

Peacekeeping in a multipolar world: Pluralised or (neo-)imperial peace?

Thursday, 6 June 2024 09:00 (1h 30m)

Though the liberal peace consensus has never been as coherent as its rhetoric implied, dramatic structural shifts within an increasingly multipolar world order have engendered new spaces to contest, liberal hegemony and propose peace and governance approaches historically excluded from understandings of peace-making and peacebuilding.

This panel draws on critical research historicising internationally led peace efforts to understand the processes and visions of peace that guide and substantiate such dynamics as they emerge within political, ideational, and material contestations. The desire for alternative perspectives of peace and governance has shifted spaces of resistance from the periphery to the heart of regional and international institutions. Here, non-traditional, non-established and 'emerging' powers have increasingly sought to move beyond their operational roles in peace efforts to shape substantive and qualitative dynamics.

This shift foregrounds significant challenges regarding the motivations, strategies, and implications of order and peace-making itself. What novel concepts of peace and security have new participants introduced and how do these align with and reformulate the hegemonic neoliberal practices widely promoted in the past decades? Furthermore, in what ways do such interventions disrupt or contest parallel attempts to stabilise and extend existing and traditional arrangements of power in the face of uncertainty, complexity and economic competition? Papers will pay attention to both temporal and spatial dynamics of peace and order making in considering new and contested forms of governance, economics, and societal relations.

Track Classification: Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding Working Group