

Dr. Nina Reiners

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CURRENT POSITIONS

Visiting Fellow

Global Governance Centre & *PATHS* project, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies Geneva, October 2018 – present

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Project *From International to Transnational Human Rights Lawmaking* (funded by Fritz Thyssen Foundation), Chair of International Organizations, University of Potsdam, October 2017 – present

Research Associate

Chair of International Politics, University of Potsdam, December 2017 – present

Associated Researcher

Berlin/Potsdam Research Group *The International Rule of Law - Rise or Decline?* (funded by Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft DFG), May 2016 – present

PAST POSITIONS

Visiting Scholar

School of Leadership Studies, University of San Diego, February – May 2016

Research Associate

Chair of International Politics, University of Potsdam, October 2012 – August 2017

EDUCATION

University of Potsdam

doctor rerum politicarum (Dr. rer. pol.), 2012 – 2017, *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 (Supervisor)

Runner-up for the ISA Human Rights Section's Best Dissertation Award 2019

Justus Liebig University Giessen

Magistra Artium (M.A.), 2004 – 2010, *excellent*

Universidad de Complutense Madrid, Erasmus exchange, 2007 – 2008

Political Science (major), English and American Literature and Public Law (minors)

Thesis: Good Governance as Transnational Concept of Legitimate Statehood?

RESEARCH INTERESTS

International Relations and International Law | Human Rights | Transnational Actors |
International Organizations | Decision-Making | Expert Committees

PUBLICATIONS

Work in Progress

Beneath the Surface: Transnational Lawmaking Coalitions for Human Rights (book manuscript)

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

The Authority of Expert Committees for Lawmaking (paper)

Articles Under Review

Independent – Expert – Committee: Conflicting Roles in the UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies

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

Journal Articles

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 Vertragsausschüsse 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 Normanwälten 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

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

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.

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.

SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS and GRANTS (selected)

ISA Human Rights Section, Best Dissertation Award, Finalist Runner-Up, 2019

Fritz Thyssen Foundation, research grant for the project *From International to Transnational Human Rights Lawmaking: The UN Treaty Body System* (66,000 EUR), 2017-2019

German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), travel grants for ISA/IPSA/APSA/ECPR Human Rights Conference and the ACUNS Annual Meeting in New York City/USA (1,500 EUR), 2016; ISA Annual Convention in San Francisco/USA (1,500 EUR), 2013

Equal Opportunity Commissioner of the University of Potsdam, travel grant for the Visiting Scholarship in San Diego (500 EUR), 2016

European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR), travel grant for the Summer School in Methods and Techniques in Ljubljana/Slovenia (500 EUR), 2014

Stifterverband für die Deutsche Wissenschaft, grant for the programme *Junior Teaching Professionals* at the Potsdam Graduate School (5000 EUR), 2011-2012

INVITED TALKS, PANELS and ROUNDTABLES (selected)

Talk *Pronouncements of Expert Treaty Bodies*, Research Seminar, Berlin/Potsdam Research Group *The International Rule of Law - Rise or Decline?* (March 2019)

PATHS Panel *International Lawmaking and its Discontents*, Global Governance Centre, The Graduate Institute Geneva (Dec. 2018)

Panel *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 (Dec. 2018)

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 (Nov. 2018)

Talk *From International to Transnational Human Rights Lawmaking*, Fritz Thyssen Foundation, Cologne, Annual Meeting (Oct. 2018), Research Group Human Rights (Nov. 2017)

Panel *Human Rights in Crisis – Challenged Human Rights Protection as Sign of a Transformation of International Law?*, Long Night of the Sciences, Berlin (June 2018)

Talk *The Authority of Expert Committees for Lawmaking*, Research Seminar, Berlin/Potsdam Research Group *The International Rule of Law - Rise or Decline?* (May 2018)

Roundtable on *Human Rights and Social Development*, DGVN / KHK / SWP (Sep. 2017)

Talk *The General Comments of the Human Rights Treaty Bodies*, ACUNS/ASIL Workshop *Local Justice, Global Standards and Critical Contemporary Challenges*, The Hague (July 2014)

MEMBERSHIPS

Academic Council on the United Nations System (ACUNS), European International Studies Association (EISA), German Association for Political Science (DVPW), International Studies Association (ISA), United Nations Association of Germany (DGVN), Working Group of Young International Law Scholars (AjV)

CONFERENCE and WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

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

2019

ISA (P, C, D)

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 & Dreiländertagung, Zurich (P, 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

E-Teaching Badge, awarded by University of Potsdam, E-Learning Initiative for Innovative Teaching (2015)

Member of the *Interdisciplinary Gender Studies* network, University of Potsdam (since 2014)

Junior Teaching Professional Programme Certificate, Potsdam Graduate School (2012 - 2013)

Experience

University of Potsdam

(German and English, selected courses since 2011, BA and MA level)

Informal Governance | The History and Futures of Human Rights | #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

University of San Diego

Qualitative Methods: Process Tracing, guest lecture, PhD level, spring term 2016

UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies and NGOs, guest lecture, MA level, spring term 2016

Universidad de Complutense Madrid

International Organizations, BA level (in English), spring term 2013

Introducción a las Relaciones Internacionales, BA level (in Spanish), spring term 2013

ACADEMIC SERVICE

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

University of Potsdam

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 (2015-2016), Faculty Committee for Equal Opportunities (2013-2015), ERASMUS coordinator for Sciences Po Paris (2012-2018)

CONSULTANCIES, ASSISTANTSHIPS and INTERNSHIPS

Contracted researcher for elite interviews, *EU-ASEAN SHARE* project in Cambodia, the Philippines, and Vietnam (Aug. 2015)

Independent evaluator for the GIZ project *Strengthening Public Administration Education in Afghanistan* (Nov. 2012)

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

Intern at the German Embassy in the field of Public Diplomacy, Paris (Sep.-Dec. 2008)

Intern at AIETI in the International Cooperation department, Madrid (Jan.-Mar. 2008)

LANGUAGES

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