

Call for papers

90 years of sanctions in the Mediterranean, Baltic and Scandinavian regions.

**From the Second Italian-Abyssinian war
to the Russian invasion of Ukraine**

International online workshop

Online host: University of Vilnius

Date: 4 December 2025

Over the past century, economic and diplomatic sanctions have emerged as central tools of international pressure and statecraft. From the League of Nations' response to the Second Italian-Abyssinian War in 1935 to the sanction regimes imposed after the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022, the Baltic and Scandinavian regions have played diverse roles as actors, arenas, and observers within global sanction regimes. Yet the *longue durée* of sanctions in this geopolitical space remains underexplored.

This workshop seeks to investigate the history, implementation, impact, and perception of sanctions across the Mediterranean, Baltic and Scandinavian regions from the interwar period to the present. We welcome papers that examine sanctions as instruments of foreign policy, ideological expression, or economic strategy, and which consider both their intended and unintended consequences across political, social, and cultural dimensions.

Topics may include, but are not limited to:

- The role of Mediterranean, Baltic and Scandinavian states in enforcing, resisting, or mediating sanctions.
- Historical case studies of specific sanctions regimes from 1935 to the present.
- National and regional responses to international sanctions.

- Sanctions and neutrality: the dilemmas of small or non-aligned states.
- Economic, political, and cultural impacts of sanctions on societies and communities.
- Legal and ethical considerations surrounding the use of sanctions.
- Public discourses and media representations of sanctions in the Mediterranean, Baltic and Scandinavian contexts.
- The maritime dimension of sanctions in the Mediterranean and Baltic Sea: naval enforcement, shipping routes, and port dynamics.

The working language of the workshop will be English.

We particularly encourage interdisciplinary approaches and welcome contributions from historians, political scientists, legal scholars, economists, and international relations specialists.

Abstracts of up to 500 words, along with a brief biographical note including relevant publications should be submitted to **workshop90sanctions@gmail.com** within **30 September 2025**.

The final program of the online workshop will be shared between October and November 2025.

A selection of papers may be considered for publication in a peer-reviewed edited volume or special journal issue.

For questions or information, please send an email to workshop90sanctions@gmail.com.

Organizers: Kęstutis KILINSKAS (University of Vilnius), Paolo BORIONI (Sapienza University of Rome), Rosario NAPOLITANO (Art Academy of Latvia), Andrea RIZZI (independent researcher) Pier Paolo ALFEI (independent researcher).

INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERSHIPS



DIPARTIMENTO
DI COMUNICAZIONE
E RICERCA SOCIALE

SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

