

## PhD POLITICAL STUDIES SEMINAR SERIES

### International Relations Series (IRS)

#### Complex Transactionalism and Peacemaking

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4 February 2026, h. 14.30  
SPS Seminar Room (Conservatorio)  
Department of Social and Political Science  
Via Conservatorio 7, Milano

It is increasingly common to see media and policy references to peacemaking as "transactional". Recent peace talks and deals that emphasize trade, minerals, oil and reconstruction profits reinforce the idea that peacemaking is moving from an era of a liberal peace to an era of transactional peace. But does this stand up to scrutiny? This session seeks to unpack the extent to which the label 'transactional' is accurate. To a large extent, peace has always had transactional elements - although they now seem more obvious. Accounts of peacemaking as transactional overlook the pragmatist literature that seeks to contextualise transactionalism and stress how actors and actions are con-constitutive.

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