

Global crisis governance in times of uncertainty

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Geopolitical rivalry, long-term effects of Covid-19, and climate change all contribute to increasing uncertainty in world politics. Crises like drought and food shortages, Russia's invasion of Ukraine, migration flows and natural disasters furthermore require effective international cooperation. Many of these crises come with a great sense of urgency as they can easily spill-over from one domain to another or from one geographical area to another.

Yet, geopolitical rivalry has resulted in gridlock and contested multilateralism. Long-standing international organisations such as the United Nations, the World Health Organization or the European Union – to name just a few – have been confronted with internal political struggles, resource cuts and active de-legitimation, both from outside and within. The uncertainty it brings can easily cause a sense of pessimism (or fatalism) about the state of global crisis governance. However, uncertainty may also spur creativity. There is considerable innovation in international cooperation to overcome gridlock and solve global challenges. There is increasing variation among the actors in global governance, and how they cooperate to address crises and provide global public goods. States, international organisations, philanthropic foundations, corporations and civil society are joining forces to address some of the most pressing crises of today and tomorrow. Furthermore, there is great variation in the scope, duration and permanence of international cooperation to solve crises.

Conceptually, important work is being done to capture institutional complexity in different issue-areas in global cooperation, examining low-cost institutions, transnational public-private governance initiatives and ad hoc coalitions. However, more scholarly work is needed to reflect and understand the rapid changes in geopolitics and international cooperation and how these changes impact on the provision of global public goods in times of crises. More work is also needed to understand how crises historically have contributed to innovation, and how this affects today's and tomorrow's crisis responses.

This workshop intends to foster a research agenda that addresses how old and new global governance arrangements respond to crises. It will explore variations in international cooperation in terms of their empirical mapping and their impact on how, when and by whom crises are solved. The workshop will stimulate a dialogue between historical perspectives and their lessons for the future, explore and explain contemporary forms of competition and cooperation in periods of crisis, and expand on conceptual innovations to grasp new and creative modes of international cooperation to address crises.

We welcome scholars and perspectives at all stages of their careers, from a diverse set of theoretical and methodological approaches, including contributions from outside Europe.

The workshop is open to four types of papers:

- (a) Historical analysis of international cooperation in times of crises and uncertainty
- (b) Theoretical / conceptual innovation in international cooperation in times of crises and uncertainty
- (c) Empirical mapping of trends in international cooperation in times of crises and uncertainty
- (d) Exploration / testing of determinants of international cooperation in times of crises and uncertainty

Call for papers closes on 5 February 2023