

The Round Table

Volume 100, Issue 416, October 2011

Electoral Reform in the United Kingdom

Author-Margaret Wilson DCNZM

Abstract

Proposals by the UK Coalition government, which came into power in May 2010, to alter the electoral system for the Westminster Parliament have generated much debate and some controversy. The central plank of the campaigners for reform, viz. the introduction of a form of proportional representation, has been tried in New Zealand for some years now in the form of a mixed member proportional system. This article explains how that system came into being and how it has fared in the nearly two decades for which it has been in existence.

Free Speech in Malaysia

Author- Mohd Azizuddin Mohd Sani

Abstract

This article attempts to explore the introduction and progress of the idea and concept of free speech in Malaysia. It demonstrates that the idea of freedom and liberty has existed since the feudal period of the Malay Sultanate. However, the idea was very limited owing to constraints imposed by the feudal kings. The people saw the kings as divine figures. When the British colonised the Malay states, they introduced the modern Western concept of free speech. This was later embedded in the Malayan/Malaysian Constitution during the country's independence in 1957 as one of the essential fundamental liberties of the people. However, the British were also responsible for introducing several repressive laws, such as the Printing Presses and Publications Ordinance. The Malaysian government continued this policy after independence to the detriment of the practice of free speech in the country.

Third World Quarterly

Volume 32, Issue 8, 2011

Human Rights and the Global South

Author- Helen Meekosha

Abstract

This article seeks to examine the politics of human rights and disability in light of the recent United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities (UNCRPD), which has been central to the struggle for recognition of disabled people. Northern discourses of disability rights have strongly influenced the UNCRPD. We argue that many of the everyday experiences of disabled people in the global South lie outside the reach of human rights instruments. So we ask what, if anything, can these instruments contribute to the

struggle for disability justice in the South? While Northern discourses promote an examination of disabled bodies in social dynamics, we argue that the politics of impairment in the global South must understand social dynamics in bodies.

Embodiment and Emotion in Sierra Leone

Author- Maria Berghs

Abstract

In this article, drawing on in-depth multi-sited ethnographic field research, a description is given of how an 'amputee and war-wounded' community formed in Sierra Leone after a 10-year civil war from 1991 to 2002. Through the shared experiences of life in a camp, medical care, participation in the rebuilding of the nation-state, to the 'managing' of the everyday structural violence of poverty, people find themselves dealing with new local and global spaces created in a post-conflict environment. The way that people understand how to negotiate these new spaces is gendered, embodied and also spiritual. The article thus argues that social recognition in terms of reparations or reintegration has to take into account these understandings. Interventions have to be material, spiritual (visible and invisible) and embodied (true inclusion) to have an impact in reintegrating people who become amputees or are wounded during a conflict.

Europe-Asia Studies

Volume 63, Issue 8, October 2011

The Myth of Mass Russian Support for Autocracy

Author- Henry E. Hale

Abstract

The article presents new survey research, sensitive to local understandings of key terms, that helps resolve a longstanding debate on whether Russian public opinion generally supports democracy or authoritarianism. The central conclusion is that while Russians differ amongst themselves, they are best understood not as autocratic but as generally supportive of a particular form of democracy that social scientists have called 'delegative democracy'. This logically consistent preference structure reconciles diverse arguments and findings in the literature, sheds light on Putin's puzzling decision to cede the presidency to Medvedev in 2008, and offers insight into the public opinion foundations of 'hybrid regimes'.

Economics, Politics or Identities

Author- Miriam S. Allam

Abstract

The next challenge for EU member states in Central and Eastern Europe after accession is entry to the Euro-zone, making the dynamics of public opinion towards the Euro crucial for

political leaders. We test three perspectives—economic, political and historical–ideational—with individual-level and contextual data from eight countries and conclude that the combined model based on individual wellbeing explains support for the Euro best. The most important positive determinants are not economic self-interest, but the success of economic transition, historical legacies of grave war experiences, a personal identity not exclusively focused on the nation and satisfaction with democracy.

European Journal of International Law

Volume 22 Issue 3, August 2011

Towards a Positive Application of Complementarity in the African Human Rights System

Author- Solomon T. Eboobrah

Abstract

According to the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights establishing the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, the main function of the Court is to complement the protective mandate of the already existing African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. Thus, complementarity was introduced into the framework of the African human rights system. Since then, the concept of complementarity has also been brought into play in the Protocol to the Statute of the proposed African Court of Justice and Human Rights. Although the interim rules of procedure of the Court and of the Commission have sought to give meaning to the concept of complementarity, there is still very little understanding of how it will pan out in the system.

The Genesis of the GATS (General Agreement on Trade in Services)

Author- Juan A. Marchetti

Abstract

The Uruguay Round services negotiations saw the light of day amidst pressures from lobbies in developed countries, unilateral retaliatory actions, and ideological struggle in the developing world. The final outcome, the GATS, certainly characterized by a complex structure and awkward drafting here and there, is not optimal but is an important first step towards the liberalization of trade in services. This article traces the GATS negotiating history, from its very beginning in the late 1970s, paying particular attention to the main forces that brought the services dossier to the multilateral trading system (governments, industries, and academics), and the interaction between developed and developing countries before and during the Uruguay Round.

Globalization and the Politics of Natural Resources

Author- **Nita Rudra**

Abstract

Much political science scholarship, including important work in this journal, has explored the implications of natural resource endowments— particularly oil and other highly valuable export commodities—on political and economic outcomes. Although the first wave of literature emphasized the negative effects of these resources, more recent work emphasizes how domestic institutions can condition the relationship, sometimes leading to positive effects. In this special issue, the authors expand this literature in two important ways. First, they renew attention on the international dimensions of this relationship, exploring how trade, migration, foreign investment, and other global forces influence the effects these resources have on countries. Second, they link the study of the globalization—natural resources nexus to broader debates in international and comparative political economy, such as how domestic institutions shape the impact of globalization and how economic factors affect the political survival of regimes and individual leaders.

Political Risk, Reputation, and the Resource Curse

Author- Nathan M. Jensen

Abstract

There is a growing literature on how natural resources affect both economic performance and political regimes. In this article the authors add to this literature by focusing on how natural resource wealth affects the incentives of governments to uphold contracts with foreign investors across all sectors. They argue that although all states suffer reputation costs from reneging on contracts, governments in natural-resource-dependent economies are less sensitive to these costs, leading to a greater probability of expropriation and contract disputes. Specifically, leaders weigh the benefits of reneging on contracts with investors against the reputation costs of openly violating agreements with firms.

Foreign Policy Analysis

Vol 7 Issue 4, October 2011

Values, Identity, and Israel Advocacy

Author-Mira Sucharov

Abstract

What do we care about—or pretend to care about—when we try to sway hearts and minds through political action? The question of values and value trade-offs in International Relations is understudied. By examining Diaspora-based Israel advocacy (the set of political and educational activities at the school, campus, community and formal political levels designed to increase support by Diaspora Jews, their co-citizens, and their governments for Israel), this paper interrogates the idea of “Jewish values,” and theorizes about how actors negotiate among sentiment, aspiration, and values. The evidence suggests that Jews are more likely to invoke “Jewish values” when engaging in in-group critique, whereas Israel advocates are more likely to draw on universal values to defend Israeli goals and actions to others. The essay identifies five value clusters that appear to structure Israel advocacy activities: nationalism and sovereignty, democracy, science, history, and peace, identifies some potential value conflicts that may result, and raises questions about the strategic use of values in social mobilization.

A Racialized Peace

Author- Srdjan Vucetic

Abstract

The extensive literature on the Anglo-American “special relationship” revolves around an observation that Britain and the US tend to cooperate more closely than any other comparable pair of states. I argue that this cooperation pattern originates in the construction of a “racialized peace” between the American and British empires at the fin-de-siècle. My argument builds on constructivist theorizations of the links among state/national identity, foreign policy, and international conflict/cooperation. Beginning with a discourse analysis of representative texts from the period leading up to the Venezuela crisis of 1895–96, I show how American and British elites succeeded in framing themselves as the vanguards of civilization and how the idea that two Anglo-Saxon entities could not fight each other in a global political system defined by race had significant consequences in world politics.

International Political Sociology

Volume 5, Issue 3, September 2011

Pierre Bourdieu and International Relations

Author-Didier Bigo

Abstract

This article demonstrates how the work of Pierre Bourdieu offers a productive way to practice research in international relations. It especially explores the alternatives opened by Bourdieu in terms of a logic of practice and practical sense that refuses an opposition between general theory and empirical research. Bourdieu's preference for a relational approach, which destabilizes the different versions of the opposition between structure and agency, avoids some of the traps commonly found in political science in general and theorizations of international relations in particular: essentialization and ahistoricism; a false dualism between constructivism and empirical research; and an absolute opposition between the collective and the individual. The "thinking tools" of field and habitus, which are both collective and individualized, are examined in order to see how they resist such traps. The article also engages with the question of whether the international itself challenges some of Bourdieu's assumptions, especially when some authors identify a global field of power while others deny that such a field of power could be different from a system of different national fields of power.

Reflexivity and the Construction of the International Object

Author-Mikael Rask Madsen

Abstract

Recent years have seen a surge of interest in applying the sociology of Pierre Bourdieu in international studies as part of a more general sociological turn observable in both international and European studies. However, different from earlier attempts at deploying Bourdieusian sociology in the context of international law, economics, and politics, most of this new Bourdieu-inspired constructivist political science research only marginally addresses what in many ways was the cardinal point of Bourdieu's work: his attempt at devising a reflexive sociology. This article's basic claim is that the most significant contribution Bourdieusian sociology can make to international (and European) studies is not achieved by adaptation or transplantation of key concepts (field, habitus, and so on) to a set of research objects that remain by and large predefined by other disciplines. Instead, I contend that it is by deploying the underlying sociological practice of Bourdieusian sociology to international objects in terms of conducting a reflexive sociology of the international. To substantiate my claim, I make three more specific arguments. In the first section, I argue for the need for "objectivizing" the research object in terms of "double reflexivity" with respect to both object and researcher.

The British Journal of Politics & International Relations

November 2011, Volume 13, Issue 4

Political Imagery in the British General Election of 2010

Author-Katy Parry

Abstract

This article examines the figurative appropriations of Liberal Democrat leader Nick Clegg, drawing on a selective audit from newspapers, television, radio and blogs during the 2010 general election

period. The flurry of excitement produced by Clegg's sudden visibility during the election campaign offers a unique opportunity to observe the hasty moulding of a new political persona. Across the mediascape, political commentators and humorists employed an expressive range of critique and humour to reflect on Clegg's new-found appeal. We present analysis of the various mediated attempts to ascribe to Clegg certain characteristics and values through the use of labelling, metaphor and other popular culture allusions. It is especially in the unpicking of the prevalent sexualised metaphor that our research prompts wider queries about the current mediation of British political culture.

Employer Preferences for Labour Migration

Author-Georg Menz

Abstract

European employers are rediscovering liberalised labour migration and are attempting to lobby governments to modify previously restrictive regulatory approaches. This article analyses these newly embraced interest positions, drawing on empirical evidence from the United Kingdom and Germany. Employers do not simply desire more migrants or are indifferent to their skills profile, but rather seek newcomers who can be easily accommodated and complement existing corporate strategies and skills requirements. However, they may also seek to 'import' missing skills that domestic educational facilities do not generate. The profile of 'desirable' economic migrants varies and is conditioned by production strategies and education and training schemes associated with different varieties of capitalism. This article proposes bridging the gap between comparative political economy and migration studies.

The Round Table

Volume 100, Issue 415, August 2011

Australia, Trade Policy and the Global South

Author- Richard Leaver

Abstract

Like many states in the Global South, the Australian economy relies heavily on the natural resource sector for a large proportion of its export earnings. Four decades ago, this basic similarity eventually induced Australian governments to become 'fellow travellers' with the G77 quest for a new international economic order. When that quest was put to rest by the rise of neo-liberalism, Australian governments then became fervent believers in free rather than managed trade; but in the contemporary era where neo-liberalism is now a dying policy creed, Australia's current resource boom begs the question of whether the time is now ripe for Canberra to reinvent this role. What the

rationales might be for that 'back to the future' policy move is explored in the context of Australia's iron ore trade with China.

Australia, Climate Change and the Global South

Author-Lorraine Elliott

Abstract

Australia's climate change relationship with developing countries is framed by the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the 1997 Kyoto Protocol. Under those agreements, Australia has committed to take a lead in cutting greenhouse gas emissions and to provide technological and financial support to developing countries. In practice, Australian governments of both political hues have adopted a somewhat ambiguous and ambivalent attitude to developing countries within climate change politics and their fulfilment of those commitments has been uneven.

American Foreign Policy Interests

Volume 33, Issue 4, 2011

Geopolitical Islam

Author-Bernard E. Brown

Abstract

Appraisals of geopolitical Islam within the Western political class are being recalculated constantly. This essay presents two models, each grounded in and illuminating policies now being followed in the United States and Europe. The Obama administration is the point of reference, hence labeled here as "Team A." The views and alternative policies of its critics both domestically and in Europe are called "Team B." Special attention is given to President Obama and his chief adviser on counterterrorism, John O. Brennan; former Prime Minister Tony Blair; and a report released in September 2010 by the Center for Security Policy in Washington, DC (presented to the public by former CIA director R. James Woolsey). Differences between American and European perceptions reflect their distinctive political cultures.

Can Muslims Accept Israel in Their Midst

Abstract

The basic reason why Muslims cannot accept the sovereign state of Israel in their midst is due to the radical interpretation of the Koran by fundamentalist Muslim clerics. Other reasons include the fear of dictators that Israel's democratic institutions may undermine autocratic rule, and the perception that Israel is an instrument of the West and the United Nations to "keep the Arabs divided." Because of their at times long and harmonious interaction, West-Bank Palestinians may accept their presence.

European Journal of International Relations

vol. 17 no. 2, June 2011

Understanding the Middle East Peace Process

Author- Roland Dannreuther

Abstract

This article challenges the common assumption that the external actors involved in the Middle East Peace Process (MEPP) are driven either by neo-realist strategic competition or by the constraining power of domestic lobbies, or by a mixture of both. Such implicit assumptions are evident in the controversial argument of the power of the 'Israel lobby' as promoted by John Mearsheimer and Stephen Walt. This article argues that approaches based on such assumptions fail to explain adequately the policies adopted not only by the United States, but also by other key external actors who have been historically engaged in the MEPP — the Soviet Union and the European Union. A better explanatory framework is provided by treating the MEPP as an institution and by applying a historical institutionalist approach to the development of the MEPP, using such concepts as critical junctures, path dependence and positive feedback to analyse how the main external actors involved in the MEPP came to adopt their distinctive national approaches to the peace process.

The antecedents of 'sovereignty as responsibility'

Author- Luke Glanville

Abstract

Notions of 'sovereignty as responsibility' and 'the responsibility to protect' are often framed as radical departures from the 'traditional' conception of sovereignty. Many assume that sovereignty has, until recently, entailed only rights and not responsibilities. In contrast, this article argues that sovereign authority has been understood to involve varied and evolving responsibilities since it was first articulated in the 16th and 17th centuries. It then traces the historical emergence of the tension between the right of sovereign states to be self-governing and free from outside interference and their responsibility to secure the safety of their populations.

African Affairs

Volume 110, Issue 441, October 2011

The politics of mobilization for security in South African townships

Author- Laurent Fourchard

Abstract

Taking account of the myriad of policing initiatives that have emerged both from the grassroots and from the state in post-apartheid South Africa, this article investigates the politics of mobilization for security. Focusing on the coloured townships of the Western Cape, it argues that there is no clear distinction between vigilantism and community policing, but that they are best understood as two sides of the same process of mobilization for security. The provision of security in poor neighbourhoods is an important resource in the struggle for political support, and the article argues that the willingness of government to ban vigilante organizations is not simply a reaction to their supposed violence, but also a way of defeating political opponents. By the same token, community policing initiatives are established both to reassert the authority of the state over communities that are supposed to be prone to vigilantism and to promote a specific political party agenda.

Zimbabwean farmers in Nigeria

Author- Abdul Raufu Mustapha

Abstract

Since 2004, white commercial farmers displaced under Zimbabwe's fast-track land reform programme have established new successful farms near the central Nigerian town of Shonga. This article explores the basis of that success. It addresses three key questions: (1) What has actually happened near Shonga since 2004? (2) What or who is driving the process of agrarian transformation? And (3) What are the long-term consequences for the peasantry since Nigerian agriculture is still largely peasant-based? It argues that contrary to popular myths of 'enterprising' white Zimbabwean farmers, the process is driven by a complex group of actors, including the national and regional states. Comparative evidence from similar transplantations of Zimbabwean farmers suggests that active state support is central to the success of Shonga. With respect to the relationship between the commercial farms and the peasantry, it is argued that all the synergies included in the project design to promote a symbiotic development have failed to materialize.

Israel Affairs

Volume 17, Issue 4, October 2011

British arms sales to Israel

Author- Neill Lochery

Abstract This article focuses on one aspect of the Anglo-Israeli relationship, which in the eyes of the Israelis was the main point of concern: the question of British arms sales to the

Middle East. It covers the period from the start of the 1950s, when Britain officially recognized Israel, and concludes with the period immediately prior to the Suez War of 1956. During this period, the Foreign Office (FO) was a major force in the formation and implementation of British foreign policy in the Middle East. Central to its role in dealing with British policies towards the region was its effective veto on the sale of British weapons to the Middle East region. The article argues that during this period the FO was extremely flexible in sanctioning the sale of arms to its Arab allies, but did not offer the same flexibility in dealing with potential British arms sales to Israel.

Politics and principle at the UN Human Rights Commission and Council (1992–2008)

Author- Steven Seligman

Abstract

This article examines states' voting records at the United Nations Human Rights Commission/Council during the period 1992–2008 on resolutions targeting specific countries, and tests competing hypotheses about voting behaviour derived from liberal and realist theory. I conclude that a liberal framework explains voting behaviour on resolutions addressing most states and show that democracies were more likely than non-democracies to support resolutions criticizing states with poor human rights records. However, I also show that the liberal framework fails to explain voting behaviour on resolutions addressing Israel because the issue uniquely polarized states according to geo-political groupings – Western democracies often opposed resolutions addressing Israel, but developing world states often supported these resolutions. These findings hold for both the Commission and its successor body: the Human Rights Council'.

Australian Journal of International Affairs

Volume 65, Issue 5, 2011

Authoritarianism, revolution and democracy: Egypt and beyond

Author-Amin Saikal

Abstract

The pro-democracy Arab popular uprisings have been spontaneous, but perhaps not all that unpredictable. They have come against the backdrop of a growing gulf between the rulers and the ruled, political repression, social and economic inequalities, demographic changes, unemployment and foreign policy debacles. Although the uprisings began in Tunisia, it is the case of Egypt that illustrates the situation more compellingly and the impact that it has had on the rest of the Arab world. It is not clear at this stage what will be the ultimate outcome. But what can be said with certainty is that the Arab peoples have set out on a long journey in pursuit of genuine self-determination. The journey will be arduous and unsettling for the Arabs and outsiders, but this has to be treated as part of a transition from a dictatorial past to a politically pluralist future.

Revisiting the South Korean developmental state after the 1997 financial crisis

Author-Yong Soo Park

Abstract

This study reassesses the conventional wisdom surrounding the developmental state of South Korea (hereafter Korea) since the 1997 Korean financial crisis. The conventional wisdom is that, as a result of the continued structural reforms prompted by the crisis, the Korean developmental state, inherently characterised by active or direct state intervention, strong economic and industrial policies, the *chaebol*-oriented economic policy, and labour exclusion, has finally begun to dissolve in earnest. In this study, we have considered whether that is really the case and also which theoretical implications can be drawn from this consideration. Analysis of the Korean developmental state following the 1997 crisis has indicated that, quite contrary to conventional wisdom, the developmental state has continued to prevail as a core policy framework of the Korean administrations even after the crisis. There is no doubt that the continued structural and market reform after the crisis certainly undermined the Korean developmental state to a certain degree, but that does not mean the beginning of the end of the Korean developmental state at all.

International Security

Volume 36, Issue 2 - Fall 2011

Muslim "Homegrown" Terrorism in the United States

Author- Risa A. Brooks

Abstract

Since the September 11 attacks, analysts and public officials have expressed growing concern about the potential of Muslim citizens and residents of the United States to plot attacks within the country's borders—a phenomenon sometimes referred to as “homegrown” terrorism. To assess this apparent threat, it is necessary to examine what is known about the willingness and capacity of Muslim Americans to execute deadly attacks in the United States. Three conditions, either alone or together, could contribute to an increasing threat of homegrown terrorism. The first concerns what is known about the radicalization of Muslim Americans and whether a surge in arrests in 2009 indicates a growing trend in Muslim American terrorism. The second relates to the capacity of aspiring militants to avoid detection as they prepare attacks. The third depends on the skills of aspiring terrorists and therefore their capacities to execute increasingly sophisticated attacks.

India's Nuclear Odyssey

Author-Andrew B. Kennedy

Abstract

Why did India merely flirt with nuclear weapons in the 1960s and 1970s only to emerge as a nuclear power in the 1990s? Although a variety of factors informed India's prolonged restraint and

subsequent breakthrough, new evidence indicates that India's "nuclear odyssey" can be understood as a function of Indian leaders' ability to secure their country through nonmilitary means, particularly implicit nuclear umbrellas and international institutions. In the 1960s and 1970s, India was relatively successful in this regard as it sought and received implicit support from the superpowers against China. This success, in turn, made acquiring the bomb a less pressing question. At the end of the Cold War, however, nonmilitary measures ceased to be viable for India. In the late 1980s, waning Soviet support and the failure of Rajiv Gandhi's diplomatic initiatives led to the creation of India's de facto nuclear arsenal.

International Relations
September 2011; 25 (3)

After the 'War on Terror'

Author- Yee-Kuang Heng

Abstract

In March 2009, the Obama administration sent a message to senior Pentagon staff instructing them to refrain from using either of the terms 'Long War' or 'Global War on Terror' and to replace these terms with 'Overseas Contingency Operations'. The change in tone and, potentially, substance, from the Obama White House by ending the 'war on terror' at the rhetorical level suggests a need to shift our academic attention towards developing more appropriate analytical frameworks for examining alternative strategies for countering terrorism. This paper seeks to explore what it terms an emerging risk-based approach being deployed by states. Our framework proposed here deploys the twin concepts of 'risk bureaucracies' and risk regulatory regimes (RRRs) in examining terrorist financing and aviation security regulations.

Secularism and the Politics of Risk

Author- Stacey Gutkowski

Abstract

Little has been said in the international relations (IR) literature so far about the connections between secular ideas and identification of risk. However, there are striking parallels. 'Western', secular discourse(s) have framed Islamist terrorism as slippery, uncontrollable, mysterious and strange. Similarly, risks are often described as 'diverse, amorphous and qualitative'. Starting from this observation, this article explores connections between ongoing conversations about the politics of risk and insights from the emerging literature on secularism and international politics. Using the British 'Prevent' agenda of 2005–09 as a case study, it asks how it is that political secularism and cultural secularity have contributed to perceptions of danger emanating from the Muslim population. It explores

the potential implications of these perceptions for state security policy. The article also explores Foucault's account of pastoral governance as a potentially useful framework for scholars of risk, particularly for describing the ambivalence inherent in much risk-management practice.

Millennium: Journal of International Studies

September 2011; 40 (1)

Digital Power in World Politics

Author- Josef Teboho Ansorge

Abstract

The nature of political power has changed with the advent of modern information technology while our theories and metaphors to understand it remain wedded to earlier periods. This article begins with a discussion of some of the work done by databases in domestic and world politics. In particular, it introduces the political effects of contemporary data-management practices through short examples of terrorist information databases, the 2008 Obama campaign's database, as well as biometric databases deployed in Iraq, Afghanistan and Liberia. This leads to a consideration of the finite applicability and relevance of the widespread metaphor of the Panopticon to these kinds of cases. Given the limitations of such an image, the concept of digital power and the political metaphor of Cuntz's Tower are proposed. Digital power foregrounds the importance of machines for contemporary sovereignty while moving beyond ocular-centric notions of surveillance. Cuntz's Tower illustrates the power of identification and sorting in addition to the Panopticon's emphasis on self-discipline. This article acts as an initial ground-clearing exercise for more extensive analyses of databases in domestic and world politics.

The Limitations of the Critical Edge

Author- Milja Kurki

Abstract

The crisis of 2009 has not proved to be a great impetus for new critical redirection of political and economic thinking in the West: both politico-economic structures in the West and the models of development and democratisation at the heart of Western foreign policy agendas remain much the same. This is despite the continued efforts of critical and philosophical IR theorists to push 'critical thinking' and 'alternative agendas' in world politics. Why the dismal 'real-world' failure of critical and philosophical IR research? This piece reflects on the trends towards depoliticisation, fragmentation and de-concretisation of critical and philosophical IR research and suggests some potential ways forward in reorienting critical and philosophical research in the field.

