

Fernanda Conforto de Oliveira

SNSF Senior Researcher, University of Lausanne · Visiting Lecturer, Geneva Graduate Institute

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2025–2028	SNSF Senior Researcher, Institut d'études politiques, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, University of Lausanne
2026–2027	Visiting Lecturer, Department of International History and Politics, Geneva Graduate Institute (spring 2026 – spring 2027)
2023–2026	Researcher, IMF History Project, Strategy, Policy, and Review Department, International Monetary Fund (Jun–Sep 2023; Sep 2024–Jan 2025; Jan–Feb 2026)

EDUCATION

2025	PhD in International History and Politics, Geneva Graduate Institute. <i>Summa cum laude avec les félicitations du jury</i> . Dissertation: <i>Opening the Black Box of Financial Negotiations: The IMF, Argentina, and Brazil in the Postwar Era, 1945–64</i> . Supervisors: Rui Pedro Esteves and Nathan Sussman
2019	MA in International Relations, Institute of International Relations, University of São Paulo. Thesis: <i>Negociações financeiras internacionais e atores políticos: a suspensão das negociações entre Brasil e FMI na administração Juscelino Kubitschek, 1957–1959</i> . Supervisor: Felipe Pereira Loureiro
2016	BA in International Relations, Institute of International Relations, University of São Paulo. Undergraduate research project (2015): “A eficácia das ações transnacionais de justiça de transição sobre a Operação Condor”, supervised by Deisy de Freitas Lima Ventura

Research stays abroad

2023–2024	Visiting Student Research Collaborator, Department of History, Princeton University (host: Harold James)
2017–2018	Visiting graduate researcher, School of Public and International Affairs, Virginia Tech, Alexandria, VA (host: Giselle Datz)
2014	Exchange student, University of Helsinki, Finland

PUBLICATIONS

Book

In prep.	<i>Opening the Black Box of Financial Negotiations: The IMF, Argentina, and Brazil in the Postwar Era, 1945–1964</i> . Book manuscript; contract offered by Cambridge University Press
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Peer-reviewed articles

2026	Alvarez, Sebastián, and Fernanda Conforto de Oliveira. “Stability and growth tug-of-war: the macroeconomic roles of Banco do Brasil, 1964–1985.” <i>Revista de Historia Económica / Journal of Iberian and Latin American Economic History</i> , First View, 1–34. doi:10.1017/S0212610926101049
2023	Conforto de Oliveira, Fernanda. “The IMF as a ‘mantle of multilateral anonymity’: US–IMF–Brazil relations, 1956–9.” <i>Cold War History</i> 23 (1): 1–21. doi:10.1080/14682745.2022.2078312

Book review and proceedings

2021	Review of Amy C. Offner, <i>Sorting out the Mixed Economy: The Rise and Fall of Welfare and Developmental States in the Americas</i> . <i>Journal of Latin American Studies</i> 53 (3): 606–609. doi:10.1017/S0022216X21000535
2016	“A eficácia das ações transnacionais de justiça de transição sobre a Operação Condor.” <i>Anais do Seminário de Relações Internacionais</i> , Florianópolis, 29–30 Sep 2016

WORK IN PROGRESS

R&R	“Who Gets a Programme? IMF Judgment and Programme Approvals in Argentina and Brazil, 1956–64.” Revise and resubmit, <i>Review of International Political Economy</i>
Invited	With Sebastián Alvarez. “The Business of State Finance: Banco do Brasil under Brazil’s Military Regime, 1964–85.” Invited for a special issue of <i>Business History</i>
Book	With Atish Rex Ghosh. <i>IMF Program Engagement with Brazil, 1990–2005</i> . Book in preparation for the IMF institutional history project covering 2000–2019
WP	With Leandro Bona and Carlo Edoardo Altamura. “From Moratorium to Management: The Reorganization of the International Financial Network after Mexico’s 1982 Debt Crisis”
WP	With Paula Vedoveli. “Between Numbers and Narratives: The IMF, World Bank, and UNCTAD on Sovereign Debt during Latin America’s Lost Decade, 1972–1985”
WP	With Carmen Rollins. “Implicit Institutional Reference Detection in Political Discourse Using LLM Prompting”

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

2026	Finalist, Thirsk–Feinstein Dissertation Prize, Economic History Society
2025	Prix Pierre du Bois, Fondation Pierre du Bois, for the doctoral dissertation

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Research funding and scholarships

2024–2025	SNSF complementary funding for completion of the doctoral project (Sep 2024–Feb 2025)
2024	Economic History Association Dissertation Fellowship
2024	SNSF complementary mobility grant (Mar–May 2024)
2023–2024	SNSF mobility grant, Department of History, Princeton University (Sep 2023–Feb 2024)
2021–2024	SNSF Doc.CH research grant, Geneva Graduate Institute
2020–2021	Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship
2017–2018	FAPESP Research Internship Abroad (BEPE), Virginia Tech
2016–2019	FAPESP Master’s Scholarship, University of São Paulo
2014	USP Academic Merit Scholarship (exchange at the University of Helsinki)

Research and travel grants

2024	Chandler Travel Grant, Business History Conference
2022	Travel grants: World Economic History Congress (Paris); Transatlantic Studies Association (University of Kent); LASA2022
2022	Pierre du Bois Doctoral Workshop Grant (co-recipient with Amal Shahid, Michele Zampa and Oluwaseun Williams)
2021	LASA Travel Grant
2020	Archival research grants: Dwight D. Eisenhower Foundation; Moody Research Grant (LBJ Foundation and Moody Foundation); Harry S. Truman Library Institute; Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. Fellowship (John F. Kennedy Library Foundation); Pierre du Bois Foundation Research Grant

TEACHING AND SUPERVISION

2026–2027	Instructor, HPI182 <i>Latin America in the World</i> , Department of International History and Politics, Geneva Graduate Institute (spring 2026 and spring 2027)
2026	Guest lecture, <i>Analogue Pasts, Digital Futures: An Introduction to the Digital Humanities</i> (graduate), Department of International History and Politics, Geneva Graduate Institute (autumn 2026)
2025–2026	Guest lecturer, <i>Histoire, économie et société en Amérique latine, de l’indépendance à nos jours</i> (graduate), University of Lausanne
2021, 2022	Guest lecturer, International Institute in Geneva: two sessions on contemporary Brazilian history and politics, Comparative Politics module, BA in International Relations
2026	Co-supervision of Carmen Rollins (PhD candidate in Data Analytics, Universidad Complutense de Madrid; Junior Visiting Fellow, Geneva Graduate Institute), project “Reputation Risk in International Financial Institutions: Text Analysis Approaches”

INVITED TALKS

2026	Invited panellist, “Biografías, narrativas y archivos empresariales”, V Reunión Intermedia, Asociación Argentina de Historia Económica, Universidad Nacional de La Pampa, Santa Rosa, Sep 2026
2026	Invited panellist, “NLP, Network Analysis, and the Challenges of Extracting Information from Policy Documents”, workshop <i>The Past and Future of Artificial Intelligence in Business History</i> , Emerging Scholars Committee, Business History Conference, Mar 2026
2025	“Who Gets a Program? IMF Sentiment towards Argentina and Brazil, 1956–64.” Joint seminar of the Strategy, Policy, and Review and Western Hemisphere Departments, IMF, Jan 2025 (discussant: Teresa Ter-Minassian; chair: Rodrigo Valdés)
2024	“Who Gets a Program?” Economic History Workshop, Princeton University
2024	“The First Standby Arrangements of the IMF in Argentina and Brazil, 1956–64.” Graduate Works-in-Progress, Program in Latin American Studies, Princeton University, Mar 2024
2023	“Who Gets a Program?” Center for Digital Humanities, Princeton University
Upcoming	Research seminars: Centre for Digital Humanities and Multilateralism, Geneva Graduate Institute; Universitat de Barcelona; Université de Genève

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2026** “From Moratorium to Management: The Reorganization of the International Financial Network after Mexico’s 1982 Debt Crisis” (with C. E. Altamura). 62nd Congress of the Business History Society of Japan, international session, Hosei University, Tokyo, Aug 2026
- 2026** “Who Learned What? Revisiting IMF and World Bank Engagement in the 1982 Mexican Debt Crisis” (with C. E. Altamura). Third World Congress of Business History, University of Toronto, Jul 2026
- 2026** “Views from the South: Borrower Perceptions and Reliance on the IMF in Argentina and Brazil, 1956–1964.” CAP-HIST workshop *New Research on the History of Global Capitalism*, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Jun 2026
- 2026** “Who Gets a Program? IMF Sentiment towards Argentina and Brazil, 1956–64.” LASA2026, Paris, May 2026; also roundtable “Development and Autonomy in Latin America’s Cold War”
- 2026** “Who Learned What? Revisiting IMF and World Bank Engagement in the 1982 Mexican Debt Crisis.” *Voices from the Margins* conference, University of Lausanne, Mar 2026
- 2025** “Who Gets a Program?” DebtCon8, 8th Interdisciplinary Sovereign Debt Research and Management Conference, Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, D.C., Oct 2025
- 2025** “Opening the Black Box of Financial Negotiations: The IMF, Argentina and Brazil in the Postwar Era (1945–64).” European Laboratory “History of Capitalism” Doctoral Summer School, University of Geneva, Jun 2025
- 2025** “Who Gets a Program?” International History and Politics Brunches, Geneva Graduate Institute, Apr 2025 (discussant: Ugo Panizza)
- 2024** “Opening the Black Box of Financial Negotiations: The Role of the US Government in the Financial Engagements of the IMF with Argentina and Brazil, 1956–64.” International History and Politics Brunches, Geneva Graduate Institute, Apr 2024 (discussant: Nicole Bourbonnais)
- 2024** “Opening the Black Box of Financial Negotiations: Modeling and Making Sense of the IMF’s Treatment towards Brazil and Argentina, 1956–64.” Business History Conference Annual Meeting, Providence, Mar 2024
- 2024** “The First Standby Arrangements of the IMF in Argentina and Brazil, 1956–64.” Financial History Network Seminar Series, Feb 2024
- 2023** “The IMF’s Treatment towards Argentina and Brazil during Financial Negotiations for Their First Adjustment Programs, 1958–64.” ISA-South Annual Conference, Atlanta, Oct 2023
- 2023** “The IMF, Argentina, and Brazil in the Post-war Era, 1945–64: Making Sense of the IMF’s Views during Financial Negotiations.” LASA2023, Vancouver and online, May 2023
- 2022** “Who Gets a Programme? IMF Programme Approvals in Argentina and Brazil, 1956–64.” Second Annual Pierre du Bois Doctoral Workshop, Geneva, Sep 2022
- 2022** “The ‘Mantle of Multilateral Anonymity’: The United States, the International Monetary Fund, and Juscelino Kubitschek’s Brazil, 1956–1959.” Transatlantic Studies Association Annual Conference (DC Watt Panel), University of Kent, Canterbury, Jul 2022
- 2022** “Opening the Black Box of Financial Negotiations: The IMF, Argentina, and Brazil in the Post-war Era (1945–1964).” LASA2022, online, May 2022
- 2021** “The ‘Mantle of Multilateral Anonymity’: The International Monetary Fund, the United States, and Juscelino Kubitschek’s Brazil, 1956–59.” LASA2021, online, May 2021
- 2021** “The ‘Mantle of Multilateral Anonymity’.” Encontros Gerais do Lab-Mundi, University of São Paulo, Apr 2021
- 2020** “The IMF as a ‘Mantle of Multilateral Anonymity’: US–IMF–Brazil Relations, 1956–59.” *The Politics of Finance: Creditworthiness, Credibility and Reputation on Global Markets*, Geneva Graduate Institute
- 2019** “International Financial Negotiations and Political Actors: The Disruption of IMF–Brazilian Relations during the Administration of Juscelino Kubitschek (1957–1959).” LASA2019, Boston, May 2019
- 2019** Same paper. I Congresso Internacional Pensamento e Pesquisa sobre a América Latina / III Simpósio Internacional Pensar a América Latina, University of São Paulo, May 2019
- 2018** Same paper. 4th International Relations Seminar, Brazilian Association of International Relations (ABRI), Foz do Iguaçu, Sep 2018
- 2018** Same paper. II Seminário Internacional de Estudos sobre a Guerra Fria, University of São Paulo, Aug 2018
- 2018** “The IMF as a ‘Mantle of Multilateral Anonymity’: US–IMF–Brazil Relations, 1956–59.” Research presentation, School of Public and International Affairs, Virginia Tech
- 2016** “A eficácia das ações transnacionais de resgate da memória sobre a Operação Condor.” International stage, 24th USP International Symposium of Scientific and Technological Undergraduate Research (SIICUSP)
- 2015** Same paper. IX Reunião do IDEJUST, Institute of International Relations, University of São Paulo, Mar 2015
- 2013** Same paper. Congresso Internacional Justiça de Transição nos 25 Anos da Constituição de 1988 / VII Reunião do IDEJUST, Faculty of Law, Federal University of Minas Gerais, May 2013

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Event organization

- 2026** Co-organizer, *Voices from the Margins: Rethinking Neoliberalism from Latin America*, University of Lausanne (with Carlo Edoardo Altamura)

- 2022** Co-organizer, Second Annual Pierre du Bois Doctoral Workshop: *Histories of Capitalism in Europe and the World*, Geneva Graduate Institute and Fondation Pierre du Bois (with Amal Shahid, Michele Zampa and Oluwaseun Williams)
- 2020–2022** Organizer, History Brunches seminar series, Department of International History and Politics, Geneva Graduate Institute

Panel chair

- 2026** Session D05 “Banking 19th C | Foundations of Finance (1): Money Matters before 1900”, Third World Congress of Business History, Toronto
- 2026** “La Guerra Fría latinoamericana: diálogos globales (Parte II)”, LASA2026, Paris
- 2021** “The Troubled History of Modernization and Technology”, LASA2021
- 2019** “From Empire to Republic: Politics, Development, and ‘Racial Democracy’ in Brazil”, LASA2019, Boston

Service to the profession

- 2022–2024** Student Ambassador, Economic History Society

AFFILIATIONS

- Since 2025** Member, CNPq research group History of Quantification and Economic Knowledge
- Since 2025** Affiliated researcher, Centre for Digital Humanities and Multilateralism, Geneva Graduate Institute
- Since 2024** Affiliated researcher, Laboratory of Cold War Studies, University of São Paulo
- Since 2019** Associate member, Laboratório de Estudos sobre o Brasil e o Sistema Mundial (Lab-Mundi), University of São Paulo
- 2021–2025** Affiliated researcher, Centre for Finance and Development, Geneva Graduate Institute
- Member** ISA, LASA, Swiss School of Latin American Studies, Business History Conference, Economic History Association, Economic History Society, SHAFR, Digital History Network Switzerland

METHODS AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

- 2026** *Using Social Network Analysis to Understand Data*, 30th Summer School in Social Sciences Methods, Università della Svizzera italiana (36 h)
- 2025** *Large Language Models for Social Science Research*, 29th Summer School in Social Sciences Methods, Università della Svizzera italiana (36 h)
- 2022** *Data Science: Applied Text Mining*, Utrecht Summer School, Utrecht University
- 2022** *Introduction to Python 3 Programming for Natural Language Processing* (30 h) and *Python for Data Analysis* (15 h), Institute of Mathematics and Statistics, University of São Paulo
- 2020** Doctoral transferable-skills programme (Programme transversal de développement des compétences génériques des doctorant·e·s): ten workshops on academic writing in English, publishing, grant writing, information literacy, presentation skills and research design (68.5 h); *Presenting with Impact*, Digital Skills programme, Geneva Graduate Institute
- 2020** *La recherche en temps de Covid*, Programme doctoral romand en sociologie, Morges (14 h)
- 2019** *Terceiro Mundo: uma história no longo prazo*, Graduate Program in International Relations, University of São Paulo (8 h)
- 2018** São Paulo Advanced School of Social Sciences: *The Dynamics of Contemporary Democratic Societies*, CEBRAP
- 2015** *O impacto da internacionalização do Direito sobre as Relações Internacionais: uma leitura interdisciplinar do pensamento de Mireille Delmas-Marty*, University of São Paulo and FGV Direito SP (12 h)

RECEPTION OF WORK

- 2023** Rafael R. Ioris, “A Tale of Opposing Views, Mutual Misunderstandings and Growing Resentments,” *H-Diplo Article Review* 1179, on “The IMF as a ‘mantle of multilateral anonymity’”
- Cited in** Lessa and Farias, *Oxford Bibliographies in International Relations* (2026); Kedar, *Financial History Review* (2025); Morgan and Souza, UNU-WIDER Working Paper 2025/2; Caterina, *Revista Brasileira de História & Ciências Sociais* (2025); Ribeiro, Moreira and Castilho, *Revista Agenda Política* (2024); Domínguez Avila, *Varia Historia* (2023)

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2014–2016** Assistant for Science, Innovation and Higher Education, Innovation Centre Denmark, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, Consulate General of Denmark in São Paulo (Oct 2014–Feb 2016)

LANGUAGES

Portuguese (native); English, French and Spanish (fluent)