

EWIS 2019 Call for Papers

Alliance Management in the 21st Century: Strategy, Political Economy, and Defense Planning

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A key pillar of the liberal international order, alliances were a central topic in IR's "first hundred years," and they are likely to remain so. The study of alliances is multidisciplinary, demanding, *inter alia*, scholarship in international relations, security and strategic studies, political economy, comparative politics, and defense and peace economics. Yet, these disciplines do not often engage with one another in any systematic way. Central to alliance politics is burden sharing, or "the distribution of costs among group members in support of common goals (Cimbala and Forster 2005)." Burden sharing, broadly conceived, is a multi-causal phenomenon, and those causes operate at multiple levels: systemic/structural, organizational, national, and sub-national. Future scholarship should continue to advance, empirically test, and refine new theories about the multi-level drivers of states' behavior in alliances. Scholarship on alliances should continue examining incentives and constraints affecting burden-sharing behavior, across multiple levels of governance, in both multilateral and bilateral contexts, and among both formal and de facto allies.

The workshop seeks to address this shortcoming by bringing together scholars from an array of disciplines, intellectual traditions, and methodological approaches. Driving questions include, but are not limited to:

- How did the incentives to form and sustain alliances change over the first 100 years of IR, and how will they likely change in the future?
- What is the relationship between alliances and the liberal international order, if such a thing still exists?
- Is there such a thing as a "permanent alliance?"
- Do formal alliances still matter?
- How do allies influence one another's behavior?
- To what extent does the nuclear deterrence dimension of alliances entail additional and unique challenges for alliance management?
- How do differences in alliance geometry affect the behavior of alliance members and their rivals?
- What is the relationship between U.S. alliances in Asia and Europe?
- How does multilevel governance affect alliance management?
- How does alliance management differ across multilateral and bilateral alliances?
- Is there a new paradigm for burden sharing in alliances?
- Has there been a "Trump effect" on alliance politics?
- Are allies' responses to threats changing, and are they likely to change further?
- How does strategic culture affect alliance management?
- What is the relationship between national political economies and alliance politics?
- What is the relationship between regional political economies and alliance politics?
- How does defense industrial policy interact with alliance politics?
- What are the implications of the recent wave of populism for alliance politics?