



REIMAGINING
**WORLD
ORDER**

September 7, 2022

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 and upcoming events for this fall. The new academic year has just started. Our community will be offering primarily in-person programming this year, with some possibility of virtual participation.

As you may know, we organize a monthly speaker series, the **World Order Colloquium**. Over the past two years, 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), Richard Falk (Princeton University, Emeritus, and Queen's Mary University of London), Glenda Sluga (European University Institute), Amitav Acharya (American University), Daniel Gorman (University of Waterloo), Matthew Specter (University of Berkeley), and Patrick Cohrs (University of Florence). Links to recordings of these talks are posted on our [website](#). We're excited to announce that the Colloquium will be hosting more conversations with scholars of world order this year.

Presentations will be followed by an open Q&A with the virtual and in-person audiences.

Registration is **not required** for in-person attendance. Information about the location of these talks will soon be posted on our website and shared with our subscribers through this mailing list. If you are unable to join the Colloquia in person, you can register to [join virtually, on Zoom](#).

We are pleased to welcome **Paul Kennedy** (Yale University) for this year's inaugural meeting of the Colloquium, scheduled for September 22 (Thursday), 4:30-6pm. The title of Professor Kennedy's talk is "Tracking the Hegemonic Shift: Revisiting *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers*".

For the second meeting of the Colloquium, scheduled for October 7 (Friday), 4:30-6pm, we are happy to welcome **Matias Spektor** (Fundação Getúlio Vargas), who is also a Visiting Fellow with PIIRS this year.

Kyle Lascurettes (Lewis & Clark College) will join us for the third meeting of the Colloquium, scheduled for November 10 (Thursday), 4:30-6pm.

I'm also pleased to let you know that we are resuming the production of our **feature podcast**, now in its third 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 two seasons of the podcast, we spoke with Richard Falk (Princeton University, Emeritus, and Queen Mary University of London), Barry Buzan (London School of Economics, Emeritus), Daniel Deudney (Johns Hopkins University), Christian Reus-Smit (University of Queensland), and Joshua Cherniss (Georgetown 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. New episodes will be released in October and November! Make sure to subscribe to our channels and leave a comment.

This fall, we will also be resuming our **reading group** and **inter-disciplinary 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. You do not need to re-subscribe if you are already on our mailing lists for these two initiatives. Both the reading group and the research workshop will meet in person, but interested students will also be able to join us virtually.

I will convene the reading group for informal, unstructured conversations about some of the classics of world order as well as more recent monographs. Every month, we'll pick one book to read and discuss at next month's meeting. To join the group, please complete [this form](#). The choice of the books we'll be discussing is up to you! Use the registration form to let us know what book you'd like the reading group to discuss next. Last year, the reading group explored Richard Falk's influential *This Endangered Planet: Prospects and Proposals for Human Survival* (1971), Matthew Rose's provocative *A World After Liberalism: Philosophers of the Radical Right* (2021) and Joshua Cherniss's thought-provoking *Liberalism in Dark Times: The Liberal Ethos in the Twentieth Century* (2021).

The research workshop is modelled on the field research seminars in the Department of Politics. It's a venue for students to present their current research on issues of world order and receive constructive feedback from their peers. The frequency of the workshop this year will depend on student demand. The research workshop will be led by Woojeong Jang and Tolya Levshin. The first meeting of the workshop is tentatively scheduled for October 5, 4:30-6pm. You can sign up for the research workshop using [this link](#). Please sign up by September 30th so that we can finalize the schedule. To join the research workshop's mailing list, 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, 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. We'll be offering the course again this year, and we encourage undergraduates, MPAs, and doctoral students to enroll!

Finally, I'm pleased to report that planning for **the third of our three annual conferences** is proceeding apace! Last year, our second annual conference explored the history and logics of the Liberal International Order. It brought together eminent scholars of world order from Canada, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States. For each panel, our speakers were assigned to one of five broad topics: "Surveying the Liberal Legacy: Impacts, Failures, Accomplishments", "Does Liberal Democracy need a Liberal International Order? Does a Liberal International Order require Liberal Democracy?", "Imagining Worlds beyond Liberalism", "Geopolitical Challenges to the Liberal International Order", and "Adapting the Liberal Project to the Challenges of the 21st Century". This year, our third annual conference, scheduled for **March 31st-April 1st**, will consider the future of world order from the standpoint of cultures and states beyond the West. Please note that, unlike at our other events, attendance at the conference will be strictly by invitation. More information about the conference, including a preliminary program and logistical details, will be shared in February.

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

With warm wishes,

G. John Ikenberry.

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