

Call for Papers

International Conference “The United Nations Security Council: Contemporary Threats to its Legitimacy and Performance” May 22nd to 25th, 2016, in Ascona, Ticino, Switzerland

The conference “*The United Nations Security Council: Contemporary Threats to its Legitimacy and Performance*” will take place from 22 to 25 May, 2016 at the Conference Centre Monte Verità, Ascona, Switzerland, the venue of choice for Congressi Stefano Franscini (ETH Zurich). The aim of the conference is critically to take stock of, and to further develop, the debates of the last twenty years regarding the composition and decision-making process as well as the substantive work of the UN Security Council (UNSC). In doing so, the conference will take into account recent events and developments in international law and international politics, embed them in the context of the history of the UN, and analyse them using state of the art theoretical frameworks from international legal theory, political science, and political philosophy. Participants are invited to discuss three main topics: (1) the theoretical and conceptual framework for an examination of the UNSC and its work, (2) the composition and decision-making of the UNSC and the ongoing debate regarding its reform, and (3) the mandate and substantive work of the UNSC. One of the conference panels is specifically dedicated to contributions of junior scholars.

Junior scholars of international law, international relations, or political philosophy are invited to ‘re-imagine’ the UNSC by addressing any of the following topics:

- (1) Theory and Concepts
 - Global constitutionalism and critical approaches to international law as related to the work and status of the UNSC
 - Issues of democracy, the rule of law, and legitimacy, as related to the work and status of the UNSC
- (2) UN Security Council Reform
 - Law and politics in the debate on UNSC reform
 - Increasing the inclusiveness of the UNSC for global civil society
- (3) The Mandate and Work of the UN Security Council
 - North-South relationships in the work of the UNSC
 - Human rights and gender in the work of the UNSC
 - Securing the non-use of force as a central responsibility of the UNSC

Interested young scholars are invited to submit an abstract outlining the topic (title), methodology, and main theses of the proposed paper. Abstracts must not exceed **800 words**. Please submit the abstract electronically to lehrstuhl.fassbender@unisg.ch. The deadline is **January 29, 2016**. Please add to the abstract a current CV. Based on a choice among the abstracts, a number of young scholars will be invited to present a paper. Travel expenses as well as board and lodging will be covered for each of them.