



The 'black swans' of citizenship: CBI and inequality around the world

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Citizenship-by-investment (CBI) programs, granting citizenship in return for financial payment or investment, have become a global phenomenon in recent years. The workings of these exceptional programs have caused controversy in real-life politics, ranging from protests, to the downfall of politicians, and to punitive bilateral and international measures. Even so, knowledge on why countries would put their citizenship up for sale and why people 'buy' passports has remained limited. In her talk, **Jelena Džankić** combines insights from political science and legal theory to explore the states' propensity to adopt investor citizenship policies as part of the offshore world, or the legal spaces of 'archipelago capitalism'. She shows how structural inequalities among states combine with inequalities of life opportunity linked to citizenship as a 'birthright lottery' to open up a space for countries to sell, and individuals to buy, passports.

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