Foreign Policy Analysis and the Diplomacy of Sub-State Actors

FPA Working Group
ISA Annual Convention, New Orleans 2015

Working Group Coordinator: Cristian Cantir (cantir@oakland.edu)

The creation of this Working Group (WG) seeks to achieve two major goals. First, it seeks to create a network among scholars with a theoretical and empirical interest in the diplomatic activities of sub-state actors (regions, administrative units, and cities). Such activities include the signature of agreements by sub-national administrative units like the state of California, the establishment of cultural ties with ethnic kin, and the conduct of investment diplomacy by large Chinese municipalities. Students of this phenomenon have different ontological, epistemological, and methodological commitments and have not yet become part of a coherent community. Consequently, this working group will make an effort to bring scholars together for discussions about the state of the field, its future possibilities, and collaborative work that spans regions and approaches.

Second, the WG seeks to generate in-depth discussion specifically regarding the utility of FPA theory for the conceptualization of the diplomatic behaviors of sub-state actors. The WG will therefore bring together leading FPA scholars and researchers from across the globe who have been working on the topic and will encourage them to think about a number of questions. What current theoretical frameworks in foreign policy analysis are useful in the investigation of the foreign policy of sub-state actors? Do we need new theoretical approaches to understand sub-state foreign policy?

Beyond these primary tasks, participants will also delve into broader questions, such as the implications of sub-state diplomatic activities for IR theory and the relevance of sub-state diplomacy for the study of regionalization and globalization. Consequently, the targeted audience for the WG includes scholars in the fields of foreign policy analysis, area studies, international relations theory, ethnic and territorial identity, and regionalization.

The Working Group speaks to a number of themes that the 2015 Annual Convention will explore. It seeks to build bridges between FPA scholars and area studies specialists who have generated significant insight into the foreign policy behavior of sub-state actors in Latin America, Asia, Africa, North America, and Europe. The WG will also task the participants with thinking theoretically about the connections between the local and the global level, as well as variations among regions in terms of the diplomatic activities of sub-state actors. Finally, the Working Group contributes to the effort of IR to become a global discipline by emphasizing and theorizing the role of non-state actors in the world order.

The Working Group will summarize empirical and theoretical findings in the field of sub-state diplomacy and will provide extensive time for a discussion of areas of future research. In order to consolidate the connections established during the WG, we will create a listserv that will notify members of new research in the field, job/research opportunities, and general networking to encourage further cooperation.
Working Group Schedule (Participants are expected to attend all three sessions)

Day 1
Pre-conference meeting
Tuesday, February 17

9:00-9:30 am  Welcome and introductions

9:30-11:00 am  Discussion title: The Activities of Sub-State Actors
Discussion topics:
- Presentation of empirical findings on the activities of sub-state actors (regions, administrative units, and cities in particular) and what we know so far about the extent and impact of these activities
- The practical conduct of sub-national diplomacy (by a policy-maker)

Discussion leaders: Fritz Nganje (University of Johannesburg); Manuel Duran (University of Antwerp); Heidi Hobbs (North Carolina State University). A policy-maker will also speak to the policy aspect (name TBA)

11:00-11:30 am  Break

11:30-12:30 pm  Discussion title: The Theoretical Study of Paradiplomacy
Discussion topics:
- Presentation of theoretical approaches to paradiplomacy

Discussion leaders: Noe Cornago (University of the Basque Country, Bilbao, Spain); David Criekemans (University of Antwerp); Joana Setzer (London School of Economics and Political Science)

12:30-2:00 pm  Lunch

2:00-3:30 pm  Discussion title: Paradiplomacy, Foreign Policy Analysis, and International Relations (Roundtable format)
Discussion topics:
- Foreign Policy Analysis (FPA) and paradiplomacy
- Paradiplomacy and the study of diplomacy in IR
- Identity and paradiplomacy

Discussion leader: Klaus Brummer (University of Erlangen Nuremberg)

3:30-4:00 pm  Break

4:00-5:00 pm  General comments and wrap-up
Day 2
Follow-up meeting
Thursday, February 19
1.45 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.

Participants will meet on February 19 to discuss the panels they have attended and their relevance for our discussions in Day 1. The focus will be especially on the diplomatic activities of sub-state actors, theoretical frameworks used to understand them, and connections to FPA and IR theory in general.

Day 3
Wrap-up
Friday, February 20
1.45 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.

A wrap-up discussion will be organized in roundtable format, in which scholars will continue discussions about panels they have attended and will identify future areas for research. The conversation will end with concrete proposals for establishing a network of scholars: creating a listserv, applying for a workshop for ISA 2016, and submitting panels and papers for other conferences.
Working Group Coordinator

Cristian Cantir

Cristian Cantir is Assistant Professor of Political Science at Oakland University. Some of his research interests include the domestic determinants of foreign policy behavior, role theory, and historical approaches to IR. He has published in the *Review of International Studies*, *Foreign Policy Analysis*, *Cooperation and Conflict*, and the *Journal of International Relations and Development*.

Working Group Speakers

Klaus Brummer

Klaus Brummer is an Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany. He held visiting professorships at Duke University and the University of Helsinki, among others. He has published in journals including *Foreign Policy Analysis*, *British Journal of Politics and International Relations*, *International Politics*, *European Security*, and *International Journal of Human Rights*. He is currently serving as vice president and section program chair of ISA’s Foreign Policy Analysis section. He is also co-speaker of the Foreign and Security Policy Group of the German Political Science Association. He is a member of the Foreign Policy Analysis editorial board and served as co-reviews editor for German Politics.

Noé Cornago

Noé Cornago (Ph.D) is Associate Professor of International Relations at the University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU) in Bilbao, Spain, where he is also in charge of the Graduate Programme in International Studies, and guest researcher at the INTE/University Arturo Prat, Iquique, Chile. He has widely published on the contemporary transformations of diplomacy and the international relations of subnational governments. He has held various visiting positions at Université Laval, Ohio State University, University of Idaho, Sciences Po Bordeaux, Free University of Colombia, and more recently, St. Antony’s College at the University of Oxford, where he completed his book *Plural Diplomacies: Normative Predicaments and Functional Imperatives* (Boston & Leiden: Brill, Diplomatic Studies Series, 2013). Email: noe.cornago@ehu.es

David Criekemans

David Criekemans is Assistant Professor in “International Politics” at the University of Antwerp (Belgium). He is also Assistant Professor in International Relations at the University College Roosevelt in Middelburg (the Netherlands). In 2005, he completed and defended his Ph. D. on the intellectual history of Geopolitics (1890-2005), and its relation to Theory of International Relations. The manuscript (written in Dutch) was published by the Scientific Publisher Garant (Antwerp, Belgium / Apeldoorn, the Netherlands) under the title “Geopolitics, ‘geographical consciousness’ of foreign policy?” (original
David Criekemans conducts research on themes such as foreign policy (Flanders, Belgium, European Union), Geopolitics (both theoretical and case-oriented), energy and international politics, multilateral policy and negotiations and theory and history of International Relations. David Criekemans has published widely on regional sub-state diplomacy, both empirical (Flanders, Wallonia, Catalonia, Québec, Scotland, Bavaria) and theoretical. He was Guest Editor of a Special Issue on ‘Regional Sub-state Diplomacy Today’, which appeared in The Hague Journal of Diplomacy, published in March 2010 (Volume 5, number 1). This was also published as an edited book ‘Regional Sub-state Diplomacy Today’ with Martinus Nijhoff Publishers (ISBN 978-90-04-18357-5). He is often asked internationally as a speaker on the topic of regional sub-state diplomacy.

Manuel Duran

Manuel Duran graduated at the University of Antwerp with a PhD on sub-state diplomatic practices in the Mediterranean. He also holds a master in medieval history and in international relations and diplomacy. Before joining the University of Antwerp, he worked as a researcher for the Policy Research Centre Programme on Foreign Policy of the Flemish Government. He currently works at the University of Antwerp and at the Royal Army Museum in Brussels as a scientific attaché. His publications include articles on sub-state diplomacy and military history. His PhD will be published in the Diplomatic Studies Series of Martinus Nijhoff Brill. Contact info: manuel.duran@uantwerpen.be

Heidi Hobbs

Heidi Hobbs is Director of the Master of International Studies and Associate Professor of Political Science in the School of Public and International Affairs at North Carolina State University. She has a B.A. and M.A. in Political Science from the University of Georgia. Her Ph.D. is in International Relations from the University of Southern California. Her books include City Hall Goes Abroad: The Foreign Policy of Local Politics and Pondering Postinternationalism: A Paradigm for the 21st Century. Her most recent publication is a textbook with Harry I. Chernotsky entitled, Crossing Borders: International Studies for the 21st Century. Heidi has been a leader in ISA, serving as President of the Foreign Policy Analysis section, as well as President of ISA South. She has also served as Chair of the Women’s Caucus.

Fritz Nganje

Fritz Nganje is currently a postdoctoral research fellow with the South African Research Chair in African Diplomacy and Foreign Policy at the University of Johannesburg. Prior to this, he was a researcher in the Africa Diplomacy programme of the Institute for Global Dialogue (IGD), a foreign policy and international relations think tank in Pretoria, South Africa. Fritz holds a Bachelor’s degree in Journalism and Mass Communication from the University of Buea in Cameroon, a Master’s in Peace Studies and International Relations from the North West University in South Africa, and a doctorate in Political Studies from the University of Johannesburg. His doctoral thesis analysed the foreign relations of selected South African provinces. His general research interests include the diplomacy of subnational governments, South Africa’s
foreign policy and diplomacy in Africa, conflict resolution and peacebuilding in Africa and South-South cooperation.

**Joana Setzer**

Joana Setzer is a research assistant at the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). She is currently working on the new edition of the GLOBE Climate Change Legislation Study. Joana has a PhD in Environmental Policy & Development from the LSE, titled “Environmental paradiplomacy: the engagement of the Brazilian state of São Paulo in international environmental relations”. She also has a MSc in Environmental Policy and Regulation from the LSE. Prior to that, Joana obtained a MSc in Environmental Science from the University of Sao Paulo, a LLB in Law from Pontificia Universidade Catolica of Sao Paulo, and she worked for eight years as an environmental lawyer in Brazil. Some of her recent work has been published by *Environment and Planning C, TIP - Trabajos de Investigación en Paradiplomacia*, and the *Brazilian Journal of International Law*. 