

WORKSHOP 27

27. The diffusion of authority? Changing patterns of international governance

Directors:

Stefano Guzzini (*Uppsala University*)

Tel: +46 18 471 1211;

Email: stefano.guzzini@statsvet.uu.se; sgu@diis.dk

Iver Neumann (*Oslo University*)

Tel: +47 228 55 050; **Fax:** +47 229 94 000

Email: i.b.neumann@ilos.uio.no; Iver.Neumann@nupi.no

Over the last decades, there has been increasing research on the diffusion of authority in the international system, away from the military to other sources of power, from the state to other actors in the system, and from the public realm to markets. International political theory saw attempts at re-defining the concept and analysis of power and governance in international relations. International political economy focused on the shift of authority from the realm of public actors to market structures which affect fundamental institutions of international society, such as e.g. sovereignty (e.g. the de-territorialisation of authority by off-shore finance). Globalisation studies analysed the new publicly sanctioned (but private) authorities which emerged through the privatisation of fundamental governance roles, such as e.g. security (Private Military Companies), fiduciary (private credit rating agencies); on the creation and role of an increasingly networked international public sphere (Transnational Advocacy Groups); and on the emergence of corporate social responsibility as possibly a form of moral (and global) citizenship.

The workshop addresses this emerging picture of a diffusion of authority, as well as de-territorialisation and privatisation of governance. It invites (1) theoretical and methodological studies which further our capacity to identify instances of, and to provide frameworks for studying, international governance, and (2) empirical studies which specify or question the existence of such allegedly new instances of governance at the global, regional, or local level by either providing primary evidence or by synthesising such evidence in a wider understanding of the re-articulation of power in world affairs.