

Mourning, Migration and Maturity: the politics of (un)belonging

Wednesday, 18 June 2025 09:00 (1h 30m)

This panel would continue some of the discussion on mothering from BISA 2024 and raise new issues around how we negotiate grief while working in international relations, conflict studies, youth studies, peace studies, postcolonial studies— how is this intersected by the dislocatedness associated with migration and how caring responsibilities are intensified when we are ‘out of place’. What does it mean to think of older age mothering and ageing/mature bodies/minds/selves as we navigate conferencing, ageing parents, older children, long working/commuting days, COVID aftermaths, increasing and chronic stress related illnesses and what it means to be senior or junior in academia. How does the conversation change when we look at mothering from this more inclusive, broader and deeper perspective? What does it mean to do IR in the midst of these kin and other responsibilities and conditions? What do we do when our kin is many miles away, suffering or in need? How does that affect how we think about the international and what kind of IR scholars we can or should be?

Track Classification: Gendering International Relations Working Group