



THE LONDON SCHOOL  
OF ECONOMICS AND  
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

# Phelan United States Centre Annual Report 2022-23





Images: LSE students: © 2022 Maria Moore/LSE and © 2023 Robin Boock/LSE

Clockwise from top left: LSE students on campus in Centre Building in front of Spectra mural, LSE Generate in St Clement's Building, Fourth Floor Restaurant, Old Building, and the Sheikh Zayed Theatre.

Image: © 2023 Robin Boot/LSE



LSE students with Director-General of the World Trade Organization Dr Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, following LSE event on 7 February 2023.



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# Director's Message

Image: © 2015 Nigel Stead/LSE



In thinking about the cover theme for this year's Annual Report, there was no shortage of choices. From the Supreme Court's decision to overturn *Roe v Wade*, to the House Select Committee's televised hearing on the January 6 Capitol Attack, to the Democrats' stunning performance in the 2022 midterm elections, it was an eventful year for the United States. Yet if there is one development that stood out on the world stage, it is was the steady deterioration in US-China relations.

This critical bilateral relationship has figured prominently in the Centre's programming this year. The centrepiece is our speaker series on the future of US-China relations that brings high profile experts from the US, China, Europe and elsewhere to talk about the growing rivalry and its geopolitical, economic and political implications.

This year we also launched an exciting new

initiative on America's role in world politics in collaboration with Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service. It is called the Lloyd George Study Group on Global Governance. This multiyear effort is bringing together leading scholars from different regions of the world to address complex challenges such as climate change, economic insecurity, and the populism that is facing rich and poor countries alike.

In September, the Centre welcomed Professor Laura Pulido as its first LSE Centennial Professor. Professor Pulido holds the Collins Chair at the University of Oregon, and in addition to the Phelan US Centre, she is affiliated with the Department of Geography. Next year, we look forward to hosting Professor Jeffrey W. Legro, Professor of Political Science and Executive Vice President and Provost at the University of Richmond, to the Centre.

We have also welcomed new LSE faculty affiliates and added new members of staff. Our PhD summer grant programme and undergraduate research assistantship programme continue to flourish, attracting large numbers of students. We have also launched a new essay competition for LSE master's students, which this year is themed around climate change politics in the United States.

Looking back on our programming, I am reminded of how much our success depends on the many talented and dedicated individuals who staff the Centre. I want to thank them, along with our students and alumni, who together do so much to make the Phelan US Centre such a stimulating, inclusive intellectual community and platform for global exchange.

## **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. He writes and comments frequently on world affairs and American politics. His published work includes *Geopolitics and Democracy: The Western Liberal Order from Foundation to Fracture* (Oxford University Press, 2023), *Politics and Strategy: Partisan Ambition and American Statecraft* (Princeton University Press, 2011) and *Defining the National Interest: Conflict and Change in US Foreign Policy* (University of Chicago Press, 1998).

An award-winning teacher, Professor Trubowitz has lectured on world affairs to universities worldwide as well as to government bodies, think-tanks and private companies.

A frequent television guest on Bloomberg, CNBC and other 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, he was Professor of Government at the University of Texas at Austin. He has held visiting positions at Harvard, Princeton, 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.



Image: © 2023 Guy Jordan/LSE

Left to right: 2022-23 PhD Summer Research Grant recipients Juliet-Nil Uraz, Aslı Ceren Çınar (2021-22 recipient), Nick Lewis, Robin Forrest, Phelan US Centre Director Peter Trubowitz, Xinchun Ma, Marta Morando and Tiffany Lau.

# 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**  
**Rugger Management LLC,**  
**Chairman**

John Phelan is Chairman of Rugger Management and

previously Co-Founder, Co-Managing Partner and Chairman Emeritus of MSD Capital. He serves on the Boards 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, and named the Phelan US Centre.

# 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



**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*.



**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'.



**Jeffrey M. Chwieroth**  
Jeffrey M. Chwieroth is  
Professor of International  
Relations and Head of the  
Department of International

Relations at LSE. Professor Chwieroth's research interests include the political economy of international money and finance, and the politics of climate-related risks to financial stability and household wealth.



**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.



**James Morrison**  
James Morrison is Associate  
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 Europaea, and of the LSE International Inequalities Institute.



**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



**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**  
Associate 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  
Department of Law



**David Madden**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Sociology



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



**Rohan Mukherjee**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of International Relations



**Mona Paulsen**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Law



**Stephanie Rickard**  
Professor  
Department of Government

(A-Z by surname)  
A list of Centre Affiliates' publications is available on our website

# Centre Affiliates



**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



**Lauren Sukin**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of International Relations



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



**Silvana Tenreyro**  
Professor  
Department of Economics



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



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

(A-Z by surname)  
A list of Centre Affiliates' publications is available on our website

## PHELAN US CENTRE TEAM



**Peter Trubowitz**  
Director



**Adeola Akande Pierre-Noël**  
Centre Manager



**Chris Gilson**  
Blog Editor  
USAPP blog



**Joss Harrison**  
Centre Assistant, 2021-



**Vivekah Deerpaul**  
Centre Administrator, 2021-



**Mohid Malik**  
US Projects Assistant, 2022-



**Anderson Tan**  
Producer, 2022-  
The Ballpark podcast

## CENTENNIAL PROFESSOR



**Laura Pulido**  
University of Oregon  
2022-23

## VISITING FELLOWS



**Kohei Watanabe**  
Waseda University  
2019-



**Corina Lacatus**  
Queen Mary, University of London  
2021-22



## Events

During 2022-23, the Phelan US Centre's high-profile events presented insights by expert speakers from around the world. Our public lectures, the US-China Seminar Series and our LSE Festival event explored important political, economic, policy and social issues that currently face the US, and situated these challenges in the wider global context.

Global Governance in an Age of Fracture event, 1 June 2023.  
Left to right: Cornelia Woll, C. Raja Mohan, Selina Ho, Charles A. Kupchan and Peter Trubowitz.

# Public Lectures

Our programme of public lectures convene expert analysis on contemporary issues facing the US in an accessible way, both in person and online. This year, our public lectures have featured conversations with important scholars, activists, public intellectuals and policymakers.



Image: © 2023 Robin Boot/LSE

Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Director-General of the World Trade Organization (right) with Minouche Shafik, LSE President and Vice Chancellor, during the 7 February 2023 event In Conversation with Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, where Dr Okonjo-Iweala was presented with an honorary doctorate in economics.

## Global Governance in an Age of Fracture

Support for traditional international institutions such as the UN and the WTO is weakening in both the Global North and Global South. In this event, an expert panel discussed the future of global governance.

**Speakers** Selina Ho (National University of Singapore), Charles A. Kupchan (Georgetown University), C. Raja Mohan (Asia Society Policy Institute), Cornelia Woll (Hertie School).

**Chair** Peter Trubowitz

**Date** 1 June 2023

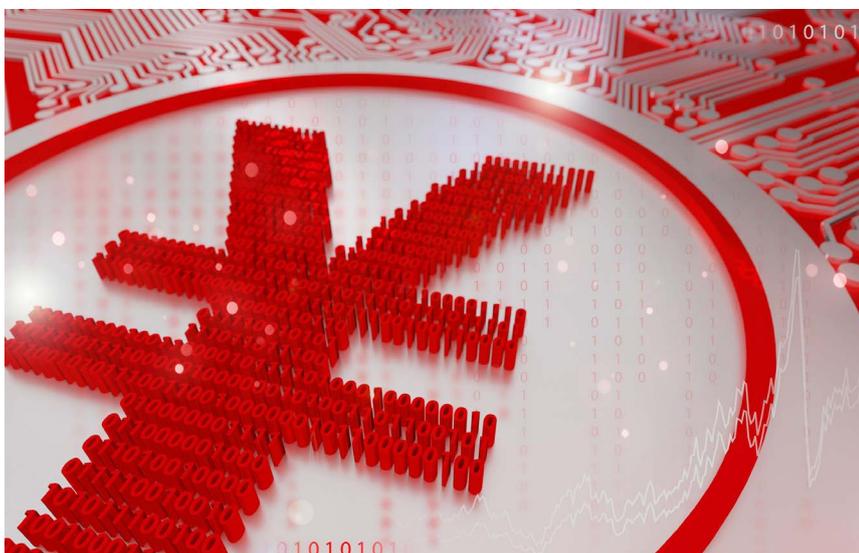


Image: Leestat/iStock

## The Rise and Fall of the EAST

Professor Yasheng Huang discussed how autocracy and ideological homogeneity have hampered Chinese technological development in the past, and threaten to do so again.

**Speaker** Yasheng Huang (MIT)

**Chair** Peter Trubowitz

**Date** 27 March 2023

# Public Lectures

## Monumental Denial: U.S. cultural memory and white innocence

CO-HOSTED WITH THE LSE DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

**Speaker** Laura Pulido (University of Oregon and LSE)

**Chair** Austin Zeiderman (LSE Department of Geography and Environment)

**Date** 24 March 2023

## Waning Globalisation

**Speaker** Pinelopi Goldberg (Yale University)

**Chair** Peter Trubowitz

**Date** 14 March 2023

## Lessons from the Edge: a memoir

**Speaker** Marie Yovanovitch (Carnegie Endowment for International Peace)

**Discussant** Tomila Lankina (LSE Department of International Relations)

**Chair** Peter Trubowitz

**Date** 26 January 2023



Image: Jasmine/Unsplash

## Sizing up the US Midterm Elections

**Speakers** James Morrison (LSE Department of International Relations), Stephanie J. Rickard (LSE Department of Government), Joseph C. Sternberg (Wall Street Journal), Linda Yueh (LSE IDEAS)

**Chair** Peter Trubowitz

**Date** 9 November 2022

## Viral Justice

**Speaker** Ruha Benjamin

**Chair** Peter Trubowitz

**Date** 3 November 2022



Image: Cyndi Shattuck

Professor Ruha Benjamin (Princeton University).

## The Rise and Fall of the Neo-Liberal Order

CO-HOSTED WITH THE RALPH MILIBAND PROGRAMME

**Speaker** Gary Gerstle (University of Cambridge)

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

**Date** 17 October 2022

## What is the Future of the US Supreme Court?

**Speakers** Emily Jackson (LSE Law School), Theda Skocpol (Harvard University), Jeffrey K. Tulis (University of Texas, Austin)

**Chair** Peter Trubowitz

**Date** 4 October 2022



Professor Yasheng Huang (MIT) spoke at the Phelan US Centre event The Rise and Fall of the EAST on 27 March 2023.

# The Wenger Distinguished Lecture

The Phelan US Centre's Wenger Distinguished Lectures examine the role of the US in the global economy. Expert speakers including academics, business leaders and policymakers offer insights on subjects ranging from international trade to law and institutions.

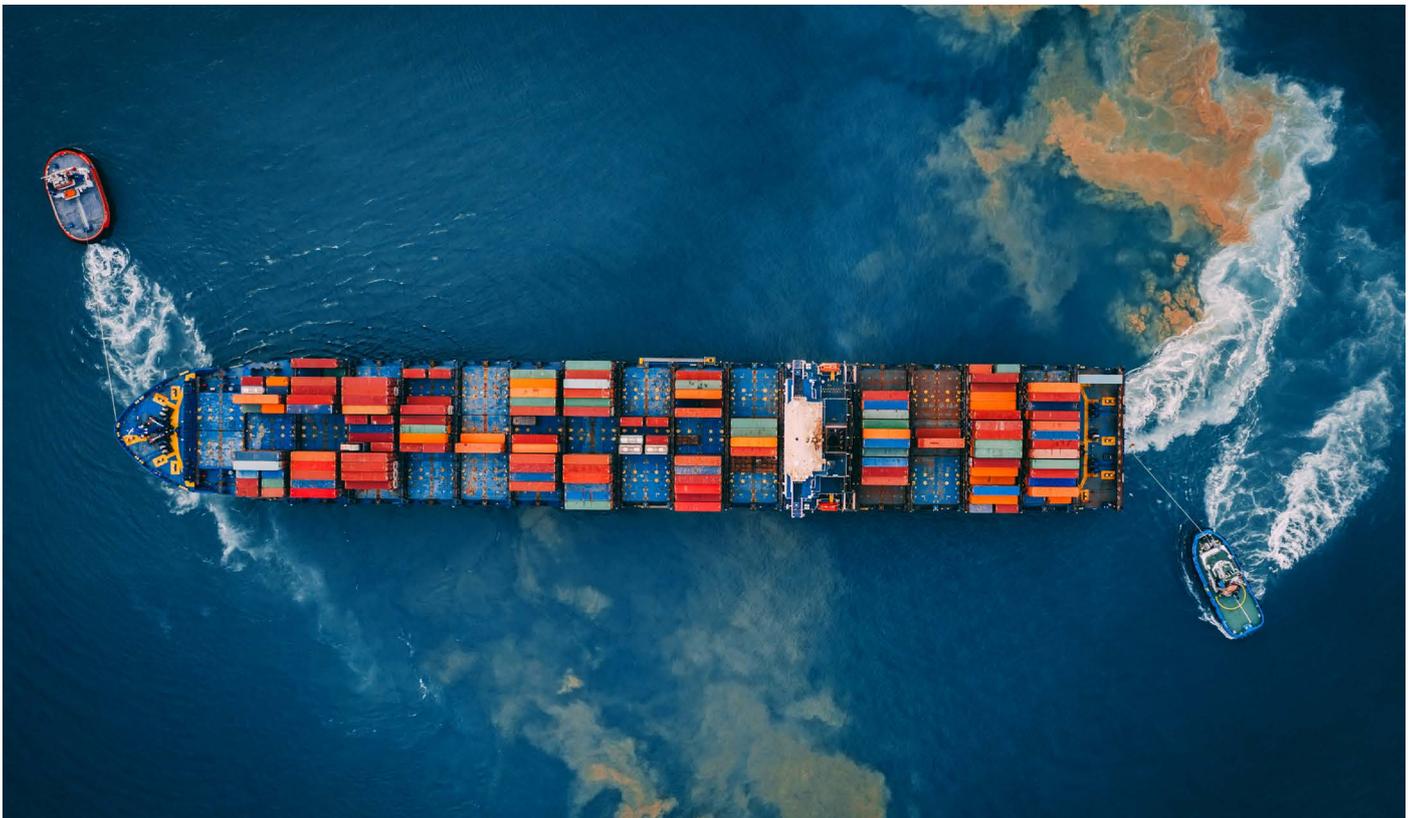
## Waning Globalisation

The world is trending away from globalisation. Brexit, the rise of protectionism in the US, and calls for reshoring or friendshoring are recent manifestations of this trend. Pinelopi Goldberg, Elihu Professor of Economics at Yale University and former Chief Economist of the World Bank Group, discussed the causes of the retreat from globalisation, and its implications for growth and inequality.

**Speaker** Pinelopi Goldberg (Yale University)

**Chair** Peter Trubowitz

**Date** 14 March 2023



# Lloyd George Study Group on Global Governance

The world is confronting mounting great-power rivalry at a time when domestic economic and political developments pose potent challenges to stable governance from within. International competition is moving into technological and digital spaces, and globalised challenges such as climate change, pandemics, migration and supply chain disruptions rise in urgency. To address these challenges, in 2022, in collaboration with Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service, the Phelan US Centre launched the Lloyd George Study Group on Global Governance.



Image: Brendan McDermid/Reuters

Linda Thomas-Greenfield (centre), United States Ambassador to the United Nations, attends a meeting of the United Nations Security Council on the subject of effective multilateralism through the defence of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations at UN headquarters in New York, 24 April 2023.

Consisting of 10 core members, with broad regional representation globally, the study group focuses on global governance, broadly defined. Its mandate is to analyse and debate the shape of the emerging international system, how to adapt existing international institutions and policies to a rapidly changing landscape, and what new structures and arrangements might be needed to advance global governance.

The study group will gather twice a year over the course of three years. We anticipate that this effort will lead to individual and joint publications on how to reform the existing network of international institutions (eg, the UN, WTO, World Bank) to meet the planetary challenges of climate change, global health, and increased poverty and inequality.

**The Lloyd George Study Group on Global Governance held its first meeting at Georgetown on 17-18 November 2022, with the emerging structure of the international system as its topic.**

Meeting participants discussed the implications of great-power rivalry, rising nationalism and economic inequality for global governance, and how changes to existing global institutions and practices can help provide better governance.



Image: Hamza Turkkol/Stock

**The second meeting of the Lloyd George Study Group on Global Governance was held at LSE on 1-2 June 2023.**

The meeting explored political capacities for global governance inside key countries and regions, and examined how state fragility, economic insecurity, and populism, nationalism and other ideological forces are shaping the possibilities for international cooperation in the near and long term. This meeting was accompanied by the LSE public event Global Governance in an Age of Fracture on 1 June 2023.

This initiative honors British Prime Minister David Lloyd George and his role in guiding the First World War to a close and forging a new post-war order. It is co-financed by the Phelan US Centre and the Lloyd George family gift to Georgetown.

# US – China Seminar Series

Beginning in 2021, the Phelan US Centre Seminar Series on US-China Relations has hosted expert speakers on important topics relating to the US-China relationship. These seminars have 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

**History and Revisionism: when historical analogy works in US-China relations and when it doesn't**

**Speaker** Rana Mitter (University of Oxford)  
**Date** 27 September 2022

**Has American Engagement with China Failed?**

**Speaker** Yuhua Wang (Harvard University)  
**Date** 11 October 2022



Image: Cameron Smith/Official White House Photo

**A World Safe for Autocracy?**

**China and the Future of the International Order**  
**Speaker** Jessica Chen Weiss (Cornell University)  
**Date** 8 November 2022

**China's Belt and Road Initiative**

**Speaker** Taylor Fravel (MIT)  
**Date** 22 November 2022

**Overreach: How China Derailed its Peaceful Rise**

**Speaker** Susan Shirk (University of California, San Diego)  
**Date** 17 January 2023

**Brave New World: Recalibrating risk and its implications for China-Africa relations**

**Speaker** Chris Alden (LSE Department of International Relations)  
**Date** 28 February 2023

**Towards Greater Transatlantic Coordination on China**

**Speaker** Agatha Kratz (Rhodium Group)  
**Date** 7 March 2023

**US-China Relations: What Went Wrong and What Could Go Right?**

**Speaker** Yasheng Huang (MIT)  
**Date** 28 March 2023

# LSE Festival 2023

With “People and Change” as its theme, the annual LSE Festival took place from 12 to 17 June 2023. It considered the impacts of a rapidly changing world on people and communities, and the power of individuals and groups to shape a better future.



The Birth Lottery of History event, 15 June 2023. Left to right: Robert Sampson, Peter Trubowitz and Nicola Lacey.

## The Birth Lottery of History

Does when you are born shape your life chances? A leading sociologist discusses his ground-breaking study of criminal justice that shows that when you come of age matters as much (and perhaps more than) who you are in determining whether you get arrested. We discuss the implications for thinking about how historical context and social change affects your life chances.

### Speaker

Robert Sampson (Harvard University)

**Discussant** Nicola Lacey (LSE Law School)

**Chair** Peter Trubowitz

**Date** 15 June 2023

# Climate Change Projects 2022-23

This year the US Centre has launched several important initiatives aimed at exploring climate change from a US perspective.

## Climate Change: America and the World Podcast

Beginning in April 2023, the US Centre released a six-part podcast series, *Climate Change: America and the World*, which explores the effects of climate change from an American perspective. The podcast features academic experts and practitioners who discuss and explain the global role and responsibility of the US in climate change. The series includes conversations on topics ranging from climate reparations to the future of the climate change debate in America, and takes a deep dive into the ways climate change impacts the US and the world.



Image: FG Trade/iStock

## Climate Change: America and the World episode topics and guest speakers:

### Episode 1 – Climate Change and Global Responsibility

featuring Christopher Callahan (Dartmouth University) and Professor Kathryn Hochstetler (LSE International Development)

### Episode 2 – Climate Change, Migration and Refugee Creation

featuring Professor Sarah Bermeo (Duke University) and Professor Susana Beatriz Adamo (Columbia University)

### Episode 3 – Climate Change and Global Security

featuring Professor Neta Crawford (University of Oxford) and Sherri Goodman (Wilson Center)

### Episode 4 – Climate Change and Race

featuring Centennial Professor Laura Pulido (LSE Department of Geography and Environment and Phelan US Centre) and Jeremy Williams

### Episode 5 – The Cost of Climate Change in America

featuring Dr Rebecca Elliot (LSE Department of Sociology) and Professor in Practice Swenja Surminski (LSE Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment)

### Episode 6 – The Future of Climate Change Politics in America

featuring Dr Rebecca Bromley-Trujillo (Christopher Newport University) and Beth Gardiner.

## Syllabus Hub on Climate Change and Sustainability

With climate change one of the most important issues facing the US and the world, it is essential to build a base of knowledge about its impacts for the use of educators in universities and beyond.

In 2022, the Phelan US Centre was awarded a grant from the LSE Sustainable Projects Fund to create an interdisciplinary syllabus hub, supported by an Undergraduate Research Assistant, focusing on climate change and sustainability.

Our syllabus hub project is a repository of course reading lists from academics around the world, focusing on climate change and sustainability and the US. It will be a valuable academic resource for students, researchers, and academics everywhere.



In June 2023, after a year-long Centre-wide effort, we were awarded Platinum for Green Impact as part of LSE's Sustainability Engagement Programme.

## Spotlight on Centennial Professor Professor Laura Pulido

In 2022-23 Laura Pulido, a leading scholar on race, environmental justice and cultural memory, was appointed Centennial Professor to the LSE Department of Geography and Environment and the Phelan United States Centre.

During her tenure as Centennial Professor, Professor Pulido has participated fully in the US Centre's programmes and projects. She has conducted research on climate refusal amongst the far right in the United States, a project supported by a US Centre Undergraduate Research Assistantship.

On 24 March 2023, Professor Pulido spoke at the event Monumental Denial: U.S. cultural memory and white

innocence, which explored how US cultural memory represents processes of white supremacy and settler colonisation. The event was co-hosted by LSE's Department of Geography and Environment and the Phelan US Centre.

Professor Pulido was also a member of the judging panel for our Master's Students Climate Change Essay Competition, and a guest for Episode 4 of the podcast series, *Climate Change: America and the World*, speaking on climate change and race from a US perspective.

Professor Pulido is the Collins Chair and Professor of Indigenous, Race, and Ethnic Studies and Geography at the University of Oregon. Her most recent



book is **Development Drowned and Reborn: The Blues and Bourbon Restoration in Post-Katrina New Orleans** (University of Georgia Press, 2017). Her honours include the Cullum Geographical Medal from the American Geographical Society, Distinguished Scholarship Honours and the Presidential Achievement Award from the Association of American Geographers, and Ford and Guggenheim fellowships.

## Essay Competition for Master's Students



Left to right: The Rt Hon Greg Clark MP (Chair of the Science, Innovation and Technology Committee), Oscar Parry (Essay Competition winner), Jibrán Raja (Essay Competition runner-up), Matt Western MP (Vice Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Climate Change), Kerry McCarthy MP.

In February 2023, the Phelan US Centre launched an essay competition for master's students, who were asked to answer the prompt, What responsibility does the US have to the rest of the world on climate change? The competition was aimed at encouraging students to write for a wider, non-academic audience. The judging panel for the essay competition comprised Centre Affiliate Dr Rebecca Elliott, Centennial Professor Laura Pulido, and Centre Director, Professor Peter Trubowitz.

The winning essay, "The US must do more to combat carbon inequality in the global economy" by Oscar Parry (LSE Anthropology), received a £500 prize, while the runners-up, Jibrán Raja (LSE International Relations) and Alia Yusuf (LSE School of Public Policy), each received a prize of £250. All three essays were published on the Centre's USAPP blog.

Oscar Parry presented his winning essay to members of the British-American Parliamentary Group, and MPs with an interest in climate change policy at the UK Parliament in Westminster.



## Digital Content Innovation

This year, the Centre's digital platforms continued to support our mission to promote empirically grounded and policy-relevant scholarship on the US and its changing role in the world by providing a venue for academics, activists and policymakers to connect their research with a large, global audience. The Centre's podcast series, *The Ballpark*, and our daily blog, *USAPP - USA Politics and Policy*, have been additional outlets for the Centre's programming, including initiatives focusing on climate change, public events, and seminar series.

# USA Politics and Policy (USAPP) blog

## About LSE USAPP

Hosting more than 170 original posts and receiving over 1.2 million pageviews in 2022, the Phelan US Centre's regular blog, **USAPP – USA Politics and Policy** is a convener of evidence-based commentary and research summaries on social science topics related to the United States. Researchers, academics, policymakers and practitioners work with the USAPP team to post articles that are accessible to a wide and international audience including policymakers, students, activists and civil society groups.

In 2022-23 USAPP completed its blog series *The 2022 Midterms*, began coverage of the 2024 presidential election, and launched a new series, *Climate Change: America and the World*, which complements our climate change podcast. USAPP supports other US Centre projects and outreach, including hosting the winning and runner-up essays in the Centre's Essay Competition for Master's Students. It has also been

a venue for eight Event Report posts by master's students that summarise the main takeaways from the Centre's public events.

## Reach and Impact

In 2022 the Centre's USAPP blog accounted for 12 per cent of all pageviews of LSE blog content, and 29 per cent of US-based blog readers. As a source of rigorous commentary and findings from academic research, USAPP is both widely accessible and highly respected. It has been cited in policy reports from The White House, the US Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and the Office of Justice, and the governments of Massachusetts and Washington DC. In 2022-23 USAPP articles were cited by media outlets including **The Guardian**, **The Independent**, **Forbes**, **The New York Times**, **The Chicago Tribune**, **Vox** and **Five Thirty Eight**.



Image: Adamkaz/iStock

# The Ballpark podcast

## About The Ballpark

In 2023, **The Ballpark podcast** launched a new six-part series, *Climate Change: America and the World*. Featuring academic experts and practitioners such as Professor Neta Crawford (University of Oxford), Centennial Professor Laura Pulido (LSE Department of Geography and Environment and Phelan US Centre), Dr Rebecca Elliot (LSE) and Swenja Surminski (LSE), the series explores and explains the global role and responsibility of the US in climate change and examines how climate change impacts America and the world. Episode topics include the relationship between climate change and loss and damage, migration and refugee creation, race, global security, the costs of climate change adaptation in the US and globally, and the case for climate reparations.

This year we have significantly increased our Extra Innings segments, including interviews with speakers from our US-China seminar series and public events, and episodes promoting the work of US Centre

Affiliates. Guest interviewees in podcasts published in 2022-23 include the former US Ambassador to Ukraine, Marie Yovanovitch, Professor Glenn Loury (Brown University), Professor Jessica Chen Weiss (Cornell University), Professor Rana Mitter (University of Oxford) and Professor Charles Kupchan (Council on Foreign Relations and Georgetown University).

## The Ballpark and supporting the student experience

We have also expanded The Ballpark's student focus this year, publishing interviews with former participants in the Centre's Undergraduate Research Assistant programme, including student research assistants and faculty leads. Extra Innings segments have featured interviews with our PhD Summer Research Grant recipients, offering them both an outlet to promote their research and the opportunity to reach a wider non-academic audience.



Image: © China Railway Rolling Stock Corporation

China Railway Rolling Stock Corporation (CRRC) electric train built for Indonesia's Jakarta-Bandung high-speed railway line as part of China's Belt and Road Initiative, the focus of an Extra Innings podcast episode with Professor Taylor Fravel (MIT) on 13 February 2023.



## Student Programmes

Supporting the student experience at LSE is a critical part of the Phelan US Centre's work. In 2022-23 our Undergraduate Research Assistantship and Centre PhD Summer Research Grants have continued to support LSE students, including early career scholars, to carry out interdisciplinary research that addresses the challenges facing the US in a global context.

# Undergraduate Research Assistantships

Now in its sixth year, the Centre's popular Undergraduate Research Assistantship programme has allowed LSE students to work with our Centre Affiliates on academic research or an applied project. During 2022-23, 11 undergraduate students provided support to academics on literature reviews, collating and processing data, and interrogating archival resources. The Centre's Centennial Professor, Laura Pulido, was paired with an Undergraduate Research Assistant, and a further Undergraduate Research Assistant supported the work of the Centre's new Syllabus Hub on Climate Change and Sustainability.

## Research projects supported in 2022-23

### 1. Trade, Human Rights, and US-China Relations: 1979-2001

**Research Assistant:**  
Mei Yuzuki, Department of International History

**Faculty Research Lead:**  
Dr Elizabeth Ingleson, Department of International History

### 2. Occupational Paranoia: The Case of Chicago Policing, 1862-2022

**Research Assistant:**  
Vani Kant, Department of International Relations

**Faculty Research Lead:**  
Dr Johann Koehler, Department of Social Policy

### 3. Passing the economic torch from the UK to the USA in the 20th Century



It's also greatly improved my skills in analysing survey data, writing literature reviews and case studies, and more, allowing me to pursue further research opportunities.

Namrata Anil Menon, Undergraduate Research Assistant, 2021-22



Undergraduate Research Assistant Bashirat Oladele speaks at the student research conference Knowledge Beyond Boundaries on 14 June 2023

**Research Assistant:**  
Irmak Dyonmez, Department of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method

**Faculty Research Lead:**  
Dr James Morrison, Department of International Relations

### 4. State supervision of poor families in Los Angeles

**Research Assistants:**  
Bashirat Oladele, Department of Sociology, and Maria Constanza Novellino Ron, Department of Sociology

**Faculty Research Lead:**  
Dr Amanda Sheely, Department of Social Policy

### 5. Anglo-American Relations after the US Civil War

**Research Assistant:**  
Maia Halle, Department of Government

**Faculty Research Lead:**  
Dr Rohan Mukherjee, Department of International Relations

### 6. Climate change and the US right

**Research Assistant:**  
Arjan Singh Gill, LSE Law School

**Faculty Research Lead:**  
Professor Laura Pulido, Centennial Professor, Department of Geography and Environment and Phelan US Centre

### 7. Investigating the role of nuclear weapons in US alliance politics

**Research Assistants:**  
Annabelle Gouttebroze, Department of Government, and Adrian Matak, Department of Government

**Faculty Research Lead:**  
Dr Lauren Sukin, Department of International Relations

### 8. Phelan US Centre Syllabus Hub on Climate Change and Sustainability

**Research Assistant:**  
Honour Astill, Department of Government

**Faculty Research Leads:**  
Peter Trubowitz, Department of International Relations, and Chris Gilson, Phelan US Centre

### 9. The State of the States

**Research Assistant:** Jimin Oh, Department of Social Policy

**Faculty Research Leads:** Peter Trubowitz, Department of International Relations, and Chris Gilson, Phelan US Centre

# Centre PhD Summer Research Grants

In 2022-23, the Phelan US Centre's PhD Summer Research Grant Scheme entered its fifth year. These grants support students pursuing innovative research on topics related to the Centre's mission of promoting internationally oriented scholarship on the US. The grants encourage the development of early career scholars at LSE by providing them with resources to support research activities such as data collection, field work, and surveys. This year the Centre has further supported PhD students with sessions on writing for a wider audience and taking part in podcasts to promote their research.

## Research Grants in 2023



**1. Contextualizing Universalism: Trade Union Benefit Provision in the US and the UK at the turn of the 20th Century**  
Maya Adereth,  
Department of Sociology



**2. Investigating Regulatory Capture of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration**  
Robin Forrest,  
Department of Health Policy



**3. Effects of Exposure to Online Polarization on Generalized Trust**  
Tiffany Lau,  
Department of Government



**4. Do Social Media Create Bias in Democratic Deliberation?**  
Nick Lewis,  
Department of Government



**5. Consumers' Demand for Digital Privacy**  
Xinchun Ma,  
Department of Finance



**6. Political Ideology and Innovation**  
Marta Morando,  
Department of Economics



**7. Quantifying the Importance of Legal Assistance for Social Welfare Problems: A Comparative Perspective**  
Juliet-Nil Uraz,  
Department of Social Policy



The grant allowed me to add contextual richness to my work – having been on site to conduct a portion of the work – that I otherwise could not have incorporated.

Lindiwe Rennert,  
PhD Grant Recipient, 2021-22



Aside from research assistance, I would also say that the grant exposed me to peer PhDs in other departments. Their work made me rethink the framing and methodology of my work.

Matthew Purcell,  
PhD Grant Recipient, 2021-22

# Annual Report Statistics

## The Phelan US Centre in numbers



### Public Lectures (2022-23)

Average audience	327
Total number of countries reached	49
Average number of countries reached per event	19
Total speakers for 2022-23	18
Total audio downloads	159,266

### Research and Centre Affiliates (2022-23)

Centre Affiliate public speaking engagements	58
Centre Affiliate journal articles published	14
Centre Affiliate media appearances	42

### Podcasts (2022-23)

Centre podcast episodes released	22
Total number of listens (2016-23)	126,500

### Social Media Followers

Twitter	7,590
Instagram	1,219
Facebook	3,257
LinkedIn	1,190
Total followers across all platforms	13,256

### USAPP blog (2022 Calendar Year)

Percent of total LSE Blogs pageviews	12
Pageviews	1,210,180
US-based users	490,065

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



Students on the Centre Building stairs  
Image: © Maria Moore/LSE



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LSE United States Centre



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