

Miller Fellow: Nicole Waddick

Faculty Sponsor: Professor Katerina Linos

Project: Back to Basics - the Benefits of Paradigmatic International Organizations



Nicole Waddick is a 2L at Berkeley Law interested in international law and migrants' rights. During her time at Berkeley, she has participated in the International Human Rights Clinic and served as a co-leader of the International Human Rights Workshop Student-Led Pro Bono Project. She is also currently a Submissions Editor for the Berkeley Journal of International Law. During the summer, she interned with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugee's Washington D.C. office, where she worked to assist in refugee protection assessments. Prior to coming to Berkeley, she worked in the Dominican Republic at the DREAM Project and UNESCO, focusing on access to education and identity documentation.

For her Miller Fellowship, Nicole is working with Professor Katerina Linos on a project focused on understanding the benefits of paradigmatic international organizations. In the early years of the twenty-first century, scholars of global governance observed a rejection of formal international organizations in favor of smaller, more flexible alternatives such as transnational networks, public-private partnerships, and informal institutions. And yet, over the past two decades, there are also a number of prominent examples of transitions in the opposite direction. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is an important example here, in part because ASEAN had loomed large as an example of a deliberate rejection of the traditional model. Some entities that were initially established as rejections of the traditional international organizations model, such as the Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, have, over time, evolved into formal treaty-based institutions with all of the bells and whistles that traditionally attach to such entities. This research project aims to catalogue, analyze and chart transitions from informal networks to more formalized international organizations over the last two decades.