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# Humanitarian Invasion: Global Development in Cold War Afghanistan

**TIMOTHY NUNAN**

Free University of Berlin

Humanitarian Invasion is a ground-level inside account of what development and humanitarianism meant for a country touched by international aid like no other: Afghanistan. Relying on Soviet, Western, and NGO archives, interviews with Soviet advisers and NGO workers, and Afghan sources, Humanitarian Invasion forges a vivid account of the impact of development on a country at the heart of the Cold War. The book argues that Afghanistan functioned as a laboratory for the future of the Third World nation-state. If, in the 1960s, Soviets, Americans, and Germans sought to make a territorial national economy for Afghanistan, then later, under military occupation, Soviet nation-builders, French and Swedish humanitarians, and Pakistani-supported guerrillas fought a transnational civil war over Afghan statehood. Covering the entire period from the Cold War to Taliban rule, Humanitarian Invasion seeks to make a major contribution to the writing of international and Cold War history.

**TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 16:00, MB202**



Timothy Nunan is an Assistant Professor and Freigeist Fellow at the Center for Global History at the Free University of Berlin. He is the author or editor of two books: *Writings on War* (Polity, 2011), a compendium of Carl Schmitt's interwar writings on international order that he translated, and *Humanitarian Invasion: Global Development in Cold War Afghanistan* (Cambridge UP, 2016), a history of development and humanitarianism in Afghanistan from the Cold War to the rise of the Taliban.