

UDENT
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University of Ljubljana
Faculty of Social Sciences



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International Student Conference
on International Relations

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Call for Papers

9 & 10 May 2024, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana



Call For Papers

Student Association for International Relations Globalis, in partnership with the Chair and Centre for International Relations at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana (FSS UL), is organizing its **4th Student Conference on International Relations**. The international conference will be held during Europe Week, on the **9th and 10th May 2024 at the FSS in Ljubljana**. We cordially invite students of Bachelor's and Master's programmes from the wider IR field to participate.

With this conference, we want to give students the opportunity to present their scientific research to researchers and experts in the field of IR, and to obtain constructive comments and recommendations on the IR research work presentations. The conference will include several thematic sections, which are outlined below. Above all, our mandate is to encourage young minds in this field to deepen their academic knowledge they acquire through their studies. We hope that the event will serve not only as a stepping stone for research work, but also as a platform for opening a discussion on current topics and providing a bridge between the (national) academic and study spheres.



Call For Papers

Thematic issues for research paper submissions

- Theoretical considerations on fundamental concepts in IR: anarchy, sovereignty, international system, power, international peace and security, conflict, international development, and international norms
- The United Nations Security Council: an epitome of ineffectiveness in managing international problems?
- International environmental protection
- Challenges in the Western Balkans
- The future of European integration: closing the capability-expectations gap?
- European Union as a Global Actor: normative vs. geopolitical considerations



Important dates

6 November 2023: release of the Call for Papers; see [Guidelines for submission HERE](#)

10 December 2023: indication of students' participation interest

week of 8-12 January 2024: Thematic issues-based online workshops on how to make a Research Plan.

29 January 2024: deadline for students to submit a Research Plan to konferenca@globalis.org

February 2024: submitters receive Academic Board's feedback on their Research Plan – notification of (non)acceptance.

April 2024: deadline for student authors to submit a Research Essay and notification of participation at the Conference.

9 & 10 May 2024: conference takes place at the FSS UL in Ljubljana. All student authors that will have submitted their Research Essay will participate at the conference and orally present their Research Essay as part of the conference programme.

Call For Papers



Conference Academic Board

Prof Dr Julija Brsakoska Baserkoska, *Univerzitet Ss. Kiril i Metodij vo Skopje, Praven fakultet, North Macedonia*

Prof Dr Ana Bojinović Fenko, *UL FDV, Slovenia*

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Francesco Spera, LL.M., PhD Student, University of Salento (Lecce), Italia

Assist. Prof Dr Ljupčo Stojkovski, *Univerzitet Ss. Kiril i Metodij vo Skopje, Institute for Global Politics and Law, North Macedonia*

Assist. Prof Dr Anastas Vangeli, *UL Ekonomska fakulteta, Slovenia*

Assoc. Prof Dr Rok Zupančič, *UL FDV, Slovenia*

Call For Papers

Outline of Thematic issues

Theoretical considerations on fundamental concepts in IR: anarchy, sovereignty, international system, power, international peace and security, conflict, international development, and international norms

In the realm of IR, fundamental concepts serve as the building blocks of theorizing and subsequent empirical analyses. This theme invites contributions that engage in a deep exploration of theoretical considerations in the field, to explore key concepts outlined in the title. By delving into these foundational elements, this theme aims to enhance our understanding of how different theories and approaches within IR define these concepts, put them in relationships and form explanatory models or understandings of “the international”.

The United Nations Security Council: an epitome of ineffectiveness in managing international problems?

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) plays a pivotal role in multilateral diplomacy, yet its effectiveness in managing global problems, specifically safeguarding international peace and security, remains a subject of debate. This theme looks for research that critically assesses the performance of the UNSC, explores its successes, shortcomings, and limitations in addressing a wide range of global challenges, investigates historical case studies or offer potential reforms or alternative approaches for a more effective international governance structure.

International environmental protection

With the escalating environmental crises facing the world, this theme calls for research into international efforts and agreements designed to safeguard our planet. The aim is to investigate the efficacy of existing international policies and environmental agreements. This theme encourages to think about strategies, the role of non-state actors, and the consideration of ethical and legal dimensions in international environmental protection.

Challenges in the Western Balkans

The Western Balkan region has historically experienced intricate political, economic, and security challenges. Potential research topics include investigation of conflicts, ethnic tensions, the EU accession process, economic development, and regional cooperation. This theme seeks to identify the underlying causes of challenges in the Western Balkans and offer insights into strategies for stability, conflict resolution, and inclusion into the broader European political and economic integration.

Call For Papers

The future of European integration: closing the capability-expectations gap?

More than ever, the European Union has to navigate between complex internal dynamics, external challenges and a persistently weak economic outlook posed by multiple (global) crises in a changed geopolitical environment. Yet while some crises, such as the Eurozone, the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change and the war in Ukraine, have led to converging EU member states' policies and have created new or additional capabilities for the EU to face these complex challenges, others, such as the migration crisis, Brexit and to an extent also the war in Ukraine, have reinforced EU's existing divisions and weaknesses. This topic invites research on the future of the European integration, i.e. the strategies and reforms needed to cope with these challenges and potentially narrow the gap between what the EU wants and is expected to deliver and what the EU can actually do (capabilities).

European Union as a Global Actor: normative vs. geopolitical considerations

The European Union's role as a global actor is based on its actorness which needs to accommodate normative-grounded EU values and effective influence-aspiring geopolitical interests. This theme calls for research that examines how these two dimensions intersect as complementary or conflictual in EU's strategic positioning and actions in global governance on issues such as human rights, international trade and development, international peace and security, democratization, digital governance and others.



Call For Papers

Previous editions of the Student Conference on International Relations

3rd Student Conference on International Relations



2nd Student Conference on International Relations



1st Student Conference on International Relations



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