



Double Standards and International Law

15-16 July 2024

Freie Universität Berlin; Berlin, Germany

Preliminary Programme

Day 1: Monday, 15 July

8:00-8:45 –Registration/Coffee

8:45-9:00 – Welcome remarks

9:00-10:40 – PANEL 1: Understanding Double Standards Through a Historical Lens

Moderator: Heike Krieger (Free University Berlin)

- Pedro Esponda (Universidad Iberoamericana) – Progressive yet Westphalian: Double Standards in Latin American International Law
- Peter Brett (Queen Mary University) – Changing Standards for Evaluating Double Standards
- Liyu Feng (University of Cambridge) – The UN's Double Standards and the Legitimization of Third-Party Countermeasures
- Eric Loeffald (Kent University) – Lineages of the Israel-South Africa Analogy

10:40-11:00 – COFFEE

11:00-12:30 – PANEL 2: Assessing the Impact of Double Standards on Human Rights

Moderator: Akbar Rasulov (University of Glasgow)

- Steven Ratner (Michigan Law School) – HRC/UN Political Bodies and the Challenges of Double Standards
- Pilar Elizalde (University of Oxford) – Inherited Bias? A (Quantitative) Study of Selectivity, Bias, and Double Standards in the Universal Periodic Review
- Matiangai Sirleaf (University of Maryland) – There are Black People in the Past: Reclaiming Our Time in Human Rights
- Frederick Cowell (Birkbeck, University of London) – Double Standards in the Universal Periodic Review Process: Horizontality and Verticality in the Origins of Double Standards

12:30-13:45 – LUNCH

13:45-15:15 – PANEL 3: Diplomacy, Compromise, and the Inescapability (?) of Double Standards

Moderator: Janina Dill (University of Oxford)

- Cheah W.L. (National University Singapore) – Double Standards of Diplomatic Compromise

- Ralph Wilde (University College London) - Organized hypocrisy? Recognition of states and governments, human rights, and customary international law
- David Hughes (University of Toronto) – Does International Law Need a Theory of Hypocrisy?
- Peggy McGuinness (St. John’s University) – Hypocrisy and Human Rights Diplomacy

15:15-15:30 – COFFEE

15:30-17:10 – PANEL 4: Technology, Environment and Global Health

Moderator: Liliya Khasanova (Research Group International Rule of Law: Rise or Decline?)

- Ingo Venzke (University of Amsterdam) – The Civilizing, The Developing, the Greening State
- Yibo Li (Antwerp University) – Artificial Intelligence (AI) Content Moderation and Human Rights: A Study of Meta’s Double Standards in Ukraine and Gaza Censorship
- Przemysław Roguski (Jagiellonian University) – Double standards, sui generis cases or progressive development? Applying old rules to new facts in cyberspace

17:10-17:30 – COFFEE

17:30 – 18:30 KEYNOTE: Gary Bass (Princeton University) – The Tokyo Trials (*title tbc*)

20:00 – DINNER (conference participants only)

Day 2: Tuesday, 16 July

8:30-9:00 – COFFEE

9:00-10:40 – PANEL 5: Double Standards as a Means of Legal Argument and Practice

Moderator: Malcolm Jorgensen (Max Planck Institute of Comparative Public and International Law)

- Dunia Zongwe (Alliance University Chandapura) – The Great Fracture: Three Wars, Double Standards, One Antidote
- Eliav Lieblich (Tel Aviv University) – Whataboutism in International Law
- Congyan Cai (Fudan University) – How to Practice “Double Standards” in International Law: ‘Exception’ as Methodology
- Craig Scott (Osgoode Hall) – Tu Quoque and Its Anti-Hypocrisy Cousins: What (if Any) Normative Force?

10:40-11:00 – COFFEE

11:00-12:40 – PANEL 6: Conflict and Accountability Double Standards

Moderator: Dustin Lewis (Harvard Law School)

- Nina Hart (King's College London) – Problematizing Hypocrisy: The Case of Export Controls and International Law
- Shiri Krebs (Deakin Law School) – Legal Cynicism and Double Standards in the Application of IHL: The Case of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict
- Ka Lok Yip (Hamid Bin Khalifa University) – Comparative Terrorism: A Deflationary Agenda
- Andreas Schüller and Isabelle Hassfurther (European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights) – Double Standards and Selectivity in International Criminal Law

12:40-14:00 – LUNCH

14:00-15:40 – PANEL 7: The Double Standards Debate in Academic Scholarship

Moderator: Hansong Li (Research Group International Rule of Law: Rise or Decline?)

- Otto Spijkers (Leiden University) – Facing Double Standards when Blogging about Difficult Topics in Difficult Times under Difficult Circumstances
- Yulia Ioffe (University College London) – Academic Bias: Exploring Double Standards in the Treatment of Ukrainian Refugees
- Rabea Eghbariah (Harvard Law School) – Palestine as an Exception, Palestine as a Rule
- Patryk Labuda (Polish Academy of Sciences) – Double Standards in International Legal Scholarship: Beyond US- and Anglo-Centric Culture Wars?

15:40-16:00 – COFFEE

16:00-17:40 – PANEL 8: Double Standards in Global Trade and Labor

Moderator: Andreas Kulick (Eberhard Karls University)

- Olabisi D. Akinkugbe (Dalhousie University) – Double Standards in the Reform of Investor-State Dispute Settlement
- Omar Shehabi (New York University) – Comparing CJEU-ECtHR Trade Union Rights
- Moshe Hirsch (Hebrew University) – Double Standards in the Global Regulation of Digital Trade
- Catherine Weaver (University of Texas) – On Hydras and Hypocrisy: Double Standards in Governance of Global Development

This workshop is co-organized by the [Berlin Potsdam Research Group on the International Rule of Law: Rise or Decline?](#) and the [Harvard Law School Program on International Law in Armed Conflict](#). For all inquiries, including attending the workshop: David Hughes (davidm.hughes@utoronto.ca) and Patryk Labuda (patryk.labuda@graduateinstitute.ch).