trials) and innovative use of complexity theory.

The project will contribute to scientific and practical progress by providing the first inter-disciplinary, integrated and comparative theoretical approach and data on the effectiveness of partnerships for sustainability.

Lead

Liliana Andonova, Professor of Political Science and International Relations, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva

Geographical Scope
Developing Countries

Disciplines

Business – Development – Economics – Environment – Political Science

Partners

Academic Institutions

Center for Comparative and International Studies (CIS), University of Zurich

Geneva Public Private Partnership-Center, University of Geneva

Institute for Political Sciences, University of Zurich

Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard University

Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford

Grenoble Ecole de Management

International Organisations

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

World Economic Forum



Coffee cherries

Improving Rural Livelihoods Through Promoting High-quality Coffee and Coffee Cherry Products in the Origin Countries Colombia and Bolivia

Research Question : How can livelihoods of smallholder coffee farmers in Colombia and Bolivia be improved through the scaling-up to high-quality coffee products?

Coffee has a significant trade value internationally, while origin countries principally export green beans, and coffee farmers receive only about 0.5-1% of the generated value of the final cup. This trend puts rural livelihoods at risk and endangers the future of coffee production by rural families, who increasingly engage in off-farm activities and migrate to urban areas. To improve the livelihoods perspectives of smallholder coffee farmers, the proposed project will generate and promote knowledge in origin countries on domestic quality markets, increased added value of coffee and coffee cherry products for coffee farmers and their organisations within origin countries and beyond.

The project will put particular emphasis on developing and implementing strategies as well as related policies in origin countries and internationally. Together with project's local partners, the research team will study the market- and livelihoods potential of high-quality coffee and coffee cherry products in two South American origin countries, where quality coffee value chains are emerging (Colombia), and where coffee cherry products (e.g. tea from dried coffee pulp) have been traditionally consumed, while high-quality coffee production and marketing are still in their infancies (Bolivia).

While the project is mainly aimed at livelihood improvements at the local level, the research is expected to improve also the positioning of the two origin countries in taking benefits of opportunities in export niche markets, e.g. for specialty coffee and coffee cherry products. Not only will a larger share of the added value be retained with the farmers in the origin countries, but also will the value of the final product increase and hence benefit various stakeholders.

Lead

Chahan Yeretian, Professor, Institute of Chemistry and Biotechnology (ICBT), University of Applied Sciences of Zurich (ZHAW)

Geographical Scope

Bolivia – Colombia – Switzerland

Disciplines

Agriculture – Chemistry – Development – Economics – Sociology

Partners

Academic Institutions

Centre for Development and Environment, University of Bern

Departamento de Ingeniería Agrícola, Universidad Surcolombiana (Colombia)

International Organisations

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation (FAO)

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

NGOs, States or other Institutions

Slow Food Bolivia

Café Munaipata (Bolivia)

DECINTEC (Colombia)

The Global Coffee Platform

Mild Coffee Company Huila (Colombia)

Murg Coffee (Colombia)



Woman in India

Marginalised Lives: Infertility, Childlessness, and Healthcare Seeking in Resource-poor Settings in Nepal and India

Research Question : What are the challenges of infertility in terms of public health concerns and social marginalisation in resource-poor settings in Nepal and India?

Infertility in the developing South has remained largely invisible as a major reproductive health challenge and a serious public health concern. The overall aim of the project is to contribute to a robust and in-depth understanding of infertility as a major public health concern and how it creates conditions for social marginalisation and impacts well-being and social integration.

The project seeks to explain the neglected incidence of infertility in resource-poor settings of Nepal and India. The project's research sites offer an unprecedented opportunity to make research-led interventions into the silent but swift emergence of preventable infertility burdens in the developing South. The cross-national perspective is essential for supporting data-driven policy formulation and from the perspective of fostering proactive outreach activities. The project is built around a multi-sited ethnographic methodology that maps the infertility terrain and its correlates through identifying and linking a diverse set of stakeholders. In doing so, the project offers to build a comprehensive terrain map profiling infertility prevalence, etiologic causes, social stigma and marginalization, treatment options and healthcare-seeking behaviour, patterns of seeking out informal and traditional interventions.

The analysis will be located within a detailed review of the current state of healthcare governance, national priorities and policies, and public and private partnerships in infertility care for the poor. The interdisciplinary team will draw upon approaches from anthropology, sociology, demography, development studies, policy studies, and biomedical expertise ranging from gynecology to public health. The team has strong partners in NGOs working within the framework of human rights perspective with a strong understanding of ground realities and years of active field experience in local framing and the implementation of reproductive healthcare initiatives.

Lead

Aditya Bharadwaj, Professor of Anthropology and Sociology, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva

Geographical Scope

Development Countries – India - Nepal

Disciplines

Demography – Sociology

Partners

Academic Institutions

Cornell University (USA)

International Organisations

UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Geneva

World Health Organization (WHO), Department of Reproductive Health

International Foundation for Population and Development (IFPD), Geneva

NGOs, States or other Institutions

Women's Rehabilitation Centre (WOREC), Kathmandu (Nepal)

Sama Resource Group for Women and Health, New Delhi (India)



Social and Solidarity Economy, Urban Communities and the Protection of Vulnerable Groups

Research Question : How can the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) effectively contribute to the integration of those left-behind by the declining social aid and create solidarity for these vulnerable groups?

Since 2008, the European Union has become synonymous with crises: the economic crisis, the Eurozone crisis, and finally the refugee crisis. As a result of the financial crises and ensuing cuts in social spending, European societies further witnessed the weakening of solidarity policies for the social protection of the unemployed native-born, the migrants, and the newly arrived refugees. At the same time a rise in xenophobia and populist politics that blamed migrants and refugees for the economic upheavals and the struggle of the local communities could be observed.

Against this background, this research project aims to examine how the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) can effectively contribute to building solidarity, protecting and integrating refugees, migrants, and the unemployed native-born within local communities and into labour markets, and what enabling policy environments are required. The potentials, challenges and tensions involved in this regard within a context of austerity and welfare retrenchment, growing xenophobia and populist politics will also be assessed.

The research aims at generating evidence and policy suggestions to maximize the potential of SSE actors to integrate refugees, migrants, and the unemployed native-born at local level, and to create spaces and relationships of solidarity in times of controversy. Three localities will be examined as case studies: Geneva (Switzerland), Bergamo (Italy), and Heraklion (Greece). Ultimately, the project's comparative findings will inform scholarly and policy debates, by providing concrete recommendations on the SSE potential for addressing vulnerable groups in highly contentious times.

Lead

Marco Guigni, Professor, Department of Political Science and International Relations, University of Geneva

Geographical Scope

Greece – Italy - Switzerland

Disciplines

Political Science – Sociology

Partners

Academic Institutions

Institute of Citizenship Studies
University of Geneva

Department of Social and Political Science, University of Lausanne

Department of Sociology
University of Trento (Italy)

Department of Sociology
University of Crete (Greece)

International Organisations

United Nations Research Institute



Gig Economy and its Implications for Social Dialogue and Workers' Protection

Research Question : What are the challenges of the gig economy in terms of social dialogue and workers' protection?

New work concepts resulting from the digital transformation are revolutionising the world of work. The 'gig economy' or 'sharing economy' has profound implications for social dialogue and workers' protection. While some see gigging as a way into the workforce for the hard-to-employ, others portend a pessimistic future of workers with little or no income-security protections. The projects seeks to generate a better understanding of how the gig economy is transforming the social dialogue and workers' protection and to provide an integrated picture of its implications for the role of employers, workers, government and society at large. The research will identify concrete policy options for public policy and social dialogue actors to meet the challenges of the gig economy. Thus, it will contribute to the advancement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which recognises the pivotal role of decent work in realising the 17 Social Development Goals. The three main questions guiding the research are:

What are the implications of the gig economy for employment arrangements, social protection, and for social dialogue and labour relations in different sectors and countries?

How can the technological and business-model innovation of the gig economy be managed and enhanced to ensure it delivers a measure of security and social protection to the millions of workers who are beginning to depend on it for their livelihoods?

What should be the role of social dialogue and the social partners in shaping developments in the gig economy and ensuring decent work for 'crowd workers'?

The core of the research will comprise a thorough examination of case studies of 'crowdwork' and 'work-on-demand via app' in the sectors of transport, hospitality and banking. The research will follow a cross-national comparative design studying Switzerland, Germany, Greece and UK.

Lead

Jean-Michel Bonvin, Professor of Social Policies and Vulnerability, Institute of Sociological Research, University of Geneva

Geographical Scope

Germany - Greece - Switzerland - United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Disciplines

Economics - Law -Political Science - Sociology

Partners

Academic Institutions

Institute of Citizenship Studies (InCite), Geneva School of Social Sciences, University of Geneva

Centre for Research in the Social Sciences (SOWiS), Faculty of Arts, University of Siegen (Germany)

Yunus Centre for Social Business and Health, Glasgow Caledonian University (UK)

International Organisations

International Labour Organization

NGOs, States or other Institutions

DIKTIO - Network for Reform in Greece and Europe (Greece)

Launch Workshop of 2017 Projects

Villa Moynier, Geneva , 5 October 2018

The traditional kick-off meeting with the winning research teams has been structured to offer a particularly animated exchange. We challenged coordinators to make their project presentations pecha-kucha style. In this format a total of 20 slides are shown for 20 seconds each, so the entire presentation has to fit within 6 minutes and 40 seconds. In addition the slides should not contain too much text. Participants found this rather stringent format to be unusual for the academic domain, but all found that it freed time for discussion and exchange. Overall, the participants found it enriching, especially since they had also been asked to prepare a short video presentation of their research before the meeting so that the different teams were already acquainted with the theme of the other projects.

Participants

Vally KOUBI Professor, Center for International and Comparative Studies (CIS), ETH Zürich

Marlyne SAHAKIAN Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Geneva

Maria MEXI Researcher, Institute of Citizenship Studies, University of Geneva

Ibrahim SAID Research Analyst, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

Jean-Michel BONVIN Professor, Institute of Sociological Research, University of Geneva

Carolin FISCHER Researcher, Laboratory of Transnational Studies and Social Processes, University of Neuchâtel

Esra KAYTAZ Research Associate, Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations, University of Coventry

Liliana ANDONOVA Professor, Political Science/IR, The Graduate Institute

Moira FAUL Head of Research, Geneva Public Private Partnership Center, University of Geneva

Aditya BHARADWAJ Professor, Anthropology and Sociology, The Graduate Institute

Christine LUTRINGER Senior Research Fellow, The Graduate Institute

Chahan YERETZIAN Professor, School of Life Sciences and Faculty Management, Zurich University of Applied Sciences

Sebastian OPITZ Research Associate, Department of Analytical Technologies, Zurich University of Applied Sciences

Sabine STAUFFACHER Research Associate, Coffee Excellence Center, Zurich University of Applied Sciences

René BRUGGER Project Partner, Café Munaipata Bolivia.



Pictures from the event, that gives you an idea of this new format for the launch workshop



Summary video of Bharadwaj's project "Infertility, Childlessness, and Healthcare Seeking in Resource-Poor Settings in Nepal and India"

Events

Three events were organized throughout the year on the large topic of 'Migration in the Lens of the Sustainable Development Goals'. The talks were hosted at the Universities of Neuchâtel, St. Gallen and Lucerne.

Young Migrants in Switzerland – Current Situation and Reflections for the Future

8 May 2017

University of Neuchâtel
NCCR on the move (National Center for
Competence in Research - The Migration
Mobility Nexus)

In Switzerland a high number of young refugees, many of which are unaccompanied minors, have sought asylum. The integration of these young migrants puts increased pressure on education and other integration structures and is therefore high on the political agenda. The panel offered perspectives ranging from the global to the local level and from both the state and civil society angles. It became clear that in times of increased pressure on public spending, state actors increasingly rely on local initiatives to successfully integrate youngsters and to offer them a life perspective as adults.

Panelists

Denise Efonayi - Mäder, Vice-director of the 'Forum suisse pour l'étude des migrations et de la population (SFM)', University of Neuchâtel

Katrina Lourie, Programme Officer, Intergovernmental Consultations on Migration, Asylum and Refugees (IGC), Geneva

Céline Maye, Delegate for integration and Head of 'Service de la cohésion multiculturelle (COSM)', Canton of Neuchâtel

Rachel Bolle, teacher, mediator, responsible for school tutoring (AMIC), Geneva

Moderation

Prof. Gianni d'Amato, Director, National Center of Competence in Research – The Migration-Mobility Nexus, University of Neuchâtel



Photo from the event

Respect, Protect, Fulfil – Human Rights and Migration

8 May 2017

University of St. Gallen

Migrants tend to live and work in the shadows and are particularly vulnerable to discrimination, exploitation and marginalisation. They are often denied access to fundamental rights and are particularly vulnerable to discrimination and marginalisation. While states have a sovereign right to determine conditions of entry and stay in their territories, they have also the obligation to respect, protect and fulfil the human rights of all individuals. The screening of the documentary 'Time to Look at Girls' offered the starting point for the discussion on the particular aspect of migrant adolescent's girls in Nepal and Ethiopia and life choices. As underlined by Kristina Touzenis (International Organisation for Migration), whether refugees or economic migrants, all of them seek a better life and receiving countries should respect migrants' human rights regardless of their 'classification'. IOM does important advocacy work for migrant rights in the UN family and among member States.

Panelists

Kristina Touzenis, Director of International Migration Law Division International Organization for Migration, Geneva

Laura Chello, Advocacy and Outreach Officer Terre des Hommes International Federation, Geneva

Moderation

Dr Claudia Brühwiler, Lecturer, University of St. Gallen



Photo from the event

Keeping Out – Getting In? Migrants Facing Visible and Invisible Walls

8 November 2017

University of Luzern

There are many barriers to migration: entry restrictions, physical and virtual borders, cultural differences and financial constraints. Marie McAuliffe (Head, Migration Research Division, International Organization for Migration, Geneva) gave an overview of the global context of migration. The international migrant population has increased in size but remained relatively stable as a proportion of the world's population. Greater connectivity and (mis)information are adding up as drivers for migration that are structural and individual. A striking fact is that two-thirds of international migrants are in high-income countries (157 million). 75 % of all potential migrants plan to go to 20 countries. She concluded that the migration governance needs multi-faceted responses that are balanced and proportionate. Chloé F. Smith (Lawyer, Collectif de défense, Geneva) addressed the topic from the legal perspective and practice in Switzerland. Refugee or Migrant? From the legal point of view words matter as the status of refugees is protected by international law (1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol). In practice, many people overstay their permit or have never sought asylum and are by definition without a legal status. Nevertheless, they have rights and obligations. Taking the case of a young migrant, Mrs Smith briefly presented the Swiss asylum system and the litigation tools with respect to migrant rights. In this regard, she pointed to the work done by the law clinic of the University of Geneva, which has edited a special issue on the rights of women without legal status, estimated between 8000 and 12'000 in Geneva and mainly domestic workers (Les droits des femmes sans statut legal à Genève).

Panelists

Marie McAuliffe, Head, Migration Research Division, International Organisation for Migration (IOM), Geneva

Cholé Smith, Lawyer, Collectif de défense, Geneva

Moderation

Dr Peter Bille Larsen, Department of Anthropology, University of Lucerne



Photo from the event

Podcast

One core mission of the SNIS is to bring academics and practitioners together in order to increase the policy relevance of research. In this podcast Marie McAuliffe explains how the International Geneva committee ascertains that SNIS funded projects respond to policy relevant topics and also shares her experience as a member of the scientific committee.



MARIE MCAULIFFE

Head of the Migration Policy
Research Division, IOM

Marie McAuliffe is a member of the SNIS International Geneva Committee and was elected as a one-year member of the SNIS Scientific Committee in 2017.

Interview with Marie McAuliffe

by Berhard Fuhrer



“The real strength is bringing the different parties together when you make funding decisions.”



“It is important to make sure that the research builds on the existing knowledge base and is applicable to policy and practice environments.”

Research Outputs

Word Heritage and Human Rights

In this filmed interview Peter Larsen talk about the local ethnic minority of the Arem affected by the World Heritage Site of Phong Nha Ke Bang in Vietnam. As part of his SNIS funded project he has produced a short documentary about their situation. He recently travelled back to Phong Nha Ke Bang and screened his documentary. In this episode Peter also shares what impact his film had in the community and on on local and national media.



DR PETER LARSEN

University of Luzern

Peter Larsen was the coordinator of a SNIS-funded research project that started in 2014. He is senior lecturer at the University of Luzern with a strong interest in the intersection between environmental conservation and social equity concerns, including work in the field of World Heritage policy and practice, international rights standards and the anthropology of international organizations.



Underlying research project:

Understanding Rights Practices in the World Heritage System: Lessons from the Asia Pacific



Migrant Workers and the Dynamics of Illegalization, Racialization and Labour

In this interview, Timothy Raeymaekers talks about a new way of communicating research results. Together with curators and a theatre company his research team has set up an interactive theatre play enabling participants to learn through practice. The research had previously shed light on the working and living conditions of migrant agricultural workers in Europe. We asked Dr Raeymaekers about his experiences with these innovative form of dissemination.



DR TIMOTHY RAEYMAEKERS

University of Zurich

Timothy Raeymaekers is a lecturer in Political Geography at the University of Zurich. He has a strong interest in the nexus of protracted crisis, violence, and social change. His research also covers border studies (margins, frontiers), forced displacement and migration.



[▶ See the video](#)

Underlying research project:
New Plantations: Migrant Mobility, 'Illegality' and Racialisation in European Agricultural Labour

Q&A with Timothy Raeymaekers

Q : Why did you choose this new form of dissemination?

TR: I think in addition to the specialised publications and the conference panels, which as academics, we have to engage in anyways, the conference format we have chosen provides an interactive platform to disseminate the information to a wider public. As academics we raise questions – hopefully important questions – and through this kind of event we also have the ambition to contribute to changes of mind-sets, and ultimately to changes of behaviour. I think it was Confucius who said ‘if you make a person read something, this will be forgotten the next day. If you make the person read out loud, repeat this, then things will hopefully be remembered. But if you make a person practice the things that should be learned, then that will remain with this person forever.’ Of course, we’re not as ambitious as Confucius, but the learning experience, when it is shared through practice, hopefully contributes to this change of mind-sets a bit more, at least that was the ambition when we started thinking about this format, than the classical experts’ ex cathedra exposés that we’re used to as academics.

Q: Would you recommend this kind of workshops for other projects?

TR: I think, whenever you’re trying to contribute to a change of mind-sets about a particular issue, then this format could be very helpful. You know we’ve been talking about migrant labour, and this is usually underestimated. It’s a way to put the spotlight on such an underrepresented, under-discussed topic, and I think that’s one criterion I would emphasise. [...] A lot of time actually goes into this format. But that said, I think it pays off.

Q: How did they [the artist groups and grass root political organisations] contribute to the research?

TR: I’ll give you an example. Cantieri Meticci has, with a group of actors and the artistic director, actually come to Puglia to stay in a migrant labourer host centre, to interview people and to get a sense of the situation, a first point of view. [...] I think the advantage of including them in the research has been that research itself becomes a consistently shared experience. [...] Our role as researchers is both to conglomerate these testimonies and give them a ‘conceptual sense’, a comparative sense, and at the same time also to provide these grass root organisations with the necessary methodological tools to actually continue doing their own research. I think, the artistic involvement in the project has given us the opportunity to introduce new methods into the research, and therefore also make it more interdisciplinary as a whole. [...] What I’ve noticed through the years is that in theatre and in literature, another form of extraction is being made, out of the information that is gathered from every-day life experiences. They’re looking for archetypes, for comparisons that go beyond the conceptual frame of sociology or anthropology, but that go into the direction of what makes us different or similar as human beings.

Q: Did you get any feedback from your participants?

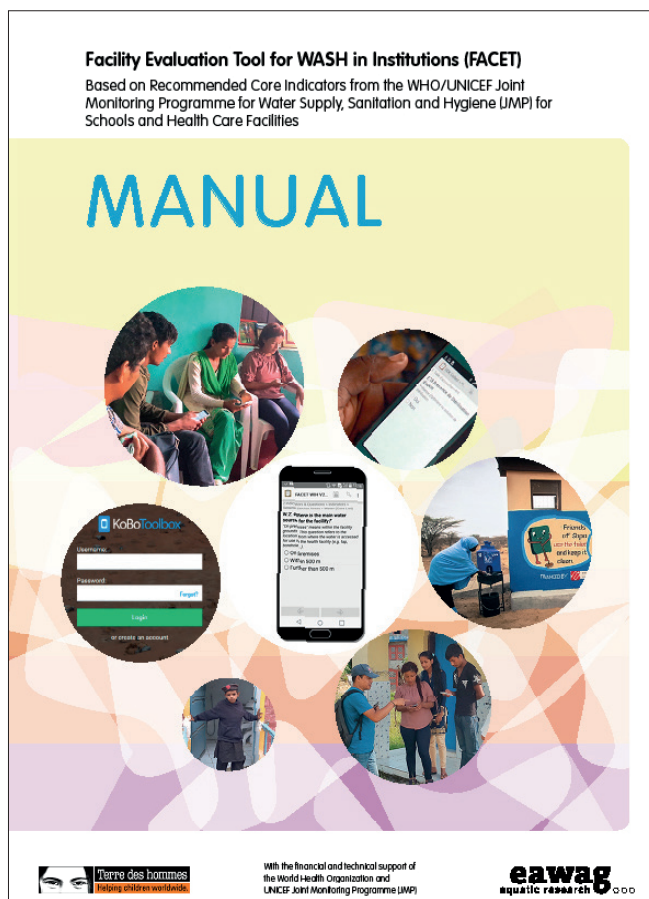
TR: Yes, they were all overly enthusiastic, of course. [...] Surprisingly still, very few people know about this situation, about the extent to which migrant labour is contributing to the production of our daily food, and the extent to which labourers are being exploited. It’s been, in that respect, a learning experience for many people who’ve participated in the ‘soirées’ that we’ve organized. Those who are more or less aware and who’ve come to gather more detailed information and get in touch with us as researchers, actually encourage us to continue this format. We’ve been invited to organise such a conference, for example, at a food coop here in Bologna, exactly with the members of that corporation, who are not only trying to change mind-sets of people in terms of the extent to which the agri-business is contributing to exploitation, but also formulating an alternative, actually by trying to put consumers in direct contact with the producers. [...] This experience has encouraged us and facilitated many off-shoot projects from the SNIS project. That’s, I think, very positive. Further installations of the workshop are being planned in different locations.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in Public Health Care Facilities – Taking into Account Gender Specific Needs

In this short report you can discover how the SNIS funded project extended an existing on-line application to assess and improve the access to water and hygiene.

Links:

- Discover the EAWAG page about the Facility Evaluation Tool for WASH in Institutions (FACET)
- Discover the EAWAG video clip about the FACET project
- Discover more about WASH in Health Care Facilities on the WHO/UNICEF Platform
- Discover the article “WASH and gender in health care facilities: The uncharted territory” in Health Care for Women International



Underlying research project:
WASH in the context of maternal health and menstrual hygiene

Information on the WASH project

BACKGROUND – Poor WASH services in public hospitals generate diseases and impede progress in public health care

In a joint report the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF revealed that about 38% of health care facilities in 54 assessed low- and middle-income countries do not have any water sources and 35% lack water and soap for hand-washing. 15% of all patients develop an infection during their stay in a hospital. Vulnerable groups such as women in childbed, pregnant women, children and the disabled are at increased risks. WHO/UNICEF therefore launched an action plan with 'the vision to provide access to WASH services in all facilities, in all settings by 2030, with a special attention to the needs of women, girls and children'.

PROJECT – Different Needs for Different People and Different User Groups

Principal researchers Petra Kohler explains; 'Sanitation and WASH are linked and embedded in environments that are of sensitive concern and somehow taboo, especially with women and girls when it comes to menstruation, which is also part of hygiene management. There are different needs between women and men, not only when it comes to infrastructure, but also from the point of view of cultural and normative needs. In short, different needs for different people and different groups have to be taken into account and this translates into a gender sensitive research method'.

METHOD – Gender Sensitive Research Method Applied

The research team applied the Gender Action Learning System (GALS) in four different health care facilities in local district hospitals in India and Uganda. GALS is a focus group discussion method where female and male groups are separated to identify the issues experienced and to find possible solutions. During the workshops, both groups were offered a comfortable zone to talk about their own needs and the method proved to be particularly promising when it came to lay out sensitive matters, not only from the individual, but also collective approach. GALS is not only about separating these groups but also bringing them together in the plenum discussion, where a kind of consensus or common output can be discussed. The success of these focus group discussions depends very much of the facilitator – a woman for the women's group, a man for the men's group, who acts also as an 'ice breaker'. Women are much more comfortable to talk to each other and very shy people who would not speak out in a mixed group. Symbols or drawing can be used for illiterate persons, making GALS a really inclusive method especially in rural development.

OUTPUT – Mobile Tool for Monitoring WASH services

The research team applied a facility evaluation tool (FACET), initially developed by Terre des Hommes in collaboration with EAWAG/Sandec and adapted it for gender sensitive monitoring for WASH services in health care facilities. The tool is now fully developed and offers a simple and adaptable application to collect online/offline mobile data of water provision services, sanitation facilities, and hygienic conditions, not only for hospitals but also schools. It is particularly adapted to reply to the need for concise, timely and cost effective monitoring of thousands of health care facilities and schools in low- and middle-income countries.

The research findings have been presented in March 2017 at an international learning event in Kathmandu, organised by WHO/UNICEF.

Taxation and International Development: North-South Conflicts over Capital Flight and International Taxation Issues after World War II (1945-1970)

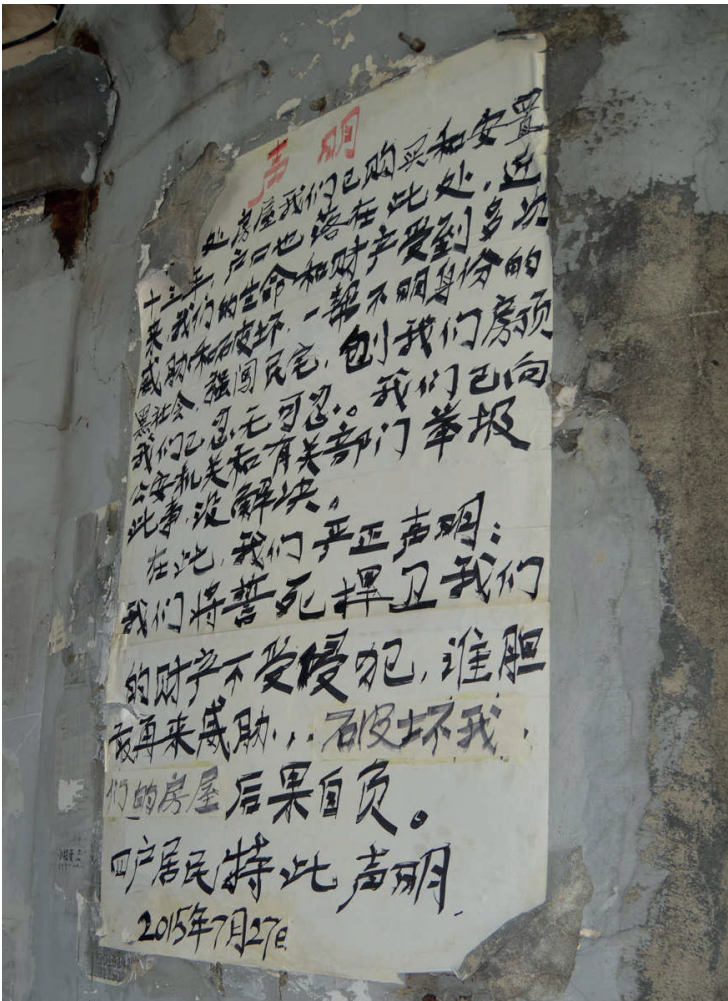
Samuel Beroud (University of Geneva) | Christophe Farquet (University of Geneva) | Marc Flandreau (University of Pennsylvania) | Thibaud Giddey (University of Lausanne) | Yejin Heo (Graduate Institute, Geneva) | Matthieu Leimgruber (University of Zurich)



The purpose of this research project was to study capital flight and international tax evasion between developed and developing countries during the 1945-1970 period. This period was selected as it has been neglected by existing research on the topic, which tends to focus almost exclusively on the post-1970 (and even post-1990) period. The project aimed to combine an analysis of international tax negotiations, based on archival sources, and the quantification of illicit capital flows in an effort to increase theoretical reflections on the basis of these empirical data. In conclusion, the project output working papers emphasise the shortcomings of both multilateral and bilateral approaches in the attempts to fight capital flight from developing to developed countries. These shortcomings are compounded by the resilience of the defence of tax havens in industrialised, capital exporting countries.

Mapping Controversial Memories in the Historic Urban Landscape: a Multidisciplinary Study of Beijing, Mexico City and Rome

Florence Graezer Bideau (EPFL-IAGS) | Yves Pedrazzini (EPFL-LASUR) |
Lucia Bordone (EPFL-IAGS) | Lesslie Herrera (EPFL-LASUR) | Filippo De
Pieri (PoliTO-DAD)



Destruction poster in Beijing, China

UNESCO Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape (2011) is one of the most innovative, but normative and general instruments concerning heritage, although its potential and effects, as well as its interpretation in different cultural contexts, have been little studied. By analysing the social-spatial impacts of its implementation at the local level in Beijing (Gulou), Mexico City (Historic Centre) and Rome (Ostiense)—particularly the recognition of the plurality of memories—this project aims to assess the potential and limitations of the emerging approach of this Recommendation. Using different kinds of methodologies—principally qualitative—the cities reveal different layers of commitment and actions, evidencing a lack of information sharing through levels of power. Understanding the complexity of “memory thickness,” the case studies highlight the conventional selection of historic layers to promote specific visions about space. In general, communities want to preserve their traditional, ordinary life and tend to use nostalgic references about their urban environments. The project questions the plasticity of the UNESCO’s approach at the local scale and asks to what extent this remains an advantage.

Civilian Victimization and Conflict Escalation

Mohammad Aghdam (University of Geneva) | Pascal Bongard (Geneva Call) | Lars-Erik Cederman (ETH Zurich) | Simon Hug (University of Geneva) | Marcelo Olarreaga (University of Geneva) | Livia Schubiger (London School of Economics and Political Science)



Scene of life in Gaza, West Bank

This project sought to advance our understanding of the consequences of violence against civilians by armed actors for subsequent patterns of conflict escalation. Focusing on ethnic violence in particular, our goal was to shed light on the conditions and mechanisms through which campaigns of armed violence against civilians contribute to the escalation from nonviolent to violent forms of contestation, the risk of civil war onset, and – once armed conflict is underway – the escalation and duration of civil wars. To that end, we collected novel data on the ethnic identity of civilian victims in violent campaigns by armed actors, as well as patterns of deliberate ethnic profiling in campaigns of violence against civilians around the globe. Moreover, in-depth case studies were conducted to investigate the theorized causal mechanisms as well as mechanisms that our theories might have overlooked. Among our emerging findings are the insight that ethnic inequality is one of the main drivers of ethnic state violence against civilians, and that ethnic violence against civilians by armed groups tends to escalate conflicts.

[Read more](#)

Trust Funds as a Lever of Influence at International Development Organizations

Bernhard Reinsberg (University of Cambridge, United Kingdom) Global Policy, Volume 8, Supplement 5, August 2017, Special Issue Article



Trouver description

Trust funds – broadly defined as financial vehicles to channel development funding earmarked for specific purposes through international development organizations – have grown substantially over the past two decades. Reflecting the variety of trust fund purposes and related governance arrangements, an emergent literature emphasises a diversity of reasons underlying this growth. This paper proposes a simple – yet encompassing – explanation applicable to all kinds of funds: donors use trust funds to wield ‘influence’ – leveraging financial resources to alter the policies of multilateral organisations. Based on interviews at the World Bank, the study shows that influence is a dominant motive behind trust funds, though the capacity and willingness to wield influence varies across donors. Influence is a salient motive especially for medium-sized donors and emerging donors, but surprisingly less so for large donors. In addition, attempts of influence are most effective when donors promote new thematic issues that did not previously feature Bank assistance and outside established programs. Concerns among stakeholders about undue donor influence are highest with respect to the global knowledge work of the World Bank, but are virtually absent when involving donors in the operational activities at the country level.



How Attitudes towards Immigrants Are Shaped by Residential Context: The Role of Neighbourhood Dynamics, Immigrant Visibility, and Areal Attachment

Sjoerdje van Heerden (University of Neuchâtel) | Didier Ruedin (University of Neuchâtel) Urban Studies, 25 October 2017



In this paper, the authors check whether they can find any evidence for the 'defended neighbourhood' thesis, using panel data from the Netherlands and fixed-effect models. It turns out, they find no evidence of such effects in the Netherlands in recent years. The analysis looks at how proportional changes in residential context are associated with changes in attitudes towards immigrants. Following the reasoning that the majority population need to perceive immigrants, they paid particular attention to immigrant visibility. What is more, the unit of analysis is the neighbourhood, as close as possible as people experience it. They have put a lot of thought in choosing the right level and went with the four-digit postcodes in the Netherlands. From what they gather, this largely corresponds to the perception of neighbourhood's people have, and not an artificial unit that happens to be 'available' in the data. Following the 'defended neighbourhood' hypothesis, we focus on proportional change, not absolute numbers as researchers typically do when using cross-sectional data. Surprisingly, a larger change in the proportion of immigrant residents is associated with more positive views on immigrants among natives — not what a defended neighbourhood would look like. Indeed, it is particularly a change in the proportion of visible non-Western immigrants that is associated with changes in attitudes.



[Trouver description](#)

Protecting Labor Rights in Preferential Trade Agreements: the Role of Trade Unions, Left Governments, and Skilled Labor

Damian Raess (World Trade Institute, University of Bern, University of Reading) | Andreas Dür (University of Salzburg) | Dora Sari (University of Geneva, Harvard Law School) *The Review of International Organizations*, March 2018



Many of the preferential trade agreements (PTAs) signed over the past twenty years include labor provisions (LPs). These LPs link the benefits of better market access to the enforcement of internationally recognized worker rights. But much variation remains across agreements with respect to the scope and stringency of these LPs. While some preferential trade agreements include far-reaching and highly enforceable labor provisions, others only make fleeting references to labor standards or even fully omit the topic. What explains variation in the extent to which labor standards are covered by PTAs? This paper looks at domestic factors that determine the inclusion and design of labor provisions in preferential trade agreements. The authors argue that trade union power and government ideology affect the presence and depth of such provisions. They also argue that there is heterogeneity in the preferences of workers over LPs in PTAs. The analysis is based on a new database, with the screening of 483 agreements. The researchers find that stronger trade unions are associated with more far-reaching labor provisions, especially when it comes to skilled workers. Whether the trade unions have a strong effect on these labor provisions is largely conditional on both the presence of left governments and regime type.



Awards

Dr Julien Debonneville (University of Geneva) and Dr Roxana Radu (The Graduate Institute) have ex aequo received the SNIS Award 2017 for the best thesis in international studies.



DR JULIEN DEBONNEVILLE

Research and Teaching Fellow,
University of Geneva

Sociologist by training, Dr. Julien Debonneville is senior researcher and teaching assistant at the Institute for Gender studies at the University of Geneva. He holds a PhD in gender studies from the University of Geneva, and a Master degrees in social sciences from the University of Lausanne. He also held visiting positions at UC Berkeley (Department of Ethnic studies) and at the University of the Philippines – Diliman (Department of Women and Development Studies). His main research topics are: gender inequalities, migrations and mobility, care economy and reproductive labor, the coloniality of power, the social construction of otherness, and the intersectionality of power relations.

Les Ecoles de la Servitude aux Philippines

Des carrières migratoires de travailleuses domestiques aux processus d'altérisation. Pour une approche so-cio-anthropologique des études postcoloniales

PhD thesis defended at the Geneva School of Social Sciences, University of Geneva (March 2016), under the supervision of Professor Delphine Gardey and Professor Elisabeth Prügl.

Through an ethnographic study of the migratory mechanisms in the Philippines, Dr Debonneville's thesis examines the production of alterisation – process of perceiving and depicting someone as being fundamentally different or as a stranger – processes in the context of the globalised economy of care. It questions the social representation associated to the Philippine domestic worker, often called 'Filipina'. More broadly, the thesis offers a reflection on the contribution of post-colonial studies in social sciences.



"The interdisciplinary quality of that thesis is what is the most remarkable."

Member of the Jury



"For many reasons, this is a passionate and novel research since it sheds light to pre-migratory situations."

Member of the Jury

Dr Julien Debonneville (University of Geneva) and Dr Roxana Radu (The Graduate Institute) have ex aequo received the SNIS Award 2017 for the best thesis in international studies.



DR ROXANA RADU

Research Associate,
Graduate Institute

Roxana Radu is Programme Manager at the Geneva Internet Platform and Research Associate at the Graduate Institute's Programme for the Study of International Governance. She currently serves as Chair of Internet Society – Switzerland. She holds a PhD in International Relations from the Graduate Institute and an MA in Political Science from the Central European University. Her research and publications explore global governance and internet policy-making.

Global Rules for Emerging Issue Domains

Negotiating the Governance of the Internet

PhD thesis defended at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, (December 2016), under the supervision of Professor Thomas J. Biersteker

Dr Radu's thesis deals with the evolution of Internet and its preservation of integrity as a single network, despite its fragmented nature and with authoritative decision-making from different sources. This thesis sets out a novel, comprehensive framework for theorising nascent policy fields and for analyzing their evolution empirically.



“The thesis is a great contribution to the field of international relations and internet governance.

Member of the Jury

Three young researchers have been awarded for their papers that feature a strong interdisciplinary appeal and offer a direct policy relevance to international organisations. The members of the International Geneva Committee acted as jury. Each awardee won CHF 5'000 for their article.



DR ANNABELLE LITTOZ-
MONNET

The Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies

Before joining the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in 2009, Annabelle Littoz-Monnet was Assistant Professor at the Central European University, Budapest (2005-2009). Her current research interests include global governance, the politics of knowledge, international organisations, bureaucratic expansion and the concept of ethical expertise. She is now working on a SNSF research project examining uses of ethical experts by bureaucrats and policy-makers. She is also co-director of the Global Governance Centre at the Graduate Institute. Annabelle holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Oxford.

Expert Knowledge as a Strategic Resource

International Bureaucrats and the Shaping of Bioethical Standards

International Studies Quarterly – 18 September 2017

This article asks how international secretariats can sometimes expand their authority in areas that relate neither to their mandate, nor to their sphere of expert authority through the mobilisation of external expertise. The paper examines this dynamic in the domain of bioethical standards where UNESCO managed to gain authority through the strategic use of external experts. The article challenges the view that expert knowledge acts mainly as a means of solving problems and rationalizing global governance.



“This paper describes very well, with an exhaustive explanation of the UNESCO study case on bioethics, how certain IOs – or better, the top international bureaucrats heading them – plan and implement mission-creeping in fields not fully related with the mandate of the IO.”

Member of the Jury

Three young researchers have been awarded for their papers that feature a strong interdisciplinary appeal and offer a direct policy relevance to international organisations. The members of the International Geneva Committee acted as jury. Each awardee won CHF 5'000 for their article.



PROF MARK GOODALE

University of Lausanne

Mark Goodale holds a chair at the University of Lausanne, where he is Professor of Cultural and Social Anthropology. Until 2014, he was Professor of Conflict Studies and Anthropology at George Mason University (2003-2014) and the first Marjorie Shostak Distinguished Lecturer in Anthropology at Emory University (2001-2003). He is the author of *Anthropology and Law* (NYU, 2017), *Surrendering to Utopia* (Stanford, 2009), and *Dilemmas of Modernity* (Stanford, 2008) and the editor/coeditor of 10 other volumes.

The Myth of Universality

The UNESCO "Philosopher's Committee" and the Making of Human Rights

Law & Social Inquiry – 15 September 2017

This article examines one of the most important developments in the history of human rights: the debates over human rights universality that took place between UNESCO and the Commission on Human Rights during the drafting of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1947 and 1948. The article presents a revised history of this key episode in international relations and provides an alternative understanding of how the early post-war international world was constructed and how the international system was taking shape.



"At a time when the universality of human rights is de facto being challenged and democracy is on the defensive in many parts of the world, the paper is a worthy contribution to the origins and context of the UDHR. As such, it has relevance for both the research and policy communities."

Member of the Jury



"As the paper is based on newly discovered documents, it gives an insightful read into the history the process, new ways of its interpretation and how international cooperation works, or does not."

Member of the Jury

Three young researchers have been awarded for their papers that feature a strong interdisciplinary appeal and offer a direct policy relevance to international organisations. The members of the International Geneva Committee acted as jury. Each awardee won CHF 5'000 for their article.



DR SARAH L.M. (MEG) DAVIS

Geneva Centre for Education and
Research in Humanitarian Action

Sara L.M. (Meg) Davis is an anthropologist with expertise on global health finance, human rights, and gender. She is a scholar in residence at New York University Center for Human Rights and Global Justice, and coordinator of thematic short courses on sexual violence in conflicts and emergencies at the Geneva Centre for Education and Research in Humanitarian Action (CERAH). Sara L.M. Davis was the first senior advisor on human rights at the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria. She founded Asia Catalyst, which partners with Asian community-based groups on human rights advocacy and has offices in New York and Bangkok.

The Uncounted

Politics of Data and Visibility in Global Health

The International Journal of Human Rights – Volume 21, 2017

I

ssue 8: Special Issue – The Sustainable Development Goals and Human Rights: A Critical Early Review

In the fight against HIV, data is a critical stake in the struggle. This article explores the political and economic factors that are driving shifting data in the context of HIV. Key populations vulnerable to HIV (men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, sex workers and transgender people) are often hidden due to stigma and criminalisation. Key population size estimates are a central tool for planning and resourcing national and global HIV programming, but these become hard to obtain when key populations are hidden, and political leaders deny their existence. Pressure from health financing agencies is changing these power dynamics in some countries.



“It is a very nice and clear paper, with good topicality because of the context on improving data and ‘leaving no one behind’. It clearly sets out the opportunities and challenges of counting currently uncounted populations to better target HIV support. It is balanced and has a good range of sources.”

Member of the Jury



“The policy relevance to IOs is very high and the direct benefit to be gained from new data on the key populations targeted by the research is evident.”

Member of the Jury

Facts & Figures

In 2017, 77 pre-proposals have been submitted in the SNIS annual call for projects. The research propositions reflect a good balance between the different linguistic regions in Switzerland.

Universities of Applied Sciences from all regions of Switzerland widely participated in the call 2017. Taken together they accounted for 17% of all submissions. The project submitted by the University of Applied Sciences of Zurich (ZHAW) was among the winners of the call 2017.

Geographical Breakdown



Aargau

2 projects - Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz



Basel - Stadt

8 projects - University of Basel



Bern

7 projects - University of Bern



Fribourg

2 projects - University of Fribourg



Geneva

7 projects - Graduate Institute
19 projects - University of Geneva



Neuchâtel

4 projects - University of Neuchâtel



Sankt Gallen

2 projects - University of St. Gallen
2 projects - Fachhochschule Ostschweiz



Ticino

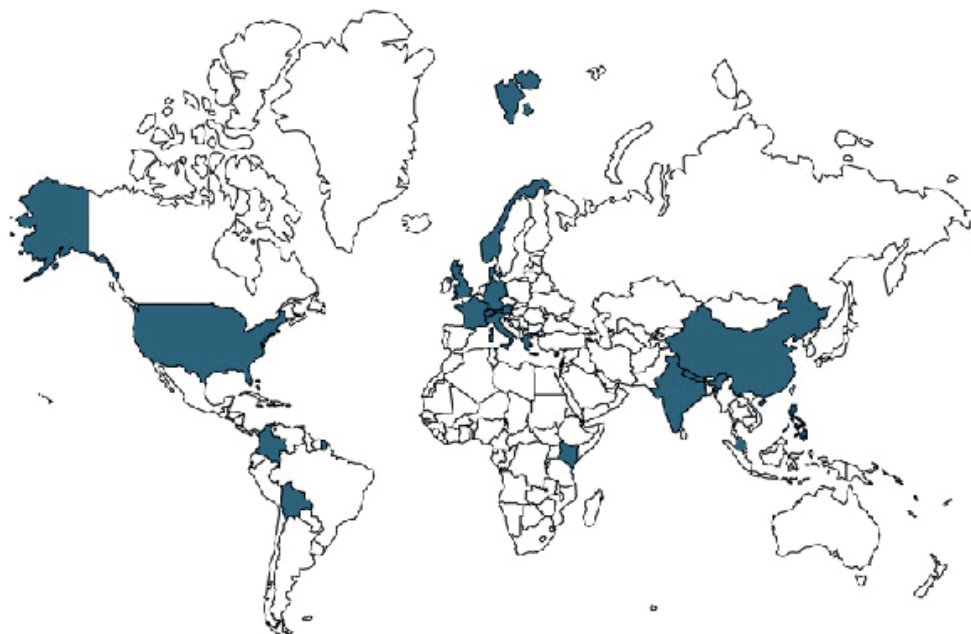
3 projects - Università professionale della Svizzera italiana



Vaud

4 projects - University of Lausanne
3 projects - Swiss Federal Institute of Technology

Overview of Organisations Associated with Research Projects 2017



International Organisations

Geneva, Switzerland

- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD)
- World Economic Forum (WEF)
- World Health Organization (WHO)

Nairobi, Kenya

- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

New York, USA

- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

La Paz, Bolivia

- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Non-Governmental Organisations

Switzerland

- International Foundation for Population and Development (IFDP), Geneva
- Swiss Refugee Council, Berne

Germany

- The Global Coffee Platform, Bonn

Greece

- Network for Reform in Greece and Europe (DIKTIO)

UK

- Coventry Refugee and Migrant Centre
- Refugee Support Network

Denmark

- Danish Refugee Council Youth (DFUNK)

India

- Sama Resource Group for Women and Health, New Delhi

Nepal

- Women's Rehabilitation Centre (WOREC), Kathmandu

Bolivia

- Café Munaipata
- Slow Food Bolivia

Colombia

- DECINTEC

Academic Institutions - Switzerland

- Geneva
- Geneva Public Private Partnership Center, University of Geneva
- Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva
- Institute of Citizenship Studies (InCite), Geneva School of Social Sciences, University of Geneva
- Institute of Sociological Research, University of Geneva
- Lausanne
- Department of Social and Political Science, University of Lausanne
- Neuchâtel
- Laboratory of Transnational Studies and Social Processes, University of Neuchâtel
- Bern
- Centre for Development and Environment, University of Bern
- Department of Economics, University of Bern
- Basel
- Department of Environmental Science, University of Basel
- Lucerne
- University of Lucerne
- Zurich
- Center for Comparative and International Studies (CIS), University of Zurich
- Institute for Political Sciences, University of Zurich
- Institute of Chemistry and Biotechnology (ICBT), University of Applied Sciences, Zurich

Private Organisations

- Colombia
- Murg Coffee
- Mild Coffee Company Huila

Academic Institutions - Worldwide

- Denmark
- Aarhus University
- USA
- Cornell University
- Harvard University, Belfer Centre for Science and International Affairs
- Saint Mary's College of California
- UK
- City University London
- Coventry University
- Glasgow Caledonian University, Yunus Centre for Social Business and Health
- University of Essex, Government Department
- University of Oxford, Centre on Migration, Policy and Society
- University of Oxford, Blavatnik School of Government
- Greece
- University of Crete
- Austria
- University of Salzburg
- Italy
- University of Trento
- Germany
- University of Siegen, Centre for Research in the Social Sciences (SOWIS)
- France
- Grenoble Ecole de Management
- Norway
- Peace Research Institute, Oslo
- Philippines
- Ateneo de Manila University
- China
- Shanghai University
- Singapore
- Nanyang Technological University
- Colombia
- Universidad Surcolombiana, Departamento de Ingeniería Agrícola

Results of the Financial Year 2017

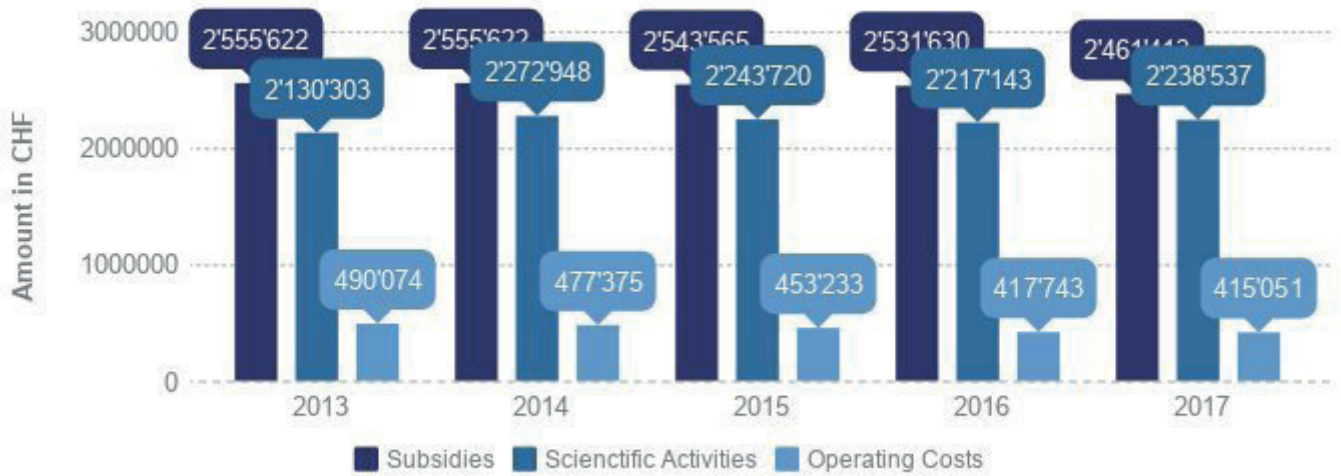
The financial situation in 2017 was marked by a decrease in subsidies provided by the Swiss Confederation and the Canton of Geneva (- CHF 74'202 compared to 2016). The net income was negative (- 41'769.-), but the secretariat has taken measures to further cut operating costs (see below) to maintain the level of funding towards scientific activities.

The reduced income did not affect the amount allocated for research projects. An envelope of CHF 2'142'00 has been directly allocated to research projects. Further funding included the SNIS Award for the best thesis in international studies (CHF 10'000) and the three International Geneva Awards (CHF 5000.- each).

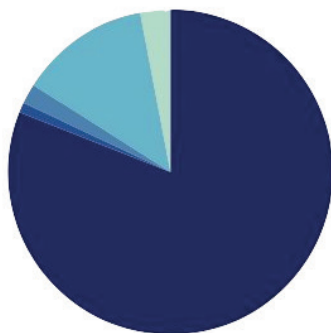
Income	
Swiss Confederation Subsidy	1'303'570
Canton of Geneva Subsidy	1'169'538
Dissolution of Reminders (Project Funds)	122'958
Various Others	15'753
Total	2'611'819
Expenses	
Scientific Activities	2'238'537
Operating Cost (Administration and Salaries)	415'051
Total	2'653'588
Net Income	-41'769
Income	
Swiss Confederation Subsidy	1'303'570
Canton of Geneva Subsidy	1'169'538
Dissolution of Reminders (Project Funds)	122'958
Various Others	15'753
Total	2'611'819
Expenses	
Scientific Activities	2'238'537
Operating Cost (Administration and Salaries)	415'051
Total	2'653'588
Net Income	-41'769

Evolution Subsidies, Scientific Activities, and Operating Costs

Despite a steady decrease in subsidies, the Secretariat managed to maintain the level of funding towards scientific activities by gradually reducing its operating costs (minus CHF – 75'023.- between 2013 and 2017).



Breakdown of Expenditures



- Call for Projects
- Other Science Related Activities (Annual conference, networking)
- Scientific Committee
- Salaries
- Administration (including rent)

Origin of Subsidies



SNIS Structure

The SNIS Secretariat is functioning with a small, dedicated team.

In the light of tighter budgets, the Secretariat has seized the opportunity to redefine the roles and tasks in order to lower costs. Accordingly, the IT and website management have been outsourced and programme management and multimedia production have been wrapped into one post. Mr. Damien Marti has taken up this dual profile in January 2017.

As in previous years, civil service collaborators actively supported the SNIS throughout the year: Lucas Halidmann and John Rose assisted the team in various tasks. Their support was highly appreciated.

Governing Committee

- heads the Swiss Network for International Studies and the bodies and organs created within
- validates the selection made by the Scientific Committee
- defines and takes decision with regard to the budget
- defines long term strategies
- approves the evaluations made the Jury of the SNIS Award as well as of the International Geneva Award

Members

Thomas BERNAUER
Professor of Political Science
Center for International and Comparative Studies (CIS)
ETH Zurich

Thomas BIEGER (as of August 2016)
President of the Board
University of St. Gallen

Philippe BURRIN
Director
Graduate Institute of International
and Development Studies, Geneva

Joseph FRANÇOIS
Managing Director
World Trade Institute, University of Bern

Manfred ELSIG (as of August 2016)
Deputy Managing Director
World Trade Institute, Bern

Jürg UTZINGER
(as of August 2016)
Director
Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute,
Basel

Jacques de WERRA
Vice-Rector
University of Geneva

Doreen BOGDAN-MARTIN
Chief of the Strategic Planning and
Membership Department International
Telecommunication Union (ITU)

Scientific Committee

- acts as in independent body in its decisions
- evaluates and selects research projects submitted in the annual call for proposals
- evaluates the funded projects in their intermediary phase and their final version

President

Christophe MUELLER
Professor of Economics
University of Aix-Marseille

Members

Jane COWAN
Professor of Anthropology
University of Sussex, Brighton

Axel DREHER
Professor of International Development Politics
University of Heidelberg

Jonas TALLBERG
Professor
Political Science
Stockholm University

Bernice ELGER
Head
Institute of Biomedical Ethics
University of Basel

Ulrike MÜLLER-BÖKER
Professor Geography
University of Zurich

Structure

(as of 31.12.17 – current
status available on the SNIS
website)

International Geneva Committee

President
Francesco PISANO
Director
UN Library
United Nations Office at Geneva

Nicolas BERTRAND
International Union for the
Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

Jyoti SANGHERA
United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
(OHCHR)
Doreen BOGDAN-MARTIN
Chief of the Strategic Planning and Membership Department
International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

Charlotte WARAKAULLE
External Relations Division
European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN)

Paul LADD
Director
United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
(UNRISD)

Richard LUKACS
Third Secretary
Permanent Mission of Switzerland
to the United Nations Office at Geneva

Jarmo SAREVA
United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR)

Krista NADAKAVUKAREN SCHEFER
Professor of International Law
University of Basel

Corinne PERNET
Professor
European Global Institute
University of Basel

- is composed by representatives of scientific branches of International Organisations (IOs) in order to establish the link between Swiss scientists and IOs
- defines the yearly thematic issue for the call for proposals
- contributes to the round-table debate series organised in various academic institutions in Switzerland
- acts as a Jury of the International Geneva Award that rewards three outstanding scientific articles from the point of view of policy relevance

Bernard KUITEN
Head of External Relations
World Trade Organization (WTO)

Marie McAULIFFE
Head of the Migration Policy Research Division
International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Moazam MAHMOOD
Director
Research Department
International Labour Organization (ILO)

Maria Luisa SILVA
Senior Advisor
United Nations Development Programme
(UNDP)

Marcelo DI PIETRO PERALTA
Acting Director
WIPO World Academy
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

Jarmo SAREVA
Director
United Nations Institute for
Disarmament Research (UNIDIR)

Maria Luisa SILVA
Director
UNDP Office at Geneva

Jyoti SANGHERA
Chief of Human Rights and Economic
and Social Issues Section United Nations Office
of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

Taffere TESFACHEW
Director of the Division for Africa,
Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes
United Nations Conference for Trade and Development
(UNCTAD)

Charlotte WARAKAULLE
Director for International Relations
European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN)

SNIS Award Jury

- evaluates the PhD theses submitted to the SNIS Award for the best thesis in international studies
- is independent in its decisions and convenes annually to determine the winner of the Award by consensus

Mira BURRI
Research Fellow, NCCR Trade Project
World Trade Institute
University of Bern

Esuna DUGAROVA
Former Research Analyst
United Nations Research Institute
for Social Development (UNRISD)

Marylène LIEBER
Associate Professor
Institute for Gender Studies
University of Geneva

Grégoire MALLARD
Associate Professor
Department of Anthropology and Sociology
Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies

Gabriela TEJADA
Scientist
Cooperation and Development Center (CODEV)
Ecole polytechnique fédéral de Lausanne (EPFL)

Siegfried WEICHLEIN
Professor of Contemporary European History
University of Fribourg

The Secretariat

- is the executive body of the Swiss Network for International Studies
- implements decisions taken by the Governing Committee
- organises the annual call for proposals and supports the Scientific Committee
- ensures the follow-up of funded research projects
- involves the International Geneva Committee in SNIS activities in order to create a network between IOs and researchers in Switzerland
- promotes international studies in Switzerland
- establishes the budget line and controls available funds
- is responsible for the SNIS communication through various tools
- organises events and conferences

Director
Bernhard FUHRER

Staff members
Christa ALLOT
Communication and Events Manager

Damien Marti
Programme Manager

Zoe Poznicek
Intern

Romain Boillat
temporary - civil service affectation

Rami Chidda - civil service
affectation

Publisher
Swiss Network for International Studies
Rue Rothschild 20
1202 Geneva

Téléphone: +41 (0) 22 525 05 47
E-mail: info@snis.ch
Website: www.snis.ch

Reproduction of all or part of this publication
may be authorised only with written consent
and acknowledgement of the source.