Dear friends of the RWO,

I hope this finds you well and in good health. I want to take this opportunity to update you on our scheduled programming, upcoming events, and new initiatives that we are planning to launch this fall. The new academic year has just started, and Princeton has now fully resumed in-person teaching and other activities. Our community will be offering a mix of virtual and in-person programming this year. Most of the virtual events will be organized as Zoom meetings; registration links are included in this newsletter but are also available on our website, rwo.princeton.edu.

We organize a monthly speaker series, the **World Order Colloquium**. Last year, the Colloquium hosted Rosemary Foot (University of Oxford, St. Antony’s), Daniel Nexon (Georgetown University) and Alexander Cooley (Barnard College and Columbia University), Joshua Derman (Hong Kong University of Science and Technology), Michael Cox (London School of Economics), Stephen Wertheim (Quincy Institute), and Richard Falk (Princeton University, Emeritus, and Queen’s Mary University of London). Links to recordings of these talks are posted on our website. We’re excited to announce that the Colloquium will be hosting more exciting conversations with scholars of world order this year. Although there is no set date for the Colloquium, we schedule upcoming presentations on Thursday mornings. Presentations are followed by an open Q&A with the audience.

We are pleased to welcome Glenda Sluga (European University Institute and University of Sydney) for this year’s inaugural meeting of the Colloquium, scheduled for September 30, 10-11:30am. Professor Sluga will be presenting research from her new book, *The Invention of International Order: Remaking Europe after Napoleon* (2021). You can register for the presentation [here](#).

For the second meeting of the Colloquium, scheduled for November 11, 10-11:30am, we are happy to welcome Amitav Acharya (American University). The topic of Professor Acharya’s talk will be determined shortly. You can register for his presentation [here](#).
Daniel Gorman (University of Waterloo) will join us for the third meeting of the Colloquium, scheduled for December 2, 10:30am-12pm. Professor Gorman will be speaking about “Building World Order: Networks of International Cooperation in the Early Twentieth Century”. The talk will draw synthetically on Professor Gorman’s previous publications, including The Emergence of International Society in the 1920s (2012) and International Cooperation in the Early Twentieth Century (2017). You can register for Professor Gorman’s presentation here.

I’m also pleased to let you know that we are resuming the production of our feature podcast, now in its second season. The aim of the podcast is to engage leading scholars of world order from around the world in conversation about their intellectual journeys, theoretical contributions, and takes on our present discontents. In the first season of the podcast, we spoke with Richard Falk (Princeton University, Emeritus, and Queen Mary University of London), Barry Buzan (London School of Economics, Emeritus), and Daniel Deudney (Johns Hopkins University). These conversations, lasting from one to two hours, are posted on our dedicated channel on Anchor.fm. You can find us on your favorite podcast platform, including Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, and Spotify. A pseudo-video of each recording is also uploaded to our dedicated channel on YouTube. Make sure to subscribe to our channels and leave a comment.

It gives me great pleasure to share with you that, for the inaugural episode of the second season of our podcast, we sat down for a conversation with one of today’s leading International Relations scholars, who’s made impressive contributions to the study of constructivism and the English School: our friend, Christian Reus-Smit (University of Queensland). In this episode, we talk about the origins of Professor Reus-Smit’s interest in world politics; his graduate education at Cornell; the genesis and arguments of his major books, such as The Moral Purpose of the State (1999), On Cultural Diversity (2018), and Culture and Order in World Politics (2020); his analysis of the present state of international order; and his views on graduate education in political science. The episode will be released in the last week of September, and we encourage you to listen to it on your platform of choice.

This fall, we will also be launching two new in-person initiatives: a reading group and an interdisciplinary research workshop, which are intended as platforms for undergraduate and graduate students interested in the broad questions of world order. We will shortly circulate open invitations for both initiatives to students in the Departments of History and Politics as well as the School of Public and International Affairs. Both the reading group and the research workshop will meet in person, but interested students will also be able to join us virtually. We will share more information regarding the logistics of this hybrid format later in September.

I will convene the reading group for informal, unstructured conversations about some of the greatest classics on world order. Every month, we’ll pick one book to read and discuss at next month’s meeting. The introductory meeting of the group is tentatively scheduled for October 7th, 10am-12pm. To join the group, please complete this form.
The research workshop will be modelled on the field research seminars in the Department of Politics. It will be a venue for students to present their current research on issues of world order and receive constructive feedback from their peers and attending faculty. The frequency of the workshop will depend on student demand. The research workshop will be led by the RWO's post-docs, Tolya Levshin and Chika Tonooka. The first meeting of the workshop is tentatively scheduled for October 6, 4:30-6pm. To join the research workshop, please complete this form.

I’m happy to announce that our seminar on “Theories of International Order” (POL440/536) will be offered again this year, in the Spring term. Last year, I designed and co-taught this new seminar with Chika and Tolya. The seminar surveyed prominent theories of international order, explored crucial junctures of order formation and decline, and considered the sociology and causal mechanics of pivotal institutions of international order. We invited both senior undergraduates and graduate students to join the seminar, and we balanced conventional surveys of academic literatures with exercises intended to facilitate problem-based learning, such as debates and simulations. The incredible success of this new seminar encouraged us to offer it again this year, and we’re very much looking forward to teaching it once more.

Finally, I’m pleased to report that planning for the second of our three annual conferences is proceeding apace! The conference will be held in April and bring together leading scholars of world order from around the world to consider the problem of “Crisis and Resilience of Liberal International Order”. More information about the conference, including a preliminary program and logistical details, will be shared in the Spring term. Recording of our first annual conference, which was held virtually on April 16 and 17, is available on YouTube.

Thank you for being a part of our growing RWO community!

With warm wishes,

G. John Ikenberry.

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