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Dynamics of Institutionalisation and Deinstitutionalisation in the International System -Part I

Wednesday, 18 June 2025 15:00 (1h 30m)

The processes of institutionalization and deinstitutionalization are central to understanding both the historical evolution and the contemporary shape of the international system. This panel examines how international institutions—both formal entities like the League of Nations and the United Nations, the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), or International Criminal Court, as well as informal norms and practices—are created, adapted, or dismantled over time. In the past decades, the field of International Relations (IR) has focused on institutional-isation, reflecting a world that is increasingly interconnected and governed by joint laws and international organizations. However, the reverse process, deinstitutionalisation, has often been overlooked both analytically and empirically, making this panel particularly timely. As global power dynamics shift and new challenges emerge, institutions face pressure to evolve, reform, or in some cases, dissolve. This panel investigates, from both a historical and contemporary perspective, the forces driving these dynamics. It also investigates the implications of these dynamics for global governance, security, and cooperation.

Please note that this is the first of two panels on the topic.

Track Classification: International Law and Politics Working Group