



THE LONDON SCHOOL  
OF ECONOMICS AND  
POLITICAL SCIENCE



**Phelan  
United States  
Centre  
Annual Report  
2021-22**



Images: © 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 Nigel Stead/LSE

“LSE’s unique capacity to convene the world by engaging audiences on campus and around the world captivated me when I was a student at the School and still resonates now. The US Centre exemplifies that approach today and I am delighted to be able to support its future.”

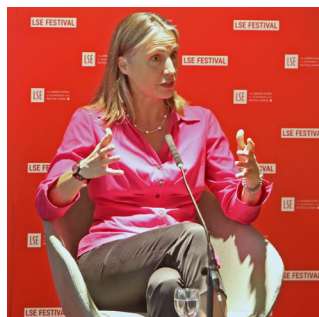
**John Phelan, LSE 1985**

Cover image:  
United States President Joe Biden walks with European Commission President and LSE alumna Ursula von der Leyen during the EU-US summit in Brussels, Belgium on 15 June 2021. Yves Herman/Reuters





Image: Norbu Gyachung/Unsplash



# Contents

## 4 Director's Message

## 5 About the Director

## 6 Centre Governance and Staffing

6 Advisory Board

7 Management Committee

8 Centre Affiliates

## 10 Events

11 Public Lectures

13 The Wenger Distinguished Lecture

14 LSE Festival

15 LSE – Princeton Conference

16 EUI, Georgetown and LSE Conference

17 Centre Affiliate Spotlight Dr Amanda Sheely

18 Race, Gender and Politics in the US Seminar Series

19 US – China Seminar Series

## 20 Digital Content Innovation

21 USAPP blog

22 The Ballpark podcast

## 23 Student Programmes

24 Undergraduate Research Assistantships

25 Centre PhD Summer Research Grants

## 26 Annual Report Statistics

28 Contacts

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**Yves Herman/Reuters**

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# Director's Message

Image: © 2015 Nigel Steady/LSE



I write at a moment of geopolitical upheaval and political fragmentation. Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine has upended assumptions and norms about the international order that have prevailed since the end of the Cold War. It has also underscored the importance of US international engagement after a period of erratic, uncertain American leadership. At a time when America is deeply divided at home, the stakes could not be higher, and the need for clear-eyed, independent analysis could not be greater.

The Phelan United States Centre is devoted to providing policy-relevant analysis and commentary in these complex times. This year we have launched several important new initiatives, including a multi-year speaker series on the future of US-China relations, a seminar series on the role of race and gender in American politics, and collaborative international conferences on the future of the liberal international order with Georgetown University,

Princeton University and the European University Institute.

With the generous support of the Phelan Family Foundation, we are running more events for academics, students and alumni around the world than ever before. We are drawing in ever-larger audiences through our popular blog, podcasts, and digital engagement on American politics and society. Much of our programming this year was necessarily online due to COVID-19, but we are pleased to now be welcoming people back in person.

As the Centre's global reach has increased, its presence at the School has also expanded. We have welcomed new LSE faculty affiliates, increased opportunities for visiting faculty, postdoctoral fellows and PhD students, and added new members of staff. Our undergraduate research assistantship programme continues to set the pace at the School, attracting huge numbers of undergraduates. New initiatives for master's students are in the works as well.

As Director, I have the good fortune of working alongside a team of talented and dedicated individuals who do so much in so many ways to make the Centre's promise a reality. Despite the challenges COVID-19 presented again this past year, the Centre did not lose a beat. We continued to deliver on our core mission through research-led seminars, faculty workshops, public engagement and student internships and grants.

As we look forward to next year, I want to thank everyone – from our faculty affiliates to professional staff to our students and alumni – who help to make the Phelan United States Centre such a vibrant, inclusive intellectual community.

**Professor Peter Trubowitz**

**Director, Phelan United States Centre**

# About the Director

**Peter Trubowitz** is Professor of International Relations at LSE and Associate Fellow at Chatham House, the Royal Institute of International Affairs. His main teaching and research interests are in the fields of international security and foreign policy, with special focus on the United States. He has written widely about the ways domestic politics have shaped America's approach to the world since its founding, and about how geopolitics, globalisation and other international forces have influenced and shaped American political development and contemporary US politics.

Professor Trubowitz's scholarly publications include *Politics and Strategy: partisan ambition and American statecraft* (Princeton University Press) and the prize-winning *Defining the National Interest: conflict and change in American foreign policy* (University of Chicago Press), as well as articles in scholarly journals such as *International Security*, *International Studies Quarterly* and *Perspectives on Politics* and more popular titles including *Foreign Affairs*, *International Herald Tribune* and *The National Interest*. His newest book, *Geopolitics*

*and Democracy: the Western liberal order from foundation to fracture*, is forthcoming with Oxford University Press.

An award-winning teacher, Professor Trubowitz has lectured on international affairs at universities worldwide as well as to government bodies, think-tanks and private companies. A frequent television guest on CNBC, BBC, Bloomberg and other major international media outlets, he has undertaken research supported by grants and fellowships from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the John M. Olin Foundation, the Ford Foundation and the Social Science Research Council, among others.

Before joining LSE, Professor Trubowitz was Professor of Government at the University of Texas at Austin. He has also held visiting academic positions at Harvard University, Princeton University, the University of California at San Diego, Universidad de Chile, Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE) in Mexico City, and Beijing Foreign Studies University, where he was the J. William Fulbright Distinguished Lecturer in American Foreign Policy.



Left to right: LSE Director Baroness Minouche Shafik, John Phelan, Amy Phelan and Phelan US Centre Director Professor Peter Trubowitz at the launch event for LSE's Shaping the World Campaign, 2 November 2021.

Image: © 2021 Maria Moore/LSE



# Advisory Board

The Advisory Board provides external perspective and guidance on the Centre's mission and work.



**CHAIR - G. John Ikenberry**  
**Princeton University**

John Ikenberry is the Albert G. Milbank Professor of Politics and International

Affairs in the Department of Politics and the School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University. He is Co-Director of Princeton's Center for International Security Studies.



**Nicola Lacey**  
**LSE**

Nicola Lacey is School Professor of Law, Gender and Social Policy at LSE.

Before joining LSE, she was Senior Research Fellow at All Souls College and Professor of Criminal Law and Legal Theory at the University of Oxford.



**Tim Besley**  
**LSE**

Sir Tim Besley is School Professor of Economics and Political Science and

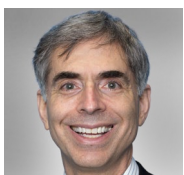
W. Arthur Lewis Professor of Development Economics in the Department of Economics at LSE. He is a member of the UK's National Infrastructure Commission.



**Tracey L. Meares**  
**Yale University**

Tracey Meares is Walton Hale Hamilton Professor at Yale Law School and

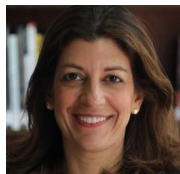
a Founding Director of Yale's Justice Collaboratory. She served on President Obama's Task Force on 21st Century Policing.



**Lloyd Gruber**  
**LSE**

Lloyd Gruber is the former Dean of LSE's Institute of Public Affairs and a

Lecturer in the Department of International Development. Before joining LSE he was Associate Professor at the University of Chicago's Harris School of Public Policy.



**Leslie Vinjamuri**  
**Chatham House and SOAS**

Leslie Vinjamuri is Director of the US and the Americas Programme and Dean of the

Queen Elizabeth II Academy for Leadership in International Affairs at Chatham House, the Royal Institute of International Affairs. She is a Reader (Associate Professor) in International Relations at SOAS University of London.



**Matthew Jones**  
**LSE**

Matthew Jones is Professor of International History and former Head of the

Department of International History at LSE. He is the Cabinet Office Official Historian of the UK strategic nuclear programme.



**John Phelan**  
**MSD Capital, ex officio**

John Phelan is Co-Founding Partner and Chief Investment Officer of MSD Partners and

MSD Capital. He serves on the Board of Trustees of the Whitney Museum of American Art and the Aspen Art Museum. He is a member of LSE's North American Advisory Board.

# Management Committee

The Management Committee is comprised of LSE faculty who monitor our programming, research and operations.



**CHAIR - Peter Trubowitz**  
Director of Phelan US  
Centre  
Professor, International  
Relations



**Amanda Sheely**  
Amanda Sheely is  
Associate Professor  
in the Department of Social  
Policy at LSE. Dr Sheely  
studies state supervision of poor women  
and families, with a primary focus on the  
United States.



**Roham Alvandi**  
Roham Alvandi is Associate  
Professor in the Department  
of International History  
at LSE. Dr Alvandi teaches  
courses at LSE on the history of modern  
Iran, as well as the history of the 'United  
States in the World'.



**Karen E. Smith**  
Karen E. Smith is  
Professor of International  
Relations and Head of  
the Department of  
International Relations at LSE. Her main area  
of research is the international relations  
of the European Union.



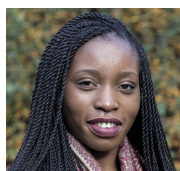
**James Morrison**  
James Morrison is  
Assistant Professor in the  
Department of International  
Relations at LSE. He  
specialises in international political economy.  
Dr Morrison's work examines the role of ideas  
and intellectuals in foreign economic policy.  
His first book is *England's Cross of Gold:  
Keynes, Churchill, and the governance of  
economic beliefs*.



**David Soskice**  
David Soskice is LSE  
School Professor of  
Political Science and  
Economics Emeritus,  
Fellow of the British Academy, Fellow of the  
American Academy of Arts and Sciences,  
a Member of Academia Europeae, and of  
the LSE International Inequalities Institute.



**Cheryl Schonhardt-Bailey**  
Cheryl Schonhardt-Bailey  
is Professor, and was  
Head of Department from  
2019-2022, in the  
Department of Government at LSE, and  
Fellow of the British Academy. Her research  
interests include deliberation in legislative  
committees, political economy, and  
non-verbal communication. Professor  
Schonhardt-Bailey's latest book is *Deliberative  
Accountability in Parliamentary Committees*.



**Imaobong Umoren**  
Imaobong Umoren is  
Associate Professor in  
the Department of  
International History at LSE.  
Dr Umoren's research focuses on histories  
of race, gender, activism and political thought  
in the Caribbean, Britain and the US during  
the modern and contemporary periods.

# Centre Affiliates



**Roham Alvandi**  
Associate Professor  
Department of International History



**Chris Anderson**  
Professor  
European Institute



**Paul Apostolidis**  
Associate Professorial Lecturer  
Department of Government



**Sarah Banet-Weiser**  
Professor  
Department of Media and Communications



**Fenella Cannell**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Anthropology



**Steven Casey**  
Professor  
Department of International History



**Jeffrey M. Chwieroth**  
Professor  
Department of International Relations



**Michael Cox**  
Professor  
LSE IDEAS



**Rebecca Elliott**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Sociology



**Fawaz A. Gerges**  
Professor  
Department of International Relations



**Lloyd Gruber**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of International Development



**Tanya Harmer**  
Associate Professor  
Department of International History



**Elizabeth Ingleson**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of International History



**Matthew Jones**  
Professor  
Department of International History



**Johann Koehler**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Social Policy



**Nicola Lacey**  
School Professor  
LSE Law School



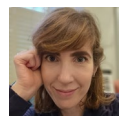
**David Madden**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Sociology



**James Morrison**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of International Relations



**Raluca L. Pahontu**  
Fellow  
European Institute



**Mona Paulsen**  
Assistant Professor  
LSE Law School

(A-Z by surname)

A list of Centre Affiliates' publications is available on our website



# Centre Affiliates



**Stephanie Rickard**  
Professor  
Department of Government



**Cheryl Schonhardt-Bailey**  
Professor  
Department of Government



**Amanda Sheely**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Social Policy



**David Soskice**  
School Professor  
Department of Government



**Jessie Speer**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Geography and Environment



**Michael Storper**  
Professor  
Department of Geography and Environment



**Luca Tardelli**  
Assistant Professorial Lecturer  
Department of International Relations



**Silvana Tenreyro**  
Professor  
Department of Economics



**Imaobong Umoren**  
Associate Professor  
Department of International History



**John van Reenen**  
School Professor  
Department of Economics

## PHELAN US CENTRE TEAM



**Peter Trubowitz**  
Director  
Phelan US Centre



**Adeola Akande Pierre-Noël**  
Centre Manager



**Chris Gilson**  
Blog Editor  
USAPP blog



**Joss Harrison**  
Graduate Intern, 2021-



**Vivekah Deerpaul**  
Centre Administrator, 2021-



**Elina Ganatra**  
Producer, 2021-22  
The Ballpark podcast

## VISITING FELLOWS



**Kohei Watanabe**  
Waseda University  
2019-

(A-Z by surname)

A list of Centre Affiliates' publications is available on our website

## Events

Through our regular series of public events and seminars, the Phelan United States Centre convenes discussions with high-profile speakers. These events explore important political, policy and social issues in the US. In 2021-22, the US Centre has returned to holding some in-person events alongside those offered online.

Dr Fiona Hill of the Brookings Institution at the event Russia, America, and the Future of European Security, 15 June 2022



# Public Lectures

The Phelan US Centre's public lectures are timely events aimed at making expert analysis of US politics and policy accessible to a wide audience. Our events feature discussions with prominent scholars, policy analysts and public intellectuals.



Image: Samantha Webster/New America

## From Crisis to Transformation: a path forward

In this event, Anne-Marie Slaughter discussed her new book, *Renewal: from crisis to transformation in our lives, work, and politics*.

### Speaker

Anne-Marie Slaughter  
(Princeton University)

**Chair** Peter Trubowitz

**Date** 5 October 2021



Image: Callum Shaw/Unsplash

## What Climate Change Loss and Damage Means for the US and the World

Leading experts discussed climate change loss and damage, and the potential and limitations of existing policy frameworks for global climate justice.

### Speakers

Emily Boyd (Lund University)

Ademola Oluborode Jegede  
(University of Venda)

Kyle Whyte (University of Michigan)

**Chair** Rebecca Elliott  
(LSE Department of Sociology)

**Date** 3 November 2021



# Public Lectures

## **From Crisis to Transformation: a path forward**

**Speaker** Anne-Marie Slaughter (Princeton University)

**Chair** Peter Trubowitz

**Date** 5 October 2021

## **The Plague Year: America in the time of COVID-19**

**Speaker** Lawrence Wright (The New Yorker)

**Chair** Peter Trubowitz

**Date** 6 October 2021

## **What Climate Change Loss and Damage Means for the US and the World**

**Speakers** Emily Boyd (Lund University), Ademola Oluborode Jegede (University of Venda), Kyle Whyte (University of Michigan)

**Chair** Rebecca Elliott (LSE Department of Sociology)

**Date** 3 November 2021

## **Rethinking American Political Economy**

**Speakers** Paul Pierson (University of California, Berkeley), Kathleen Thelen (MIT)

**Chair** Peter Trubowitz

**Date** 15 November 2021

## **President Biden's First Year: success or failure?**

**Speakers** Jacob S. Hacker (Yale University), Ursula Hackett (Royal Holloway, University of London),

G. John Ikenberry (Princeton University), Mark Landler (The New York Times), Paula D. McClain (Duke University)

**Chair** Peter Trubowitz

**Date** 25 January 2022

## **Biden's Foreign Policy: America's back or America first?**

**Speakers** Leslie Vinjamuri (SOAS University of London), Cathryn Clüver Ashbrook (German Council on Foreign Relations), Charles A. Kupchan (Georgetown University), Gideon Rachman (Financial Times)

**Chair** Peter Trubowitz

**Date** 22 February 2022

## **Agonies of Empire: American power from Clinton to Biden**

Co-hosted with the Ralph Miliband programme and LSE IDEAS

**Speakers** Michael Cox (LSE IDEAS), Peter Trubowitz (LSE Department of International Relations and Phelan US Centre), Caroline Kennedy-Pipe (Loughborough University)

**Chair** Robin Archer (LSE Department of Sociology)

**Date** 24 March 2022

Image: Julian Wan/Unsplash



Image: Gayatri Malhotra/Unsplash





# The Wenger Distinguished Lecture

The Wenger Distinguished Lectures promote greater understanding of the role of the US in the world economy through high-profile engagement with academics, business leaders and policymakers. Topics covered include international trade, law and institutions.



## The Future of the Liberal World Order

Has the post-Cold War era ended? Will the global response to Vladimir Putin's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine renew democracies' commitment to the liberal order after years of international discord and domestic backsliding? Leading experts on world politics discussed these questions and others in relation to the future of the liberal world order.

### Speakers

G. John Ikenberry (Princeton University)  
 Mary Kaldor (LSE Department of International Development)  
 Charles Kupchan (Georgetown University)  
 Ayşe Zarakol (University of Cambridge)

**Chair** Peter Trubowitz

**Date** 9 June 2022

*This seminar was the public event for the Centre's LSE-Princeton Conference **Rethinking the 1990s: liberal world order-building in the post-Cold War era.***



# LSE Festival

Taking place from 13 to 18 June 2022, the LSE Festival explored the practical steps we could be taking to shape a better world.

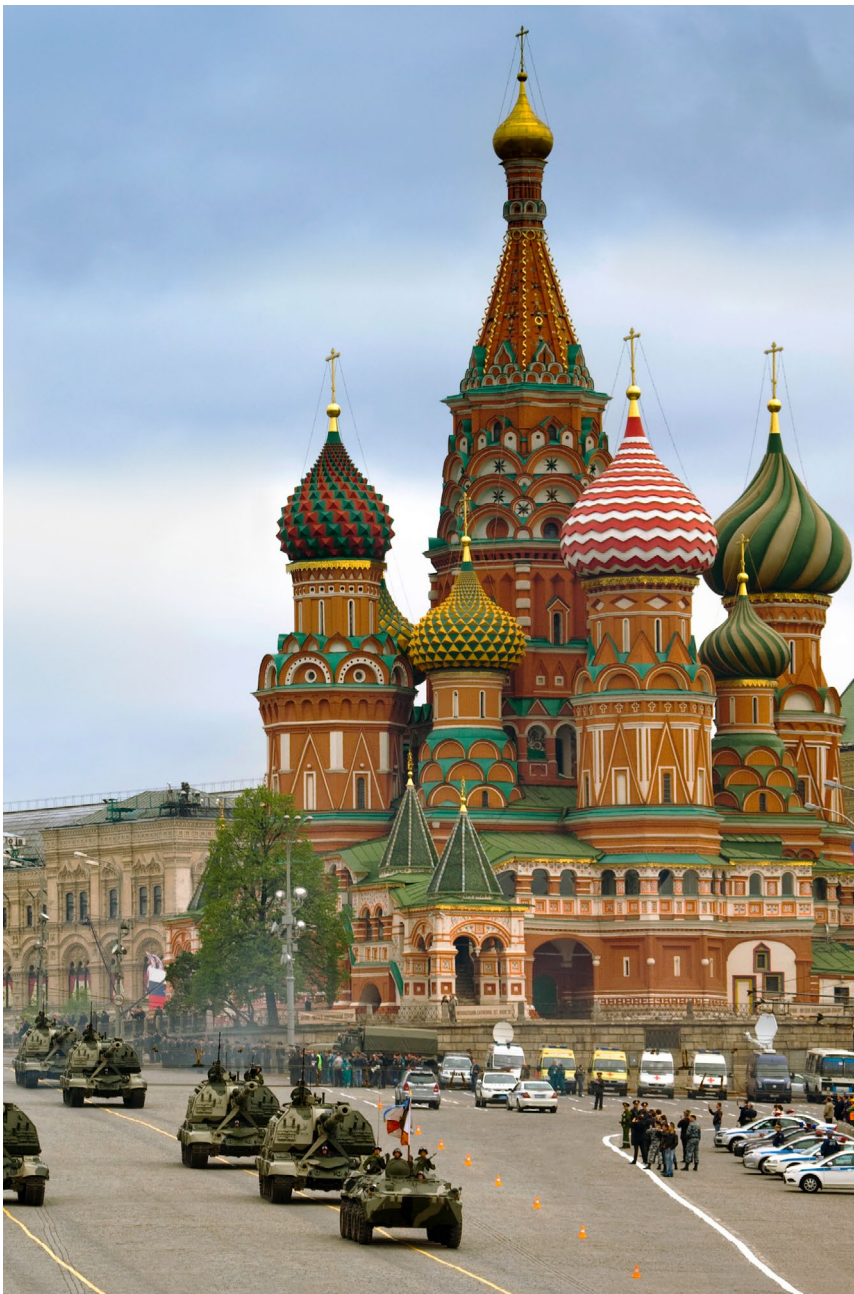


Image: Mordouff/Stock

## Russia, America, and the Future of European Security

Dr Fiona Hill, national security expert, former member of the US National Security Council and best-selling author, discussed Putin's Russia, America's future, and the implications of Russia's invasion of Ukraine for the future of European security and democracy.

### Speaker

Fiona Hill (Brookings Institution)

**Moderator** Kristina Spohr (LSE Department of International History)

**Chair** Peter Trubowitz

**Date** 15 June 2022



# LSE – Princeton Conference

The LSE-Princeton Conference was held at LSE from 9 to 11 June 2022, and brought together two dozen historians and political scientists to reconsider the 1990s and their impact on world politics in the ensuing decades.

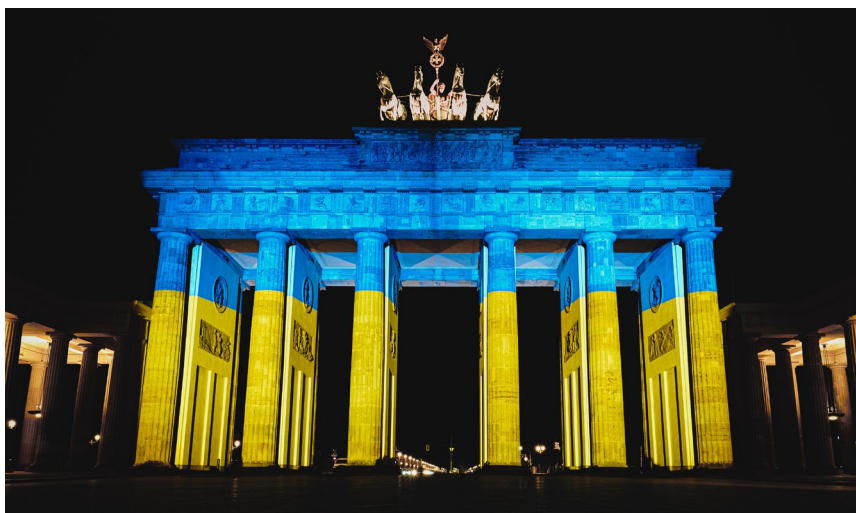


Image: Vladyslav Meinyk/Unsplash

## **Rethinking the 1990s: liberal world order-building in the post-Cold War era** 9 to 11 June 2022

The 1990s were a high-water mark for the West's confidence in itself. Many commentators viewed the collapse of the Soviet Union and communism in Eastern Europe as a victory for liberalism and open economies. The end of the Cold War, they argued, represented the permanent victory of liberal democracy and capitalism over the forces of illiberalism and nationalism. Today, those Western visions of the future look dated and off-target. If Western prognosticators significantly underestimated the staying power of autocracy and statist economies, then they also greatly overestimated the extent to which Western publics would back their governments' efforts to globalise the liberal franchise.

# EUI, Georgetown and LSE Conference

Held on 13 and 14 May 2022 at the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies at the European University Institute in Fiesole, Italy, the conference was a joint venture between the Robert Schuman Centre at EUI, Georgetown University, and the Phelan US Centre at LSE.



Image: Norbu Gyachung/Unsplash

## **Geopolitics in the Age of Populism: the future of the liberal order**

We find ourselves in an age of domestic polarisation within the world's democracies as well as mounting rivalry between democracies and non-democracies. What do these developments mean for the future of the liberal order and the global order more broadly?

The **Geopolitics in the Age of Populism: the future of the liberal order** conference brought together a group of leading scholars, practitioners and analysts to discuss these and related questions.

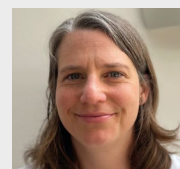
Panel discussions were organised around four key themes: Russia's war in Ukraine and the future of European security; The rise of China and its geopolitical implications; Nationalism, authoritarianism and the European Union; and, finally, Is America back?



Image: Juliane Liebmann/Unsplash

## Centre Affiliate Spotlight

### Dr Amanda Sheely



The Phelan US Centre provides funding for faculty affiliates organising small conferences on US-related research topics or themes. These conferences are designed to bring together up to a dozen scholars from the US, Europe and LSE to present and discuss ongoing research. Such efforts often culminate in research outputs such as journal articles.

As part of this initiative, in May 2021 Dr Amanda Sheely, Associate Professor in LSE's Department of Social Policy, organised the **LSE Single-Parent Family Conference**. Conducted virtually over three days, the conference included academics based in the UK, Sweden, Germany, Belgium, Italy, Finland and the United States. This conference opened with an LSE public event on 20 May 2021, co-hosted by the Department of Social Policy and the Phelan US Centre: *Where Are All the "Welfare Queens"?* Diversity and European evidence

on single-parent families.

Dr Sheely's conference resulted in a special issue on single-parent families published in July 2022 in *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, a video entitled 'Effective policy for single-parent families in the US: The importance of considering international evidence', and commentary summarising the research findings on the Centre's daily blog. An article in LSE's *Research for the World* online magazine linked to the special journal article and video.



# Race, Gender and Politics in the US Seminar Series

In Michaelmas Term 2021, the Phelan US Centre and LSE's Department of International History hosted a new interdisciplinary seminar series bringing together historians, political scientists and sociologists to share current research on the theme of race, gender and politics in the US.

Given the rise of the global Black Lives Matter movement against a backdrop of burgeoning white nationalism, sexism and police brutality, scholars reflected on the longer arc of these issues historically and how they are shaping the present moment.



Image: Leo Patrizi/Stock

## **Black Women and Political Leadership in the US**

**Speakers** Nadia E. Brown (Georgetown University), Anastasia Curwood (University of Kentucky)  
**Chair** Imaobong Umoren (LSE Department of International History)  
**Date** 26 October 2021

## **The Slow Death of Sagon Penn: police violence in Reagan-era San Diego**

**Speaker** Adriane Lentz-Smith (Duke University)  
**Chair** Matthew Jones (LSE Department of International History)  
**Date** 9 November 2021

## **Jim Crow 2.0: voter suppression in the 21st century**

**Speaker** Carol Anderson (Emory University)  
**Chair** Matthew Jones (LSE Department of International History)  
**Date** 9 December 2021



Image: © Stephen Nowland/Emory Photo Video

Professor Carol Anderson (Emory University)

# US – China Seminar Series

In October 2021, the Phelan United States Centre launched a new multi-year seminar series on the future of US-China relations. Seminars focus on three broad themes: Geopolitics and strategic competition; Global supply chains, multinational enterprises and trade politics; and Technological innovation and domestic institutions.

**Series co-chairs:** David Soskice (LSE Department of Government) and Peter Trubowitz

## **Are the US and China headed for Cold War?**

**Speaker** Tom Christensen  
(Columbia University)  
**Date** 13 October 2021

## **China-US Competition in the Digital Age**

**Speaker** Yan Xuetong  
(Tsinghua University)  
**Date** 10 November 2021

## **The Uses and Abuses of Human Rights in America's China Policy**

**Speaker** Rosemary Foot  
(University of Oxford)  
**Date** 19 January 2022

## **A Clash of two Gilded Ages**

**Speaker** Yuen Yuen Ang  
(University of Michigan)  
**Date** 16 February 2022

## **Getting China wrong**

**Speaker** Aaron Friedberg  
(Princeton University)  
**Date** 9 March 2022

## **How Much Does Openness Matter to Chinese Technological Success?**

**Speaker** Torben Iversen  
(Harvard University)  
**Date** 18 May 2022



Image: Bet Noire/Stock





## Digital Content Innovation

In 2021-22, our digital platforms continued to support the Phelan US Centre's mission to promote empirically grounded and policy-relevant scholarship on the US and its changing role in the world. Both our daily blog, USA Politics and Policy (USAPP), and our regular podcast series, The Ballpark, have hosted research-based insights and commentary on current US issues from a diverse range of academics, policymakers and activists, and have continued to connect with a growing global audience.

# USA Politics and Policy (USAPP) blog

## About LSE USAPP

This year, the Phelan US Centre's regular blog, **USA Politics and Policy (USAPP)**, has continued to present a wide range of research summaries and evidence-based commentary relevant to the United States and its changing role in the world. The blog's aim is to make social science research on topics from COVID-19 to political polarisation relevant by translating it for a wide audience including policymakers, students, activists and other interest groups. With over 1,000,000 pageviews and 150 original posts in 2021-22, the USAPP blog has continued to be a venue for researchers, academics, policymakers and activists to promote their work and thinking in an accessible way to an international audience.

During 2021-22 USAPP has hosted several blog series: What Happened? (covering the 2020 presidential election results), The 2022 Midterms,

Religion in American Society (in collaboration with LSE's Religion and Global Society Unit), and Building Back Better (which looks at President Biden's economic and social agenda). The USAPP team are also developing a new blog series covering climate change in the US.

### Reach and Impact

■ The USAPP blog platform has continued to be an influential and respected source for evidence-based commentary that informs discussion and debate in the US and internationally. In 2021-22, articles published on USAPP were mentioned in media outlets including *The New York Times*, *Forbes* and *Bloomberg Opinion*. We are also aware of elected officials and political parties in North Carolina, Wisconsin and Newfoundland, Canada using USAPP as a resource.



Image: Jennifer Griffin/Unsplash

The USAPP blog is supported by LSE's Knowledge Exchange and Innovation Fund (KEIF).



# The Ballpark podcast

## About The Ballpark

**The Ballpark podcast** is the Phelan US Centre's regular audio series which explains current issues in US politics, policy and society to a wide, non-academic audience through interviews with expert commentators. During 2021-22, the Phelan US Centre has continued to produce and release episodes of The Ballpark, including a relaunched State of the States series. This series features magazine-style podcasts that take an in-depth look at politics and policy issues in specific US states. This series has included episodes covering California, New York, Mississippi (featuring Centre Affiliate Dr Johann Koehler), Colorado and North Dakota.

We have also continued to release Extra Innings episodes featuring interviews with academics and policy practitioners. Guest interviewees in 2021-22 have included Centre

Affiliates including Professor Mick Cox of LSE IDEAS, and other high-profile academics and practitioners, such as Professor Robert Lieberman of Johns Hopkins University, Professor Suzanne Mettler of Cornell University and Dr Fiona Hill of the Brookings Institution.

The Ballpark podcast works in tandem with the Phelan US Centre's public engagement programming: podcast interviewees are often drawn from previous contributors to the USAPP blog, and interviewees in our Extra Innings segments are frequently speakers from our public events and conference programmes. In 2022, in conjunction with a USAPP blog series, The Ballpark will be releasing a podcast series that takes a close look at climate change and climate change policies in the US.



Image: Dollar Gill/Unsplash

A photograph of four students sitting around a white table in a modern, brightly lit study area. They are all wearing face masks. Two students on the left are looking at a laptop, while two on the right are looking at a notebook. The background shows a large, open-plan space with red circular ceiling lights and blue walls.

## Student Programmes

Programmes to improve the student experience at LSE have become an important part of the work of the Phelan US Centre. In 2021-22, our Undergraduate Research Assistantships and Centre PhD Summer Research Grants have continued to enhance US-related interdisciplinary research and support the development of early career scholars at LSE.



# Undergraduate Research Assistantships

With the generous support of LSE alumni, the Centre's popular Undergraduate Research Assistantship (UGRA) programme has continued to make it possible for LSE students to collaborate with Centre Affiliates on their academic research and projects. During 2021-22, nine undergraduate students have been paired with academics to support them in processing research-related data, gathering archival resources, conducting library research, and writing up blog articles.

## Research projects supported in 2021

### 1. Effective policy approaches to support single-parent families

Research Assistant:

Isolde Hegemann,  
Department of Social Policy

Faculty Research Lead:

Dr Amanda Sheely,  
Department of Social Policy

### 2. Public housing, politics and ideology

Research Assistant:

Jan Jakob Krüger,  
Department of Social Policy

Faculty Research Lead:

Dr David Madden,  
Department of Sociology

### 3. China and the United States since 1949

Research Assistant:

Rosalie Roechert, Department



Left to right: Namrata Anil Menon, Isolde Hegemann, Ariba Fatima, Jan Jakob Krüger, Kasia Micklem, Rosalie Roechert and Matthew Prescod, members of the 2021-22 UGRA cohort

of International Relations

Faculty Research Lead:

Dr Elizabeth Ingleson,  
Department of International  
History

### 4. The Bayou of Pigs: the US-led plot to invade Dominica

Research Assistant:

Ariba Fatima,  
Department of Law

Faculty Research Lead:

Dr Imaobong Umoren,  
Department of International  
History

### 5. Anglo-American financial cooperation from the First World War and beyond

Research Assistant:

Matthew Prescod,  
Department of International  
Relations

Faculty Research Lead:

Dr James Morrison,  
Department of International  
Relations

### 6. Progressive policing in the Gilded Age

Research Assistant:

Vaneeza Jawad,  
Department of Anthropology

Faculty Research Lead:

Dr Johann Koehler,  
Department of Social Policy

### 7. Latinx futures: the civil, cultural and political stakes for Southern California Latinx communities

Research Assistant:

Fernanda Alvarez Piñeiro,  
Department of Government

Faculty Research Lead:

Dr Paul Apostolidis,  
Department of Government

### 8. The State of the States

Research Assistant:

Namrata Anil Menon,  
Department of Philosophy

Faculty Research Leads:

Professor Peter Trubowitz,  
Department of International  
Relations, and Chris Gilson,  
Phelan United States Centre

### 9. Religion, party loyalty, and the Utah LDS Church

Research Assistant:

Kasia Micklem, Department  
of International History

Faculty Research Lead:

Dr Fenella Cannell,  
Department of Anthropology

**“Carrying out research allowed me to develop and refine my research skills in a way that was complementary to what I was doing in my degree and made me feel more confident.”**

Emily Douglas, Undergraduate Research Assistant 2020-21

# Centre PhD Summer Research Grants

The Phelan US Centre's Summer Research Grants encourage innovative research on the United States by providing support for LSE PhD students who are conducting research on a variety of topics. The grants assist the development of early career scholars at LSE, and enable them to carry out activities including data collection, fieldwork, and survey design and implementation. This support reinforces the Centre's mission of promoting empirically grounded and policy-relevant scholarship on the US and its changing role in the world.

## Research Grants in 2022

**1. Perceptions of Surveillance: exploring feelings held by Black residents of the Greater Boston area toward automated camera reinforcement for roadway infractions**

Lindiwe Rennert, Department of Geography and Environment

**2. Changing Ways, Changing Minds: exploring the determinants of maternal health across the mid-20th century for the US South**

Matthew Purcell, Department of Economic History

**3. Power of Perception: the impact of candidate characteristics on voting behaviour**

Asli Ceren Cinar, Department of Government

**4. Essays on Economic and Political Inequalities in the United States**

Alberto Parmigiani, Department of Government

“Without this programme, I wouldn't have been able to afford a US study for my paper on the demographic and social psychological facts which shape our perceptions of political candidates.”

Denise Baron  
2020-21 Grant Recipient

“I have benefited immensely from the Summer Research programme as it enabled me to continue and finish my data collection for my PhD project.”

Julia Leschke  
2020-21 Grant Recipient



Left to right: 2021-22 PhD Summer Research Grant recipients Lindiwe Rennert, Matthew Purcell, Alberto Parmigiani and Asli Ceren Cinar



# Annual Report Statistics

## The Phelan US Centre in numbers



### Public Lectures (2021-22)

Average live audience	306
Total number of countries reached	78
Total speakers	24
Total number of event podcast downloads	380,039

### Digital Content Innovation (2016-22)

Centre podcasts released	69
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### Social Media Followers

Twitter	7,778
Instagram	1,169
Facebook	3,249

### USAPP blog (2021 Calendar Year)

Pageviews	1,035,937
Blogs posted	283

### Centre Affiliates' Publications and Media Appearances (2021-22)

Books published	5
Journal articles published	13
Media appearances	36

### Student Programmes

Undergraduate Research Assistants (2017-22)	29
Applications to UGRA programme (2017-22)	625
PhD Grant Recipients (2018-22)	18

Please note that all Annual Report statistics were accurate at the time of publication.







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