

Popular Culture and World Politics – Keeping Pace by Looking ‘Beyond the Mirror’

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Thinking anew about the challenges posed to the international order makes it incumbent that we look at how world politics is experienced in the everyday whether by the public or political elites. Reflecting the conference theme, the field of popular culture and world politics precisely seeks to diversify our practices and problematise the foundations of our discipline. Here we bring together a fascinating collection of papers which seek to move beyond exploring the content of popular culture (pop culture as mirror) and instead to consider anew how it can inform us in multiple ways. We have papers which explore identity and resistance through music, how soap operas help shape and mould elite value systems and meaning-making practices in diplomacy, how soap operas and their values are received by audiences, and how popular culture informs and fashions complex relationship in revolutionary and counterrevolutionary contexts. Collectively these papers validate the critical role of popular culture to our understanding of the unfolding and rapidly changing dynamics of world politics.

Track Classification: Orphan Papers track