

Crisis and Hope in International Relations

9th European Workshops in International Studies, Thessaloniki, 6-9 July 2022

The Interconnected Worlds of the Past and the Present: Co-constituting the International

Conveners:

Pol Bargués, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs), Spain

Valerie Waldow, University of Magdeburg, Germany

Workshop Summary

Today's contemporary condition is one of existential crisis. Modernist constructs and liberal assumptions of a united and coherent world have ended up in barbaric consequences. In the sphere of international development, policies have cemented the socio-economic gulf between regions, while international security practices have reinforced racialised, gendered and colonial logics. Mounting crises today (economic, health, humanitarian, political and climatic) have collapsed the certainties of International Relations. And yet, in this fundamentally uncertain and fragile world, hope is pervasive. Hope appears to be the last resource to fade and seems to endure despite crises and emergencies. Yet, hope itself is under-theorised, almost mystically inaccessible, often grasped as if through a thick impenetrable fog. Hope cannot be easily isolated and analysed, despite (or maybe because) of its centrality to contemporary narratives of politics and possibility. Hope's speculative framing enables us to imagine a future which is unlike the present, but how distinct this/ these future(s) are is a matter of conceptual debate.

In response to the theme *The Interconnected Worlds of the Past and the Present: Co-constituting the International*, this workshop aims to examine the relationship between past, present and future that hope appears to provide and to explore the ontological stakes involved in discussions of our contemporary condition through the prism of hope. Through opening up to the present and the world external to us, hope is seen to allow the cultivation of new imaginative sensibilities, subjectivities and forms of belonging that may contribute to a reconfiguration of our world beyond current crises. However, as policy approaches of non-linear intervention, adaption and resilience suggest, hope may also become governmentalised in new policy imaginaries. Against this background the workshop is interested in investigating the analytics, ontologies and ethics of hope.

Preliminary Programme

Wednesday, 6 July

15.00	Registration Opens
15.30	EWIS Plenary Session 1
tbc	EWIS Opening Reception
tbc	Workshop dinner

Thursday, 7 July

09.30 - 10.30 - Workshop Session 1: Introduction

Pol Bargaés, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs), Spain
Valerie Waldow, University of Magdeburg, Germany

10.30 - 11.00 - Coffee Break

11.00 - 12.30 - Workshop Session 2

Chaired by Srishti Malaviya (O.P. Jindal Global University, India)

A Hope Against Hope

Chris Zebrowski (Loughborough University, United Kingdom)

Hope is a Theological, not a Political Virtue': Eschatology and End of Time Politics

Vassilios Paipais (University of St Andrews, United Kingdom)

12.30 - 14.00 - Lunch break (lunch not provided by EISA)

14.00 - 15.30 - Workshop Session 3

Chaired by Farai Chipato (University of Glasgow, United Kingdom)

Affective politics of Palestinian hope' through new discourses and constellations in Twitter. Case of study: the Unity Intifada

Itxaso Domínguez de Olazábal (Universidad Carlos 3 de Madrid, Spain)

Cross-border Cosmopolitanism in Times of Conflict

Lena Merkle (University of Magdeburg, Germany)

Futurity and Planning: Indigenous Resistance and Anthropocene Politics

Elisa Randazzo and Hannah Richter (University of Hertfordshire, United Kingdom)

15.30 – 16.00 - Coffee Break

16.00 – 17.30 - Workshop Session 4

Chaired by Chris Zebrowski (Loughborough University, United Kingdom)

Three Modes of Hope after the End of the World: The Speculative, the Pragmatic and the Cynical

David Chandler (University of Westminster, United Kingdom)

Hope at the End of Critique? Crisis, Critique and Affirmation in the Anthropocene

Valerie Waldow (University Magdeburg, Germany)

Friday, 8 July

09.00 - 10.30 - Workshop Session 5

Chaired by Elisa Randazzo (University of Hertfordshire, United Kingdom)

Climate change and the light of hopelessness

Pol Bargués (CIDOB, Barcelona Centre for International Affairs, Spain)

Embodied Hope in the times of climate crisis: exploring corporeality in resistance for climate justice

Selkälä, Henna-Elise Vilhelmiina (Tampere University, Finland)

Governing (through) Hope in Pandemic Times

Nicolas Gäckle (University of Groningen, The Netherlands)

10.30 - 11.00 - Coffee Break

11.00 - 12.30 - Workshop Session 6

Chaired by Itxaso Domínguez de Olazábal (Universidad Carlos 3 de Madrid, Spain)

Hope makes Strange: Conceptualising Hopeful Becoming in Strange Worlds

Srishti Malaviya (O.P. Jindal Global University, India)

Hope in the Anthropocene? From entanglements to radical openness

Ignasi Torrent (University of Hertfordshire, United Kingdom)

12.30 - 14.00 - Lunch break (lunch not provided by EISA)

14.00 - 15.30 - Workshop Session 7

Chaired by Vassilios Paipais (University of St Andrews, United Kingdom)

Pasts and Futures in the Present: (Un)Imagining Political Alternatives

Mustafa Ali Sezal (University of Groningen, The Netherlands)

Is Hope Necessary in a World that will Never End? The Need for the Omission of Hope in Dystopian Thinking

Aristidis Victor Agoglossakis Foley (University of St Andrews, United Kingdom)

15.30 - 16.00 - Coffee Break

16.00 - 17.30 - Workshop Session 8

Chaired by: Selkälä, Henna-Elise Vilhelmiina (Tampere University, Finland)

Designing the ruins of modernity: Postcritical Hope and Black Aesthetic

Farai Chipato (University of Glasgow, United Kingdom)

Hopeful quantum futures

Geoff Gordon (University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands)

17:30 – 18:00 - Workshop Conclusion: Collective Publication and Road ahead

Catalysed by David Chandler (University of Westminster, United Kingdom)