



CALL FOR PAPERS

ASYMMETRY AND IMBALANCE IN POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Relations of asymmetry and imbalance underscore all social and political phenomena. Disparity shapes the character of states, interactions between social forces, and the opportunities available to human beings. Both war and peace-making are shaped by patterns of inequality. Often these patterns reflect underlying class-based, gendered, and racialised social relations. Since the onset of transnational production and the processes of globalisation, issues of asymmetry and imbalance have been exacerbated and have arguably led to widespread social unrest, resistance, and crisis. How COVID-19 vaccines have been distributed internationally, privileging the global North over the global South, no doubt reflects these issues of inequity in politics and international relations and invites us as researchers to examine such problems deeper. Hence, this Call for Papers welcomes postgraduate researchers to share their investigations into matters of asymmetry and imbalance that affect any area of politics and international relations. The conference will take place on Friday the 17th of June 2022 featuring a keynote by intellectual and activist Professor Andreas Bieler. The conference will be held online via Microsoft Teams.

Submissions might include but are not limited to:

- How asymmetrical patterns and imbalance underscore relations of and interactions between human beings and social groups.
- The influence of asymmetry and imparity on conflicts, wars, and peace-making processes.
- How the lack of symmetry and balance impacts economic and political developments, as well as the consolidation of particular structures. - Power dynamics, including the dynamics of vulnerability and weakness in society.
- Class-based, racialised and gendered development processes, which often include and exclude.
- State behaviour, and the role and development of international institutions.
- How campaigns, policies, and social projects have led, perhaps unwittingly, to advancing asymmetry and imbalance in politics and international relations.

Keynote speaker:

Professor Andreas Bieler, School of Politics and International Relations, The University of Nottingham - 'Confronting Multiple Global Crises: a political economy for the 21st century.'

Prizes: We are happy to announce that prizes will be awarded to the best postgraduate student presentations of the conference. The criteria for the selection will be communicated prior to the event itself.

SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

Please submit abstracts for 15-minute presentations to polgradconf@nottingham.ac.uk by 15th April 2022 and include a presentation title, maximum 250-word abstract, your full name, institutional affiliation, and a general sub-disciplinary orientation. Applicants will be informed of final decisions by 5th May 2022 at the latest. We will respond to all applicants. Any questions or queries can be sent to the organisers at the same email address.