

Dr. Nina Reiners

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Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

International Relations and International Law | Transnational Actors | International Organizations | Decision-Making | Expert Committees | Qualitative Methods

CURRENT POSITIONS

- 2019- **University of Potsdam**
Researcher and Lecturer, Chair of International Politics
- 2019- **Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies Geneva (IHEID)**
Associated Researcher, Global Governance Centre
- 2016- **Berlin/Potsdam Research Group “The International Rule of Law”**
Associated Researcher, funded by Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft DFG

PAST POSITIONS

- 2012-2019 **University of Potsdam**
Postdoctoral Fellow, Chair of International Organizations (2017-2019)
Predoctoral Researcher and Lecturer, Chair of International Politics (2012-2017)
- 2018-2019 **Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies Geneva (IHEID)**
Visiting Fellow, Global Governance Centre & *PATHS* project
- 2016 **University of San Diego**
Visiting Scholar, School of Leadership Studies

EDUCATION

- 2012-2017 **University of Potsdam**
doctor rerum politicarum (Dr. rer. pol.), *summa cum laude*
Dissertation: Transnational Lawmaking Coalitions for Human Rights
Committee: Malcolm Dunn (Economics), Harald Fuhr (2nd Supervisor), Heike Krieger (Free University Berlin, Law), Andrea Liese (1st Supervisor)
1st Finalist ISA Human Rights Section Best Dissertation Award 2019
United Nations Association of Germany (DGVN) Best Dissertation Award 2019
- 2004-2010 **Justus Liebig University Giessen**
Magistra Artium (M.A.), *excellent*
Political Science (major), English and American Literature, Public Law (minors)
Thesis: Good Governance as Transnational Concept of Legitimate Statehood?
Universidad de Complutense Madrid, Erasmus exchange, 2007 – 2008

PUBLICATIONS

Under Review

Free from National Interests? Diplomats as Independent Experts of the UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies (*revised and resubmitted*)

Pronouncements of Expert Treaty Bodies: From 'Black Boxes' to 'Key Catalysts' in International Law? (co-authored with Janina Barkholdt)

Building Theory with Process-Tracing: Time, Money, Tactical Maneuvers

Books

Beneath the Surface: Transnational Lawmaking Coalitions for Human Rights (under review)

Journal Articles (*peer-reviewed)

Reiners, Nina (2018): Kontroversen um die Reform der UN-Menschenrechtsvertragsorgane [Controversies around the UN Human Rights Treaty Body Reform]. *Vereinte Nationen/ German Review on the United Nations* 66 (6), 266-271.

Reiners, Nina (2018): Die Interpretation von Menschenrechtsnormen durch die Vertrags-ausschüsse der Vereinten Nationen [The Interpretation of Human Rights by the UN Treaty Bodies]. *MenschenRechtsMagazin* 23 (1), 5-14.

Reiners, Nina and Andrea Liese (2015)*: Nichtstaatliche Akteure in der Menschenrechtspolitik: von Normanwälfen über Komplizen zu Infragestellern und Herausforderern [Non-State Actors in International Human Rights]. *Zeitschrift für Außen- und Sicherheitspolitik* 8 (2), 651-676.

Book Chapters and Edited Collections

Reiners, Nina (forthcoming): Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), in: *Handbook of International Organizations*, edited by Katja Freistein, Julia Leininger and Silke Weinlich, de Gruyter.

Liese, Andrea and Nina Reiners (2019): The Eye of the Beholder? The Contestation of Values and International Law, in: *The International Rule of Law: Rise or Decline?*, edited by Heike Krieger, Georg Nolte and Andreas Zimmermann, Oxford University Press, 335-343.

Reiners, Nina (2018): General Comment No. 15 on the Right to Water (2002), in: *Quellen zur Geschichte der Menschenrechte* [Key Documents on the History of Human Rights], edited by Working Group Human Rights in the 20th Century, available at: <https://www.geschichte-menschenrechte.de/general-comment-no-15-on-the-right-to-water-2002/?type=98765>

Policy Papers and Blog Posts

Reiners, Nina (2019): Undermining Authority from Within, *The Global*, 3 January 2019, <https://theglobal.blog/2019/01/03/undermining-authority-from-within/>

Reiners, Nina (2018): Giving Human Rights a Future: The Transnational and Transformative Character of a Business and Human Rights Treaty, *Völkerrechtsblog*, 27 July 2018, doi: [10.17176/20180724-155129-0](https://doi.org/10.17176/20180724-155129-0)

Book Reviews

Reiners, Nina (2014): Der Aufstieg der “zweiten Generation” der Menschenrechte [Book Review of Michael Krennerich 2013: Soziale Menschenrechte zwischen Recht und Politik; Schwalbach/Taunus: Wochenschau Verlag], *Vereinte Nationen/German Review on the United Nations* 62 (5), 230.

Work in Progress

Visible but better left unseen? The Transnational Lawmaking Coalition for Business and Human Rights

Non-State Influence on International Lawmaking: A Framework for Analysis

The Politics of International Bureaucracy: Bridging Theoretical Perspectives from International Relations and Public Administration (co-authored with Julia Fleischer)

MEMBERSHIPS

Academic Council on the United Nations System (ACUNS), American Political Science Association (APSA), European International Studies Association (EISA), German Association for Political Science (DVPW), International Studies Association (ISA), United Nations Association of Germany (DGVN)

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS and GRANTS (selected)

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| 2019 | DGVN Best Dissertation Award 2019
ISA Human Rights Section, Best Dissertation Award, 1 st Finalist |
| 2017-2019 | Fritz Thyssen Foundation grant for the project <i>From International to Transnational Human Rights Lawmaking: The UN Treaty Body System</i> (66,000 EUR) |
| 2016 | German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) travel grant for ISA/IPSA/APSA/ECPR Human Rights Conference and the ACUNS Annual Meeting in New York City/USA (1,500 EUR)
Equal Opportunity Commissioner of the University of Potsdam for the Visiting Scholarship in San Diego (500 EUR) |
| 2014 | ECPR travel grant, Summer School in Methods and Techniques “Process Tracing” in Ljubljana/Slovenia (500 EUR) |
| 2013 | DAAD travel grant, ISA Annual Convention in San Francisco/USA (1,500 EUR) |
| 2011-2012 | Stifterverband für die Deutsche Wissenschaft, fellowship for the programme <i>Junior Teaching Professionals</i> at the Potsdam Graduate School (5000 EUR) |

INVITED TALKS and ROUNDTABLES (selected)

- 2019 Talk *Pronouncements of Expert Treaty Bodies*, Research Seminar, Berlin/Potsdam Research Group “The International Rule of Law - Rise or Decline?”
- 2018 Talk *International Lawmaking and its Discontents*, PATHS project, Global Governance Centre, The Graduate Institute Geneva
- Talk *Do Human Rights have a Future?*, Annual Human Rights Conference *Conflicts of Values - 70th Anniversary of United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, Estonian Institute for Human Rights, Tallinn
- Talk *Still Not a Woman's Right to Choose: Contestation over Abortion and Sexual and Reproductive Health in International Politics*, Lecture Series of the Office for Equal Opportunities and the Student Union AStA, Potsdam
- Talk *From International to Transnational Human Rights Lawmaking*, Fritz Thyssen Foundation, Cologne
- Roundtable *Human Rights in Crisis – Challenged Human Rights Protection as Sign of a Transformation of International Law?*, Long Night of the Sciences, Berlin
- Talk *The Authority of Expert Committees for Lawmaking*, Research Seminar, Berlin/Potsdam Research Group “The International Rule of Law - Rise or Decline?”
- 2017 Roundtable *Human Rights and Social Development*, DGVN/KHK/SWP conference “Enhancing Science-Policy Interfaces for the United Nations”, Berlin
- 2014 Talk *The General Comments of the Human Rights Treaty Bodies*, ACUNS/ASIL Workshop *Local Justice, Global Standards and Critical Contemporary Challenges*, The Hague

CONFERENCE and WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION (selected)

(P)aper, (C)hair, (D)iscussant

- 2019 ISA (P, C, D), ECPR (P, C, D), EISA (P, D)
AHRI-Network Conference *Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law: Challenges Ahead*, Potsdam (C)
Workshop *The Paths of Change in International Law*, The Graduate Institute Geneva (D)
Conference *Putting Human Rights to the Test: Claims, Interventions, and Contestations since 1990*, Fritz Thyssen Foundation, Cologne (C)
Global Governance Colloquium, The Graduate Institute Geneva (D)
SPSA Annual Conference & Dreilandertagung, Zurich (P, D, D)
- 2018 ACUNS (P), ECPR (P, D), EISA (P), ISA (P, C)
Workshop *How To Research International Organizations Empirically*, JLU Giessen (P)
Workshop *Binding Treaty on Business and Human Rights*, Humboldt University Berlin (C)
Research Seminar, Berlin/Potsdam Research Group *The International Rule of Law* (D)
- 2017 Workshop *Decline or Transformation? Norms and Values in International Law*, Berlin (C)
- 2016 ACUNS (P)
ISA/IPSA/APSA/ECPR Joint Human Rights Conference, New York (P)
West Coast Data Conference on Non-Profit Research, Las Vegas (P)

- 2015 ACUNS (P)
ISA/IPSA/APSA/ECPR Joint Human Rights Conference, The Hague (P, C)
DVPW Workshop *IR meets Didactics*, Tutzing
- 2014 ACUNS/ASIL Workshop *Local Justice, Global Standards and Critical Contemporary Challenges*, The Hague (P)
ECPR Summer School in Methods and Techniques, *Process Tracing*, Ljubljana (P)
ISA/IPSA/APSA/ECPR Joint Human Rights Conference, Istanbul (P)
- 2013 ISA (P, C)
Normative Orders Graduate Conference, Frankfurt (P)
ISA/IPSA/APSA/ECPR Joint Human Rights Conference, St. Petersburg (P)

TEACHING

Certificates, Awards and Networks

- 2015 *E-Teaching Badge*, awarded by University of Potsdam, E-Learning Initiative for Innovative Teaching
- 2014- Member of the *Interdisciplinary Gender Studies* network, University of Potsdam
- 2012-2013 *Junior Teaching Professional Certificate*, Potsdam Graduate School

Portfolio

- 2011- **University of Potsdam**
Lecture Introduction to International Relations, BA lecture, stand-in
- Seminars* *MA level (in English)*
Transnational Actors and International Organizations | Informal Governance | The History and Future(s) of Human Rights
- BA level (in German)*
#standup4humanrights: Current Challenges for the Human Rights Regime | "The Endtimes of Human Rights?": Effectiveness of the Human Rights Regime | Troublemaker or Adviser: The Role of NGOs for Human Rights | The Universality of Human Rights | International Law and International Politics | Introduction to Political Science | Measuring Influence in International Relations | Thesis Colloquium: Research Design and Methods | Critical Theories in International Relations | Peace and Conflict Theories
- 2016 **University of San Diego**
Qualitative Methods: Process Tracing, guest lecture, PhD level
UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies and NGOs, guest lecture, MA level
- 2013 **Universidad de Complutense Madrid**
International Organizations, BA level (in English)
Introducción a las Relaciones Internacionales, BA level (in Spanish)

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Reviewer for dms – der moderne staat [journal for public policy, law, and management]

2012- **University of Potsdam**
ERASMUS exchange coordinator for Sciences Po Paris (2012-2018)
International Office selection committee for placements in the USA, Australia, and Israel (2013-2017)
Search Committee for the Junior Professorship in International Institutions (2017)
Search Committee for the Professorship in German and European Politics (2016)
Faculty Committee for Equal Opportunities (2013-2015)

CONSULTANCIES, ASSISTANTSHIPS and INTERNSHIPS

2015 Contracted researcher for elite interviews, EU-ASEAN SHARE project in Cambodia, the Philippines, and Vietnam

2012 Independent evaluator for the GIZ project Strengthening Public Administration Education in Afghanistan

2011-2012 Research assistant for the DAAD-DIES project Internal and External Quality Assurance in Southeast Asian Higher Education, Potsdam

2008 Intern at the German Embassy in the field of Public Diplomacy, Paris
Intern at AIEETI in the International Cooperation department, Madrid

LANGUAGES

German (native), English (fluent), Spanish (fluent), French (moderate)

Potsdam, October 2019