



Centre for

Global Cooperation Research

**New Avenues of Global
Cooperation Research**
Midterm Conference
15 – 16 November 2021, Duisburg & Online (Zoom)

gcr21.org



Centre for

**Global
Cooperation
Research**

Foreword

Welcome to the Käte Hamburger Kolleg/ Centre for Global Cooperation Research and our hybrid conference on “New Avenues of Global Cooperation Research”!

At the mid-point of the second funding phase of our programme, funded by the German Ministry for Education and Research, the conference has three main goals: To recapitulate our findings from the past three years, to reflect on our modes of collaborating, and to identify new avenues for interdisciplinary research on global cooperation. It takes place at a moment of great challenges for global cooperation, and as we adapt our modes of collaboration to the shifting developments of a global pandemic. We would also like to take this conference as an opportunity to meet, both in person and virtually, with our fellows, alumni, and (future) cooperation partners.

The conference will take the form of roundtables and panel discussions. Some panels will be dedicated to our thematic research foci, including polycentrism, (anti-)globalism, as well as the role of imagination, reflexivity and interdisciplinarity in global cooperation (research). Four panels reflect our empirical foci on the policy fields of migration, climate, peace building and internet governance.

Contents

Foreword.....	p. 2
Preliminary Programme.....	p. 3 – 6
Time Zone Converter Table.....	p. 7
Conveners & Panellists.....	p. 8 – 9
The Panels.....	p. 10 – 14



New Avenues of Global Cooperation Research

Midterm Conference

15 – 16 November 2021, Duisburg & Online (Zoom)

Käte Hamburger Kolleg/Centre for Global Cooperation Research,
University of Duisburg-Essen

Preliminary Programme

Monday, 15 November 2021

09:00 -09.30 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Sigrid Quack, University of Duisburg-Essen, KHK/GCR21
Tobias Debiel, University of Duisburg-Essen, KHK/GCR21
Jan Aart Scholte, University of Leiden, KHK/GCR21

09:30-10:45 ROUNDTABLE 1

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

ZOOMING IN ON INTER- AND TRANSDISCIPLINARY ENCOUNTERS AND INQUIRY AT THE CENTRE

Moderator: Sigrid Quack, KHK/GCR21

Carolina Aguerre

Layla D. Brown

Peter Drahos (Zoom, +10h)

Wolfram Kaiser (Zoom)

Arunima Gopinath (Zoom, +3:30h)

Jan Aart Scholte

10:45-11:00 Coffee Break

11:00-12:15 ROUNDTABLE 2

POLYCENTRISM: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY CONCEPT FOR STUDYING GLOBAL COOPERATION AND GOVERNANCE TODAY

Moderators: Frank Gadinger & Jan Aart Scholte, KHK/GCR21

Maria Koinova (Zoom (?) -1h (?))

Philip Liste

Jens Steffek

Zeynep Sahin-Mencutek

12:15 – 13:15 Lunch Break



13:15-14:30 ROUNDTABLE 3
THE GLOBAL RE-IMAGINED:
FANTASY AND REFLEXIVITY AS DRIVERS OF ALTERNATIVE WORLD-BUILDING AND WORLD-MAKING

Moderators: Katja Freistein & Christine Unrau, KHK/GCR21

Tamirace Fakhoury

Inanna Hamati-Ataya (Zoom, -1h)

Terry Macdonald (Zoom, +8h)

Aysem Mert (Zoom)

14:30-15:00 Coffee Break

15:00-16:15 ROUNDTABLE 4
EXPLORING THE PLANETARY - HISTORY, POLICY AND SCIENCE

Moderator: Lauren Eastwood, KHK/GCR21

Franz Muelshagen

Michele Tedeschini

Dipesh Chakrabarty (Zoom, -7h)

Amanda Machin

16:15-16:30 Coffee Break

16:30-17:45 ROUNDTABLE 5
NOVEL PERSPECTIVES ON INTERNET GOVERNANCE

Moderator: Jan Aart Scholte, KHK/GCR21

Carolina Aguerre

Malcolm Campbell-Verduyn (Zoom)

Blayne Haggart (Zoom, -6h)

Natasha Tusikov (Zoom, -6h)

18:30/19:00 Dinner



Tuesday, 16 November 2021

09:00 WELCOME & COFFEE

WELCOME NOTE

Sigrid Quack, University of Duisburg-Essen, KHK/GCR21

**09:15-10:30 ROUNDTABLE 6
GOVERNING MIGRATION: NEW ACTORS AND CONTESTED GOVERNANCE ARCHITECTURES**

Moderator: Volker Heins

Marianne Marchand

Micheline van Riemsdijk

Volker Heins

Stephan Scheel

10:30-10:45 Coffee Break

**10:45-12:00 ROUNDTABLE 7
PEACEBUILDING AND INTERVENTION IN A CHANGING WORLD ORDER
– TRENDS AND CHALLENGES FOR GLOBAL COOPERATION**

Moderator: Patricia Rinck, KHK/GCR21

Pol Bargués-Pedreny

Tobias Debiel

Anna Geis

Florian Kühn

12:00-13:00 Lunch Break

**13:00-14:15 ROUNDTABLE 8
NARRATIVES OF GLOBAL COOPERATION**

Moderators: Nina Schneider & Frank Gadinger, KHK/GCR21

Stefan Groth

Martina Kopf (Zoom)

Borbala Zsuzsanna Török (Zoom, +1h)

Wouter Werner

14:15-14:45 Coffee Break



14:45-16:00 **ROUNDTABLE 9**
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE GLOBAL?
ANTIGLOBALIST CONCEPTIONS OF WORLD ORDER BETWEEN RIGHT AND LEFT

Moderators: Katja Freistein & Christine Unrau, KHK/GCR21

Rita Abrahamsen

Nicole Doerr

Friederike Kuntz (Zoom)

Geoffrey Pleyers

Michael Williams

16:00-16:30 Coffee Break

16:30-17:00 **CLOSING REMARKS**

Sigrid Quack, University of Duisburg-Essen, KHK/GCR21

Tobias Debiel, University of Duisburg-Essen, KHK/GCR21

Jan Aart Scholte, University of Leiden, KHK/GCR21

- The END -



Time zone converter

	Program time Germany (CET)	Chicago (CET -7)	Washington DC & Toronto (CET -6)	UK (CET -1)	Melbourne (CET +8)
Welcome	09:00-09:30	02:00-02:30	03:00-03:30	08:00-08:30	18:00-18:30
Roundtable 1	09:30-10:45	02:30-03:45	03:30-04:45	08:30-09:45	18:00-19:45
15 minutes break					
Roundtable 2	11:00-12:15	04:00-05:45	05:00-06:45	10:00-11:45	20:00-21:45
1-hour lunch break					
Roundtable 3	13:15-14:30	06:15-07:30	07:15-08:30	12:15-13:30	22:15-23:30
30 minutes break					
Roundtable 4	15:00-16:15	08:00-09:15	09:00-10:15	14:00-15:15	00:00-01:15
15 minutes break					
Roundtable 5	16:30-17:45	09:30-10:45	10:30-11:45	15:30-16:45	01:30-02:45
18:30/19:00 (CET) Dinner					
End of day 1					
Welcome	09:00-09:15	02:00-02:15	03:00-03:15	08:00-08:15	18:00-18:15
Roundtable 6	09:15-10:30	02:15-03:30	03:15-04:30	08:15-09:30	18:15-19:30
15 minutes break					
Roundtable 7	10:45-12:00	03:45-05:00	04:45-06:00	09:45-11:00	19:45-21:00
1-hour lunch break					
Roundtable 8	13:00-14:15	06:00-07:15	07:00-08:15	12:00-13:15	22:00-23:15
30 minutes break					
Roundtable 9	14:45-16:00	07:45-09:00	08:45-10:00	13:45-15:00	23:45-01:00
30 minutes break					
Closing Remarks	16:30-17:00	09:30-10:00	10:30-11:00	15:30-16:00	01:30-02:00
End of day 2					



Conveners & Panellists

Abrahamsen, Rita
University of Ottawa

Aguerre, Carolina
KHK/GCR21

Bargués-Pedremy, Pol
Barcelona Centre for International Affairs

Brown, Layla D.
KHK/GCR21

Campbell-Verduyn, Malcolm
University of Groningen

Chakrabarty, Dipesh
University of Chicago

Debiel, Tobias
KHK/GCR21

Doerr, Nicole
KHK/GCR21

Drahos, Peter
European University Institute

Eastwood, Lauren
KHK/GCR21

Fakhoury, Tamirace
Aalborg University

Freistein, Katja
KHK/GCR21

Gadinger, Frank
KHK/GCR21

Geis, Anna
KHK/GCR21

Gopinath, Arunima
University of Cologne

Groth, Stefan
KHK/GCR21

Haggart, Blayne
Brock University

Hamati-Ataya, Inanna
Cambridge University

Heins, Volker
KHK/GCR21

Kaiser, Wolfram
University of Portsmouth

Kühn, Florian
University of Gothenburg

Koinova, Maria
University of Warwick

Kopf, Martina
University Vienna

Kuntz, Friederike
Freie Universität Berlin

Liste, Philip
University of Applied Science Fulda

Macdonald, Terry
University of Melbourne

Machin, Amanda
University Witten/Herdecke

Mauelshagen, Franz
University of Bielefeld

Marchand, Marianne
*Universidad de las Américas,
Puebla*

Mert, Aysem
KHK/GCR21

Pleyers, Geoffrey
Université Catholique de Louvain

Quack, Sigrid
KHK/GCR21

Rinck, Patricia
KHK/GCR21

Sahin-Mencutek, Zeynep
*Bonn International Center for
Conflict Studies*

Scheel, Stephan
University Duisburg-Essen

Schneider, Nina
KHK/GCR21

Scholte, Jan Aart
KHK/GCR21

Steffek, Jens
Technical University Darmstadt

Tedeschini, Michele
Harvard University



Török, Borbala Zsuzsanna
KHK/GCR21

Tusikov, Natasha
York University

Unrau, Christine
KHK/GCR21

Van Riemsdijk, Micheline
Uppsala University

Williams, Michael.
Ottawa University

Wouter, Werner
VU Amsterdam



The Panels

Roundtable 1

What do you mean by that?

Zooming in on inter- and transdisciplinary encounters and inquiry at the Centre

Panel convener: Sigrid Quack

This round table zooms in on every-day academic encounters and practices of inquiry that transcend the boundaries between disciplines as well as between academic and practice fields. While inter- and transdisciplinarity are a widely discussed concepts in the literature, less attention has been given so far to how they take shape and unfold in encounters and every-day activities at research centres. Over the last decade, the KHK/Centre for Global Cooperation (KHK/GCR21), funded by the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research, has fostered such experiences in the field of global cooperation research along several lines: 1) interdisciplinary work – fostering cross-disciplinary exchange and integration of knowledge; 2) international collaboration – bringing scholars from around the world, with their different backgrounds, into conversations and joint work; 3) cooperation with practitioners – including colleagues from practice and integrating different forms of knowledge.

The aim of the round table is to collectively reflect on the Centre's research along these three lines, and to exchange experiences with colleagues from other research contexts. The round table offers a unique opportunity for a deeper understanding of how productive moments of inter- and transdisciplinarity come about and what specific contributions they generate for the individual scholars, the research communities and the broader publics involved. Panelists will be asked to zoom in on specific cases of research collaboration to highlight the magic but also the dull moments of inter- and transdisciplinary research, how they have influenced their own careers, their research communities and the broader publics involved and what support of research organizations they consider conducive for such research.

Roundtable 2

Polycentrism: An interdisciplinary concept for studying global cooperation and governance today

Panel conveners: Frank Gädinger & Jan Aart Scholte

Polycentrism has become one of the key concepts in research activities at the Centre and related debates across the disciplines on the features of current governing processes and global cooperation efforts. A major promise of the rediscovered term, originally coming from the work by Michael Polanyi and Vincent and Elinor Ostrom, is its clear starting point based on focusing on the interplay between diffusion ('poly') and order ('centric') in governing processes, which have dissolved into a multitude of fluid, overlapping, and seemingly uncoordinated regulatory forces. Think of everyday interventions from regional and global institutions, fair trade schemes, social media platforms, people trafficking networks, interbank collaborations, and private security companies. Think also of less visible forms of governing through algorithms, benchmarks, gender norms, professional practices, common narratives, technical standards. This blurry situation raises



the fundamental question of who and/or what makes and applies the rules that (dis)order contemporary society? Or, to put it differently: How does governing work today? As these questions cannot be answered in a comprehensive sense by one theoretical perspective, the rather neutral concept of polycentrism as a descriptor is fruitful in bringing together scholars from different theoretical angles (e.g. institutionalism, law, structural, relational). Furthermore, such an interdisciplinary perspective allows to theorize and study the implicit bonding forces that bring deeper order to the surface disorganization of polycentric governance. The panel shows how scholars use polycentrism by foregrounding different concepts (e.g. norms, metagovernance, informality, techniques, practices, underlying order) to bring at least some notion of orderliness into an increasingly complex world.

Roundtable 3

The Global Re-Imagined.

Fantasy and Reflexivity as Drivers of Alternative World-Building and World-Making

Panel conveners: Katja Freistein & Christine Unrau

The roundtable will bring together different debates on the role of fantasy, creativity, aspiration, imagination and reflexivity with regard to world-building and world-making. Extending our discussion on imagining pathways for global cooperation, we turn to different practices of re-imagining global politics.

With a focus on social and psychoanalytical processes in political collectives, we aim to explore their potential to (re-)imagine alternatives to current governance and policies in the global and transnational realm. What role do fantasies, e.g. of doom or bright futures, play? How can reflexivity move beyond introspection? And how can aspirations be translated to political practice? The participants of this roundtable all contribute different perspectives on how to develop new, alternative, better, different approaches to global cooperation. The goal of the roundtable is to highlight and, if possible, connect different aspects of how groups like non-governmental networks, academics or practitioners can build on creative practices to challenge and improve existing practices. The RT also establishes systematic links between the previous Pathways theme and the current World Orders theme.

Roundtable 4

“Exploring the Planetary—History, Policy, and Science”

Panel Convener: Lauren Eastwood

In recent discourse on global warming and the Anthropocene, various scholars – including Dipesh Chakrabarty, Sheila Jasanoff (“earthly politics”), and Bruno Latour (“Gaia”, “terrestrial politics”) – have expressed feelings of discomfort with describing the scope of the environmental crisis as “global”. These scholars almost unanimously consider the “global” too closely associated with economic globalization, its evolving networks of communication and trade, and hence incapable to fully grasp the challenges posed by human activities approaching, or already exceeding, the “planetary boundaries” defined by Earth System Science (ESS). It seems that ESS and its



consequential proposal to label a new geological epoch, the Anthropocene, in which humans have become a geological force of change, has shifted the focus entirely from the global to the planetary. As Dipesh Chakrabarty has argued, “[t]he institutions humans have used so far to secure human life have reached a point of expansion and development whereby that very fundamental premise of human politics—securing human life—is undermined” (2019: 30). Reflecting on the deficiencies of “the earth” and “the globe” as useful categories to capture the reality of current dynamics, Chakrabarty posits instead “the planet” or “planetary thinking”. In this panel we seek to explore the planetary as a category in the humanities, in the social sciences and in international law. The contributors will pose questions such as: what does it mean think in planetary terms? What is planetary politics? Is it merely a vision of future politics taking care of planet earth and the condition it provides for life? Or can we, perhaps, trace its emergence historical back to the late 20th and early 21st century? How is it distinct from global environmental politics? Will planetary thinking also affect international legal discourse, a field in which talks of the “global” still evoke a sense of novelty (e.g. ongoing discussions about Global Administrative Law, or the global commons)?

Roundtable 5

Novel Perspectives on Internet Governance

Panel conveners: Jan Aart Scholte and Sigrid Quack

This panel will reflect on three years of Centre experience of collective fellow work on the Internet policy field. In particular, the panel can consider the methodological value-added of the “KKH approach” of an international interdisciplinary Denk-Frei-Raum: i.e. what kind of novel knowledge of global cooperation around the Internet has the Centre generated.

Roundtable 6

Governing Migration: New Actors and Contested Governance Architectures

Panel convener: Volker Heins

Based on a Special Issue published in *Third World Quarterly* with the same title, this panel critically reflects on new actors and architectures that have emerged in global migration governance. The so-called European “refugee crisis” of 2015 as well as other migration crises around the world have renewed calls for a coherent human rights-based approach to the admission of voluntary and forced migrants. At the same time, politicians and increasingly influential populist and nativist movements demand measures to “regain control” over national borders. This panel critically examines the actors and architectures in global migration governance. It aims to do so through a study of the actors involved in international and transnational migration regulations in various regions, the kinds of (or lack of) cooperation among these actors, and their use of existing systems of governance or the possible creation of new forms of governance, including assemblages.



Roundtable 7

Peacebuilding and intervention in a changing world order – trends and challenges for global cooperation

Panel convener: Patricia Rinck

The panel addresses current trends in the field of peacebuilding and intervention. With the global political changes of the last years and decades, the dominant liberal order has been challenged from the inside and outside. As liberal peacebuilding interventions have lost in significance, intervention practice has shifted towards more authoritarian military interventions and the stabilisation of 'post-conflict' situations, which is also reflected in a discursive shift and focus on the 'resilience' of societies. Any intervention, including those with supposedly less intrusive mandates, involves sensitive questions around authority and legitimacy – of interveners, the intervention and those involved or left out of the war-to-peace transition. Against the backdrop of the changing world order and global power structures, the panel reflects on lessons to be learned from the history of Western interventionism, and seeks to explore how critical perspectives on peacebuilding can instruct research on global cooperation. Critical approaches have delved into challenges at the basis of peacebuilding such as cultural and normative difference, highlighting that peacebuilding is a relational endeavour that necessarily needs to deal with ambiguity and diverging or competing perceptions of peace and order, and is often met with resistance. They have contributed nuanced critiques of concepts and practices of peacebuilding and intervention, or offered more radical alternatives to peacebuilding altogether. The panel aims to take stock and reflect on what current trends and challenges mean for research on peacebuilding and global cooperation. Possible questions include: What challenges do these global political changes pose for cooperation in the field of peacebuilding? Against the backdrop of changed power structures and authority claims, how are peacebuilding interventions, as well as the resistance against them, justified and legitimised? And what implications do the identified trends have for those in need of peace(building)?

Roundtable 8

Narratives of Global Cooperation

Panel conveners: Frank Gadinger & Nina Schneider

Research on global cooperation has identified key factors that are crucial for enabling and stabilizing efforts around cooperation issues such as reciprocity, communication, and trust. It is therefore rarely surprising that the concept of narrative has become one of the most promising concepts in theorizing and studying global cooperation, as it plays a major role in making sense of political problems and puzzling phenomena (e.g. climate change, Covid 19 crisis), building group identities through the moral positioning of actors (heroes vs. villains), and providing orientation for further social action through plot constructions (e.g. utopian vs. dystopian imaginations). Scholars across the disciplines have shown that the power of narrative is crucial for legitimizing policy measures and building trust around common political projects. Moreover, practices of storytelling are important for authority claims by established political actors as well as for critical voices to question existing power relations and hierarchies. However, the power of storytelling



through shared narratives can also be used by political actors to divide people and destroy established practices of global cooperation, as right-wing populist actors like Donald Trump demonstrate. The concept of narrative as a governing tool, which is also prominent in strategy making and planning activities in companies and organizations, is thus normatively ambivalent. On the other hand, practitioners of global history have been discussing the benefits and downsides of different narrative forms of the global (genealogical approaches, entanglements and disruptions, meta-histories) to analyze and represent forms and practices of past global cooperation, and asked how narratives of the global have evolved over time. There remain research challenges on how to conceptualize this fluid and slippery term and how to study narratives and practices of storytelling in empirical research. Yet as the panel shows, by bringing scholars from different disciplines together, the concept provides conceptual and methodological avenues for analyzing different issues in global cooperation.

Roundtable 9

What's Wrong with the Global?

Antiglobalist Conceptions of World Order between Right and Left

Panel conveners: Katja Freistein & Christine Unrau

This roundtable takes its starting point from the observation that antiglobalism has become a central feature of both right wing and left-wing politics and, importantly, a vehicle for the performance of *convergence* between opposing political camps. For example, Marine le Pen has recently declared that the relevant options for the next presidential elections are “globalism” and “the nation”, echoing similar statements by other protagonists of the populist radical right. Here, “globalism” is not only used to refer to enthusiasm for a borderless world, but also associated with a certain “managerial elite” which allegedly dominates economic, political and cultural affairs without regard for the “non-mobile” population. Similar accounts can be found in certain sections of the left. While the Alter-Globalization movement, which flourished around the turn of the millennium, developed an alternative vision of a “globalization from below”, a strong section of the left is currently urging to retrieve sovereignty and a traditional way of life. Against this background, the roundtable will ask: What are the points of convergence – but also the differences between the current forms of antiglobalism of the left and the right? Which mechanisms are at play in the emergence of a unified enmity against globalism, including appropriations, mimicry and political strategy? Which substantial visions of world order are at play, and how are they transformed into narratives of the global? Is it feasible (and desirable) to defend global cooperation beyond borders against the rise of antiglobalism?