

The Global South and the Future of World Order

Fourth Annual Conference

Reimagining World Order program, Princeton University

(April 19-20, 2024)

Friday, April 19

8:30 – Breakfast

8:45 -- Welcome and Introductions: G. John Ikenberry, Matias Spektor, and Pratap Mehta

Panel 1: The Global South in the Making of the Modern World Order (9:00-10:30)

In what ways have the interactions between the West and the postcolonial world conditioned the power dynamics and structures of the current international system? To what extent have shared historical experiences of unequal power shaped visions of international order among non-Western states? To what extent have historical expressions of non-Western unity endured as a feature of world politics?

Chair: Naima Green-Riley (Princeton)

Panelists:

Matthias Fibiger (Harvard Business School)

Giuliano Garavini (Roma Tre)

Zoltan Buzas (Notre Dame)

Discussants:

Harold James (Princeton)

Jennifer Welsh (McGill)

Panel 2: Global South: Visions, Strategies, and Statecraft (10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.)

What types of foreign policy strategy are major countries from the Global South trying to pursue? What are the visions of global order they wish to achieve and how do they plan to get there? To what extent does it make sense to speak of a newly “nonaligned world”? What are the ethical considerations and dilemmas that Global South countries face in their pursuit of foreign policy objectives? In what ways the grand strategies of the Global South might impact the broader international order?

Chair: Won-soo Kim (Kyung Hee University)

Panelists:

Shivshankar Menon (CESP)
Ivor Chipkin (New South Institute)
Philips Vermonte (CSIS Indonesia)

Discussants:

Ayse Zarakol (Cambridge)
Dan Nexon (Georgetown)

12:00–1:00 – Lunch

1:15 – Group photograph

Panel 3: Global South and the Western Liberal Order (1:30-3:00 p.m.)

What has been the relationship between the liberal internationalist project and the Global South? What have been the costs and the gains of their interaction, and how has each helped shape the other? From a non-Western perspective, how do liberal internationalism and U.S. hegemony differ in world politics? Is reforming international liberal norms and institutions to make them more inclusive and responsive to Global South concerns a viable path forward, and what would such reforms entail?

Chair: Leslie Vinjamuri (SOAS)

Panelists:

Arvind Subramanian (Brown)
Rosemary Foot (Oxford)
Kristen Hopewell (University of British Columbia)

Discussants:

Anatoly Levshin (Harvard)
Andrew Hurrell (Oxford)

Panel 4: China, Russia, and the Global South (3:00-4:30 p.m.)

Both China and Russia have for decades exploited their deep and multilayered connections with countries from the postcolonial world. How do they see the Global South, and what instruments and strategies have they deployed there? In what ways do their approaches differ from those of Western powers? How do countries in the Global South perceive and navigate these relationships, and what factors influence their choices in aligning with these powers? Can Global

South nations successfully balance their engagements with China, Russia, and Western powers to advance their own interests?

Chair: G. John Ikenberry (Princeton)

Panelists:

Yao Yang (Peking University and Institute of South-South Cooperation and Development)

Artemy Kalinovsky (Temple University)

Selina Ho (National University of Singapore)

Potential discussants:

Arne Westad (Yale)

Vladislav Zubok (LSE)

Saturday, April 20

Panel 5: Liberalism and Liberals Beyond the West (9:00-10:30 a.m.)

How is the liberal tradition evolving beyond the Western world? How have Global South liberals coped with nationalism, populism, and authoritarianism? Is there a common perspective on liberalism in the Global South? What lessons can be drawn from the experiences of non-Western countries in balancing liberal values with the preservation of their own identities? What does the study of liberalism beyond the West tell us about its future? What is the role of liberals in non-Western societies in upholding liberal values and resisting the counterforces of liberalism at home and abroad.

Chair: Martha Finnemore (George Washington)

Panelists:

Pratap Mehta (Princeton)

Loubna-el Amine (Northwestern University)

Matias Spektor (FGV)

Discussants:

Barry Buzan (LSE)

Kiichi Fujiwara (Tokyo University)

Closing Roundtable: Reimagining the Global South in World Order (10:30-12:00)

Can historical experiences and contemporary statecraft from the Global South be reconciled with liberal internationalism? Given the ties that bind Global South countries to China and Russia, how might these countries be engaged constructively by the United States and its Western allies? What does a global perspective add to the conversation about the future of liberalism? How might non-Western interpretations of liberalism contribute to a more diverse and adaptable global order in the twenty first century?

Stacie Goddard (Wellesley College)

Daniel Deudney (JHU)

Dan Kurtz-Phelan (Foreign Affairs and CFR)