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HUMAN RIGHTS AND MULTI-LEVEL GOVERNANCE UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI PADOVA



HUMAN RIGHTS CENTRE
ANTONIO PAPISCA



CENTRO
DI ATENEO
Elena Cornaro
saperi, culture e politiche di genere

“Liberal International order of chaos”

Padova Postgraduate Seminars of International Studies

7th November 2025 – Padova (Italy)

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Deadline: 23:59 CET September 30th, 2025

The students of the master's degree program in European and Global Studies of the University of Padova are happy to invite postgraduate students and early career researchers of international studies to present their research to the students and the researchers of the University.

The conference will take place on 7th November 2025 at the main building of the Department of Political Science, Law, and International Studies (SPGI), in Via del Santo 28, Padova (Italy).

The seminar will welcome contributions that inquire how international politics is evolving in a chaotic world where the liberal international order is increasingly contested. The topic strands will be mainly related to the principal courses of the Department.

During the seminar, the speakers will have the opportunity to receive feedback and comments from faculty members of the Department.

Call:

We strongly encourage postgraduate students, PhD students, and early career researchers (no more than 3 years from master's graduation) to submit an abstract. Ongoing research and thesis projects are welcome.

Conference topics:

Topic 1. EU politics and policies

The European Union is a project born with and for a liberal international order. The increasing changes in international order pose multiple challenges to the EU's internal cohesion, external credibility, and normative foundations. We welcome contributions exploring EU governance, institutional transformation, democratic legitimacy, rule of law, foreign policy, and responses to global crises.

Topic 2. International Security in a Fragmented World

The congestion of the liberal international order opens new scenarios for global security. Shifting power balances, regional conflicts, technological threats, and environmental crises are transforming the concept and practice of international security. We invite papers addressing traditional and non-traditional security issues, military alliances, cybersecurity, climate security, and the role of international organizations.

Topic 3. Human Rights in a Changing World

Human Rights are the cornerstone of international cooperation and liberal values. However, they are increasingly under pressure from authoritarian resurgence, populist backlash, and competing normative frameworks. We seek proposals that critically examine the state, implementation, and contestation of human rights at the global, regional, and local levels.

Topic 4. Gender, anti-gender, and international politics

Within international politics, the gender dimension seemed to be uncontestable for a time, yet it is now at the center of intense political and ideological battles. From anti-gender movements to the rollback of rights and representation, this strand welcomes contributions exploring gendered power relations, feminist approaches to IR, LGBTQ+ rights, and the politics of anti-gender campaigns across the globe.

Seminar Format and Tentative Program

The Seminar will be an on-site only event. The board is looking forward to welcoming you to Padova.

9:00	Introductory Remark and Guest Lecture
10:00	Topic 1, Q&A
11:30	Topic 2, Q&A
13:00	Lunch break (optional social lunch)
15:00	Topic 3, Q&A
16:30	Topic 4, Q&A
18:00	Closing Remarks

Submission guidelines:

- We expect to receive 500-word abstracts with short biographies and affiliations of the authors.
- All proposals must be submitted through email at elisabettaginevra.iida@studenti.unipd.it no later than 23:59 CET September 30th, 2025:
- Submitted abstracts will be reviewed by the coordinators for each strand. Notification of selection results will be sent to the corresponding presenters by mid-august.
- Proposals can be submitted to one topic only.
- Submissions must adhere to established research ethics standards and to the *Research Integrity Code* of University of Padova, ensuring integrity and transparency of data collection, and respect and privacy for participants.
- Accepted abstracts can submit a paper based on the previously discussed abstract within 4 months from the date of the conference. They will be reviewed and they may be published in the conference proceedings.

Chair of Organising Committee: Elisabetta Ginevra Iida

Organising Committee: Nausica Dal Cin, Anna Filipozzi, Irene Kadic,
Davide Tagliapietra, Filippo Vaccari Orsini, Samuel Vallade Sciarini.