



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Université d'Ottawa

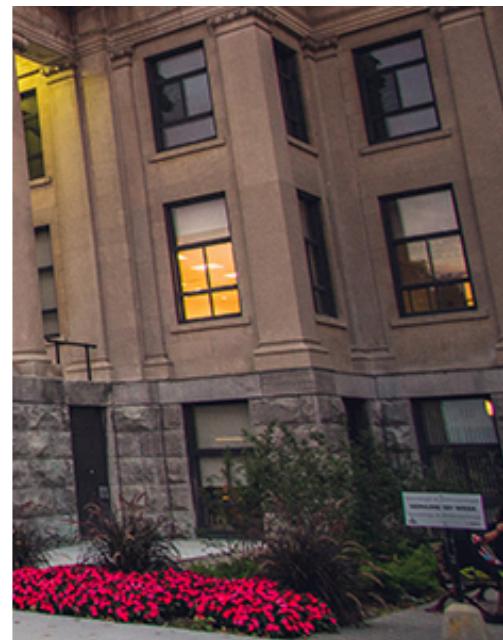
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University of Ottawa

CIPS
Centre for
INTERNATIONAL
POLICY STUDIES

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ABOUT CIPS

Since its foundation in 2007, the Centre for International Policy Studies (CIPS) has informed and stimulated debate about contemporary global issues and Canada's role in world affairs. Committed to excellence in research, CIPS has two focus areas — international security and global governance. Drawing together professors and graduate students in six research networks, we also collaborate with researchers around the world. Located in Ottawa, and at Canada's preeminent bilingual university, CIPS is a dynamic meeting place for scholars, policy makers and international activists and a vibrant hub for the exchange of new, challenging and innovative ideas about global politics. Every year, CIPS organizes a range of workshops, conferences and invited speakers' series, most of which are open to the public. CIPS' highly successful Blog, written only by subject-matter experts, is recognized as one of the top foreign policy blogs in Canada and the world. CIPS is jointly funded by the Faculty of Social Sciences and the Office of the Vice-President, Research at the University of Ottawa.

WHO WE ARE

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YEAR IN REVIEW



Director
Rita Abrahamsen

Friday the 13th of March 2020 will go down in CIPS history. It was the day of our annual [Graduate Student Conference](#) – and the last in-person event of the year not only on the CIPS calendar, but on the uOttawa campus. As we were packing up and waving goodbye to our colleagues and guests, we expected to be back in a couple of weeks. Over the next few days, the “postponed” and “cancelled” notices went up on our website. Then reluctantly we realized that COVID-19 was going to change our lives and our activities for much longer.

Like everyone else, we had to adapt, be flexible, and find new ways to inform and engage. Like everyone else, we struggled with the isolation of pandemic life and there is no denying that 2020 has been a difficult year. But much as we have missed welcoming people to our meeting rooms, moving into the virtual space has allowed us to connect a broader, more global audience and perhaps play a role in relieving more people’s sense of isolation. Over the course of the year, we hosted more than 30 events, about half of which were online webinars. Some of these were genuinely global events, with familiar friends and colleagues joining us from Ottawa and new acquaintances signing in from India, Yemen, Indonesia, Turkey, Egypt, Germany, Sweden and the US, to mention but a few countries. When the pandemic is over, we will keep some of our activities online so as not to lose our new connections.

In a lucky coincidence, we had planned our first ever [Twitter conference](#) well before COVID-19 hit, as a way to experiment with new formats and a more environmentally friendly form of academic engagement. Focused on the Five Eyes intelligence sharing network, the conference was a smash hit, with the 114 tweets receiving 50,000 unique impressions on the day of the conference. Other highlights this year included two [panel debates](#) and a [podcast series](#) on the US election; two [conferences](#) on the [Arctic](#); an exclusive meeting between uOttawa students and the Minister of Global Affairs, the [Honourable François-Philippe Champagne](#), and the Ottawa film premiere of the documentary [“What is Democracy?”](#) Most of these events are available on our [website](#).

Research is at the heart of the CIPS mission. In 2020 our researchers received approximately [\\$700,000](#) in funding for various CIPS projects. We also added a new collaborative research project to our World Order Programme: [“Changing Orders: Shaping the Future and Securing Rights in a World in Transformation”](#) is funded by the Alex Trebek Forum for Dialogue and allows us to welcome a new postdoctoral research fellow, [Dr Farai Chipato](#), to the CIPS family.

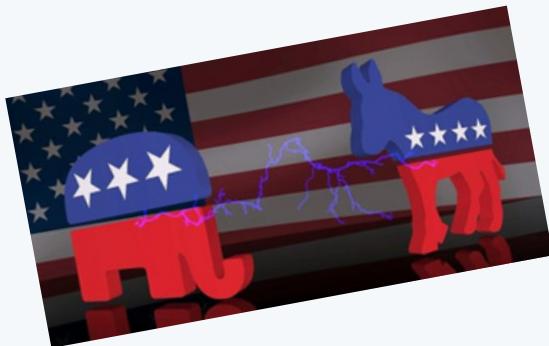
In lockdown many people had more time to read and the [CIPS Blog](#) thrived. We published over 100 blog posts and our worldwide readership expanded significantly. The launch of the [CIPS Annual Best Blog Award](#), chosen by an expert panel and an online vote, proved a popular addition to our activities.

At the end of an unusual year, my sincere thanks to our research networks, the University and our many partners and collaborators for your continued support, enthusiasm and dynamism. Thanks also to our audiences – new and old. We look forward to welcoming you back in 2021, both in person and virtually.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Abrahamsen".

2020 U.S. ELECTION

2020 was an election year in the United States. CIPS hosted two events, one before and one after the election. We also launched a special podcast series to discuss the implications of the vote.



Donald Trump. Four More Years?

September 24th, 2020

Watch the event [here](#)

CIPS US Election Special Series:

Episode 1 - [The Environment](#)

Episode 2 - [Africa](#)

Episode 3 - [The Special Relationship](#)

Episode 4 - [Asia](#)

Episode 5 - [The EU and NATO](#)

Episode 6 - [The Middle East](#)



The US Elections: Implications for Canada

November 5th, 2020

Watch the entire event [here](#)

RESEARCH AT CIPS

Changing Orders: Shaping the Future and Securing Rights in a World in Transformation

This project is jointly led by CIPS, the Institute for Science, Society and Policy (ISSP), the Human Rights Research and Education Centre (HRREC), and The Refugee Hub.

The project is funded by the Alex Trebek Forum for Dialogue: “Smart Changes for a Better World” Public Policy Research Agenda.



Changing Orders seeks to reveal the fundamental dynamics underlying today's governance and human rights challenges – at the national and global levels – and to generate new and innovative ideas and policy responses to them. As part of this project, CIPS has also hired a new postdoctoral fellow, Farai Chipato.

The World Order Research Programme

At a time when the post-war liberal world order is under severe strain and illiberal forces are on the rise across the world, the “World Order Research Programme” brings together CIPS scholars from different disciplines and perspectives to analyze the current challenges and investigate opportunities for building a more democratic, just and inclusive world order. The current projects include: Global Right; Populism, Inequality and the Dangers of Economic Wishful Thinking; China's Rise and Open Markets: The Third Pillar of the Global Liberal Order; and Competing Sovereignty Discourses in Contemporary World Politics.



Arctic Governance

This research project, a collaboration between the Observatory on Politics and Security in the Arctic (OPSA) and CIPS, analyzes the evolution of the political and geostrategic Arctic landscape. The project organizes events (conferences, workshops, roundtables) in order to bring together Arctic scholars and practitioners and support research on these questions. OPSA receives funding from the Ministère des Relations Internationales et de la Francophonie (MRIF) of the Government of Québec. Two conferences were held in 2020, one in January and one in December.



Research Networks

Many of CIPS' research activities are organized by six disciplinary and thematic research networks, drawing together professors and graduate students from across the University of Ottawa. These include:

- The Asian Studies Network
- The Fragile States Research Network
- The International Political Economy Network
- The International Theory Network
- The National Security Policy Network
- The Security Studies Network



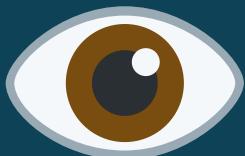
Twitter Conference: UNDERSTANDING THE FIVE EYES



2020 was a year that required adjustments and innovations of all sorts. As part of that, CIPS held its first Twitter Conference - what an experience!



The term Five Eyes typically refers to a unique signals intelligence pooling club of three or four-letter acronymed agencies from Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States.



But FVEY, as it is also known, is now also attached to a large and growing number of "special relationships" and transgovernmental policy networks that bind these five states in virtually all areas of defence, intelligence, and security.

You can check out the entire Twitter thread at #5EyesCIPS and read all 14 blogs here.

REMEMBERING DAVID PETRASEK



In 2020, David Petrasek passed away. Below is an excerpt from the obituary written by Rita Abrahamsen & Roland Paris. You can read it in its entirety [here](#).

We have lost a wonderful colleague and friend. David Petrasek, associate professor in the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA) and former director of the Centre for International Policy Studies (CIPS), died on Monday after a long, hard-fought illness.

David was no ordinary professor. He came to the University of Ottawa from a successful career in human rights activism and mediation, having spent years with the International Council of Human Rights Policy, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Amnesty International and the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue. With the help of his extensive networks and connections, he used CIPS to draw attention to some of the worst human rights atrocities around the world. Among the many well-known human right defenders who visited CIPS in that period was former United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan, whom David knew from his time at the UN.

David's research and writing were similarly marked by a passion for human rights and social justice of all kinds, applying his extraordinary analytical skills (he was trained as a lawyer) and his distinctive style of pragmatic optimism to every problem. In a CIPS conference on the future of liberal internationalism in an illiberal world, he argued that the threat posed to human rights from a retreating liberal internationalism was exaggerated. This pessimistic outlook, he suggested, failed to take account of the fact that the main supporters of human rights have not historically been Western powers, or even middle powers like Canada, but countries and peoples in the Global South. The challenge for middle powers like Canada, he concluded, was not one of retrenchment around the status quo, but rather to build new coalitions of concerned states to meet new human rights challenges.

We will remember him not only for his lasting contributions as an activist, thinker, researcher, writer and teacher, but also – and perhaps most importantly – as a profoundly decent, caring, and committed colleague and friend. He was a good man who lived a good life. We were fortunate to know him.

You can donate to the David Petrasek Legacy Fund [here](#). It contains three components: an online forum in David's name and memory, which was held in June 2020 and can be watched [here](#); the David Petrasek Human Rights Lecture Series; and the David Petrasek Human Rights Prize and Mentorship.

STUDENT FOCUS

CIPS/CIPSS Graduate Student Conference

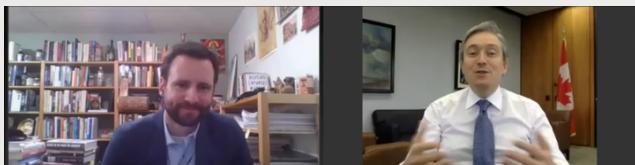
The 2020 conference took place on March 13th at the University of Ottawa. The theme was "Ideology, Institutions, and the Changing World Order". Four panels were held, with a total of 14 participants and 36 people in attendance.

The Panels:

- Global Governance, International Law, and Regulation
- The Global South in a Changing World
- The Global North in a Changing World
- Global Conflict and Security Changes

In Conversation with Canada's Foreign Minister: Foreign Policy Challenges and Opportunities in a Time of Pandemic

On April 30th, CIPS was pleased to invite UOttawa students for a virtual exchange with Canada's Foreign Minister, the Honourable François-Philippe Champagne.



POTENTIA Student Journal

The 2020 edition of Potentia was released in October and was written by graduate students from across Canada. This year's edition included six articles, two policy reviews, and three book reviews. It covered a wide number of topics including The Canada-US border, The Travails of Women and Girls in Northern Nigeria, and Russia's Foreign Energy Policy Towards the European Union.

2020 editors: Andrew Heffernan and Florence Lessard

Read the journal [here](#).

POTENTIA

THE CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL POLICY STUDIES (CIPS) GRADUATE STUDENT JOURNAL
REVUE DES ÉTUDIANTES DIPLOMÉEES DU CENTRE D'ÉTUDES EN POLITIQUES INTERNATIONALES (CEPI)

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

In 2020, CIPS held 32 events, starting the year off with in-person events and then transitioning to virtual events as of April. Here are some highlights:



Securing Our Common Future: Why Disarmament Matters Today as Much as Ever

February 19th, 2020

CIPS and Canadians for a Nuclear Weapons Convention presented a talk by Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu, the UN Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament.

'What Is Democracy?': A Film and Panel Discussion

November 25th, 2020

The Ottawa premiere of Astra Taylor's award-winning film *What Is Democracy?*, held at the Ottawa Art Gallery, was followed by a panel discussion.

Watch the panel discussion [here](#).



Ambassadors' Series

January 27th, February 12th & March 11th, 2020

In separate events, CIPS hosted the High Commissioner of South Africa, the Ambassador of Turkey and the Ambassador of Afghanistan.

Annual Arctic Conferences

January 30th, 2020 - 1st Arctic Conference

A Melting Arctic: Implications of Sea-Ice Loss on Governing the Arctic

December 10th, 2020 - 2nd Arctic Conference

The Arctic Region in 2020

Check out the [first panel](#) and the [second panel](#)



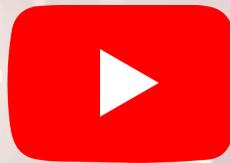
SOCIAL MEDIA

@uOttawaCIPS

2.4k likes



655,000+
views



5.6k
followers



Roland Paris @rolandparis · Nov 5, 2020
Today at 4 pm.

CIPS uOttawa @uOttawaCIPS · Nov 4, 2020
As we wait on more results for the US elections, we invite you to join us for a discussion tomorrow at 4pm with our special guests: @paraguarosada, David Jacobson, @robcolin and @debthompsonphd. Moderated by @rolandparis.
Find out more & register here: bit.ly/34Uv3WV
[Show this thread](#)

**The US Elections:
Implications for Canada**
November 5th at 4:00pm



2 7

Izumi Nakamitsu @INakamitsu · Feb 21, 2020
I really enjoyed interactions with people who kindly came to the event at @uOttawaCIPS. Let us work together towards a world free of nuclear weapons. #Disarmament

ODA @UN_Disarmament · Feb 20, 2020
HR @INakamitsu engaged in a lively & substantive Q&A about the #AgendaForDisarmament, hosted by CNWC and @uOttawaCIPS in #Ottawa. 
Her full speech about why #disarmament matters today as much as ever is available here  go.aws/2SH6aaX

#SecureOurCommonFuture



WIISToronto @WIISToronto · Jun 17, 2020
Another Twitter conference coming your way! Looks fascinating - and we can't wait to follow along!

CIPS uOttawa @uOttawaCIPS · May 20, 2020
CIPS will be hosting a Twitter conference on Sept. 30, 2020 on 'Understanding the Five Eyes'. Proposals are welcome in both languages. For more info, visit our website: cips-cepi.ca/five-eyes/
[Show this thread](#)



Geoffrey York @geoffreyyork · Feb 8, 2020
"Africa is not simply a repository of votes that can be won in a last-minute effort to avoid the embarrassment of another defeat in New York.... Many on the continent are disappointed by the Trudeau government's international policies."

CIPS uOttawa @uOttawaCIPS · Feb 7, 2020
Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is in  Africa on a mission to drum up votes for  Canada's bid for a  UN Security Council seat . But what if we focused on what Africa wants from global diplomacy's  top table? buff.ly/3beS2Zo

François-Philippe Champagne (FPC) @FP_Cha... · Apr 30, 2020
Will be joining @uOttawa students & @thomasjuneau later this morning to talk about Canada's foreign policy challenges & opportunities in the face of #COVID19.

Merci à @abrahamsen_rita & @uOttawaCIPS d'avoir organisé ce qui promet d'être une discussion des plus intéressantes.



CIPS BLOG

<https://www.cips-cepi.ca/blog/>

The CIPS Blog is written only by subject-matter experts, who publish on a wide variety of issues ranging from Canadian foreign policy, climate change and security to economic challenges, democracy and development.

Blog Archive:

January - 4	July - 7
February - 9	August - 3
March - 11	September - 4
April - 11	October - 22
May - 8	November - 5
June - 11	December - 6



War Metaphors Used for COVID-19 Are Compelling but Also Dangerous

Analysis, Report

April 14, 2020

By Costanza Musu

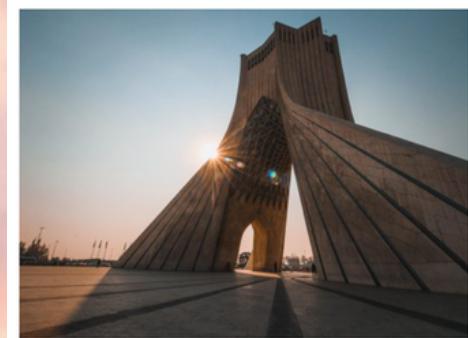


Disarmament Diplomacy in the Age of Putin and Trump

Analysis

February 11, 2020

By Ernie Regehr



What Will President Joe Biden Mean for Iran?

Analysis

November 12, 2020

By Farhad Rezaei



In 2020, we launched the Annual CIPS Best Blog Award!
Read the winning blog [here](#).

🥇 2020 CIPS Blog Award Winner! MBS admits “full responsibility” for the Khashoggi murder: What this means for the Kingdom’s allies

Analysis, CIPS, News

September 29, 2020

By John Packer



GABRIELLE BARDALL

Elections, democracy and
women's participation



CHRISTOPHER W.

BISHOP

Council on Foreign
Relations International
Affairs Fellow



MARION LAURENCE

Peacekeeping,
peacebuilding and global
security governance

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FARHAD REZAEI

Defence and foreign policy,
Middle East politics and
nuclear proliferation



ANOUSH FRASER

TERJANIAN

Capitalism and modern
democracy



GINO VLAVONOU

African politics, war and
identity in global politics

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS



Abrahamsen, R. (2020) Internationalists, Sovereigntists, Nativists: Contending Visions of World Order in Pan-Africanism. *Review of International Studies*, 46(1), 56-74.



Willis, E. R., El Richani, D., & **Abu-Zahra, N.** (2020). Building New Practices of Solidarity: The Community Mobilisation in Crisis Project. *Gender and Development*, 28(1), 51-68.



Bateson, R. (2020). Strategic Discrimination. *Perspective on Politics*, 18(4), 1068-1087.



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Desrosiers, M-E. (2020). "Making Do" with Soft Authoritarianism in Pre-Genocide Rwanda. *Comparative Politics*, 52(4), 557-579.



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Huggins, C., & Mastaki, C. P. (2020) The Political Economy of Land Law and Policy Reform in the Democratic Republic of Congo: An Institutional Bricolage Approach. *Canadian Journal of Development Studies*, 41(2), 260-278.



Juneau, T. (2020). The UAE and the War in Yemen. *Survival*, 62(4), 183-208.



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Landriault, M., Chater, P., Lackenbauer, W. & Wilson Rowe, W. (2020). *States and Beyond: Governing Complexity in Arctic Governance*. Abingdon: Routledge.



VanDuzer, J.A., & **Leblond, P.** (Eds.) (2020). *Promoting and Managing International Investment: Towards an Integrated Policy Approach*. Abingdon: Routledge.



Lenard, P. (2020) *How Should Democracies Fight Terrorism?*, Cambridge: Polity Press.



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Bousquet, A., Grove, J., & **Shah, N.** (2020). Becoming War: Towards a Martial Empiricism. *Security Dialogue*, 51(2-3), 99-118.



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Wark, W. (2020). The Road to CANUSA: How Canadian Signals Intelligence Won its Independence and Helped Create the Five Eyes. *Intelligence and National Security*, 35(1), 20-34.



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Zürcher, C. (2020) Meta-Review of Evaluations of Development Assistance to Afghanistan, 2008 – 2018. Summary Paper. Report for the German Federal Ministry of Development, Berlin.



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