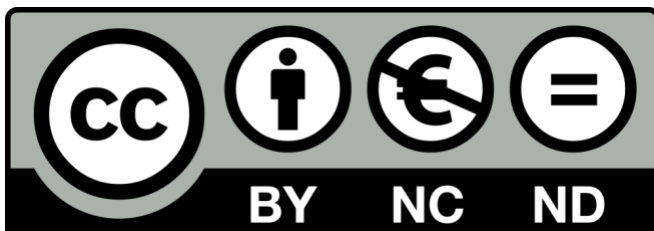




Flux operates out of Montreal, located on the traditional territory of the Kanien'keha:ka, a place which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst nations. The Kanien'keha:ka are the keepers of the Eastern Door of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. In writing about political science and international relations we strive to incorporate diverse voices and bear in mind the forces, including (neo) colonialism, which have shaped the way we understand international relations. We encourage all readers to inform themselves on and actively resist, in the diverse forms that resistance can take, (neo) colonialism in Canada and abroad.

\*Any views expressed or images do not necessarily reflect the stance of Flux or IRSAM. They should not be taken to infer a political stance on any conflicts or issues.



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The cover photo was made from original satellite images from [NASA](https://www.nasa.gov/) licensed in under [CC BY 2.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/). See “[Blue Marble - 2002](#)” and “[Blue Marble – 2002](#)” for the cover image. The following images from NASA are used as article banners, they are in the Public Domain: “[Europe topic image Satellite image \(Ukraine\)](#)”, “[South America satellite orthographic](#)”, “[ISS035-F-007148 Nile - Sinai - Dead Sea - Wide Angle View](#)”, “[Satellite image of Israel in January 2003](#)”, “[China BMNG](#)”, and “[Africa \(satellite image\)](#)”.

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## Foreword

I am honoured to have overseen the team that made the tenth edition of IRSAM's academic journal, Flux, possible. The tenth edition of Flux is made up of seven insightful articles written by McGill undergrads. You can find the full articles on our website [fluxirr.mcgill.ca](http://fluxirr.mcgill.ca) and at [irsam.com/flux](http://irsam.com/flux). This volume covers a breadth of international relations issues, from migration to political economy, and spans international issues from the past five decades.

Each team of editors and authors worked tirelessly during midterm season to prepare polished, clear, and thorough academic pieces. Every individual in the process has helped contribute to the fantastic papers in the coming pages. I would like to thank our authors and editors for sticking out the process, which can be very grueling and often includes unexpected hurdles, your effort and meticulousness shows in the pages of this journal. I wish all our graduating staff and authors the best in their future endeavors.

This volume begins with Presian Dragiev's "Russia's Legitimizing Narrative for Annexation: Impetus or Pretext?" which discusses how Russia has used Western norms and historical narratives to create pretext post-annexation. Moving to the Americas, Madelyn Evans' "Defending Human Rights Through Social Action: The Role of the Catholic Church in Latin America in the 1960s-1980s" considers the role of organized religion in countering authoritarian regimes and supporting global human rights. Alanna Sereboff's piece takes us to contemporary South American international relations to discuss migration patterns and responses as Venezuela's political crisis grows. Evelyne Goulet, Jillian Horowitz, and Jordana Schiff take us to Africa to discuss the effectiveness of post-conflict development on reducing HIV/AIDS. Sara Elisabeth Hedstrom delves into the mandate of the Arab League to question the design of the institution in "The Arab League Has No Bark and No Bite". Ender McDuff then takes us to the heart of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict to discuss the use of sports in diplomacy. Finally, Wing Wong looks to the future of the world order when discussing the Chinese Yuan's potential for becoming the world's top currency.

Over the past three years working on Flux, I never ceased to be amazed by the many avenues of research McGill students pursue for their classes. The journal provides a window into the courses offered in the department and, more importantly, into the issues that our generation cares about most. The unifying thread across all of Volume X's articles is the role of norms in governing international relations, which I believe points to the fact that twenty-first century problems are global in scope. While these articles point to successful cases of cooperation, they also find failures. As political scientists, our authors use these failures to better understand the circumstances that foster international collaboration so that our generation may find success.

I hope you find the papers as insightful as I did and that they inspire you to seek out more international relations literature.

Best,

Marie Fester

President, IRSAM May 2019-April 2020

Interim Editor-in-Chief, Flux: International Relations Review January-April 2020



## Our Team

**Alicia Wilson**  
Senior Editor

**Asher Laws**  
Junior Editor

Asher is a second-year student studying joint honours History and Political Science. This is his first time editing for Flux and he's thoroughly enjoyed the range and depth of all the submissions. When not pouring through Poli Sci papers he can be found watching his childhood team, Chelsea, lose or whipping up a cup of the finest English breakfast tea.

**Avery Franken**  
Junior Editor



Avery is a fourth year student pursuing a double major in political science and linguistics. She has found editing for the journal to be the perfect union of her two majors, as she can focus on how big ideas are communicated while immersed in the realm of international politics. Outside of school, Avery spends her time running, listening to podcasts and teaching herself Norwegian.

**Celeste Jensen**  
Copy Editor



Celeste is a second-year student majoring in linguistics and minoring in French language and Italian studies. As she doesn't study political science, Celeste enjoys editing for Flux because she gets to learn about new topics with each paper she edits. Outside of correcting grammar, she enjoys rock climbing, road trips, and watching The Office.

**Elizabeth Franceschini**  
Director of Communications and Public Relations



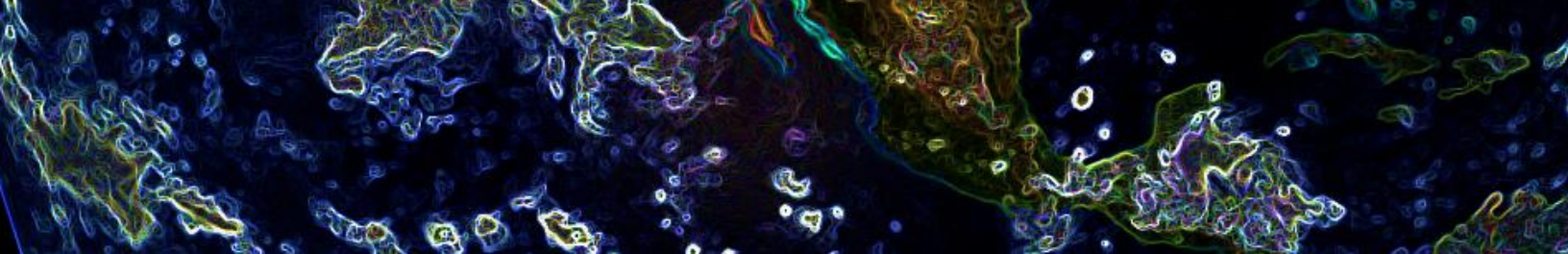
I am currently completing my second year at McGill University in Political Science and Russian Studies. I had the chance to serve as Flux's Director of Public Relations this past academic year, and have loved working for the publication. I believe that Flux holds a special place in the McGill community, and I am looking forward to display all the hard work the Flux team and its writers have put into this edition of the journal. On campus, I am involved with the McGill Journal of Political Studies and the McGill International Review. Safe to say, I enjoy all things publication related!

**Emma Frattasio**  
Junior Editor



Emma is a second year student studying political science and minoring in international development. As a Los Angeles native, Emma enjoys taking long walks on the beach while listening to true crime podcasts. She would like to thank the wonderful team at Flux for an amazing first semester, and looks forward to growing with the publication in the coming years.

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**Julia Rosen**  
**Copy Editor**



Julia is a second-year student pursuing a joint honours degree in Political Science in History. She loves being involved with Flux because its a great way to get to interact and collaborate with people that

have a passion for International Relations. Julia is an avid fan of Philadelphia sports teams. Also dogs.

**McEan Taylor**  
**Junior Editor**

McEan is a second-year Arts student studying Political Science. He enjoys learning about the formation of political systems around the world and how they develop over time. He focuses on the creation of global systems through a critical lense. He enjoyed his first year editing for FLUX as a way to explore political issues with peers. Outside of his studies, McEan works for the McGill Tribune, volunteers for the Yellow Door, and enjoys making music.

**Kennedy McKee-Braide**  
**Copy Editor**



Kennedy is a second-year student studying History and Political Science. As a copyeditor, she has been inspired by all the layers of hard work that have gone into

producing this year's edition of Flux. She has especially loved seeing the results of the collaboration between authors and their editors. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, writing and getting wrapped up in the news.

**Sara Gangbar**  
**Junior Editor**



Sara is finishing her fourth year at McGill, with a joint major in political science and history. Prior to serving as an editor, she was a contributing author to Flux and has found the experience to be incredibly valuable. When she

isn't watching documentaries, she can be found cooking, baking, or looking at restaurant menus!

**Maëna Raoux**  
**Senior Editor**



Maëna is a second-year student pursuing an Honours in Political Science and a Major in Economics. This is her second year working as an Editor with Flux and she loves being inspired by the variety and depth of other

student's work. When not editing political science papers, Maëna loves writing, debating, and any outdoor activity that will put her mind to ease!

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