

ANISSA BOUGREA

Postdoctoral Fellow, European University Institute

www.anissabougrea.com | anissa.bougrea@eui.eu



Research interests: International development finance, global governance, sustainability, financialisation,

Academic Positions

Adjunct Professor , Mohammed VI Polytechnic University (UMP6) - Rabat, Morocco	Aug 2026 - present
• Professor of International Political Economy at Social Sciences, Economics and Humanities Cluster	
Postdoctoral fellow , European University Institute - Florence, Italy	Sept 2025 - Sept 2027
• Max Weber Fellowship, "Geopolitics, Security, and Development: Reconfiguring (EU) Aid through Financialization"	
Doctoral fellow , Ghent University - Belgium	Nov 2021 - Sep 2025
• Doctor of Political Science - Thesis: "The Financialisation of European Union Development Aid to Africa"	
Research assistant , <i>Ghent Institute for International and European Studies (GIES)</i>	April 2021 – Oct 2021
Teaching assistant , <i>Ghent Institute for International and European Studies (GIES)</i>	Nov 2020 – April 2021

Visiting positions:

- **Visiting researcher**, [Institute of East-West Studies](#) & [EU Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence](#), Yonsei University - South Korea Feb 2026-May 2026
- **Visiting researcher**, [Department of Political Economy](#), King's College London - UK Nov 2023 – Dec 2023

Education

Ghent University , Belgium - Ghent Institute for International and European Studies, PhD	Nov 2021 - Sep 2025
• Doctor of Political Science - Thesis: "The Financialisation of European Union Development Aid to Africa: Promises, Practices, and Colonial Continuities"	
Ghent University , Belgium - MA International Politics (<i>Honours programme – Summa Cum Laude</i>)	Sep 2018 – Jul 2020
Howest , Belgium - BA Journalism (<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>)	Sep 2013 – Jun 2016

International Exchange Studies:

Sichuan University School of Economics , China - Summer School	Jun 2019 – Jul 2019
Chestnut Hill College , USA - Communications & Media (<i>Honour student - Magna Cum Laude</i>)	Aug 2015 – Dec 2015

Research agenda

My research examines how **development aid** is increasingly aligned with **security and geopolitical objectives** through the **mobilisation of private finance**. I analyse how development banks (multilateral, regional, and national) become key institutional arenas where these logics are negotiated, and how domestic battles over **public banking** architecture shape a country's external aid capacity and geopolitical reach. A comparative thread runs through this work: I study how emerging and middle powers such as South Korea and Morocco navigate the evolving multilateral landscape through minilateral cooperation. Through case studies on institutions including the **UN Green Climate Fund**, the **European Investment Bank**, and the **World Bank**, I show how financialised development – especially within green transition narratives and in the Global South – reproduces logics of extractivism, global competition, and the **coloniality of money**.

Publications

Peer-reviewed journal articles:

- Bougrea, Anissa & Vermeiren, Mattias (2025). [Rolling out the Wall Street Consensus? Multilateral development banks and the trilemma of private capital mobilization](#). *Competition & Change*. [SSCI]
- Bougrea, Anissa (2024). [The European Investment Bank in sub-Saharan Africa: Constrained Expansion](#). *Journal of Economic Policy Reform*, 1-25. [In Special Issue: Realigning European public financial architecture for the twenty-first century](#). [SSCI]

Publications

- Bougrea, Anissa, Orbie, Jan, Vermeiren, Mattias (2022). [The New European Financial Architecture for Development: Change or Continuity?](#). *European Foreign Affairs Review*, 27(3). [SCOPUS]

Peer-reviewed book chapters:

- Bougrea, Anissa, Orbie, Jan. (2025) [Development finance in EU-OACPS: From Wall Street to Schuman Square?](#) In: Langan, M. and Price, S. (eds.). *Africa, the EU and the Samoa Agreement: Exploring African Agency amid the 'New Scramble'*. Routledge.
- Orbie, Jan & Bougrea, Anissa (2025, August 29th). [International development: A distinct and challenged policy domain](#). In: Wallace, H., Pollack, M. A., Roederer-Rynning, C., & Young, A. R. (Eds.) *Policy-making in the European Union*. Oxford University Press.

Other:

- Bougrea, A. (2026). Book Review. *The World Bank: A Critical History*: By Eric Toussaint London: Pluto Books, 2023, 432 pp., £45 (hardback), ISBN: 9780745348285 (hardback). [The Journal of Development Studies](#), <https://doi.org/10.1080/00220388.2026.2660440>. [SSCI]
- Orbie, J., Alcazar III, A., Bougrea, A., Nagy, S., Oleart, A., Paz, J. C., ... & Wodzka, I. (2023). [Decolonizing Rather than Decentring 'Europe'](#). *European Foreign Affairs Review*, 28(1), 1-8. [SCOPUS]

Under review

- Bougrea, Anissa & Staeger, Ueli. EU-Africa Relations and the Coloniality of Money: Analysing funding and financing. [Journal of Common Market Studies](#) - Revise & Resubmit - July 2026. [SSCI]
- Bougrea, Anissa & Xiaoye She. (2026) EU-ASEAN Cooperation Amid US-China Tensions: Toward Strategic Autonomy? In: L. Danner & B. Chand (Eds.) *Europe-Asia Relations Amid U.S. Global Reorientation: Cooperation, Competition, and Strategic Realignment in a Multipolar World*. Palgrave Macmillan.

Work in progress:

- Book Manuscript: Bougrea, Anissa. (2028) *Financing Geopolitics: EU Development Finance in an Age of Great-Power Competition* - Cambridge University Press
- Bougrea, Anissa. *Global Gateway: The Rearticulation of Geopolitics in EU-Global South Partnerships*. Submission Sep 2026.
- Bougrea, Anissa. *The Green Climate Fund in a Multipolar Order: Between Climate Justice and Strategic Evasion*.
- Bougrea, Anissa & Kasse B'Nicco, Tina. *Between Washington, Brussels, and Beijing: African agency in development finance*

Policy & Newspaper writing

- Bougrea, A. & Gate, N. (2025) [MDB Reform For More And Better Climate Finance Data, Allocation, Local Ownership And Impact](#) G20 / T20.
- Bougrea, A., (2023), [Basisinkomen verkend: Van historische wortels tot publieke sentiment](#), [Review (NL) of the books "*Welfare for Markets: A Global History of Basic Income*", by A. Jäger and D. Zamora Vargas, and "The Popularity of Basic Income", by T. Laenen], Samenleving & Politiek, Jaargang 30, 2023, nr. 10 (December).
- Van Coppenolle et al. (2023). [The Global Energy Crisis](#) (Eds. H. Van Coppenolle, S. Taghon, A. Bougrea, & T. Haesebrouck). Ghent: Ghent University. Ghent Institute for International and European Studies (GIES).
- Bougrea, Anissa. (2020). [How the EIB can take the climate into account](#). Apache
- Bougrea, Anissa (2020) [30+ News Articles](#) at the Foreign Affairs desk of De Standaard.

Awards

- *Emerging Scholar Award* - [Public Banking Project Mc Master University and Agence Française de Développement \(2026\)](#)
- *Honours Programme Think & Talk* - Ghent University - Interfaculty Honours Program (2020).
- *Dean's List* - Chestnut Hill College, USA - Academic Achievement (top 1-5% of faculty academic results) (2015).

Grants

- *ESR EUI* - Early Stage Researchers Grant EUI - Field work at Green Climate Fund in South-Korea, €3300 (2025)
- *Meet The Expert* - Flemish Government - Lecture Prof. Bernhard Rheinsberg Strategic Information and Europeans' Willingness to Compensate for US Aid Suspensions, €600 (2025)
- *Flanders Research Foundation (FWO)*, Flemish Government - Travel Grant IPSA, Seoul, South-Korea, €1500 (2025)
- *IPPA - ICPP7* - Travel grant: Accomodation and conference fee (2025)

Grants

- European University Institute - Max Weber (Post-doc) Fellowship, €60.000 (September 2025-2027)
- Doctoral Schools Ghent University - Travel grant, Summer School Domestic politics and global governance: interests, institutions, information, and identity (ECPR), Glasgow, UK, €600 (2024)
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions - Poster Travel Grant, MSCA Presidency Conference, €750 (2024)
- Review of Political Economy - IPE Workshop Travel Grant, San Francisco, USA, \$500 (2024)
- International Studies Association - Conference Travel Grant, San Francisco, USA, \$700 (2024)
- Doctoral Schools Hasselt University - Course organisation fees, Workshop: "Critical Social Science Methodologies for Studying Power", €4339 (2023)
- Doctoral Schools Ghent University - Course organisation fees, Seminar: "Challenging The Mainstream: Critical, Pos(-)colonial, and Decolonial theory, €3815 (2023)
- Doctoral Schools Ghent University - Travel grant, Master Class "Economic Liberation in Post-Independence Africa", BIGSAS, Bayreuth, Germany, €500 (2022)
- Flanders Research Foundation (FWO), Flemish Government, Full Doctoral Scholarship, €142.147 (2021-2025).
- Special Research Fund (BOF), Ghent University, Full Doctoral Scholarship, €118.560 (Oct 2021(-2025).
- EISCAS, ERASMUS+ - Central Asia Master Class Grant, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland, €1200 (2020).
- China federal grant - Summerschool, Sichuan University School of Economics, China, ¥6850 + study and board (2019).
- Generieke Beurzen Flemish Government - Study abroad, Chestnut Hill College, USA, €2770 + study fees (2015).

Teaching experience

(UG) Undergraduate / Bachelor - (G) Graduate / Master

Max Weber Teaching Module Certificate - European University Institute (EUI), Florence (ECTS-accredited, 3 credits)

- [Pedagogical training programme at the EUI \(ranked 6th worldwide in political science by the 2025 ShanghaiRanking\)](#)

Principal instructor (lecturer)

Ghent University (Belgium)

- Current Affairs in International Politics: Global Gateway vs Belt & Road Initiative 2022-2025 G level
 - Full year course consisting of 2 seminars + guided feedback on an essay and Oxford Debate as oral exam
- Thematic Specialisation in EU Politics: EU development finance 2022-2023 G level
 - Full year course: 2 intro lectures followed by weekly seminars, Brussels excursion and two essays
- Community Service Learning: Decolonising the university 2021-2022 G level
 - Full year course: First semester weekly seminars + essay; second semester guidance on creation podcast

Guest lectures & seminars

- **Free University Berlin** (Germany) - *The Moral Economy of Aid: A Comparative Mapping of US & German Aid* - 2026 - 1 lecture UG level, 1 lecture G level
- **Yonsei University - Institute for East & West Studies** (South Korea) - *Private Finance, Geopolitics and International Development Finance* - 2026 - G level
- **Free University Brussels** (Belgium) - *The Coloniality of International Political Economy* - 2024, G level
- **King's College London** (United Kingdom) - *EU-Africa Relations: African Agency in the Samoa Agreement*- 2023 - G level
- **Ghent University** (Belgium) - *The Coloniality of International Political Economy* - 2022, 2023, 2024 - lecture and seminar - G level

Teaching Assistant

Ghent University

- EU Global Justice - 2020, 2021, 2023 - G level (co-design course, grade weekly notes, guide reading groups)
- EU Trade Policy - 2021 - G level (teach two 3-hour lectures, bi-weekly 1,5h prep students followed by 1,5h practitioner 'lecturer', organise and grade Oxford Debates)
- Winners and Losers of Globalisation - 2020 - UG level (grade + feedback on essays, administer oral exams (40+ students), general student follow-up)

Talks & Events

- Seminar - [Geopolitics, Digital Platforms, and the Circulation of Hate](#) - EUI CMPF Summer School June 19, 2026
- Seminar - [The Financialisation and Geopoliticization of EU aid to Africa under Global Gateway](#) - Yonsei April 28, 2026
- Panel - [The EU Global Gateway Beyond the Slogans](#) - Future Fest, Brussels Mar 16, 2026
- Panel - [United States and Chinese foreign assistance and diplomacy: Aid for dominance](#) - EUI Mar 5, 2026
- Panel - [Normative power or geopolitical actor? Global perceptions of the European Union](#) - EUI Jan 25, 2026
- Presentation - Global Gateway: What is it? - [Oxfam](#) Jan 6, 2026
- Panel - [Model United Nations: Is Development a Force for Good in The World?](#) - Free Uni Brussels May 3, 2025
- Panel - [System Shakers: Social Innovation - Academia and Resistance to Authoritarianism \(NL\)](#) Nov 4, 2024
- Roundtable - [Approches pédagogiques inclusives et décoloniales dans les EU \(FR\)](#) - Sciences Po Lille June 28, 2024
- Seminar - Multilateral Development Banks & The WSC - King's College London March 18, 2024
- Moderator - [Imperialism, supremacy, and the Russian invasion of Ukraine](#) - Ghent University March 15, 2024
- Moderator - [Break Up with Israel](#) - Ghent University / VierNulVier Feb 14, 2024
- Moderator - [Orde, Wanorde en Dekoloniseren: In het spoor van Fanon](#) - Decolonize VUB May 8, 2023

Conferences & Presentations

(P) Presenter, (D) Discussant, (C) Chair, (O) Organiser

- MWP - *Transformations of Global Order in Times of Geopolitics and Authoritarianism* - Florence, Italy Jun 2026 (P,C,D,O)
- GRN - *African PDBs as catalysts of development finance* - Clermont-Ferrand, France May 2026 (P)
- EU-VALUES - *The EU at a Crossroads Conference* - Jakarta, Indonesia Dec 2025 (P)
- Korea & Japan Foundation - *Minilateralism: challenges and opportunities for Global North Middle Powers* Nov 2025
- NEAR-ER - *Africa-Europe Relations in an Age of Global Reshuffle* - Rabat, Morocco Oct 2025 (P, D)
- IPSA - *The financialization and geopoliticization of EU aid to Africa under Global Gateway* - Seoul, SKorea. July 2025 (P, C)
- IPPA - *EU-Africa Relations and the Coloniality of Money: funding and financing* - Chiang Mai, Thailand July 2025 (P)
- EUIA - *MDBs and the trilemma of private capital mobilization* - Brussels, Belgium May 2025 (P)
- ISA - *Regional development bank responses to the ongoing polycrisis* - Chicago, USA March 2025 (P, D)
- UACES - *Euroglot Panels Co-organiser: Thinking Europe differently?* Trento, Italy August 2024 (P, D, C, O)
- ECPR SGEU - *EU-Africa Relations and the Coloniality of Money* - Lisbon, Portugal June 2024 (P)
- Politicologenetmaal - *Scaling Blended Finance? MDBs and the Wall Street Consensus* - Maastricht, NL June 2024 (P, D)
- Global Transformations and Governance Conference - *The Role of Multilateral Development Banks in Scaling Blended Finance: Challenges and Constraints* - Den Hague, NL June 2024 (P)
- Coordination of Public Development Banking Conference - *Development Banks in Sub-Saharan Africa: Geopolitics, Institutional Competition, and Risk Aversion* - Luxembourg, Lux May 2024 (P)
- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Conference - *Beyond the Ivory Tower* - Bergen, B May 2024 (P)
- ISA Conference - *Development finance in EU-OACPS relations* - San Francisco, USA April 2024 (P)
- RIPE Pre-ISA Workshop - *MDB Efficacy in Mobilizing Private Capital* - San Francisco, USA April 2024 (P)
- ABSP Conference - *Le vivre-ensemble au prisme de l'économie politique* - Liège, B January 2024 (P)
- NEAR Workshop - *Africa-EU Relationship* - London, UK December 2023 (P)
- UACES Annual Conference - [Euroglot Track Co-organiser](#) - Belfast, Ireland September 2023 (P, D, C, O)
- EUIA Conference - *An evolving EU Development Policy: Actorness, perspectives & contributions* - Brussels, B May 2023 (P)
- CPERN Annual Conference - *What Next for Financialisation?* - Naples, It June 2023 (P)
- ECPR Joint Sessions - *Resourcing International Organizations* - Toulouse, Fr April 2023 (P & D)
- NEAR Workshop - *EU-OACPS Relations in the Post-Cotonou Era* - London, UK November 2022 (P & D)
- BIGSAS Master Class - *Economic Liberation in Post-Independence Africa* - Bayreuth, D May 2022, (P, D)
- EIB Conference - *European Public Banks and their Development Role* - Luxemburg, Lux July 2022 (P)
- UACES Annual Conference - *Contested EU Approaches to Development in the Global South* September 2021 (P)

Service

- Editorial Team member - [Journal of Economic Policy Reform](#) 2024 - present
- PhD Representative - Faculty of Political Science' Research Committee, Ghent University 2023 - 2025
- Editor - Editorial Board Ghent Institute for European and International Studies 2022 - 2025
- Co-founder & organiser - Learning Network on Decolonization, Ghent University 2021 - 2025
- PhD Representative - Faculty of Political Science' Education Committee, Ghent University 2021 - 2025
- PhD Representative - Faculty of Political Science' Diversity Committee, Ghent University 2021 - 2025
- Student Representative - Faculty of Political Science' Sustainability Working Group, Ghent University 2021

Skills

- Languages: Dutch (native), English (C2), French (C1), T'mzight (B2), Korean (A2), German (B1), Arabic (B1)
- IT: NVIVO, R, Wordpress, Adobe Premiere Pro, Final Cut Pro X, Adobe Photoshop, Lightroom

References

Professor Jan Orbie

Department of Political and Social Sciences at Ghent University, Belgium

Professorial Fellow at United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies (UNU-CRIS)

Jan.Orbie@ugent.be

Professor Mattias Vermeiren

Department of Political and Social Sciences at Ghent university, Belgium

Mattias.Vermeiren@ugent.be

Professor Toni Haastrup

Chair in Global Politics at the Department of Politics at Manchester University, UK

Toni.Haastrup@manchester.ac.uk

Professor Stephanie Hofmann

Joint Chair in International Relations between the Department of Political and Social Science and Robert Schuman Centre of Advanced Studies at European University Institute, Italy

Stephanie.hofmann@eui.eu