

# Nicolas Hafner

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## EDUCATION

- 2022-current **PhD student in the Department of International History and Politics**, Geneva Graduate Institute, PhD Affiliate at the Gender Centre  
PhD thesis '*Le Savoir et le Faire*': *Decolonisation and Geneva as a Third World Development Studies Hub, c. 1961-1981* (working title), under the supervision of professors Cyrus Schayegh, Nicole Bourbonnais (co-supervisors) and Adom Getachew (external advisor)
- 2022 **Master in International History and Politics**, Geneva Graduate Institute  
Master thesis on the corporate origins of the private foreign investment protection regime in international law, supervised by Prof. Cyrus Schayegh
- 2019 **Master in Public Management and Policy**, University of Bern, uncompleted
- 2015 **Bachelor of Arts in History, Public Law, and Political Science**, University of Zurich
- 2014 Exchange semester at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium

## EMPLOYMENT AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 9/2023-current **Swiss National Science Foundation Doc.CH Researcher**  
Grant number 218930; expected completion: fall 2026
- 2022-23 **Interim Executive Secretary** (part-time), Swiss Malaria Group
- 2017-2020 **Part-time consultant**, Farner Consulting SA
- 2017 **PR Officer**, Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme, Medan, Indonesia
- 2016 **Mandatory «service civile»**, reconstructing dry stone walls
- 2015 **Intern** at the Delegation of the European Union to Switzerland and Liechtenstein
- 2014-2018 **Freelance journalist** (*Zürcher Oberländer*, *unihockey.ch*)

## RESEARCH GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2023 SNSF Doc.CH scholarship CHF 213'898.-
- 2022 Geneva Graduate Institute full PhD scholarship package
- 2022 Prix Arditi en relations internationales CHF 5'000.-  
(best master's dissertation in international studies or international affairs)

## PUBLICATIONS

Forthcoming

"What Investors Want from Whom: International Economic Institutions and The International Association for the Promotion and the Protection of Private Foreign Investments (APPI) 1958-1974" (together with Dr Filip Batselé, Ghent University, *Business and Politics*)

August 2024

### Other Academic Writing

“Remeasuring Self and Society after Empire: The Human Sciences in Decolonization,” conference report written together with Devarya Srivastava.

“Channel Surplus Oil Funds in the Right Directions:’ The International Association for the Promotion and Protection of Private Foreign Investments (APPI)’s Overture to the Middle East in the 1970s,” contribution to the digital source collection *Global Histories of the Twentieth-Century Middle East and North Africa (GIMENA)*, housed at the Wilson Center Digital Archive.

## **SELECT RECENT INVITED LECTURES AND CONFERENCE PAPERS**

“An Island of the Third World’? The Geneva Africa Institute and the Swiss Development Cooperation in the 1960s,” *CoLLab History Seminar*, Université de Lausanne, 2 December 2024

“The Geneva Africa Institute: Decolonisation, Third World Solidarity and an Early Critique of Development During the Long Sixties,” *Historical Challenges to International Development*, King’s College London, 12 & 13 September 2024

The Geneva Africa Institute: Decolonization, Third World Solidarity and an Early Critique of Development During the Long Sixties,” *Cold War Internationalisms of/in the Decolonized World*, Geneva Graduate Institute, 5 & 6 June 2024

“Decolonisation and Geneva as a Third World Development Studies Hub, c. 1961-1981,” Gender Centre Workshop, Geneva Graduate Institute, 28 & 29 February 2024

“Internationale Investorenrechte: der Schutz von ausländischen Privatinvestitionen, Dekolonisierung und die APPI,” colloquium by the Gesellschaft für Unternehmensgeschichte (GUG) (Business History Society), Ergo Group AG, Düsseldorf, 1 December 2023

“Le Savoir et le Faire: Decolonisation and Geneva as a Third World Development Studies Hub, c. 1961-1981,” invited guest lecture for the course *History and Development*, Geneva Graduate Institute, 27 April 2023

“Safeguarding Foreign Investments Within the Framework of International Law: The Case of the French Mining and Petroleum Companies in the 1950s,” *Global Corporations and International Law*, Lauterpacht Centre for International Law, University of Cambridge, 15 & 16 December 2022

“Post-Developmentalism *avant la lettre*? The Critique of Development at the Geneva Africa Institute (IED) 1961-1975,” *History Brunch Series* at the Department of International History and Politics, Geneva Graduate Institute, 11 November 2021

## **LANGUAGES**

German	native
English	proficient, IELTS Academic Training Band Score 8.5, taken December 2017
French	very good, DELF B2 (refresher summer course at UniGe, level C1, 2021)
Persian	intermediate (a total of 9 months language stay in Tehran, 2016 and 2018)
Spanish	elementary (2 months language stay in Spain, courses at University of Zurich 2014-15)