

**Narrating International Relations:  
Exploring Narrative as Concept and Method**

**Workshop at the University of Hamburg  
26-27 August 2018**

Organised by Maren Hofius (University of Hamburg)  
&  
the BISA Working Group 'Interpretivism in International Relations'  
- Felix Berenskoetter (SOAS, London, UK) & Iain Ferguson (HSE – Moscow, Russia)

*Venue: Centre for Globalisation and Governance, Welckerstraße 8, rooms 2.16-2.18*

**Sunday 26 August**

- 12:00 – 13:00      *Lunch & Introduction (from the organisers)*
- 13:00 – 14:30**      **Session 1: Narrative Theory in IR**      Hofius (Chair)
- Roberto Farneti (Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy)  
*After theory*
- Kai Opperman & Alexander Spencer (University of Sussex,  
UK & Otto-von-Guericke University, Germany)  
*Narrators, stories and audiences: Understanding the success  
and failure of narratives*
- Chiara de Franco (University of Southern Denmark)  
*'The logic of narrativity': rethinking performance in  
international practices*
- 14:30 – 14:45      *Coffee break*
- 14:45 – 16:15**      **Session 2: Narrative Contestation and Polyphony**      Berenskoetter  
(Chair)
- Iain Ferguson (HSE – Moscow, Russia)  
*Beyond Russia's civilizational 'turn'? The narrative analysis  
of a foreign policy*
- Katja Freistein & Frank Gadinger (Käte Hamburger Kolleg /  
Centre for Global Cooperation Research, University of  
Duisburg-Essen, Germany)  
*Images, emotions and stories: A visual narrative analysis of  
right-wing populism*
- Maren Hofius (University of Hamburg)  
*European integration (theory) in crisis? Reconstructing 'crisis'  
as narrative*
- 19:30 – 21:00      **Dinner** (all participants at "[Abaton Bistro](#)")

## Monday 27 August

- 9:00– 09:15 *Coffee and breakfast*
- 9:15 – 10:15**      **Session 3: Autobiographical Turns in IR**      Berenskoetter (Chair)
- Jakub Zahora (Charles University, Czech Republic)  
*Interrogating IR through science fiction narratives*
- Gabi Schlag (Helmut Schmidt University/ University of the Federal Armed Forces Hamburg, Germany)  
*Narrating 'enhanced interrogation techniques': Autobiographical narratives, emotions and the contestation of the anti-torture norm in the 'war on terror'*
- 10:15 – 10:30 *Coffee break*
- 10:30 – 12:00**      **Session 4: Narrative Traps and Silences**      Ferguson (Chair)
- Huss Banai, Malcolm Byrne & John Tirman (Indiana University, National Security Archive, MIT, USA)  
*The narrative trap in U.S.-Iran relations*
- Shaul Shenhav (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel)  
*Narrative traps: On the role of plot conventions during political changes*
- Paola Rivetti & Shirin Saeidi (Dublin City University, Ireland, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, USA)  
*The politics of silence/disappearances and state formation: Forced displacement in Europe and Hezbollahi activism in Iran*
- 12:00 – 13:00 *Lunch break (sandwiches and refreshments)*
- 13:00 – 14:30**      **Session 5: Images and Fictions**      Hofius (Chair)
- Shelby Ward (Virginia Tech, USA)  
*Mapping as narrative: Sri Lankan tourist maps as a story of neocolonial international relations*
- Leigh McKagan (Virginia Tech, USA)  
*Writing imperial futures: narratives of domination in science fiction television*
- Nicholas Micinski & Prachi Jain (CUNY, USA)  
*Political cartoons and the EU "refugee crisis" 2015-2017*
- 14:30-15:00 *Reflection of results and outlook*

