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Type: Panel

(Re)examining the connection between diaspora and decolonial & counter-hegemonic politics

Wednesday 3 June 2026 13:15 (1h 30m)

This panel brings together scholarship that critically (re)examines the relationship between diaspora and power in international politics, specifically with regards to processes of decolonization and other forms of counter-hegemonic resistance. It takes seriously observations and theorizations from other disciplines, specifically Sociology and Postcolonial Studies, which regard diaspora as key agents and/or vectors of decolonization and global justice, whilst also acknowledging that, in practice, many postcolonial diasporic communities are subject to immense pressures that shape how they can engage, challenge and resist colonial forms of power.

Drawing on a wide range of case studies, and employing diverse methodologies, this interdisciplinary panel engages with questions of how the politics of place, space and time/temporality matter for understanding the agency, actions and motivations of diaspora. Beyond this, contributions ask whether and how diaspora challenge existing ways of thinking about the meaning (and location) of 'decolonization', and how the study of diaspora forces us to reconsider global power in a transnationally interconnected world.

Track Classification: International Politics of Migration, Refugees and Diaspora Working Group