

Beyond Ruptures and Crisis: International Relations and the Long Unwinding Road of the Middle Ages

Workshop report

Benjamin de Carvalho

Julia Costa Lopez

Xavier Guillaume

Participants

Two participants from the original proposal (Luke Ashworth and George Lawson) had to withdraw due to personal reasons. The remaining fifteen participants, including the three convenors, attended the workshop.

Participants	Affiliation	Country
William Bain	National University of Singapore	Singapore
Jens Bartelson	Lund University	Sweden
Julia Costa Lopez	University of Oxford	UK
Kathleen Davis	University of Rhode Island	US
Benjamin de Carvalho	Norwegian Institute of International Affairs	Norway
Yale Ferguson	Rutgers University	US
Xavier Guillaume	University of Edinburgh	UK
Sandra Halperin	Royal Holloway, University of London	UK
Beate Jahn	University of Sussex	UK
Jorg Kustermans	Flemish Peace Institute	Netherlands
Andrew Latham	Macalester College	US
Halvard Leira	Norwegian Institute of International Affairs	Norway
Richard Mansbach	Iowa State University	US
Andrew Phillips	University of Queensland	Australia
Ayse Zarakol	University of Cambridge	UK

Development of the workshop

The workshop took place as scheduled on the 15th of March 2016 in Atlanta. The papers were presented in three separate sessions which were thematically structured and then extensively discussed by both discussants and workshop participants. The first session dealt with questioning spatial and temporal ruptures, and included papers by Beate Jahn, Kathleen Davis, Jens Bartelson, and Xavier Guillaume. The second session looked at the Long Middle Ages from the perspective of IR, and included papers by Andrew Latham, William Bain, Benjamin de Carvalho and Halvard Leira, and Julia Costa López. The final session examined the issue of ruptures beyond the West, and included papers by Sandra Halperin, Ayse Zarakol, and Yale Ferguson and Richard Mansbach.

Several transversal themes of discussion emerged throughout the day: first, the necessity to historicize International Relations in regards to its key concepts in order to offer a more adapted, accurate and relevant reading of the present; second, the importance of the issue of periodization in International Relations, and the politics behind it; third, the importance and necessity of broadening up our historical horizons beyond the so-called modern European experience, and particularly to explore, from an IR perspective, how the later has been circulated, negotiated, and resisted elsewhere.

Further collaboration and publication plans

Following on these themes that developed in the workshop, we have the intention of continuing this project along several lines. First, we intend to develop an edited volume on the issue of the politics of periodization in International Relations, approached both from a conceptual point of view, and from the perspective of key ‘periods’ or divisions in the IR imagination. Another meeting will be held in late 2016 to continue to prepare this project, and we have an expected submission date of the later half of 2017.

Second, stemming from the discussion on the possibility of applying anachronically concepts to historical times when such terms were not used, we aim at preparing a symposium to be published in one of the ISA journals on the issue of early sovereignty. In preparation for this forum, we are organizing a roundtable on the topic at the upcoming ISA in Baltimore.

Final Budget

We unfortunately had two withdrawals from the original proposal, Lucian Ashworth and George Lawson; one of which we were able to compensate on the fly. As a result of this, and also of underspending on the hotel budget, the final budget of the workshop is of 6554,61 versus an authorized total of 7430,72.

These are the details:

Expenses	Amount	Details
Meeting Rom	200	As per budget guidelines
Projector	350	As per budget guidelines
Internet	200	As per budget guidelines
Coffee	270	Two coffee breaks, 1.5 gallons of coffee per break, at \$90 per gallon
Lunch	680	17 boxed lunches at \$40/person
Hotel	2904,61	15 stays of 1 night
Per Diem	1950	12 non-US scholars for 2 days at \$150 and 3 US scholars for 1 day at \$75.
TOTAL	6554,61	

Participants	Origin	Hotel Authorized	Per diem	Actual Hotel USD	TOTAL Reimbursement
Luke Ashworth	Canada	209,16	75	0	0
William Bain	Singapore	209,16	150	192,92	342,92
Jens Bartelson	Sweden	209,16	150	209,16	359,16
Julia Costa Lopez	UK	209,16	150	163,02	313,02
Kathleen Davis	US	209,16	75	192,92	267,92
Benjamin de Carvalho	Norway	209,16	150	209,16	359,16
Yale Ferguson	US	209,16	75	209,16	284,16
Xavier Guillaume	UK	209,16	150	209,16	359,16
Sandra Halperin	UK	209,16	150	192,92	342,92
Beate Jahn	UK	209,16	150	192,92	342,92
Jorg Kustermans	Netherlands	209,16	150	136,19	286,19
Andrew Latham	US	209,16	75	192,92	267,92
George Lawson	UK	209,16	150	0	0
Halvard Leira	Norway	209,16	150	209,16	359,16
Richard Mansbach	US	209,16	75	192,92	267,92
Andrew Phillips	Australia	209,16	150	209,16	359,16
Ayse Zarakol	UK	209,16	150	192,92	342,92
TOTAL			2175	2904,61	4854,61