British International Studies Association

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## We walk through gardens: 'rooting' IR scholarship in caring ecologies

Friday, 20 June 2025 15:00 (1h 30m)

In the last BISA conference, scholars of international feminist policymaking, conflict, and peace walked through the Birmingham Botanic Gardens. In the butterfly house, we stood still as some settled on us and we waited patiently till they had their stay and departed only when they left us. How do our walks, our local ecologies of care, and our presence amongst one another warp our practice of International Relations? In this roundtable, we explore relational autonomy, care, agency in and beyond our distinct local ecologies – we ask how spaces shape our relation to each other, create distinct genealogies of scholarship, and motivations for pursuing IR scholarship beyond politics and policy.

Do we do this for scholarship, or do we do it for each other?

Track Classification: Emotions in Politics and International Relations Working Group