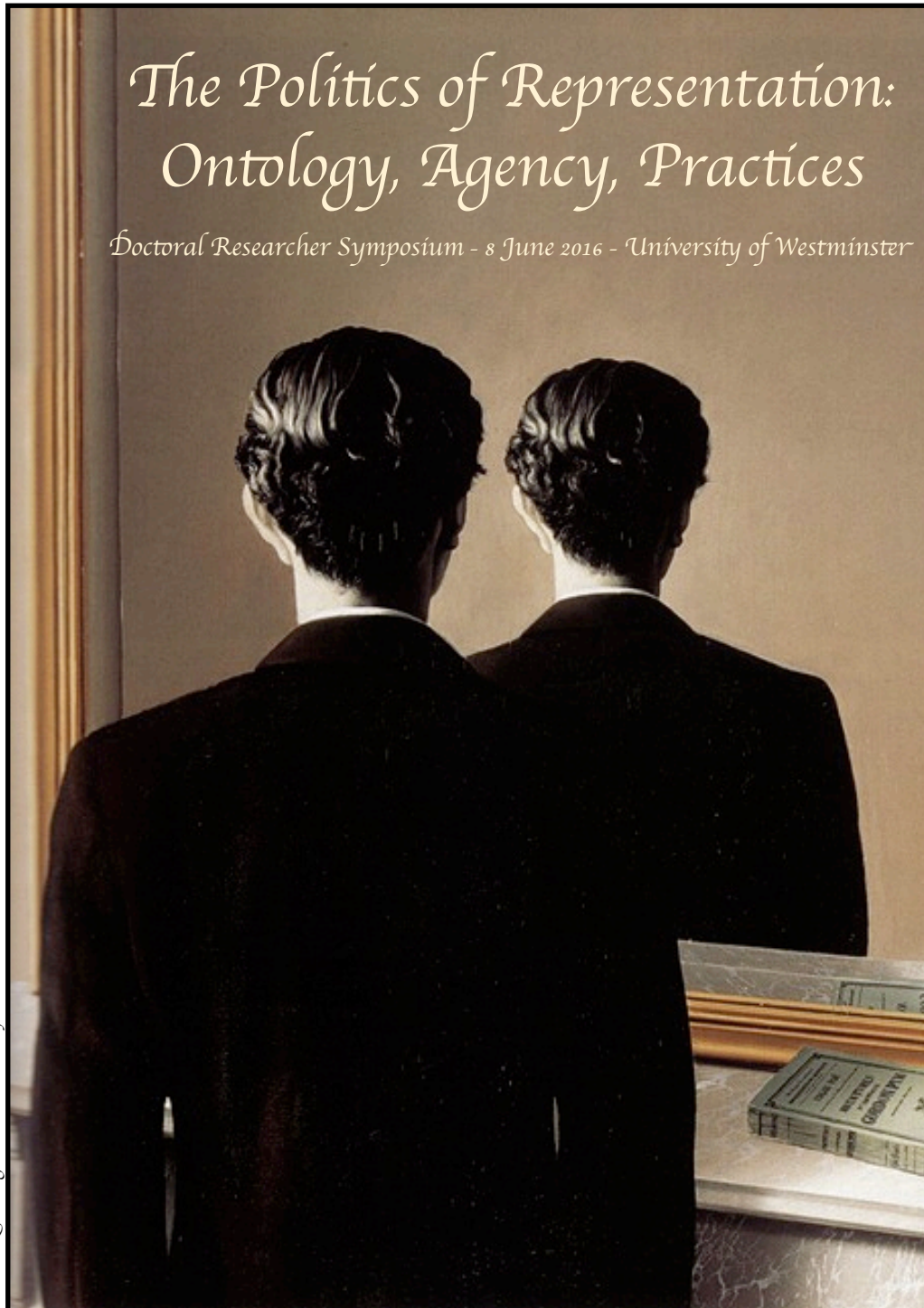


The Politics of Representation: Ontology, Agency, Practices

Doctoral Researcher Symposium - 8 June 2016 - University of Westminster



René Magritte: Not to be Reproduced, 1937

The Department of Politics and International Relations at the University of Westminster is pleased to host the first event of the recently founded *New Perspectives Series*, an initiative by the DPIR graduate community that aims at promoting critical and cutting-edge research among doctoral- and early-career-researchers.

The first instalment of the series wishes to engage with (and challenge) the idea of 'representation', a prolific and widely utilised concept in political and international analysis with often take-for-granted implications.

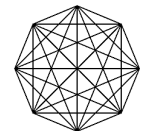
Since the advent of modernity political representation has been perceived as an artificial dimension that enables collective modes of existence through the formation of mediating structures and the emergence of intersubjectively formed patterns of social knowledge. Yet, over the last decade alternative discourses have questioned conventional understandings of representation by stretching its boundaries far beyond traditional uses in political and international studies.

Linear understandings of reality are challenged by approaches that highlight the complexity and immanence of political processes. Globally one witnesses the emergence of fluid, network-like and non-representational conceptions of agency. In policy practice, established models of representation are no longer capable of accounting for collective identities due to their exposure to multiple antagonistic frontiers. Against this backdrop an investigation into novel and emerging approaches to representation appears to be timely and necessary.

The symposium invites contributions from postgraduate students that explore non-conventional approaches to the politics of representation, i.e. ontological theories of political knowledge production; agency in global politics; applications and practices in the area of security studies, the representation of danger, and identity politics.

University of Westminster | Politics and International Relations

New Perspectives Series



We welcome submissions by doctoral researchers that explore approaches to representation through a multi-disciplinary lens, and invite paper-submissions that touch upon one or several of the following thematic complexes:

- ▶ Theories of political affects
- ▶ Embodiment and corporeal experience
- ▶ Network- and assemblage-theories
- ▶ Performativity and experimentation
- ▶ Non-representational agency in global affairs
- ▶ Ethics of (non)-representations
- ▶ Direct action, activism, the politics of the everyday
- ▶ Feasibility of immanent politics
- ▶ Spatializing practices and the politics of space
- ▶ Power and (non)-representation
- ▶ Discursive representation of (in)-security
- ▶ The unknown as a discursive space
- ▶ Representations of danger
- ▶ Representation, insecurity, and culture/identity
- ▶ Representing danger through counter-narratives

Abstract-submissions should be limited to 300 words and need to be accompanied by a 100-words biography. Manuscripts must have an approximate length of 2.000 - 8.000 words. Please submit both via newperspectives@westminster.ac.uk

Deadline for abstract submission: Sunday, 24 April 2016
Conference paper submission: Monday, 30 May 2016

The organizers are please to announce a best-paper-competition that will reward a piece of rigorous and innovative research with a £ 100 book voucher. The author will also receive the opportunity to present his or her work ahead of the Keynote Event.

Participation and registration is free of charge.

Host:	University of Westminster Department of Politics and International Relations 309 Regent Street, W1B 2HW London
Date:	Wednesday, 8 June, 2016
Venue:	309 Regent Street, 3rd Floor, RS351
Contact:	newperspectives@westminster.ac.uk
Web:	https://newperspectivesseries.wordpress.com
Program:	
9.00 - 9.30	Registration: Entrance Hall, 309 Regent Street
9.30 - 11.00	Panel I: Immanence, Assemblages and Becoming: Non-representational Accounts of the Political
11.00 - 11.30	Coffee and Tea
11.30 - 13.00	Panel II: The power of Immanence: Non-representational Agency in International Affairs
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch Break
14.00 - 15.30	Panel III: Representation in Practice: Danger, Identity, and Political Being
15.30 - 16.00	Coffee and Tea
16.00 - 18.00	Keynote Event

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