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Bipolarity, Tripolarity, or Multipolarity? The contested shape(s) of the new international order

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

The demise of the rules-based liberal international order has rapidly accelerated since the return of Donald Trump to the White House in January 2025. Despite this, the contours of any new order are at best slowly emerging and there is no consensus among scholars about what will emerge, how, why, and when. This roundtable will explore different views on possible and probable trajectories of the current re-ordering and offer insights on how different theoretical and normative perspectives on international order shape our understanding of what is likely to emerge and whether and how possible trajectories can be shaped towards what would be desirable to emerge.

Track Classification: International Law and Politics Working Group