

PEN Political Economy News

A publication of IPSA's research committee on International Political Economy (RC51)

Issue 5 - June 2018 - rc51.ipsa.org

From the Co-Chairs

We are proud to announce that we will offer 11 panels and a roundtable in the 25th World Congress of Political Science in Brisbane, Australia. The participation of scholars based on the Asia-Pacific region opens the possibility of exploring new cases and questions related to our core research agenda on emerging market democracies (EMDs) and eventual democratic backsliding amid backlash against globalization. In this issue—the first under our new bi-annual frequency with a publication on Summer and the other in Winter—, we present the list of panels for the World Congress and announce the forthcoming elections for RC co-chair. Hope you enjoy reading this issue.

Lourdes Sola and Laurence Whitehead, co-chairs

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RC51 organizes 11 panels for the World Congress in Brisbane

The International Political Economy section, which is under the responsibility of our RC., will offer at the 25th World Congress of Political Science organized by IPSA 11 panels and a roundtable on how U.S. democratic allies see the Trump government. Out of those panels, four were convened by our members, including those who are in the board. They are:

- Les diplomates engloutis? L'art diplomatique dans un environnement concurrentiel (Convenor: Dr. Stéphane Paquin; Co-Chairs: Dr. Stéphane Paquin and Prof. Lourdes Sola; Discussant: Dr. Stéphane Paquin);
- Muddling through Middling: The Political Economy of Middle-Income Countries (Convenor: Dr. Matthew M. Taylor; Co-Chairs: Prof. Mark Beeson and Dr. Matthew M. Taylor; Discussants: Mr. Laurence Whitehead and Prof. Lourdes Sola);
- Rethinking Statecraft: Perspectives from Emerging Market Democracies (Convenor: Dr. Vinicius Rodrigues Vieira; Co-Chairs: Prof. Lourdes Sola and Mr. Laurence Whitehead; Discussants: Prof. Marc Stears, Prof. Matthew Taylor, and Prof. Saori Katada);
- The Political Economy of Developing Countries' Responses to Economic Globalization (Convenor and Chair: Prof. Helen V. Milner; Discussant: Prof. Stephan Haggard).

Apart from those four closed panels, the co-chairs Lourdes Sola and Laurence Whitehead and the RC secretary Vinicius Rodrigues Vieira organized seven panels with abstracts submitted directly to the organizing committee.

- Decentralizing Trends in Environmental Governance and the Political Economy of Energy (Chair: Dr. Christian Downie; Discussant: Mr. Kennedy Mbeva);
- Domestic Actors and Globalization Backsliding (Chair: Dr. Jonathon Louth; Discussants: Dr. Guanle Lim and Dr. Nita Rudra);
- Ideas and Policy Responses under Stability and Crisis (Chair: Dr. Giulia Mennillo; Discussants: Prof. Resat Bayer and Dr. Stéphane Paquin);
- Regional Statecraft: Lessons from the Asia-Pacific (Chair: Dr. Vinicius Rodrigues Vieira; Discussants: Prof. Jemma Kim and Prof. Mark Beeson);

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- The Political Economy of International Regimes Beyond Market Integration (Chair: Dr. Giulia Mennillo; Discussants: Ms. Candi Corrales and Dr. Soo Yeon Kim);
- The Price of Peace: Missing Linkages between Markets and Security (Co-Chairs: Prof. Resat Bayer and Dr. Jonathon Louth; Discussants: Dr. Giulia Mennillo and Dr. Jeffrey Wilson);
- The Unequal Politics of Preferential Trade Agreements (Co-Chairs: Dr. Wayne Tan and Dr. Daniel Lorberg; Discussants: Dr. Wayne Tan and Dr. Vinicius Rodrigues Vieira).

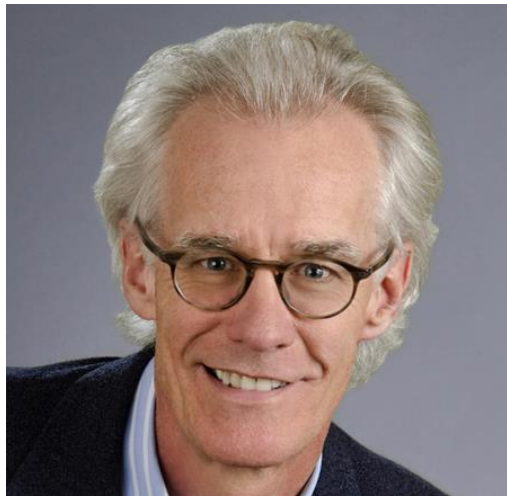
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Roundtable to discuss How Democracies Reacted to Trump



Professors Stephen Haggard and Ilter Turan are among the members of the roundtable

Apart from 11 panels, we put together for the 25th World Congress of Political Science the roundtable “Making America Grate Again: How International Democratic Allies are Reacting to Washington’s New Agenda”. The title itself ironizes president Donald J. Trump’s campaign motto as, rather than recovering U.S. primacy in the world, his retreat from the liberal order may grate—that is, erode further—the American position and generate discontent among allies in both developed and developing worlds.

The roundtable members are professors Lourdes Sola and Laurence Whitehead—the RC co-chairs—professor Tun-jen Cheng (College of William and Mary), professor Stephan Haggard (University of California at San Diego), professor Marc Stears (University of Oxford), professor Ilter Turan (Istanbul Bilgi University)—IPSA’s president.

A first edition of the roundtable took place last April at the International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Meeting in San Francisco, with professors Cheng, Whitehead, Aseema Sinha (Claremont McKenna College, USA), and Carlos Elizondo (Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mexico). We would like to advance in Brisbane the debate on the future of the US role in the world under the eyes of other democracies—particularly those in the developing world.

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RC to elect New Co-Chair to replace Professor Sola



During our business meeting in Brisbane the RC members will elect a new co-chair for the committee. Professor Lourdes Sola (pictured above), who founded the group in 2012, will leave the position according to IPSA rules. Chairs and co-chairs are elected for four-year-long terms extendable for additional two years. In addition, the meeting shall appoint new members of the RC board or reconduct current ones. The rules are the same for RC chairs.

She run the RC first with Dr. Stephane Paquin (ENAP, Canada), who was replaced as co-chair by professor Laurence Whitehead (University of Oxford) in 2016, when professor Sola was re-appointed for an additional two-year term in line with the association's bylaws. Professor Whitehead shall remain as a co-chair along with the scholar who will replace professor Sola at least until 2020.

A retired faculty member from the University of São Paulo (Brazil), Professor Sola served as IPSA's president between 2007 and 2010. She holds a doctorate in Politics from the University of Oxford and has published in several academic journals in the discipline.

The RC business meeting shall take place on 25 July 2018, at 12:45, in the Mezzanine (room M6). All members of our committee are welcome.

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IPSA co-sponsored RC panel at ISA 2018 in San Francisco

We presented in the International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Meeting last March in San Francisco the panel “Rethinking Statecraft: perspectives from Emerging Market Democracies”, an initiative co-sponsored by IPSA. Having as co-chairs professors Lourdes Sola and Laurence Whitehead, the panel had as core goal examining the conceptual and empirical challenges derived from the response of large emerging market democracies to the international and domestic pressures since the onset of the post-Cold War era. Peter Gourevitch (University of California at San Diego) served as discussant for the six papers presented. They are:

- Unsettling Statecraft: new dilemmas and perspectives, by professors Sola and Whitehead;
- South-South relations and Earth System Governance: Brazilian participation in multilateral environmental agreements and its international development cooperation, by Cristina Y. A. Inoue (University of Brasilia) and Kathryn Hochstetler (LSE);
- The Political Economy of Science, Technology and Innovation Policy in Contemporary Latin America, by Ken Shadlen (LSE);
- Canny Statecraft and South American Regionalism, by Sybil Rhodes (Universidad del Centro de Estudios Macroeconómicos de Argentina) and Leslie Elliott Armijo (Simon Fraser University);
- The Political Economy of Regional Integration: Attitudes and Perceptions of Brazilian Elites, by Janina Onuki and Amancio Oliveira (University of São Paulo, Brazil);
- Statecraft in emerging market democracies in the context of global financial asymmetries: The dilemma of exchange rate policies, by Barbara Fritz (Freie Universität Berlin).

For ISA 2019 in Toronto, we submitted another proposal following IPSA's invitation to our RC as ISA's partner organization. The panel, which is still under review, aims to advance the debates on democratic statecraft in emerging markets under the perspective of social coalitions.

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Recent Publications

***The BRICS and Collective Financial Statecraft*, by Cynthia Roberts, Leslie Armijo, and Saori Katada (Oxford University Press, 2017)**

As it is widely known, Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa formed in the beginning of this century an exclusive international club, the BRICS. Although not extreme revisionists, the BRICS recognize an ongoing global power shift and contest the West's pretensions to permanent stewardship of the existing economic order. Together they exercise collective financial and monetary statecraft to achieve larger foreign policy goals, having formed an international financial institution, the New Development Bank, and created an IMF-like mechanism, the Contingency Reserve Arrangement (CRA). That was the case as the BRICS share common resentments-of U.S. dominance of the global financial system, of playing junior roles in economic governance, and of serving as frequent targets of financial sanctions. Yet, the members of the bloc have not refrained from obtaining greater financial autonomy and influence within the Bretton Woods institutions. Their financial statecraft therefore ranges from pressure for the internal reform of international organizations and markets to operating outside the system through the creation of both new multilateral institutions and opportunity structures in international financial markets. The book explores those apparent contradictions that are nevertheless key to explain the why the joint actions of the BRICS have been largely successful.

A preview of the book is available [here](#).

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***The Information Revolution and Its Implications for Democracy,* by Laurence Whitehead**

This chapter, published in the volume *Time, Science and the Critique of Technological Reason: Essays in Honour of Hermínio Martins* (edited by José Esteban Castro, Bridget Fowler, and Luís Gomes, and published by Palgrave Macmillan, 2018, pp 321-345), focuses on the implications of the extremely rapid and indeed explosive growth of the global 'infosphere' over the past couple of decades (and foreseeably into the medium-term future) and the transformative/disruptive effects it is already having—and will have to a much greater degree in the coming generation—on world politics in general, and democratic politics in particular. A main concern is the profound impact that the latest wave of information and communications technology (ICT) has already had—with most of the big effects still to unfold—on the scope for mass political expression in general (and for broadly democratic versions of that in particular) and indeed on the very nature and possibilities for democratic life in future generations.

The full chapter can be purchased [here](#), as well as the full book, which is a festschrift that commemorates the legacy of UK-based Portuguese sociologist Hermínio Martins (1934-2015). It introduces Martins' wide-ranging contributions to the social sciences, encompassing seminal works in the fields of philosophy and social theory, historical and political sociology, studies of science and technology, and Luso-Brazilian studies, among others. The book features an in-depth interview with Martins, short memoirs, and 12 chapters addressing topics that were central to his intellectual and political interests.

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Brazilian oil sector reforms: The role of technical know-how and corporate ethos in Petrobras's dominance, by Beni Trojbcicz and Maria Rita Loureiro

The literature shows that Petrobras's specialized knowledge in deep-water exploration helped it maintain its dominance of the oil sector in Brazil. This article, published in the journal *Energy Policy*, contributes to the literature by throwing light on how this process operates: as technicians of the State enterprise monopolize the knowledge, they are called on to participate in key policy decisions for the sector, and thus exert an influence that is not counter-balanced by other experts. Also, as these technicians' ethos identifies Petrobras's policy agenda with national interests, their participation in oil policymaking reinforces the enterprise's dominance in the sector. This case study contributes to energy policy studies by bringing to the discussion questions addressed here on the institutionalist approach, relating particularly to bureaucratic agents' behavior and their influence as technical specialists on processes of change. It also addresses the problem of unexpected results of institutional reforms, in view of the challenges faced by governments that seek to alter regulatory frameworks.

The article can be read [here](#).

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Who joins counter-hegemonic IGOs? Early and late members of the China-led Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, by Vinícius Rodrigues Vieira

In this paper published by the journal *Research & Politics*, the RC secretary Dr. Vinícius Rodrigues Vieira (University of Sao Paulo) asks what makes states join intergovernmental organizations intended to challenge a hegemon. The China-led Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), founded in June 2015, targets the primacy of the US-led Asian Development Bank (ADB) in the Asia-Pacific region, and is a crucial case for answering this question. He thus argues that early AIIB members are likely to be politically distant from the US in both international and domestic terms. In contrast, subsequent states seeking AIIB membership include democratic states, existing ADB members and countries internationally aligned with the US, as measured by voting similarity at the United Nations General Assembly. Through logit models, Dr. Rodrigues Vieira tests these propositions and analyze which states adhered to the 2014 Memorandum of Understanding that signaled Beijing's willingness to form the Bank and which states joined the AIIB subsequently at its foundation in 2015. The results support my claim that early members tend to score low in democratic governance, while late members are US allies.

For reading the text, [click here](#).

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Forthcoming Events

10th Annual IPSA-USP Summer School in Concepts, Methods and Techniques in Political Science, Public Policy and International Relations

Deadline for applications: October 10, 2018. Event: from January 14 to February 1, 2019 at the University of São Paulo, Brazil.

(<http://summerschool.fflch.usp.br/>)