

THE TELOS PAUL PICCONE INSTITUTE

THE 2022 TELOS CONFERENCE

THE TELOS-PAUL PICCONE INSTITUTE, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE JOHN D. CALANDRA ITALIAN AMERICAN INSTITUTE, QUEENS COLLEGE/CUNY, PRESENTS

CIVILIZATIONAL STATES AND LIBERAL EMPIRE —BOUND TO COLLIDE?

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, TO SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2022

NEW YORK CITY

AT A TIME OF ELEVATED TENSIONS BETWEEN GREAT POWERS THAT VIEW THEMSELVES AS GUARANTORS OF CIVILIZATIONAL IDENTITY, ARE CIVILIZATIONAL STATES AND THE WESTERN LIBERAL EMPIRE BOUND TO COLLIDE? THE 2022 TELOS-PAUL PICCONE INSTITUTE CONFERENCE WILL CONVENE A FORUM OF SCHOLARS AND THINKERS FROM A VARIETY OF DISCIPLINARY BACKGROUNDS TO EXPLORE PRACTICAL WAYS FOR CIVILIZATIONS TO ENTER INTO A MEANINGFUL DIALOGUE WITH ONE ANOTHER.

SPEAKERS

Keynote Speakers: CHRISTOPHER COKER and MILES YU
JOSEPH W. BENDERSKY · RUSSELL BERMAN · GORDON CHANG
PAUL GRENIER · KENNETH D. JOHNSON · TIMOTHY W. LUKE
ADRIAN PABST · MARCIA PALLY · DAVID PAN · GÁBOR RITTERSPORN
RICHARD SAKWA · KIRON SKINNER · SIJIA YAO · XUDONG ZHANG

FOR MORE DETAILS, VISIT THE TELOS-PAUL PICCONE INSTITUTE WEBSITE AT WWW.TELOSINSTITUTE.NET

CONFERENCE SUMMARY

The 2022 Telos-Paul Piccone Institute Conference

April 1–3, 2022
New York, NY

Civilizational States and Liberal Empire—Bound to Collide?

Civilization seems to be the new pivot of international relations. Brexit, Trump, and the resurgence of Russia and China have put culture and civilizational identity at the heart of both domestic politics and foreign policy. From the identity politics that is sweeping much of the West to the pushback against the supposed universalism of the West’s liberal empire in much of the non-Western world, civilizational norms are as important as military might and economic prosperity. At a time of heightened tensions between great powers that view themselves as guarantors of civilizational identity, are civilizational states and the Western liberal empire bound to collide? This conference aims to bring greater conceptual clarity to current debates by examining some of the key terms, notably the relationship between “culture” and “civilization” and between “values” and “norms,” as well as by exploring practical ways for civilizations to enter into a meaningful dialogue with one another.

Conference Location

The conference will be held at the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College/CUNY at 25 West 43rd St., 17th Floor, New York, NY 10036. The Calandra Institute is located in midtown Manhattan and is close to major subway stops. It is three blocks from Grand Central Station, two blocks from the Bryant Park subway stop, and three blocks from the Seventh Avenue/42nd Street subway stops. For more information about the Calandra Institute, visit their website at <https://calandrainstitute.org>.

Note: Registration is required for all events in order to follow current CUNY COVID guidelines. Proof of vaccine and ID are required upon entry. Masks are encouraged but not required. We will continue to assess the latest data and public health guidance and to act in compliance with CUNY protocols.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Friday, April 1, 2022

Coffee and Registration

4:15 PM to 4:30 PM

The John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College/CUNY

25 West 43rd Street, 17th Floor

New York, NY 10036

Welcome

4:45 PM to 5:00 PM

Conference Room

Anthony Julian Tamburri, The John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College/CUNY

Mary Piccone, Telos Press Publishing

Adrian Pabst, University of Kent

David Pan, University of California, Irvine

First Keynote Presentation: COVID-19 and Civilizational States

5:00 PM to 6:30 PM

Conference Room

Moderator: David Pan, University of California, Irvine

Escape from Civilization's Predicaments

Miles Yu, U.S. Naval Academy

Drinks Reception

6:30 PM to 7:30 PM

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 2, 2022

Parallel Session 1: Do Universal Values Exist?

9:00 AM to 10:30 AM

Conference Room

Moderator: Andrew M. Wender, University of Victoria

Cultural Evolution and Local Cognitive Adaptations: A Barrier to Universal Values?

Ahmed El Hady, Princeton Neuroscience Institute

Universal Values, Local Implementation, Home-Grown Human Rights

Dana Neacsu, Duquesne University

Only God Can Save Us from the Tyranny of Values

Casey Spinks, Baylor University

Parallel Session 2: Liberalism, Capital, and Civilizational Competition

9:00 AM to 10:30 AM

Gallery

Moderator: Joseph W. Bendersky, Virginia Commonwealth University

The Contradiction between Capital and Civilization**

Anthony Mansueto, Seeking Wisdom

Restoring American Self-Confidence in an Age of Civilizational Competition**

Kenneth D. Johnson, Telos Editorial Associate

Hagia Sophia, God, and Empire of Liberalism**

Matthew Dal Santo, Independent Scholar

Coffee Break

10:30 AM to 11:00 AM

** *Virtual presentation*

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 2, 2022

Plenary 1: Russia, Civilization, and Western Liberalism

11:00 AM to 12:30 PM

Conference Room

Moderator: Adrian Pabst, University of Kent

The March of Folly Resumed: Russia, Ukraine, and the West**

Richard Sakwa, University of Kent

Is Liberalism a Civilization?

The View from the Russian Right, from V. Tsymburski to K. Krylov**

Paul Grenier, Simone Weil Center

Society, Politics, and Civilization in Russia**

Gábor Rittersporn, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique

Lunch

12:30 PM to 2:00 PM

Parallel Session 3: Thinkers of Civilization, (Anti-)Liberalism, and Democracy

2:00 PM to 3:15 PM

Conference Room

Moderator: David Pan, University of California, Irvine

Civilizational Comeback? Ortega y Gasset and Arnold J. Toynbee

Fernando Gómez Herrero, University of Manchester

Hannah Arendt's 1620 Project: A Localist Alternative to Civilizational Politics**

Courtney Hodrick, Stanford University

Rereading Said's Critique of Orientalism in the Era of Civilizational States:

A Project Whose Time Has Come

Andrew M. Wender, University of Victoria

** *Virtual presentation*

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 2, 2022

Parallel Session 4: Western Civilization in Crisis

2:00 PM to 3:15 PM

Gallery

Moderator: Marcia Pally, New York University

The Decline of the Western Civilization

Lea Díaz, Universidad de Murcia

Ketman and Parrhesia: Truth, Secrecy, and Tyranny in the Post-Global Era**

Peter Y. Paik, Yonsei University

Three Spheres: East, West, and Digital

Mark Stahlman, Center for the Study of Digital Life

Coffee Break

3:15 PM to 3:45 PM

Plenary 2: U.S.–China Relations in a World of Civilizational Competition

3:45 PM to 5:15 PM

Conference Room

Moderator: Russell Berman, Stanford University

President Reagan's Four-Part Agenda and U.S.–China Competition in the Twenty-First Century

Kiron Skinner, Carnegie Mellon University

China Shakes the World: A Revolutionary Remaking of the International Order

Gordon Chang, author of The Coming Collapse of China and The Great U.S.–China Tech War

The Genealogy of “Post-Westernism”:

The Old, the New, and the Fantastical in the Age of Sino–U.S. Competition

Xudong Zhang, New York University

** *Virtual presentation*

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 2, 2022

Refreshments

5:15 PM to 5:30 PM

Second Keynote Presentation and Panel

5:30 PM to 6:45 PM

Conference Room

Moderator: Adrian Pabst, University of Kent

The Civilizational State and the Crisis of World Order

Christopher Coker, LSE IDEAS

Panel discussion with Russell Berman (Stanford University), Christopher Coker (LSE IDEAS), Adrian Pabst (University of Kent), Marcia Pally (New York University), and Kiron Skinner (Carnegie Mellon University)

Drinks

6:45 PM to 7:30 PM

Sunday, April 3, 2022

Parallel Session 5: Civilization and World Order

9:00 AM to 10:30 AM

Conference Room

Moderator: Andrew M. Wender, University of Victoria

Refocusing History in Times of Change**

Friedrich von Petersdorff, Independent Scholar

Civilizations, Nation-States, and the Emerging Multipolar Global Order**

Faisal Qureshi, Istanbul Zaim University

Lessons from Organski's World Orders:

Envisioning the Cold War Blocs from Classical Realism**

Pablo A. Sánchez Rodríguez, Universidad Complutense de Madrid

** *Virtual presentation*

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 3, 2022

Parallel Session 6: Asian Cultures and Civilizational States

9:00 AM to 10:30 AM

Gallery

Moderator: David Pan, University of California, Irvine

The Kyoto School's Wartime Philosophy of the Multipolar World**

John W. M. Krummel, Hobart and William Smith Colleges

The Temporalities and the Political in Claims of Civilizational State: The Example of China**

Chia-Yu Liang, University of Sussex

Comparing China and the West on the Basis of Shared Purposes

Sijia Yao, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Coffee Break

10:30 AM to 11:00 AM

Plenary 3: Universalism, Pluralism, and Particularism

11:00 AM to 12:45 PM

Conference Room

Moderator: Marcia Pally, New York University

Imperial Germany and Modern China: Authoritarian Capitalism, Democracy, and War:
A Ten-Year-Old Prognosis Revisited with a Dose of Huntington's Cultural Factor

Joseph W. Bendersky, Virginia Commonwealth University

Pluralism, Universalism, and the Politics of Place: Epistemologies of Home

Marcus Charlesworth, University of Ottawa

Friends and Enemies of Human Rights

David Pan, University of California, Irvine

Paul Piccone and the End of History:

Cultural Particularity and Liberal Universalism in the Post-Soviet Era**

Jacob Ulmschneider, Virginia Commonwealth University

** *Virtual presentation*