

Program and Papers 2025

Program of the 3rd Annual Conference of the **The Political Economy of Aid and Development Society**

April 23-24, 2025

Glasgow University Union (GUU), Glasgow, Scotland

Tuesday, April 22nd

6:45 pm Dinner (optional, at own expense)

[Bantawala](#), 192 Byres Road, Glasgow

Wednesday, April 23rd

[Glasgow University Union](#) – Bridie Library, 32 University Avenue, Glasgow G12 8LX

8:45 - 9:00 am Registration and Welcome

9:00 - 10:30 am Session 1: Aid Effectiveness

Chair: Samuel Brazys

- Paper 1: **Bernhard Reinsberg** (University of Glasgow), **Thomas Wencker** (DEval), Timon Forster (University of St. Gallen). Beyond the Scorecard: Unveiling the Micro-Macro Paradox in Project Evaluation. Discussion openers: **Katharina Fleiner, Faisal Ahmed**
- Paper 2: **Zunera Rana** (Radboud University) and **Dirk-Jan Koch** (Radboud University). Donors' dealings with unintended effects: A political-economy analysis of bilateral aid evaluation. Discussion openers: **Maia King, Lee Crawford**
- Paper 3: Sebastian Korb (Zeppelin Universität) and **Pauline Hoffman** (Zeppelin Universität). Does Project Performance Matter? The Association Between World Bank Project Ratings and Local Development. Discussion Openers: **Attique Ur Rehman, Alice Iannantuoni**

10:45-11:00 am Break

11:00-12:30 pm Session 2: The Political Economy of Developing Countries

Chair: Alice Iannantuoni

- Paper 1: **Sarah Shaukat** (Tufts University), **Attique Ur Rehman** (World Bank). Do Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) Matter for Development? Evidence from Pakistan. Discussion openers: **Mark Hallerberg, Theodore Mitchell**
- Paper 2: **Maria Nagawa** (Princeton University). Foreign Aid and the Performance of Bureaucrats. Discussion openers: **Bernhard Reinsberg, María Santillán O'Shea**
- Paper 3: **Avi Ahuja** (New York University), **Mengfan Cheng** (New York University). Beyond Foreign Aid: How do Developing Countries Substitute Concessional Financing? Discussion openers: **Ryan Jablonski, Jean-Baptiste Puginier**

12:30-1:30 pm Lunch

1:30-3:30 pm Session 3: Climate and Humanitarian Assistance

Chair: Martin Steinwand

- Paper 1: **Yuen Gu** (University of Bath), Michael Bloomfield (University of Bath), Yixian Sun (University of Bath). China's Financing for South-South Climate Cooperation: Balancing Global Climate Governance and National Interests. Discussion openers: **Mengfan Cheng, Kathleen J. Brown**
- Paper 2: **Shelby Carvalho** (Harvard University). Quiet Inclusion: The Politics of Refugee Integration in Africa. Discussion openers: **Sarah Shaukat, Ryan Jablonski**
- Paper 3: **Thomas Wencker** (DEVal), Ruth Carlitz (University of Amsterdam). Aligning Mitigation Finance with Recipient Needs: Do Nationally Determined Contributions Matter? Discussion openers: **Avi Ahuja, Stefano Jud**
- Paper 4: **Matthew DiGiuseppe** (Leiden University), Marion Collewet (Leiden University), Jarek Kantorowicz (Leiden University), Hendrik Vrijburg (Leiden University). Climate Finance at Home or Aboard: Economic Efficiency, Altruism, or Home Bias?. Discussion openers: **María Santillán O'Shea, Tim Röthel**

3:30-3:45 pm Break

3:45-5:15 pm Session 4: The Domestic Electoral Politics of Development

Chair: Haley Swedlund

- Paper 1: **Ryan Jablonski** (London School of Economics). Dependency Politics: How foreign aid shapes electoral behavior. Discussion openers: **Kathleen J. Brown, Stefano Jud**
- Paper 2: **Oliver Morrissey** (University of Nottingham), Roel Dom (Bruegel (Brussels)), Abrams Tagem (African Tax Administration Forum). Taxation and Electoral Accountability in sub-Saharan Africa? Discussion openers: **Mark Hallerberg, Shelby Carvalho**
- Paper 3: **Abreham Adera** (University of Brescia) and **Oumar Ben Salha** (University of Brescia). Foreign aid projects and Local political contact: Evidence from Africa. Discussion openers: **Haley Swedlund, Thomas Wencker**

6:00 pm Dinner

Glasgow University Union – Drawing Room

Thursday, April 24th

Glasgow University Union – Bridie Library, 32 University Avenue, Glasgow G12 8LX

8:45-10:45 am Session 5: Aid Allocation

Chair: Bernhard Reinsberg

- Paper 1: **Tim Röthel** (IDOS). Geopolitics and Aid Allocation - A Subnational Analysis of US, Chinese, and German Aid. Discussion openers: **Lee Crawford, Theodore Mitchell**
- Paper 2: **Faisal Ahmed** (Wellesley College). Diplomatic lobbying and foreign economic policy: Evidence from the Trump presidency. Discussion openers: **Alice Iannantuoni, Avi Ahuja**
- Paper 3: **Stefano Jud** (University of Bern) and Anthony Luongo (Emory University). My House, My Rules: The Placement of Chinese Aid Projects in Protected Areas. Discussion openers: **Yuen Gu, Samuel Brazys**
- Paper 4: **Jean-Baptiste Puginier** (University of Geneva). The Impact of China's Infrastructure Aid on DAC Donors' Democratic Aid Allocation. Discussion openers: **Ashley Wright, Bernhard Reinsberg**

10:45-11:00 am Break

11:00-12:30 am Session 6: Donor Politics

Chair: Alice Iannantuoni

- Paper 1: **Joshua Fawcett Weiner** (Radboud University) and **Haley Swedlund** (Radboud University). Public Opinion, Nationalism, and the Politics of Foreign Aid Suspensions. Discussion openers: **Martin C. Steinwand, Maria Nagawa**
- Paper 2: **Lee Crawford** (CGDev) and **Theodore Mitchell** (CGDev). The Effect of Study Tours on Politician Support for Foreign Aid. Discussion openers: **Faisal Ahmed, Oliver Morrissey**
- Paper 3: **Ashley Wright** (Oxford University). Manipulation or Mismatch? Assessing the Reliability of the OECD DAC Aid Labels Using a New Typology of U.S. Aid. Discussion openers: **Zunera Rana, Matthew DiGiuseppe**

12:30-1:30 pm Lunch

1:30-3:00 pm Session 7: Donor Finance

Chair: Ryan Jablonski

- Paper 1: **María Santillán O'Shea** (Elcano Royal Institute). The schools of thought driving the evolving financing for development agenda. Discussion openers: **Thomas Wencker, Haley Swedlund**
- Paper 2: **Katharina Fleiner** (University of Geneva) The "State" in state-led finance for development: Understanding Political Influence in Sovereign Wealth Funds. Discussion openers: **Om Marathe, Joshua Fawcett Weiner**
- Paper 3: **Maia King** (King's College London) Motivations and information in foreign aid: paternalistic or disinterested altruism? Discussion openers: **Matthew DiGiuseppe, Maria Nagawa**

3:00-3:15 pm Break

3:15-5:15 pm Session 8: Recipient Politics

Chair: Patrick Shea

- Paper 1: **Mark Hallerberg** (Hertie School), **Sahil Deo** (CPC Analytics), **Om Marathe** (CPC Analytics), **Jayati Sharma** (CPC Analytics). Responses to the Rise of Multilateral Finance: Voter Perceptions of the World Bank and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank in India. Discussion openers: **Pauline Hoffman, Samuel Brazys**
- Paper 2: **Kathleen J. Brown** (Leiden University), **Rodwan Abouharb** (University College London), **Matthew DiGiuseppe** (Leiden University), **Bernhard Reinsberg** (University of Glasgow). Is the IMF a Scapegoat? A survey experiment in Kenya. Discussion openers: **Yuen Gu, Abreham Adera**
- Paper 3: **Martin C. Steinwand** (University of Essex) Debt for development: Individual-level knowledge and support for international borrowing in Africa. Discussion openers: **Jean-Baptiste Puginier Ijaz, Maia King**

5:30-7.00 pm Pizzas, Posters, and Partings

[Adam Smith Business School](#) – room 281, 2 Discovery Place, Glasgow G1 1QL

- **Haley Swedlund** (Radboud University) and **Bernhard Reinsberg** (University of Glasgow). Fact or fear? Aid transparency, aid scandals, and support for foreign aid. Discussion openers: **Joshua Fawcett Weiner, Shelby Carvalho**
- **Samuel Brazys** (University College Dublin), **Marc Busch** (Georgetown University), **Jennifer Tobin** (Georgetown University). Foreign Governments and the Politics of GSP-Eligible Products. Discussion openers: **Martin C. Steinwand, Oliver Morrissey**
- **Faisal Ahmed** (Wellesley College). Foreign transfers and authoritarian peace. Discussion openers: **Ashley Wright, Katharina Fleiner**
- **Abreham Adera** (University of Brescia) and **Oumar Ben Salha** (University of Brescia). Foreign Aid Projects and state-society contact: Evidence from Africa. Discussion openers: **Sarah Shaukat,**
- **Alice Iannantuoni**. (Université Catholique de Lille). European versus Member-State Interest in Aid Allocation by the Council of the European Union. Discussion openers: **Tim Röthel, Mengfan Cheng**