**Multiplicity and the Inter-Temporal, Inter-Societal Nexus:**

**Co-Constituting and Re-Imagining the International**

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‘The past is a foreign country; they do things differently there.’

LP Hartley, *The Go Between*, 1953

Multiplicity is an emerging research programme in IR that explores international relations through an inter-societal lens. It’s also, potentially, well-suited to investigating the inter-temporal dimension of the international – and vice versa – but has yet to be put to this purpose. This workshop does just that by turning Multiplicity to the nexus of inter-temporal and inter-societal relations that constitute international politics. This nexus includes the ways in which the existence of multiple societies produces and shapes different times and temporalities – and how those times and temporalities affect relations between and through societies. The nexus therefore encompasses the co-existence of multiple, differentiable ‘presents’ (as in Uneven and Combined Development or, differently, ‘end of history’ Liberalism), as well as plural pasts, futures and their interconnections (in e.g., Memory Studies, Futures Studies, Hauntology).

Exploring the intertemporal-intersocietal nexus presages understanding of how these multiple multiplicities both engender and reflect different temporalities – whether tragic, progressive or more complex – and how they affect the international. [Multiplicity](https://multiplicity.online/), as an IR theory, was developed to understand the implications of plurality; particularly the plurality of societies (as IR’s unique perspective) and the ‘consequences’ this has: co-existence, difference, interaction, combination and relational change (Rosenberg, 2016). Now we seek to find innovative ways to apply these analytical categories to the mutual implications of and interactions among multiple temporalities and societies.

We thus welcome paper proposals that, *inter alia,* engage Multiplicity’s potential to:

-       provide new and compelling accounts of *continuity* and (relational) *change*, especially through societal *interaction* and *combination*.

-        elucidate how these processes are linked to the ordering of societal *co-existence*, *differentiation* and, therefore, the formation and reproduction of identity across and through *time* as well as *space*.

-        address the problems and possibilities of modern and post-modern selfhood (whether ‘individual’ or collective) – and what comes after.

-        imagine and construct better worlds

-        otherwise explore the politics and interplay of the intertemporal and intersocietal.

We want new voices to join the Multiplicity conversation and intend the workshop to draw oncritical, feminist, queer, post-colonial, historical and other scholarship that has highlighted IR’s problems with the past, specifically the violent histories of its subject matter - and the discipline’s complicity with them. The workshop also engages critical IR’s ongoing problems with the future. It seeks to go beyond the ceaseless deconstruction and critique that have done little to imagine or construct better worlds (Austin, 2017) rather than abandoning hope or even the ‘the future’ itself (e.g. Grove, 2019).

We therefore invite submissions from scholars at all career stages engaging a broad swathe of (IR) scholarship including explicitly on temporality (e.g. Hom, 2020; Hutchings, 2008), as well as those who overtly seek to influence policy and practice. Like previous EWIS Multiplicity workshops, we aim to generate a special issue of a leading journal and to deepen and broaden the Multiplicity research community.

Please familiarise yourself with the Multiplicity research programme before composing and submitting your abstract. You can start by looking at our [website](https://multiplicity.online/) – [https://multiplicity.online](https://multiplicity.online/).