Studying power through IPS

Launch: IPS Belgium - Call for papers

Aims

As a transdisciplinary approach to the study of International Relations, International Political Sociology (IPS) offers new lenses to understand global politics and transnational relations through a wide range of analytical perspectives and empirical research strategies. By questioning the fragmentation of traditional IR categories such as the domestic and the international, high and low politics, or rationality and constructivism, it casts a light on the power dynamics at play in these entangled spaces and on their outcomes. IPS brings insights from sociology, anthropology, geography, history, among others, in the analysis of international relations. One of its aims is to question and analyse the tensions and the connections between the concepts of “the International”, “the Political”, and “the Social”.

Based on the model of the “Doing IPS” network in London, “IPS Brazil”, and the “Doing IPS Transnational Hub”, IPS Belgium will provide a platform for scholars to present and debate their research. We aim to create a space for discussions and to foster collaborations for anyone sharing an interest in the conceptual, ontological and methodological implications of the IPS perspective. From PhD candidates to senior scholars, all humanities and social sciences researchers are welcomed to participate in the seminar and present their work.

Themes in IPS

IPS includes various themes and research interests. For the first seminar series of IPS Belgium, we particularly welcome papers about (but not limited to) the following themes:

- Migration and borders
- Postcolonial and decolonial thought
- Security and surveillance
- Technologies of governance
- Identity (gender, race, sexuality, ...)
- Citizenship and sovereignty
- Social mobilizations
- Environmental challenges
- Expertise circulation and knowledge production
- Fieldwork methodologies
- ...

Programme

This first seminar series will run monthly from February to June 2021. During each two-hour seminar, two participants will present a piece of work-in-progress (around 8000-10,000 words of a thesis chapter, book chapter, journal manuscript,...) to the group and invite a senior academic as discussant. The discussion will be followed by questions and answers with the audience. All attendees are encouraged to participate regularly and actively.

We hope that the context will allow us to welcome you in Brussels but to prevent any difficulties linked to travel restrictions, simultaneous online participation will be possible as well.
Application

Please send your abstract (300 words) with a short bio and a description of how your research relates with IPS (200 words) to ipsseminar.belgium@gmail.com before 1st December 2020. Participants will be notified by the end of December.

Do reach out if you want to join the mailing list to be informed of our future activities or if you have any questions.

Doctoral student organisers

Anne NGUYEN (ULB) - Benjamin PUYBAREAU (UNamur) - Cindy REGNIER (ULiège) - Élise ROUSSEAU (UNamur) - Chloé THOMAS (USL-B)

Senior academic organisers

Rocco BELLANOVA (USL-B/UvA) - Denis DUEZ (USL-B) - Christophe WASINSKI (ULB)