

POLIS alumni - January 2020

Dear alumni,

Welcome to the January edition of your POLIS alumni newsletter.

Thank you, as always, for your feedback from the previous edition. We love to hear your news so, if you would like to get in touch, please [email us](#).

You can connect with POLIS via our [website](#), on [Twitter](#), or [Instagram](#). For our video content, head over to [YouTube](#).

Yours,

Andy Cuthbert,
Alumni Relations Co-ordinator

2018-19 Joffé Award winner announced

POLIS is delighted to announce that the Joffé Award for 2018-19 has been presented to Harel Berger for his dissertation entitled 'Evaluating the Implications of the Israeli Labour Party's Engagement in the Socialist International (1967-1984)'.

Harel had the following to say on his work and the award:

"Receiving the Joffé Award has invigorated my resolve to conduct future research on political parties as global actors. I am thrilled to be the recipient of an accolade whose namesake has bequeathed such a rich scholarly legacy to the study of my home region. I wish to convey my immense gratitude to POLIS for bestowing this great honour upon me. I also wish to thank my supervisor, Professor Christopher Hill, for the invaluable guidance and support that he lent to my research throughout the past academic year."

The Joffé Award is presented each year to the student writing the best MPhil dissertation on the international relations and/or politics of the Middle East and North Africa. It is named for Professor George Joffé who, for many years, was the backbone of teaching on North Africa and the Middle East in the Centre for International Studies, and later in POLIS. George retired at the end of the 2016-17 academic year and the Department has created this prize as a tribute to his intellectual legacy.

Many congratulations to Harel, and to all of his MPhil cohort on their hard work this year.

Postgraduate Careers Day – January 2020

On Friday 17 January, the Department hosted its annual Postgraduate Careers Day, where current MPhil students were given the opportunity to learn more about how to enter the fields of media and journalism, law, the Civil Service, research

and consultancy, and the development and human rights sector. It gave current students a chance to speak to alumni who have had similar educational starting points and then had careers in sectors they are interested in.

The students greatly enjoyed hearing from POLIS alumni about how their studies were useful to their careers and how they got to where they are. Thank you very much to all our alumni who have kindly agreed to speak at this event. If anyone would be interested in being involved in future events, please [contact us](#) as we'd love to hear from you!

[Read more >](#)

2019 Annual Public Policy Lecture

On Thursday 5 December 2019, the Annual Public Policy Lecture was held in Jesus College with guest speaker Polly Mackenzie, the Chief Executive of Demos speaking on 'post populism: towards a new democratic settlement'.

Polly started her career as a business journalist. In 2004 she became a Policy Adviser on housing and local government for Edward Davey MP. She then worked for Nick Clegg from 2006 to 2015, helping to write the 2010 Coalition Agreement, and serving as Director of Policy to the Deputy Prime Minister from 2010-15.

After leaving Government, Polly established the operations of the Women's Equality Party, and then went on to found the Money and Mental Health Policy Institute, a charity working to break the link between financial difficulty and mental health problems. She lives in South East London, and has three children.

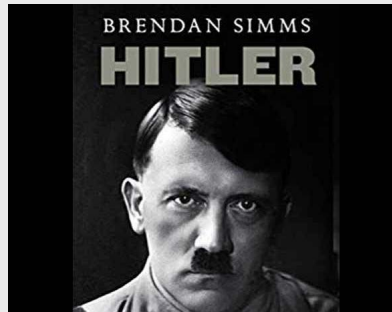
The event was hosted by the Department of Politics and International Studies and the Bennett Institute for Public Policy.

The lecture will be hosted on our [YouTube channel](#) in the coming weeks.

New publications from POLIS Faculty

Brendan Simms, *Hitler: only the world was enough*

Adolf Hitler is one of the most studied men in history, and yet the most important things we think we know about him are wrong. As Brendan Simms's major new biography shows, Hitler's main preoccupation was not, as widely believed, the threat of bolshevism, but that of international capitalism and Anglo-America.



[View on Amazon](#)

Jeremy Green, *Is Globalization Over?*

Looming trade wars and rising nationalism have stirred troubling memories of the 1930s. Will history repeat itself? Do we face the chaotic breakdown of the global economic system in the face of stagnation, protectionism and political tumult?

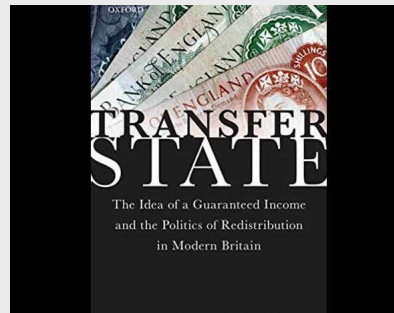
[View on Amazon](#)



Peter Sloman, *Transfer State: the search for a guaranteed income and the politics of redistribution in post-war Britain*

The idea of a guaranteed minimum income has been central to British social policy debates for more than a century. *Transfer State* provides the first detailed history of guaranteed income proposals in modern Britain, which brings together intellectual history and archival research to show how the pursuit of an integrated tax and benefit system has shaped UK public policy since 1918.

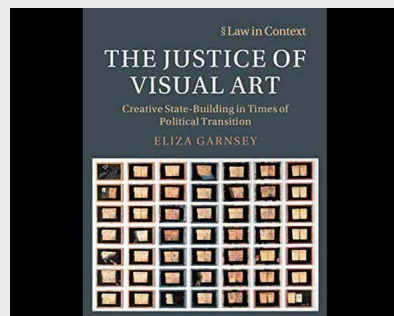
[View on Amazon](#)



Eliza Garnsey, *The Justice of Visual Art: creative state-building in times of political transition*

In the aftermath of mass conflict how is it possible to address violent and traumatic pasts, reconcile divided nations, and strengthen state institutions? This study explores the connections between transitional justice and visual art in order to answer that question.

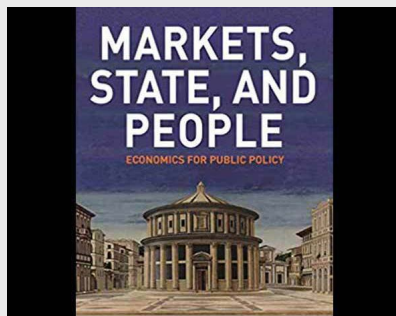
[View on Amazon](#)



Diane Coyle, Markets, State and People: economics for public policy

While economic research emphasizes the importance of governmental institutions for growth and progress, conventional public policy textbooks tend to focus on macroeconomic policies and on tax-and-spend decisions.

Markets, State, and People stresses the basics of welfare economics and the interplay between individual and collective choices.



[View on Amazon](#)

New publications from POLIS alumni

[Dr George Lee on police corruption](#)

Dr George Lee, Postdoctoral Researcher at Trinity is pleased to announce the publication of his new book: *Police Corruption in Comparative Perspective: Building Trust in the Police in India and China*. The origins of this book project can be derived from Dr Lee's PhD in Development Studies, completed in 2018. Dr Lee was the first British Chinese person to join the UK Civil Service and served as a Chief Inspector in the London Metropolitan Police. He was also the first British Chinese person to stand for Parliament at the 2010 general election.

[Dr Irina Ghaplanyan on post-Soviet Armenia](#)

Dr Irina Ghaplanyan's work *Post-Soviet Armenia: The New National Elite and the New National Narrative* is now available in a paperback edition. The book is based on her doctoral thesis in Politics and International Studies; completed in 2016. Dr Ghaplanyan is currently serving as Deputy Minister of Environment for the Republic of Armenia.

Alumni spotlight

Edward Cohen

Edward Cohen (2007) shares his memories of Cambridge, where he completed an MPhil in International Relations. He is currently serving as First Secretary of the Australian High Commission in South Africa.

[Read more](#)



[Would you like to appear in our spotlight feature?](#)

If you'd like to be featured in our spotlight feature, please [email Andy](#). The spotlight is an 800–1,200 word guest article written by a former POLIS student. Your article should include information about your time at Cambridge, your work now and, if possible, the link between the two.

For inspiration, previous spotlight features are [on our website >](#)

Talking Politics

206 | Johnson Gets His Mandate 14 December 2019

We gather the morning after the Tory triumph the night before to discuss how they did it and what it means. From Swinson's hubris to Corbyn's comeuppance, from Scottish independence to constitutional challenges, from the start of Brexit to the end of the Brexit party, we try to cover it all in a bumper edition.



[Listen now](#)

205 | Some Brexit Scenarios 11 December 2019

For our last pre-election episode we talk with Anand Menon, director of the UK in a Changing Europe, about what might happen to Brexit once the vote is done. What choices does Johnson face if he wins? What paths are there to a second referendum if he loses? And what will remainers do if Britain does finally leave the EU? Plus we discuss what the rest of Europe makes of it all.



[Listen now](#)

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Dear
World...

Yours,
Cambridge



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