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The Past, Present, and Future of International Order

Friday, 23 June 2023 09:00 (1h 30m)

The steady rise of China, the decline of US power, and the emergence of multipolarity suggest the international order we inhabit is imperilled. Now is the time to survey the existing order, to learn vital lessons from the past, to imagine what future international orders could look like and indeed what form we want it to take. Looking at the past, present, and future, this panel revisits the perennial problem of international order. Seeking to learn lessons from the past, panellists ask: How have “indirect wars” ordered international society? And how have rising powers historically won domination over international orders? Similarly, in a bid to better understand the mutually constitutive role of affect and ethics, another panellist asks: what are the affective underpinnings of the present order? Finally, imagining the future, we ask: How might illiberal politics and reactionary nostalgia compromise world ordering? And, more hopefully: how can international orders be designed to generate shared moral responsibilities?

Track Classification: Contemporary Research on International Political Theory Working Group