

# (Un)seeing International Political Sociology – visuality, emotions, and the everyday

Annual conference of the DVPW working group “international political sociology”; Tübingen, 29-30 October 2026

The visual turn in International Relations (IR) has moved research on visual politics from niche to center. It resulted in the establishment of a growing interdisciplinary research agenda ranging from the study of visual artefacts to engagements with questions of visuality and aesthetics. It also sparked discussions about technological developments concerning the production, circulation, and consumption of different modes of the visual. Enmeshed with these research topics are questions of emotions and affect, of visibility and invisibility, as well as renewed attention paid to the significance of the everyday.

Against this background, this workshop aims to take a closer look at the intersections of IPS-driven research and works that can be located under the vast umbrella of 'visual IR'. The workshop invites contributions that explore the significance of IPS-inspired approaches in the study of the visual and/or, vice versa, investigate the relevance of the visual for IPS-debates. We invite scholarship that engages with visibility and invisibility in global politics. We are especially interested in contributions that bridge disciplinary divides and seek to further a connection and conversation between IPS and visual IR.

Specifically, we welcome contributions from International Relations and adjacent fields, such as science and technology studies, media studies, human geography, or the humanities, that speak to current IPS debates and seek to advance existing accounts via empirical, conceptual or methodological engagement and reflection. We also encourage scholars who have not explicitly worked on visuality to reflect on how visual elements or reflections on visibility may have — perhaps implicitly — shaped their research in the past or could productively do so in the future.

## Format:

While we happily accept and accommodate the presentation of papers (from early drafts to ready-to-submit articles or chapters) we encourage creative engagement with the conference theme in the form of posters, visual artefacts, and the like. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have questions in this regard.

### Submission Guidelines:

Please send us your abstracts (250 words max.) and short bios (100 words max.) by **May 15, 2026**. The conference language is English. Decisions on acceptance/rejection of the submitted abstracts will be sent by **June 30**. The workshop will take place at the University of Tübingen in the rooms of the Schloss Hohentübingen on October 29 and 30, 2026.

### Accessibility:

We want to make the event as accessible as possible. If you have any special needs or requests—e.g., regarding mobility, language, stimulus reduction, or other access issues—please contact us.

### Contact Information:

Organizers: Katharina Krause and Ben Christian for the AK-IPS team

Please send your submissions to: [ips@dvpw.de](mailto:ips@dvpw.de)

For inquiries please contact: [kat.krause@uni-tuebingen.de](mailto:kat.krause@uni-tuebingen.de) and [b.christian@soz.uni-frankfurt.de](mailto:b.christian@soz.uni-frankfurt.de)