

Leiden University
Department of Political Science

International organizations and regimes

Wednesdays 30 March through 8 June, 11.15-13.00 hrs., room IA47

Lecturer: Richard Sherman

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Office hours: Wednesday 2:00-5:00

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This course offers a survey of theoretical and practical analyses and critiques of international organizations. Such organizations have become central to international politics in recent decades, even as the realist critique of international organizations has grown in fervor. We will have time in this course to look critically at the roles and actions of international organizations, but we will not dwell on the longstanding realist-liberal controversy over the general effectiveness of international institutions. Instead, given that international organizations exist, we will endeavor to understand the various theoretical explanations of why governments create them, the critical standpoints that call attention to some of their shortcomings, and the actions they take in real-world politics.

For the student of international organizations, it is quite fortunate that most of them devote a large portion of their work toward producing information about themselves. Look at the web sites of the World Bank, the World Trade Organization, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, or the UN AIDS program, and you will quickly have in your hands more information than you know what to do with.

So, I'll help you figure out what to do with it. Along with doing the readings and participating in discussions in class, I want you to write two short papers (ca. 1000 words) on assigned topics, a short proposal for the final paper (ca. 1500 words), and a final paper (ca. 6000 words).

The first paper assignment will be given on April 13 and will be due April 20, in class.

The second paper assignment will be given on May 11 and will be due May 18, in class. (*note the correction from the version of this document handed out on March 30*)

The final-paper proposal assignment will be given on April 6 and will be due May 25, in class. It would be in your interest to discuss your paper proposal with me before handing it in and, if possible, to give it to me earlier than May 25.

The final paper will be due on June 15, herkansing on June 29.

The literature for the course is:

1. Andreas Hasenclever, Peter Mayer, Volker Rittberger, *Theories of International Regimes* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997)
2. Joseph E. Stiglitz, *Globalization and Its Discontents* (New York: Norton, 2003)
3. Anne-Marie Slaughter, *A New World Order* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2004)
4. Michael Barnett and Martha Finnemore, *Rules for the World: International Organizations in Global Politics* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2004)

5. Lloyd Gruber, *Ruling the World: Power Politics and the Rise of Supranational Institutions* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2000)

Grading: small papers 15% each, final paper proposal 15%, contribution to discussions 10%, final paper 60%

Note: please submit all written work to me *by email* at rsherman@fsw.leidenuniv.nl

Schedule of readings and assignments

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| 30 March | Course introduction, no reading |
| 6 April | Theoretical approaches 1
Read Hasenclever et al., ch. 1-3
<i>Final paper assignment available today</i> |
| 13 April | Theories approaches 2
Read Hasenclever et al., ch. 4-6
<i>First short paper assignment available today</i> |
| 20 April | Transnationalism and networks of governance 1
Read Slaughter, Introduction and ch. 1-3
<i>First short paper due today</i> |
| 27 April | Transnationalism and networks of governance 2
Read Slaughter, ch. 4-6 |
| 4 May | No class |
| 11 May | Critical analysis of international economic institutions 1
Read Stiglitz, ch. 1-4
<i>Second short paper assignment available today</i> |
| 18 May | Critical analysis of economic institutions 2
Read Stiglitz, ch. 5-9
<i>Second short paper assignment due today</i> |
| 25 May | Socio-organizational theory of international institutions 1
Read Barnett and Finnemore, ch.
<i>Paper proposal due today</i> |
| 1 June | Socio-organizational theory of international institutions 2
Read Barnett and Finnemore, ch. |
| 8 June | Power and institutions
Read Gruber, ch. 1-5 |
| 15 June | <i>Final paper due</i> |
| 29 June | <i>Herkansing for final paper</i> |