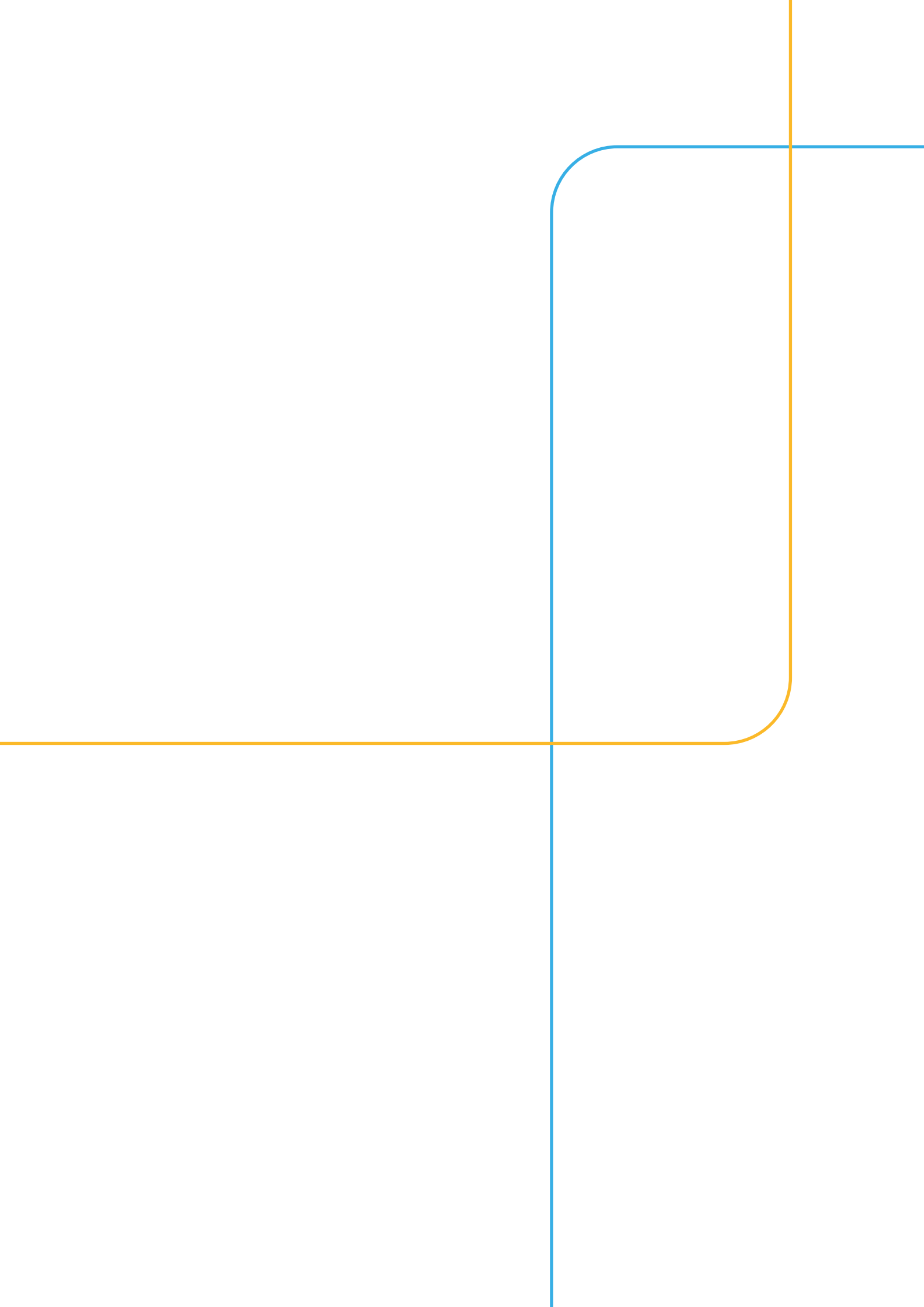


# 2021 EISA ANNUAL REPORT

Committed to innovation,  
intellectual advancement  
and inclusivity





# Content

2	<b>Introduction</b>
3	<b>Who We Are</b>
4	<b>Membership</b>
8	<b>Events</b>
9	<b>14<sup>th</sup> Pan-European Conference in International Relations</b>
11	<b>8<sup>th</sup> European Workshops in International Studies</b>
13	<b>Career Development</b>
13	<b>Early Career Development Group</b>
16	<b>Awards</b>
16	<b>Best Doctoral Dissertation 2021</b>
17	<b>Best Article in The European Journal of International Relations 2021</b>
18	<b>Best Graduate Paper 2021</b>
19	<b>Publications</b>
19	<b>European Journal on International Relations (EJIR)</b>
20	<b>Communications &amp; Social Media</b>
20	<b>Twitter, Facebook &amp; Youtube</b>
21	<b>Newsletter</b>
21	<b>Podcast</b>
22	<b>Mobility and Inclusion</b>
22	<b>Mobility Fund</b>
23	<b>Academic Freedom</b>

# Introduction

I am pleased to introduce the EISA Annual Report for 2021.

Dear friends and colleagues,

It is a pleasure to share with you the EISA Annual Report for 2021, which provides a detailed overview of EISA activities between September 2021 and September 2022. As with many other professional associations, 2021 was a year of rebuilding and consolidation for EISA. Following the cancellation of our flagship events in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we focused our efforts on providing new resources to members as well as preparing for a return to in-person events in 2022. We held the first virtual edition of PEC in September 2021 and organised a series of online events throughout the year to highlight new research from our members and explore funding opportunities for early career colleagues.

Beyond our core activities, 2021 also marked the beginning of new initiatives for us. We launched our new podcast **Voices** and published a series of interviews and thematic discussions with a wide-ranging cast of scholars. We have expanded and continue to develop our financial support package as part of our Mobility and Inclusion portfolio, which is now supported with external funding from our sponsors. We have made consistent interventions on academic freedom issues in line with our updated Academic Freedom Terms of Reference. Beyond these initiatives, we also have new publication and funding announcements in the pipeline, which we hope to publicise soon after PEC 22.

While events and new membership resources are important highlights of the year, we have also spent a significant amount of time and labour on internal housekeeping—things that are essential to the operation of our association, but do not necessarily get publicised on a regular basis. Most importantly, the Governing Board has agreed to redesign its internal division of labour under four new clusters, respectively **Executive, Membership, Events, and Scholarship & Teaching**. We have also bolstered our administrative capacity by hiring a Podcast Production Manager and Communications Assistant. We expect to see the full benefits of this new organisational model from 2023 onwards.

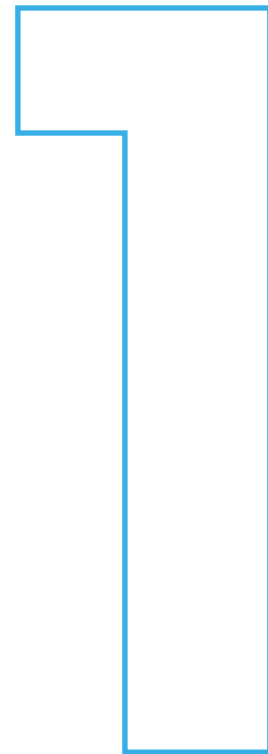
As ever, we are grateful to our members for their unwavering support and continuing engagement with EISA activities. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us if you have any questions or comments about the Annual Report or other EISA activities.

**Cemal Burak Tansel**

President of the European International Studies Association (2021–2023)

# Who We Are

EISA exists to promote and advance the interdisciplinary field of International Studies in Europe and beyond. As a member-driven association, we provide a range of innovative events – from small-scale symposia for exploratory projects to our flagship Pan-European Conferences (PEC) and European Workshops (EWIS) – where scholars and practitioners from around the world can discuss the latest developments in the field. EISA promotes inclusivity by prioritising a diverse range of voices at our events and in our association practices. We are committed to ensuring that our academic community remains an accessible and welcoming space to all International Studies scholars who share our founding ethos of pluralism, scholarly innovation and critical dialogue.



EISA is managed by a Governing Board of 12 elected members who serve on a voluntary basis. Within this, 3 elected members serve on the Executive Committee (President, Executive Secretary and Treasurer). An annual General Assembly ensures that the views of members on core association business are taken into account.

We are committed to ensuring that our academic community remains an accessible and welcoming space to all International Studies scholars

## Governing Board

# 2021

### Executive Committee

**President**

Cemal Burak Tansel (Newcastle University)

**Executive Secretary**

Gabi Schlag (University of Tuebingen)

**Treasurer**

Juha Antero Vuori (University of Tampere)

### Governing Council

Beste İşleyen (University of Amsterdam)

Catherine Charrett (University of Westminster)

Corina Lacatus (Queen Mary University of London)

Debbie Lisle (Queen's University Belfast)

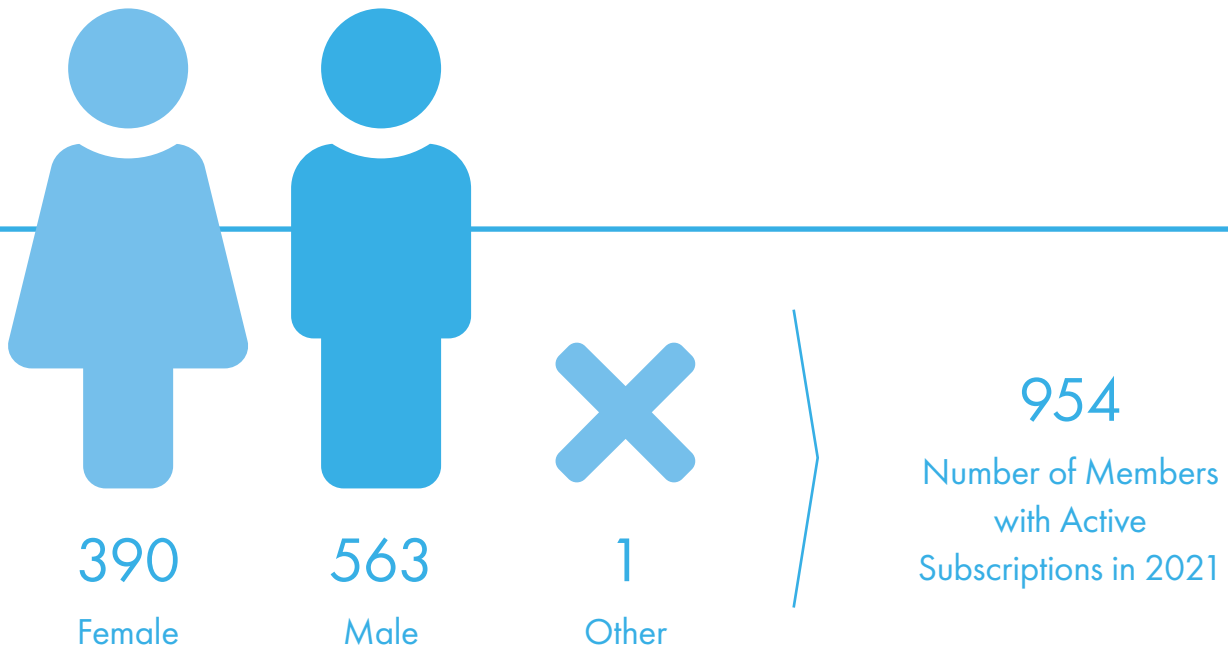
Felix Sebastian Berenskötter (SOAS, University of London)

Marieke de Goede (University of Amsterdam)

Sonia Lucarelli (University of Bologna)

Thierry Balzacq (Sciences Po, Paris)

Vineet Thakur (Leiden University)



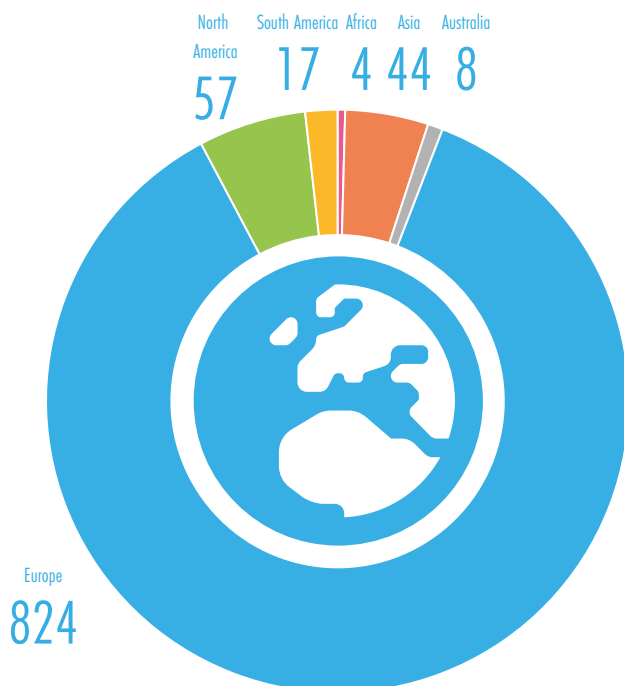
### Membership by Gender

# Membership

2023

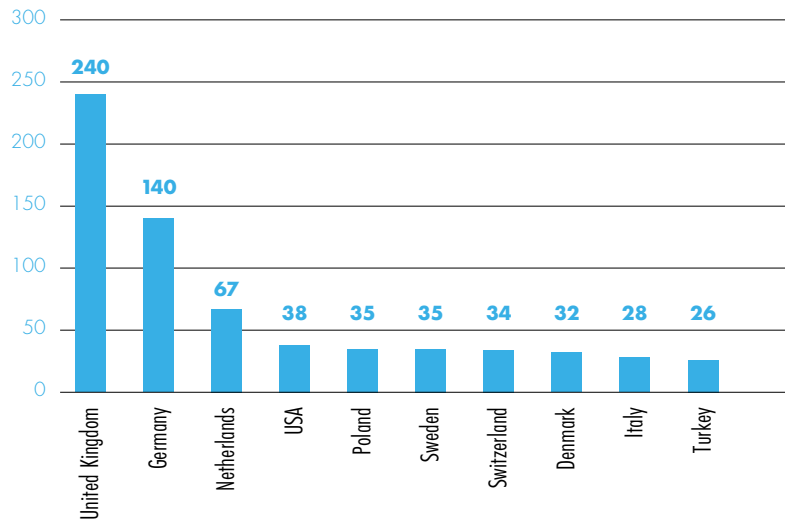
## Staff

Lukáš Čáp (Business Development)  
Barbora Smejkalová (Association and Project Management)  
Barbora Taftová (Accounting)  
Judith Koch (Podcast Production Editor)  
Megan O'Mahony (Communications Assistant)

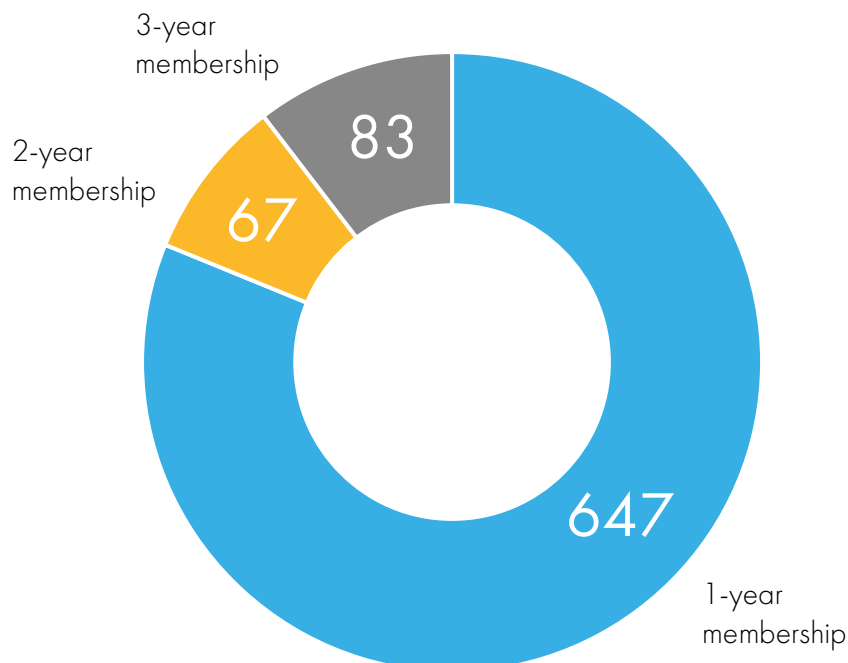


Membership  
by Continents

## Membership by Countries



## Membership Registration by Period

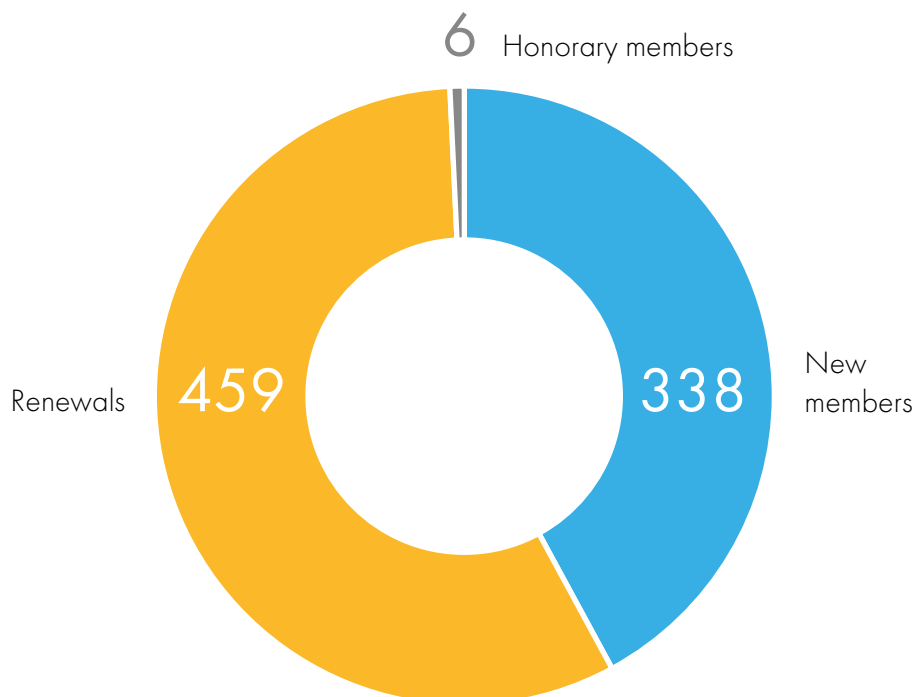




## Membership Registration in 2021



## Membership by Renewals





# Events

EISA's annual events, the European Workshops in International Studies (EWIS) and the Pan-European Conference (PEC) were held online and offered a rich scientific programme with a creative space to socialize after the sessions. Moreover, members were able to participate in additional free virtual events held during the year.

## Virtual events

- Virtual Early Career Researchers Workshop (ECW)
- ECD IR Café: Critical International Relations
- Demystifying Publishing: Going Beyond the Mainstream
- Silences are Political! Unpacking Silences as International Politics
- Teaching International Relations in the Anthropocene: Roundtable and virtual book launch
- Uneven and Combined Development Part 2: UCD in International Studies and Beyond
- EISA, BRISMES & BISA CPD Joint Event on *Decolonizing Palestine: Hamas between the Anticolonial and the Postcolonial*
- Post-Doctoral funding in the UK
- Post-Doc funding in the European Union



# 14<sup>th</sup> Pan-European Conference in International Relations

13–17 September 2021

Virtual Conference: The Power Politics of Nature

849

Participants



More than  
700  
speakers  
& panelists



5  
Early  
Career pre-  
conference  
workshops  
took place



209  
Panels



27  
Roundtables



3  
Plenary  
sessions



1,753  
Abstracts

## Sections

### S01

Authority and the Making of International Facts: Symbolic Orders, Expertise and Imaginaries

### S02

Bridging the Divide: Justice and Political Economy in Conversation

### S03

Bringing Animal Ethics and Rights into IR

### S04

Crisis and Critique

### S05

Critical Military Studies

### S06

Critical Studies on Terrorism

### S07

Diplomacy – Past and Present

### S08

Doing International Political Sociology

### S09

Elite Networks, the Climate Crisis, and the Global Crisis of (Neo-)Liberal Order

### S10

Engaging STS in Planetary Politics: Staying with the Trouble

### S11

European Security: The EU and Beyond

### S12

Feminst, Post-Colonial and Queerly Creative Interventions in Global Politics

### S13

Gender Power and Global Governance of Environment, Agriculture and Natural Resources

### S14

Global Health: One Health and Power Politics in Nature

### S15

Globalising IR

### S16

Historical International Relations

### S17

International Migration, Nationalism and Interethnic Relations

### S18

International Political Design: International Relations Beyond Writing

### S19

International Practices

### S20

International Relations in the Anthropocene

### S21

International Society

### S22

Invisible institutions? Regional Development Banks in the Global Political Economy

### S23

Narratives in International Relations

### S24

Performing Anthro(s)cenes: Politics of/with(in) Popular Culture

### S25

Political Economy Beyond Boundaries

### S26

Popular Culture and World Politics

### S27

Power, Nature and the Reconfiguration of Political Space: Facilitating Dialogue between International Relations and Political Geography

### S28

Race, Racism and the Governing of Borders and Migration

### S29

Reinventing the Mediterranean: Identity, Politics, Security

### S30

Rethinking Political Subjectivity, Community, and Scholarship Beyond Division

### S31

Rituals and Symbols in World Politics

### S32

Science, Technology and Security

### S33

Small States in World Politics

### S34

Spatializing Peace and Conflict

### S35

The Domestic Politics of Global Governance and International Disruption

### S36

The Everyday Life of Intelligence – Critique, Reflexivity and Transdisciplinarity

### S37

The International Politics of Memory

### S38

The Party Politics of Foreign Policy: Parties, Parliaments, and the Political Contestation of the International

### S39

The Politics of Internationalised Welfare

### S40

The Politics of the Ocean and Polar Regions

### S41

The World as Data-Points: Technology, Power, Politics

### S42

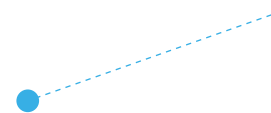
Translating International Relations

### S43

Visual IR

### S44

War and Peace after the Human





# 8<sup>th</sup> European Workshops in International Studies

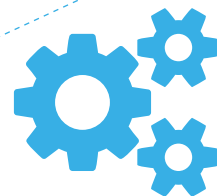
"Imagine all the people sharing  
all the world" – Visions of International  
Relations

30 June – 3 July 2021,  
Virtual Conference

The first virtual edition of EWIS hosted  
32 workshops with over 400 participants  
and 68 workshop conveners.



Participants  
400



Workshops  
32

## Workshops

### WS B:

Being Precise, Becoming Collateral:  
Cultures of Military Precision

### WS BA:

Breaking Bad/Making Good: Fostering  
Ethical Leadership Out of Political Crises

### WS C:

Contested Connections: Infrastructures,  
Capitalism, and Geopolitics

### WS CA:

Contested Sovereignty as the Norm:  
Snapshots from the Continuum of Evolving  
Statehood from Taiwan to Brexit

### WS D:

Democratic Security: Concepts, Practices  
and Consequences

### WS E:

Making the State-System Unfamiliar:  
The Dynamics of the Global Empire-System,  
1856–1955

### WS F:

‘Fields’ of IR: (Epistemic) Violence, Real-Life  
Encounters and Methodologies

### WS G:

Global Governance in the Digital Age

### WS GA:

Global Affairs’ Academic Writing  
Workshop

### WS H:

(Re-)Imagining Security: Between Science,  
Technology and Fiction

### WS J:

Security Knowledge Production through  
‘North-South’ Coalitions and Negotiations

### WS K:

Peace in Plural: Decolonial (and) Feminist  
Approaches to Peace(-building)

### WS L:

The Local Lives of International  
Organization – Researching IOs  
“in the Field”

### WS N:

Non-Western Agency in World Politics:  
Decentering Practices, Actions and  
Perceptions

### WS O:

Thinking Outside the Box about the Inside  
of the (Black) Box: Second Image  
Reconsidered (CEEISA)

### WS P:

Prudence in World Politics (CEEISA)

### WS S:

Status Symbols in World Politics

### WS T:

The Commercial in/for IR: Authority and  
Legitimacy of Private Tech Companies

### WS U:

Researching Security Communities  
of Practice: Ethical Concerns, Challenges  
and Coping Strategies

### WS V:

A Transatlantic Divide? Strangeness and  
Familiarity in European Approaches  
to Remote Warfare

### WS W:

Walls and Wars: The Militarization  
of Contemporary Border Security Policies

### WS X:

Prevention between Security and Social  
Politics – Spaces of Contestation

### WS Y:

Strangeness as an Asset Self Reflexivity  
in Global Social and Development Policy

### WS Z:

Cosmologies of the End

### WS ZA:

Artificial Intelligence and the Control  
of Algocracy in Security Issues

### WS ZB:

A Tale of Two Citizenships: Negotiation  
the Future of Citizenship Between Status  
and Practice

### WS ZC:

Nature and Political Order(s): Exploring  
Environmental Politics, Climate Future and  
Decarbonization in the Middle East

### WS ZD:

Popular Culture and World Politics: From  
Little Things, Big Things Grow!

### WS ZE:

The Role of Fantasy in Imagining Futures:  
PostCOVID-19 Subjectivities and  
Transformations of Naturecultures

### WS ZF:

Women, Peace and Security: A Policy  
Agenda Transforming International  
Relations Practice?

### WS ZG:

Mapping Non-State actors in International  
Relations

### WS ZH:

Paradiplomacy: The Actorness and Agency  
of Subnational Units

### WS ZI:

The Political Economy of Benchmarking  
in Europe

### WS ZJ:

The Subject of Sustainability: The Politics  
of “Humanity” in an Era of Climate Change  
– Workshop cancelled

### WS ZK:

New Perspectives on Trust in International  
Relations

### WS ZL COVID19:

Lessons (to be) Learned – Workshop  
cancelled

# Career Development

## Early Career Development Group



The aim of the Early Career Development Group (ECD) is to create safe, generous, and diverse spaces for early career scholars in International Studies and related disciplines. This is done by actively contributing to EISA initiatives, assisting the Governing Board in matters concerning ECDs, and organising meetings and other activities. The agenda and activities of the group are constantly under development and open to ideas of new ECD group members as well as the wider community.

## ECD Group

### The EISA's ECD Group:

As the EISA's Early Career Development Group, we aim to support junior scholars in their professional development. We work towards generating a network of early career scholars and organise discussions around a variety of topics relevant to this group. The group is made up of early scholars at different stages in their careers, from a variety of institutions, and with various research interests. We are collectively interested in supporting the interests of early career scholars within the EISA and develop new initiatives and opportunities. Since its inception in mid-2018, the group has established itself as part of the EISA, and currently runs in cooperation with Marieke de Goede (University of Amsterdam) as the EISA's ECD portfolio holder.

## Activity Report 2021

### Membership and Governance

In 2021, the group said goodbye to some of its founding members and issued a public call for new membership. Where the first group of ECD members was composed through network recruitment, the new membership call was issued publicly, to enable junior scholars across Europe and beyond to express interest. The call resulted in approximately 8 applications for membership. New members were selected by the ECD group in dialogue, on the basis of their motivation and proven affinity with EISA events and activities. We also paid attention to group composition and diversity in University affiliation, career stage, and research topics. The following new members were appointed for a three-year term in 2021:

**Flavia Lucenti,**  
Rome University, Italy

**Madita Erdmann,**  
Vienna University, Austria,

**Nina Perkowski,**  
University of Hamburg, Germany

**Samarjit Ghosh,**  
Ozyegin University, Turkey

#### The following members continued their membership in 2021:

**Janine Elena Bressmer,**  
Graduate Institute, Geneva

**Alice Martini,**  
Autonomous University of Madrid, Spain

The membership drive was also a moment during which the group set down some basic governing principles, including recruitment rules and appointment term. A first draft of the group principles has been developed by the group. However, the group has not yet finalized its governing principles – with the membership renewal and the focus on event organisation, the final discussion on governance has been postponed until after PEC-2022



## Events

The group met online approximately every 2–3 months in 2021. The group faced ongoing challenges related to the Coronavirus disruptions and lockdowns. It remains important to stress that the Corona impact and related disruptions of normal academic life have affected early career scholars disproportionately, depriving them of the necessary opportunity to build networks and present work-in-progress to constructive feedback. Many early career scholars continue to struggle with disruptions to fieldwork, and across Europe, university have reacted very differently to the delays and requests for extensions of PhD trajectories, adding to early career scholars' situations of unpredictability.

Despite these conditions, the ECD group was able to organize a series of online events in 2021, including a 2-part online Roundtable that dealt explicitly with the question of the impact of Covid-19 on Early career scholar trajectories and opportunities. The following online events took place in 2021:

- **Fieldwork and COVID19: Assessing the Impact of Covid19 on Early Career Scholars part 2**, 20 January 2021. The aim was to foster a broad discussion on how the Covid-19 crisis and related lockdown measures is affecting early career scholars in international studies across countries. We discussed what new research avenues and practices are emerging in the midst of crisis, and will start a reflection on the changing nature of academic work and career trajectories.
- **Silences are Political! Unpacking Silences as International Politics**, 3 February 2021. Silences are powerful political acts in international politics. They can obscure, discriminate, and marginalise, denying voice and visibility. They are thus political and need to be inquired. Yet, they are sometimes taken for granted as concepts and areas of research. This Café aimed to discuss silences in international politics
- **Demystifying Publishing: Going Beyond the Mainstream**, Organised within PEC 2021 Conference, 15 September 2021. The scope of this panel is to demystify the publishing process as well as other challenges associated with early career engagement and advancement in the discipline of International Relations (IR). The point is not simply to shed light on current publishing processes, but also to discuss coping strategies that enable the pursuit of research agendas under the pressing conditions of today's publishing and academic environment.
- **ECD IR Café: Critical International Relations**, Organised within PEC 2021 Conference, 16 September 2021. The Café brought leading voices around a virtual table to ponder, relay, and engage with assumptions, epistemologies and political praxis that are actively working against/from within/in parallel with the porous boundaries of classic understandings of our discipline.
- **Post-Doctoral funding in the UK**, 1 November 2021 The speakers offered details about available fellowships and funding schemes in the United Kingdom and shared personal experiences of applying and (sometimes) securing grants. Moreover, the event focused on giving helpful practical tips on the main stages of the application process and offered opportunities for discussion and Q&A.

## Early Career Workshops

In 2021, no less than Early Career Workshops were able to take place online preceding EISA-PEC 2021.

- 'Decolonizing Affective Attachments in Global politics,'
- 'What Do we Know about War?' organized by *Michelle D. Weitzel and Raphaël Leduc*
- Alternative epistemologies in the study of International Relations, organized by *Erna Burai*
- 'A Conversation between IR Theory, STS and Secrecy Studies: Knowledge (un)Production and the Role of Technologies,' organized by *Clare Stevens*
- Decolonizing Affective Attachments in Global politics, organised by *Sarah Tafakori & Sabiha Allouche*
- Seeing Precarity, organised by *Janine Bressmer*

## Moving forward together:

Next steps for the ECD group include the organisation of new in-person events at EISA-PEC 2022, including it early career reception which is especially important to welcome newcomers to conferencing and make them feel welcome. A new membership call was issued in May 2022, and the new members will again contribute to developing news events and initiatives. Please continue to follow the ECD Twitter account (@ECD\_EISA) and subscribe to the newsletter, to remain updated on the activities of the ECD group and the opportunities for young colleagues and the next generation of International Studies scholars to be engaged and networked. The ECD Twitter handle currently has 632 followers.



# Awards

## Best Doctoral Dissertation 2021

The Best Doctoral Dissertation Award recognises outstanding work by junior scholars in the field of International Relations. It is awarded to dissertations that make a highly original and significant contribution to International Relations based on rigorous research.

The winner of the Best Doctoral Dissertation Award in 2021 is

**Dr. Joseph Leigh**  
(London School of Economics),

**for *The Emergence of Global Power Politics: Imperialism, Modernity and American Expansion, 1870–1914***

Abstract: While the discourse of great power politics is an intellectual commonplace of International Relations theory, its roots in nineteenth-century conceptions of imperialism have rarely been the subject of any sustained historical analysis. Rather, the prevailing literature on great power competition relies on transhistorical theoretical claims about the permanence of geopolitical rivalry under anarchy, in conjunction with a common imaginary of early modern Europe as the birthplace of modern international politics. In contrast, this thesis locates the origins of a specifically modern condition of global power politics in the strategic and ideological conflicts which drove the New Imperialism, c.1870–1914. With a particular focus on the evolution of the American Empire, it traces the international, societal, and geopolitical transformations which made possible the flourishing of imperial ambitions for world power in the century after the first Industrial Revolution (1780–1815). On this basis, the thesis makes three overarching contributions to the study of International Relations. First, to the debate over the origins of modern international politics, it contributes a sociohistorical account of the novel conceptions of grand strategy, empire, and geopolitics associated with the nineteenth-century transition to modernity. Moving beyond the so-called ‘Westphalian narrative’ of international modernity, it locates the production of a distinctively modern conception of national-imperial expansionism and civilizational hierarchy in the lived unevenness of industrialization and colonialism. Second, to the literature in historical sociology and international security, it contributes an intersocietal approach which challenges the conventional ‘states-under-anarchy’ framework and links power-political competition to the unevenly experienced constraints of global social structures. In so doing, it explains how the international pattern of the industrial revolution – the uneven and combined development of an empire-centered world economy and international order – interacted with emergent ideologies of social progress to shape and legitimize imperial projects of political order building. More generally, the thesis recovers the nineteenth century experience of a globalized struggle among empires as a critical counterpoint to apolitical accounts of globalization.

### Committee’s note

Joseph Leigh has produced a very ambitious thesis, offering a superb account of how the processes of modernity were crucial in shaping contemporary global power politics. His work invites us to revisit our approach to standard concepts of IR, notably when the modern concept of sovereignty actually became prevalent and meaningful. Leigh further argues that our understanding of the term "international" in fact primarily expresses overlapping relations between a range of social formations – societies, polities, and socio-symbolic resources. Combining interdisciplinary elements of history, sociology, and IR, Leigh’s archival work excavates patterns of imperial competition across the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. His findings offer a novel means by which we can interpret contemporary geopolitical tensions.

# Best Article in The European Journal of International Relations 2021

The prize recognises and supports the crucial role of theory and theoretical pluralism in and for International Relations in Europe. It is awarded to theoretically innovative articles that elaborate a novel idea, make a significant contribution to existing debates, provide a rigorous analysis and impetus for new research.

The winners of the Best article in the EJIR in 2021 is

**Stefan Elbe**  
(University of Sussex)

**for Bioinformational Diplomacy: Global Health Emergencies, Data Sharing and Sequential Life**

## Committee's note

The prize committee was impressed by the article's transdisciplinary heavy lifting. Elbe's article is timely; it addresses one of the most pressing transformations the world faces. The committee also praised the remarkable ways in which theoretical boundary stretching meets outstanding empirical engagement.

**Abstract:** Global health emergencies – like COVID-19 – pose major and recurring threats in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Now societies can be better protected against such harrowing outbreaks by analysing the detailed genetic sequence data of new pathogens. Why, then, is this valuable epistemic resource frequently withheld by stakeholders – hamstringing the international response and potentially putting lives at risk? This article initiates the social scientific study of bioinformational diplomacy, that is, the emerging field of tensions, sensitivities, practices and enabling instruments surrounding the timely international exchange of bioinformation about global health emergencies. The article genealogically locates this nascent field at the intersection of molecularised life, informationalised biology and securitised health. It investigates the deeper political, economic and scientific problematisations that are engendering this burgeoning field. It finally analyses the emergent international instruments developed by governments, scientists and industry to facilitate more rapid global sharing of bioinformation through novel practices of data passporting. Overall, the in-depth study of bioinformational diplomacy reveals just how deeply, and even constitutively, international relations are entangled with the life sciences – by carefully tracing how laboratory practices of sequencing life at molecular scale also end up recontouring the play of sovereignty, power and security in international relations.

# Best Graduate Paper 2021

The Best Graduate Paper Award recognises and supports the contribution of PhD students to the development of the field of International Relations. The paper awarded with this prize must be an original contribution to existing debates in the field and offer a careful, convincing and rigorous analysis. The recipient will be chosen from the contributions of graduate students to the annual EWIS workshops.

The winner of the Best Graduate Paper in 2021 is:

## Laura Luciani (University of Ghent)

**for European values, Eurasian family, or neither? A feminist critique of the EU's agenda to combat domestic violence in Armenia**

**Abstract:** In 2017, in response to conditionality attached by the European Union (EU), Armenia adopted a highly contested national law to prevent domestic violence. This was framed in public debates as a battleground in a 'values war' between Western and Russian influences. Literature has begun to explore the outcomes EU gender equality policies bear in a context marked by the Russian rhetoric on traditional values and competing geopolitical alliances. However, these contributions fall short of explaining not only why EU interventions are contested, but also why they ultimately fail to protect women from violence. In contributing to feminist critiques of the EU as a gender(ed) actor in the 'neighbourhood', the paper adopts a postcolonial-feminist framework where representation, materiality and agency are interconnected. Through the method of contrapuntal reading, it exposes the EU-centric and neoliberal logics that underpin EU interventions (failing) to combat violence against women, and the unintended outcomes these generate in Armenia's shifting geo-political context. Furthermore, it uncovers different ways in which Armenian feminist activists negotiate, subvert and resist EU interventions on the ground, ultimately striving to reclaim their politics against their manipulation and selective appropriation for geo-political and neoliberal goals. The paper draws on a combination of in-depth interviews with women's rights NGOs, feminist activists, EU and Armenian government officials, fieldwork observations and the close reading of policy documents and media sources.

## Committee's note

This paper advances a compelling argument about why EU gender politics often fails despite massive investments, using the case of Armenia. The paper mobilises and connects a diversity of theories in order to account for why policies that strive to curb violence against women cannot be examined without a proper account of the development model supported and promoted by the EU and the local context imbued with Russian rhetoric and competing values. Thus, the paper advances our understanding of how the EU operates in its neighborhood, widens our knowledge of the transnational stakeholders involved, and provides us with an original account of the postcolonial-feminist critique of neoliberalism with a clear policy import.

The Committee also awarded an honorable mention to

## August Danielson

**for "The Role of Reflexivity in International Practice Theory"**

**Abstract:** The inability of individuals to reflect on and directly 'access' practices has been a distinguishing feature of the IR practice turn. Despite this, the role that (the absence of) reflection plays in IR practice research is seldom problematized – who is unable to reflect, and what are they unable to reflect upon? By clarifying the epistemological, methodological and moral implications of adopting different perspectives to both of these questions, the article seeks to advance our understanding and study of practices in international politics. In short, I argue that practice theorists need to recognize the implications of the choices we make regarding the perspective from which we assume that practices are accessible or not (practitioners or researchers), as well as which dimension of practices we choose to focus on (a logic of practice or the rules of practice). The need to distinguish between these perspectives and dimensions is illustrated through a review of four of the main approaches to studying practices in IR: Bourdieusian praxeology, the Communities of Practice approach, Schatzki's ontology of practice, and pragmatic sociology. In doing so, the article contributes to the growing literature on practices in IR by providing scholars a framework for understanding how our definitions of what a practice is not only impacts how we view the ability to reflect on them, but also on the way in which we study them.

# 6 Publications

## European Journal on International Relations (EJIR)

EISA, in cooperation with ECPR, Sage and the EJIR Joint Management Committee, assisted in the appointment of the new **European Journal of International Relations** editorial team. We are delighted to welcome the new team and looking forward to supporting their tenure through our representatives in the EJIR Joint Management Committee.

### EJIR Editorial Team

#### Editor-in-Chief

**Oliver Kessler**

University of Erfurt, Germany

#### Associate Editors

**Sophia Hoffmann**

University of Erfurt, Germany

**Zeynep Gulsah Capan**

University of Erfurt, Germany

**Jorg Kustermans**

University of Antwerp, Belgium

**Halvard Leira**

Norwegian Institute of International Affairs,  
Norway

EISA is currently represented in the EJIR Joint Management Committee by **Professors Debbie Lisle and Thomas Diez**.

21/96

Ranking  
in International  
Relations

4

issues

426

manuscript  
submissions,  
a 19.9% increase  
from 2020

9 %

acceptance rate

# Communications & Social Media

## Twitter, Facebook & Youtube

EISA Board have been hard at work strengthening the communications team and further developing effective channels of communication with our membership. We hired a new member of the Communications team, Megan O'Mahony, as the EISA Communications Assistant.

This year, we have begun a re-evaluation of our communications approach, to make sure that we follow the most transparent and effective means to keep our membership up-to-date on the exciting activity and events we carry out. In our communication with EISA membership, we aim to be consistent, strategic, and responsive, with the ultimate goal to foster a dynamic and engaging community of international studies scholars in Europe and beyond.

EISA regularly uses Twitter and Facebook to communicate with members via social media. We also have a YouTube account launched in 2020 to improve our virtual capacity during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our social media approach complements ad hoc email updates and regularly scheduled newsletters throughout the year.

3,775  
total followers



Compared to 3,706 in December 2020.  
December 2021: 203 new followers  
in this period since  
December 2020.

@EuropeanISA

5,630  
total followers

December 2021: 3,900 followers  
= +23 % since December 2020.  
With a further +17 %  
since December 2021.





## Newsletter

The EISA Board sends a bi-monthly newsletter to our members to communicate more detail about the association's current activities, such as open calls for papers, early-career workshops, special panels and nominations, events and other news.

MailChimp data indicates that approximately 50 % of our members open and read the newsletter when they receive it in their inboxes. The newsletter and other emails sent to our members are in accordance with the information published on our website.

## Podcast

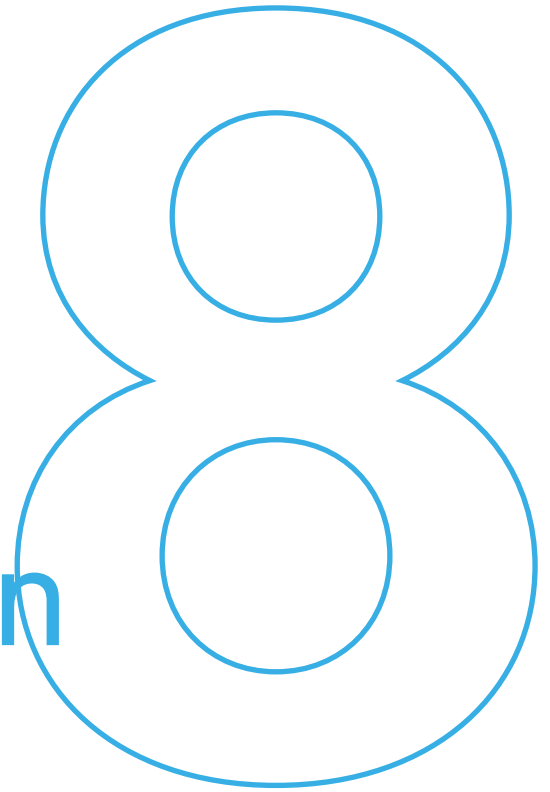
In 2021, we started a new podcast series, titled [Voices: The EISA Podcast](#), which serves as the audible companion to EISA. Under this title, we have two sub-series. The first, 'In Conversation with ...', highlights cutting-edge research in the discipline through discussions with our award-winning authors. The second sub-series, 'What is ...', is meant as a teaching and learning resource in which we critically engage with key concepts, themes and theories of International Relations. For these, we interview some of the leading IR scholars in the field.

Since starting in November 2021, we have until now released 11 podcasts. Three of these are under our 'In Conversation with ...' sub-series where we interviewed our award winners, Deepak Nair, Ida Danewid and Kerry Goettlich. The remaining 8 podcasts on key themes/concepts/theories of IR are with Beate Jahn, Bahar Rumelili, Ingvild Bode, Stefano Guzzini, Sankaran Krishna, Lindsay Black and Maïa Pal.

We release a new podcast on the second Friday of every month and invite members to get in touch with us for their feedback, suggestions and comments.

At the time of writing this report, *Voices: The EISA Podcast* had 1,286 downloads & streams, 945 unique listeners, and 574 subscribers.

# Mobility and Inclusion



## Mobility Fund

The EISA Mobility Fund is designed to provide financial support for PEC and EWIS participants. In line with our commitment to inclusivity, the Fund aims to make EISA events accessible to every member of our academic community, including doctoral researchers, early career scholars, colleagues on short-term and/or precarious contracts, scholars from the global South as well as those who face discrimination and marginalisation.

In addition to our in-house mobility grants, this year we received generous support from the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS) and the journal Review of International Political Economy (RIPE). One Mobility Grant for EWIS was also made available in the memory of Professor Ilias Kouskouvelis. We are grateful to these contributions that have allowed us to expand our grant allotments.

For EWIS 2022 and PEC 2022, we were able to offer 19 and 60 grants, respectively. EWIS grants were all worth €300.

Among the 60 beneficiaries of our grants for PEC 2022, 48 were supported by EISA's Mobility funds and 5 by the RIPE for €300 each. The KAS supported one grant for €500 and six for €150.



# Academic Freedom



The EISA is a leading academic organisation for the study of International Relations and Global Politics. We are committed to protecting the academic freedom of our members and constituencies in order to foster an ethical space for research and teaching and to stand in solidarity with members of our community who are targeted or made vulnerable in their work.

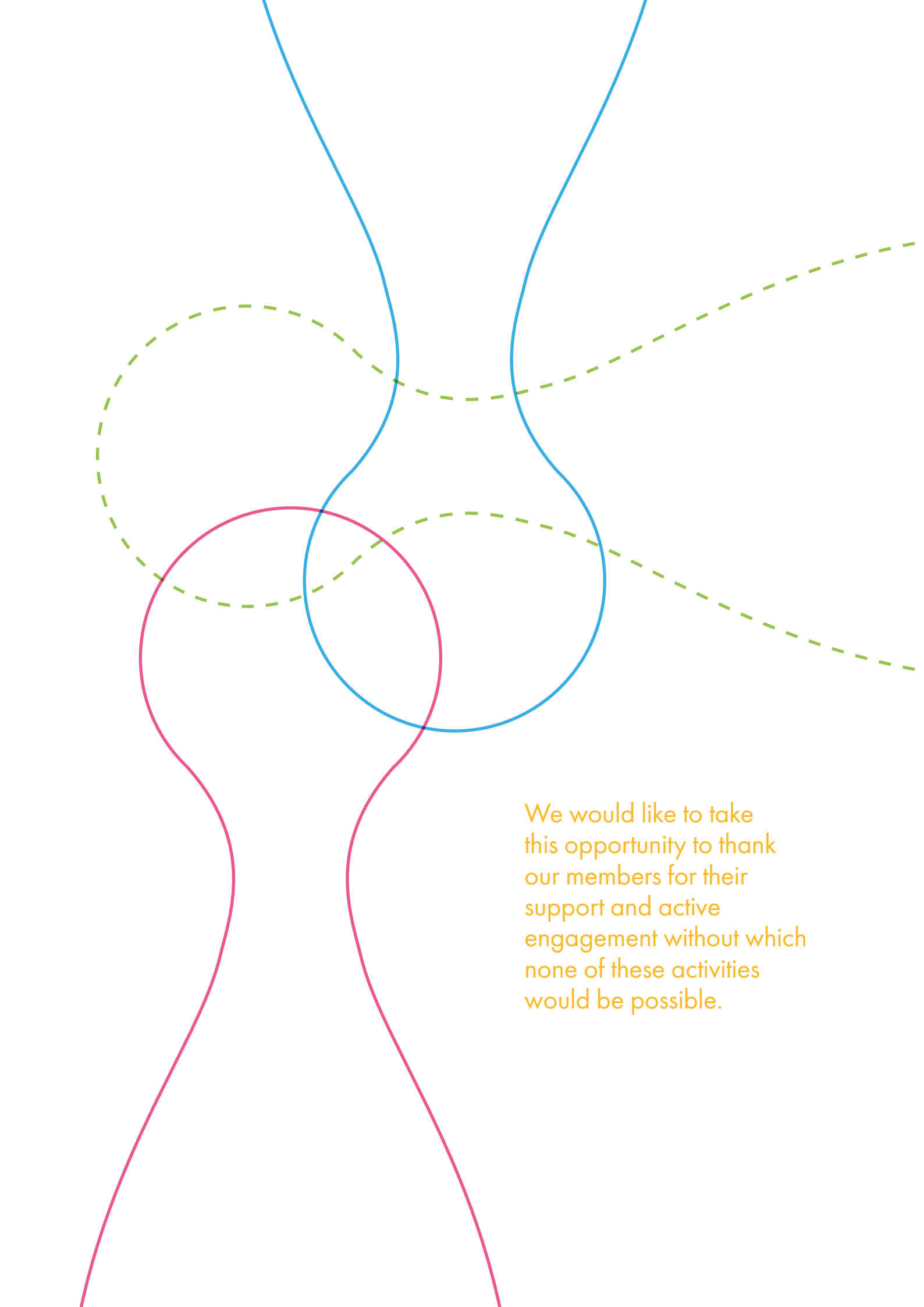
This year the EISA sustained its commitment to protecting the academic freedom of our members and constituencies. Unfortunately, the EISA was called to respond to several violations of academic freedom throughout this past year. In October 2021 Dr Somdeep Sen, Professor of International Development Studies at Roskilde University was the subject of defamatory claims made against him. The University of Glasgow, who had invited him to discuss his new book *Decolonizing Palestine: Hamas between Anticolonial and the Postcolonial* (Cornell University Press, 2020) not only failed their duty of care towards an external speaker, they aligned with the defamatory claims made against him, in clear violations of his academic freedom. The EISA responded with a letter and co-organised, along with three other academic associations, an alternative book talk for Dr Sen out of protest for the his treatment by the University of Glasgow.

In February 2022, the EISA was called to respond again when Dr Shahd Abusalama, a young Palestinian woman of colour with refugee status was unfairly suspended from her teaching post at Sheffield Hallam University following libellous and unfounded attacks against her from an outside source. The EISA was part of an international campaign that demonstrated undisputedly that Dr Abusalama's academic freedom was infringed upon, and Dr Abusalama was reinstated in her post at Sheffield Hallam University.

In May 2022 Dr Walaq Alqaisiya's talk for the Institute for Art Theory and Cultural Studies as part of its Spring Curatorial Program 2022 was cancelled after some groups including the Council of Jewish Students and KESHET Austria pressured the organisers to withdraw the invitation by accusing Dr Alqaisiya of antisemitism. The EISA along with other academic associated and institutions across the UK and Europe pointed out the dangerous pattern of Palestinian academics being cancelled without any substantive justification of the decision or channels of redressal available.

The EISA is committed to anti-racism and to protecting the academic freedom of the diverse members of our scholarly community, and we are deeply concerned by the racialised and anti-Palestinian nature of these attacks on academic freedom. The EISA spoke out against the IHRA definition last year, in March 2021 as we were gravely concerned the chilling effect the definition would have on research and public engagement on the question of Palestine and indigenous rights. We are now witnessing the pernicious effects of the IHRA definition on academic freedom.

In order to fulfil our commitment to the preservation of the academic freedom of our members and constituencies we are currently involved in cross association collaborations and discussions on these questions. We will be taking part in several panel discussions at leading association conferences in the coming year to discuss how associations can play a more considerable role in protecting academic freedom. These collaborative efforts demonstrate the urgency of our current time and the unfair and unlawful treatment of already targeted members of our academic community. We are proud to represent EISA membership in our attempts to respond to these violations of academic freedom.

The image features a white background with several overlapping, hand-drawn style shapes. There are two solid blue circles, one solid pink circle, and two dashed green circles. Additionally, there are wavy, flowing lines in blue, pink, and green that extend from the edges of the page, creating a sense of movement and connection. The text is positioned in the lower right quadrant, rendered in a clean, sans-serif font in a golden-brown color.

We would like to take  
this opportunity to thank  
our members for their  
support and active  
engagement without which  
none of these activities  
would be possible.