You are cordially invited to the following seminar
Tuesday, 30 March from 10:00 – 11:00hrs, ONLINE via ZOOM

The Transformation of Differential Treatment in Global Health Financing

Differential treatment plays a key role in global health financing although the notion is not explicitly stated in policy documents. In a first step, the paper conceptualizes differential treatment in health financing as being based on capacity, willingness, and need (CWN). More specifically, there are three bundles of norms that underlay CWN, namely capacity to pay (C2P), willingness to contribute (W2C), and need for support (N4S). In a second step, the paper analyses changes that took place in the course of the past quarter of a century, which was characterized by a global shift in economic strength, in particular due to the rise of Brazil, India, and China (BICs). The paper reconstructs to what extent this shift has led to an adaptation of the three bundles of norms that were discussed in the first part. The paper shows that some aspects of differential treatment have been adapted to the shift in economic strength while the situation is more ambiguous and conflictual in others. As a consequence, some earlier decisions and developments that were at the time seen as advantageous for traditional contributors have started to backfire on them. Arguably, these decisions and developments have also had a problematic impact on global health financing more broadly - at least for the time being.

Julian Eckl is a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of St. Gallen where he is involved in different projects. The paper to be presented is from an SNF/DFG project with Klaus Dingwerth (project lead) and Simon Herr (both St. Gallen), Clara Weinhardt (project lead; Maastricht), and Till Schöfer (Berlin). The project investigates the impact of global power shifts on norms of differential treatment in trade, climate, and health. Julian's most recent publications have been on football’s contribution to international order (with Bernd Bucher), on practical challenges that come with the “third mission” of universities, on key issues in global malaria governance, and on the ethnographic study of global health governance.