Workshop Invitation

Harvard University
Room S153 in CGIS South, 1730 Cambridge Street, Cambridge, MA 02138.
Friday, June 23rd, 2017
10am – 5pm

The International Monetary System in Financial Times

The international monetary system (IMS) has always been closely intertwined with international trade and international finance. During recent decades, however, the rapid evolution of the global financial system has outpaced academic scholarship, especially in International Political Economy (IPE). The IPE approach to the study of the IMS has been forged during an era defined by the ‘Bretton Woods moment’ – a low point for global financial integration and a historical juncture that led to an IMS organised around trade. International finance was a matter of international politics rather than of global financial markets. This has radically changed over the past few decades when the growth of cross-border capital flows vastly outpaced the growth of trade (or even cross-border supply chains). According to an emerging view held by regulators and financial institutions, the contemporary IMS is critically shaped by the growth of offshore dollar creation via the eurodollar market and by the central bank swap lines established during the 2007-9 financial crisis. These changes are currently not well reflected in the IPE literature, much of which remains focused on classic questions such as currency hegemony and international monetary power.

This workshop aims to provide an informal discussion forum for scholars from the greater Boston area with an interest in engaging with recent research in international economics and harnessing insights from that literature for the study of international monetary and financial relations. A day-long meeting will include presentations of work in progress as well as discussions of cutting-edge research on global money and finance. If you are interested in participating, please email the workshop organizers until June 2nd, 2017, indicating whether you would like to present a paper.

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