British International Studies Association

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The Global Politics of Cyberspace: Mapping the Emergence of Communities of Practice

Thursday, 18 June 2020 10:00 (1h 30m)

From cyber-diplomats to technical experts, the governance of cyberspace encompasses a plethora of actors, practices and social, economic, and political dynamics. This panel is a mapping exercise of the emerging practices currently shaping the global politics of cyberspace, one of the most crucial areas of activity in contemporary international relations (IR). Such an approach provides an important starting point to (i) (re)thinking change in power dynamics, (ii) reassessing public-private/state-non state divides, (iv) analysing expert-based knowledge production dynamics. This panel has three aims. First, to take stock of those changes/divides by examining emerging dynamics of cyberspace governance. Second, to problematise how these practices affect the understandings of international relations, both as a macro-practice, and as a discipline. Finally, to contribute to situating the 'practice turn' in IR within a broader interdisciplinary exercise.

Track Classification: Interpretivism in International Relations Working Group