

World Order(s) in Crisis?

Workshop

Centre for Advanced International Studies (CAIS)

University of Exeter

9 May 2018, 10:15-18:30

Knightley (Boardroom)

Streatham Drive

Exeter EX4 4PD

The Western-based world order is in crisis. Or so is relentlessly claimed from a growing range of quarters. Yet, what constitutes the Western-based world order and what its defining features are is generally poorly understood. Indeed, today's world order is invariably conceptualized as either anarchical or hierarchal, Westphalian and state-centric or globalized and deterritorialized, as liberal and consensual or neo-colonial and coercive, homogenizing or fragmenting, a direct product of Western power or a by-product of its entanglements and negotiations with different states, regions, civilizations, and localities. Moreover, **if today's world order is indeed in crisis, what exactly is there a crisis of and what the sources of such crisis are remains equally unclear and deeply contested.** Are we witnessing a crisis of capitalism, American power and legitimacy, states and nationalism, globalization and transnationalism, elected and un-elected elites, imagination and ideas, global governance institutions and norms, or liberalism and democracy? What and who are the drivers of such crisis? Populists and nationalists, migrants and refugees, terrorists and religious fundamentalists, democratic and fiscal deficits, fake-news and social media, climate change, strongmen, American decline, rising powers, or even the very same logics and contradictions of capitalism, globalization, and American power itself? Finally, as crisis leads to transformation, what awaits us beyond the Western-based world order?

The University of Exeter's Centre for Advanced International Studies (CAIS) brings together scholars from diverse theoretical backgrounds and with different geographical expertise, to address these pressing questions over the course of a one-day workshop.

Arrival (10:15-10:45)

Tea and coffee served

Welcome and Opening Remarks (10:45-11:00)

Panel I: Concepts and Theories of World Order(s) (11:00-12:30)

This roundtable addresses conceptual issues surrounding the notion of world orders. Its intent is to explore, unpack and interrogate different understandings across theoretical traditions and geographical contexts of what constitutes world order in theory and what constitutes today's historically specific world order in practice.

Chair: Gregorio Bettiza (Exeter)
Panellists: Andrew Linklater (Aberystwyth)
Irene Fernandez Molina (Exeter)
John Heathershaw (Exeter)
Alex Prichard (Exeter)

Lunch (12:30-13:30)

Sandwiches and finger-food will be served in Knightley

Panel II: World Order(s) in Crisis? (13:30-15:00)

Is today's world order in crisis? If not, why is the discourse of crisis so prevalent at this historical juncture? If indeed we are seeing a crisis, what exactly is in crisis and what is there a crisis of? For example is there a crisis of the liberal world order, American power and legitimacy, Europe and European (dis)integration, the Westphalian-system and states, globalization, democracy, capitalism, or global governance institutions and norms?

Chair: Beverley Loke (Exeter)
Panellists: Lee Jones (QMU)
Gregorio Bettiza (Exeter)
David Blagden (Exeter)
Bice Maiguashca (Exeter)

Break (15:00-15:30)

Tea and coffee served

Panel III: Drivers of Crisis and Transformation (15:30-17:00)

This roundtable will explore what the drivers and sources of crisis, or discourses thereof, are. These may include the logics and contradictions of capitalism, neo-liberalism and globalization; terrorism and religious fundamentalism; rising powers, multipolarity and regionalism; American hegemony or decline; populism, nationalism and 'strong men'; migrants and refugees; and climate change. Moreover, if a crisis is indeed unfolding, how is today's world order being transformed in the process?

Chair: David Lewis (Exeter)
Panellists: Fiona Adamson (SOAS)
John Hobson (Sheffield)
Stephane Baele (Exeter)
Beverley Loke (Exeter)

Break (17:00-17:15)

Tea and coffee served

Concluding Remarks: World Order(s) In Crisis? (17.15-18.30)

Chair: Doug Stokes (Exeter)
Panellist: Barry Buzan (LSE)

More info/questions: Dr Gregorio Bettiza – g.bettiza@exeter.ac.uk