

The Department of Political Science

The Political Science Conference Model Fourth Edition

Contemporary Discussions on Global Crises and Transformations

Call for Papers

The world is currently experiencing dramatic crises, most notably the Russia-Ukraine war and climate change, while still trying to recover from the Covid-19 pandemic. These crises are hardly isolated incidents, but impact neighboring countries, and even the entire world. In this vein, it is evident that the outbreak of the Russian – Ukrainian crisis in 2022 has impacted the world on multiple levels. On the one hand, the crisis has had significant implications for international politics in terms of the global balance of power, the patterns of great power interactions, and the potential transformation of the post-Cold War structure of the international system in response to these developments. On the other hand, the crisis has triggered profound socio-economic effects for countries from both developed and underdeveloped regions. These effects have ranged from a food crisis, particularly severe in African and Middle Eastern countries, to an energy crisis that has crippled European countries, and to high increases in living costs across the globe.

These socio-economic crises are made more challenging still by the fact that the world has not recovered from the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. Its impacts are felt at both global and national levels. From a global perspective, international cooperation has been lacking as has global leadership, either from international organizations or from powerful states. Arguably, the state has taken primacy over global/regional institutions in leading the battle against the pandemic and its subsequent effects. These developments have renewed debates over many aspects, such as the globalization–state nexus at various domains. From a national perspective, the pandemic has significantly transformed state-society relations across several parameters. These transformations include, but are not limited to, the role of the state in the public/private domains, political and socioeconomic rights, macroeconomic policy management, as well as social responses to the pandemics.

The Ukrainian crisis and the pandemic are not the only triggers for potential transformation. Climate change is another significant push factor. For example, severe drought pushes populations to leave their countries in search for sustainable life, which can cause overpopulation and discontent in the host country and culminate in political instability. The

problems of climate change are not limited to migration, but impact society on a range of levels: for example, severe droughts cause food scarcity and trigger hunger and poverty, a warming rising ocean compels populations to leave their homes, rising temperatures have a negative impact on health, governments' attempts to transition to a 'green' economy require new skills which many people do not possess – as a result, unemployment levels rise.

Such developments may be explored through a rich variety of theoretical perspectives. Conservative voices, for instance, may yearn for a return to established norms, emphasizing national sovereignty and security in the face of conflict and migration. Liberals, by contrast, may draw attention to the imperiled situation of global democracy and the possibility of humanitarian, market-based solutions to these problems. Other theorists, of all kinds, delve into the fundamental inequalities exacerbated by these crises, often viewing them as the inevitable result of deeply rooted hegemonic forces and structures. Those advocating fresh and urgent solutions to the challenges of the environment are finally receiving a wider audience; but is it a case of too little, too late? Questions pertaining to political identity and belonging, governance and sovereignty, environmental and political security have never seemed so important, nor have they been more fiercely negotiated.

The organizing committee invites Political Science undergraduate students to participate in the 4th Political Science Conference Model (PSCM) on “Contemporary Discussions on Global Crises & Transformation”. This year, we welcome interdisciplinary research papers that examine, but not limited to, any of the following broad themes:

- The Russian-Ukrainian War and its Implications Worldwide.
- The COVID-19 Pandemic and its Repercussions.
- The Globalization – State Nexus.
- Sovereignty, Intervention and the Responsibility to Protect.
- Migration Politics and Global Displacement.
- Global Governance and Climate Change.
- Environmental Security.
- International Security.
- Human Rights.
- Gender Politics.
- Identity Politics.
- Transnational Terrorism.
- Emerging Economic Alliances.
- Religion and Governance.

Call for Abstracts

The Department of Political Science at the Faculty of Business Administration, Economics, and Political Science, at The British University in Egypt is hosting the Political Science Model Conference (PSCM) in its 4th edition. The PSCM is an annual student-led conference that promotes academic research among undergraduate students and provides them with real life experience to support their different possible career paths and academic achievements. Students go through the process of a typical academic conference, with the opportunity to present their research papers and receive constructive and well-informed feedback from reviewers. Accepted papers are published in the conference's proceedings.

PSCM IV's theme is "Contemporary Discussions on Global Crises & Transformation." The deadline for receiving abstracts is **November 17, 2023**. The PSCM IV will be held both in person and in hybrid form on **Tuesday, 5th March 2024**.

Successful students are expected to submit a **draft paper** of roughly 2000-2500 words on **Tuesday, 20th February 2024**. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the PSCM academic coordinator by e-mail to: sara.shaker@bue.edu.eg

Abstract Submission:

- Please submit an abstract of **200-350**-word count in a word document.
- Please provide a short biography [maximum **250 words**], including your name, degree year, university name, research interests, and your e-mail.
- Please provide your CV [maximum **2 pages**].

Important Deadlines:

- **17th Nov 2023**: Abstract Deadline
- **20th Feb 2024**: Draft Research Papers
- **27th Feb 2024**: Presentation Slides
- **30th June 2024**: Final Research Papers

Further instructions will be sent to the authors of accepted abstracts.