

Call for Papers

Workshop at Johns Hopkins SAIS Europe (Bologna, Italy)

Opportunities and Challenges for Transnational and Global Advocacy

Date: 9-10 May 2023

Hosts: Nina Hall (SAIS Europe) & Nina Reiners (FU Berlin & Graduate Institute Geneva)

This conference will bring together scholars of transnational and global advocacy for a two-day workshop in Bologna, Italy. The workshop is open to PhD students, post-docs, junior and senior faculty who are researching and developing new understandings and theories of activism. We invite contributions from scholars who work on advocacy in a range of areas (including migration, human rights, environment, transitional justice, children, and women), and a multiplicity of actors from NGOs to private actors to the state.

Key questions

- What new advocacy actors have emerged on transnational and global issues? What tactics and strategies are they adopting? To what extent do our existing theories explain their uptake and success?
- To what extent are the far right, and other “politicised moral conservative” groups, adopting the same tactics, strategies, and organizational forms as progressive actors? How can we explain interactions between rival transnational advocacy networks?
- What are the similarities and differences in how democratic and authoritarian governments are responding to advocacy efforts? For instance, how are governments using digital technology to restrict civil society space and monitor activists?
- What is the relationship between civil society advocates and private advocates or strategic litigators? How does a shrinking space for civil society actors benefit advocacy by business actors and with which effect for global politics?
- To what extent does transnational advocacy enhance the representation in and legitimacy of global governance? Or does transnational advocacy primarily serve the interests of wealthy actors or of the Global North to the detriment of the Global South?

Please submit your abstract of no more than 300 words by 12 December 2022 to nhall@jhu.edu and nina.reiners@kfg-intlaw.de with “Bologna Advocacy Workshop” in the subject line. We will inform participants of results of the selection process in January 2023. Those selected are expected to submit their papers of around 6,000 to 8,000 words by **1 May 2023**.

We will cover meals and accommodation for two nights in Bologna for all speakers, and at least part of the travel expenses for invited contributions. This workshop is co-funded by: *APSIA Junior Faculty Grant*, *JHU SNF Agora*, and the *Bologna Institute for Policy Research (BIPR)*. Conversations initiated at this conference shall be continued in a special issue on advocacy.