

Section 8 –Relazioni Internazionali

Chairs: Carla Monteleone, Vittorio Emanuele Parsi

Panel 8.9 New Methods and Theory-building Challenges in Conflict Studies

Organised political conflict has been studied extensively in Political Science, International Relations, Sociology and Economics. While scholars with different background all seek to understand the causes and consequences of conflict, the study approaches pursued often differ considerably. Differences in established practices as well as conventional outlets (i.e., conferences and journals) often make research within these disciplines less accessible to other researchers and can undermine effective collaboration and communication across fields of research: more exchange on methods and theory-building avenues is necessary and beneficial, both in terms of clarifying limitations/incompatibilities and in terms of cumulative enrichment/stronger validation. Recent developments in tools to analyse big data on complex social behaviours, and qualitative micro-level techniques in Political and Social Sciences have much to learn from each other. We propose a multi methods panel to encourage critique, reflection and collaboration on conflict studies methods and theories. The panel will present different approaches in Political and Social Sciences and help facilitate the exchange of knowledge, skills and ideas, and possibly create a new collaborative platform. The event will benefit PhD students as well as staff interested in theorizing and in applications to modelling and dissecting conflict.

Chairs: Francesco Strazzari, Margherita Belgioioso