



**Syllabus  
International Relations  
12 CFU**

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### Course Description

The course of International Relations is divided into three Modules:

- First Module: European Union Politics (Prof. F. Bindi) – 2 CFU
- Second Module: Strategy and Randomness: International Security in an uncertain world (Prof. Amb. A. Merola) – 4 CFU
- Third Module: International Politics and Development (Prof. M. Carbone) – 6 CFU
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**First Module  
European Union Politics**

This course aims to give students the knowledge and tools to understand, analyze, and make informed projections about what is happening in Europe today – both at the national and EU levels.

It is impossible to understand Europe today without including in the analysis two variables: history and the European Union. The course is roughly broken into two parts.

<b>Topic 1</b>	Europe in a historical perspective: in the first part of the course we will analyze Europe in a historical perspective: after a brief overview of modern European history (the making of the Nation States in the past centuries), we will focus on contemporary European history (from the end of WWII to nowadays), with a particular focus on the making of the European Union.
<b>Topic 2</b>	How the European Union works: In the second part of the class, we will discuss how the European Union works and the complex interaction between the EU and its member states and among European Institutions.

### Teaching Method

Each class will begin with a warm-up discussion of current European events. Subsequently, an introductory lecture on the day's topic will take place, followed by class discussion to allow students the opportunity to discuss the issues raised – both with the instructor and with each other. When appropriate, videos will be also shown and discussed. Students are expected to do the readings in advance.

### Textbooks and Materials

- *European Union: how does it work?* by D. Kenealy, J. Peterson, R. Corbett, 4<sup>th</sup> ed., 2015, Oxford university Press.
- *The Foreign Policy of the European Union*, by F. Bindi, 2012, Brookings Institution Press.

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## Second Module

### Strategy and Randomness: International Security in an uncertain world

The end of the bi-polar system after the end of the Soviet Empire, the rise of China as an emerging Super-Power, the turmoil in the Middle East, the expansion of religious fundamentalism have dramatically changed the international balance, opening the way to new State and non-State players and to unforeseen asymmetric threats. In this fragmented reality, the decision-making process has become more controversial. Expectations for an “effective multilateralism” and a fair global governance are progressively fading away. In this uncertain world, where – thanks to the explosion of technology – the traditional pillars of national and international society are being put into question, also the notion of **Security** is now subject to different interpretations. New methods of analysis have been introduced to evaluate the threats and risks posed by the current world trends. After resuming the main doctrines on security and international politics (realism, idealism) the Course will focus on the origins and the different phases of conflicts, trying to assess the motivations and the (ir)rationality of the present international crises. Parallel to this, the Course will analyze methods and tactics of the alternative solution to armed conflicts: negotiation. A special emphasis will be given to **perception** and the role it plays in the decision-making process. To this purpose, cases drawn from the international reality will be discussed.

<b>Topic 1</b>	The new international disorder: from a bi-polar to a fragmented system.
<b>Topic 2</b>	The impact of globalization and the “liquid society”.
<b>Topic 3</b>	The role of technology: the global network and the “Big Data”.
<b>Topic 4</b>	The opposing doctrines on Security: realism and new-realism; idealism; structuralism, alliances and the balance of power.
<b>Topic 5</b>	The origins of conflicts: scarcity and inequality.
<b>Topic 6</b>	The phases of conflicts and the role of perception: awareness, “triggers” and propaganda.
<b>Topic 7</b>	Threats and risks.
<b>Topic 8</b>	Peace or war? A cost-benefit analysis.
<b>Topic 9</b>	An introduction to negotiation.
<b>Topic 10</b>	The foundations of the negotiation.
<b>Topic 11</b>	Communication: axioms and traps.
<b>Topic 12</b>	Competition and collaboration: the theory of games.
<b>Topic 13</b>	Managing a negotiation: the “four steps dance” and the difficult conversations.
<b>Topic 14</b>	How to deal with a fluid world.

#### Teaching Method

Every Session will include slide presentations, interactive exercises and a question time. At the end of the course, students will be required to take part in a simulation of a four-party International conference. Guest speakers will be invited to debate on specific international crisis.

#### Textbook and Materials

- R. Albrecht-Carrie, *A Diplomatic History of Europe since the Congress of Vienna*, Harper & Row 1973;
- J.W. Young – J. Kent, *International Relations since 1945: A Global History*, Paperback 2013;
- R. Shell, *Bargaining for Advantage*, Penguin Books 2006.

#### Further Readings

- H. Kissinger, *World Order*, Penguin 2014;
- L. Freedman, *Strategy: a History*, Oxford Univ. Press 2013;
- R. Fisher – W. Ury, *Getting to yes*, Bantam Books 1999;
- W. Ury, *Getting past no*, Bantam Books 1993;

- M. Naim, *The End of Power*, Basic Books (Perseus) 2013;
- P. Meerts, *Diplomatic Negotiation*, Clingendael 2015.

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### Third Module International Politics and Development

This module analyses the interaction between industrialised and developing countries in the context of the changing system of international relations. To do so, it will explore the main strategies adopted by the international community to tackle global inequalities, the different types of financial assistance made available for developing countries, the link between foreign aid and other development-related policies (e.g. trade, security and migration), and the impact of international organisations, emerging economies, multinational corporations and civil society in North-South relations.

The main aims of this module are to:

- discuss different understandings and measurements of development and global inequality;
- analyse the main theories in the field of International Relations and Development;
- show how the global architecture for development has evolved over the past six decades;
- understand why and how traditional and emerging donors give foreign aid;
- investigate the role of selected international organisations (e.g. United Nations, World Bank, World Trade Organization) and civil society actors (both in the North and in the South) in the promotion of international development;
- explore the impact of selected policies of industrialised and emerging economies (e.g. trade, security and migration) on the economic and social development of developing countries.

<b>Topic 1</b>	Changing dynamics in international politics and development.
<b>Topic 2</b>	Conceptualising international development and global inequality.
<b>Topic 3</b>	Contending approaches to North-South relations.
<b>Topic 4</b>	International organisations and development: the IMF, the World Bank, the WTO and the UN system.
<b>Topic 5</b>	Bilateral donors and development assistance.
<b>Topic 6</b>	Aid and beyond.
<b>Topic 7</b>	The role of BRICS in development and the rise of South-South cooperation.
<b>Topic 8</b>	Private actors in international politics and development: multinational corporations and civil society organisations.
<b>Topic 9</b>	Globalisation, trade and development.
<b>Topic 10</b>	Migration, security and development.

#### Teaching Method

This module is based on a combination of lectures and seminars. Each session begins with an introduction by the lecturer designed to present the main concepts of the assigned topics. The second part is devoted to a critical discussion of the readings: students will be split into different groups, discuss some questions and then report back to the class.

#### Textbook and Materials

- Peter Burnell, Vicky Randall, and Lise Rakner (eds), *Politics in the Developing World, Fourth Edition* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014), pp. 13-86; pp. 89-103; pp. 147-162; pp. 196-240; pp. 243-301; pp. 381-409.
- Paul Haslam, Jessica Schafer, and Pierre Beaudet (eds), *Introduction to International Development: Approaches, Actors, and Issues, Second Edition* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012), pp. 107-124; pp. 143-294; pp. 415-453.

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## Assessment

The overall mark is the weighted average of the three marks obtained in the three Modules (according to the following weights: First Module = 2 CFU; Second Module = 4 CFU; Third Module = 6 CFU).

- **First Module:** The assessment will be based on a written exam that will be held during the final exam.
- **Second Module:** Students will be evaluated according to the following criteria: attendance 30%; active participation to interactive exercises 10%; personal researches on specific topics 20%; final oral exams 40%. No mid-term exams are foreseen, but group research and discussion on test cases will be required.
- **Third Module:** Final mark is composed of three components: Quizzes (40%): students will take two quizzes, one mid-term and the other at the end of the module; Final written exam (40%): students will answer 3 questions out of 10 questions; Class engagement (20%): students will be required to actively participate in class, including class presentations.

**Final Assessment:** The final exam will consist in a final written exam (First Module + Third Module) and in a final oral exam (Second Module).

### Office hours

- Prof. Federiga Bindi, [federiga.bindi@uniroma2.it](mailto:federiga.bindi@uniroma2.it)
- Prof. Amb. Alessandro Merola will receive students after classes. E-Mail: [alemerola1947@libero.it](mailto:alemerola1947@libero.it).
- Prof. Maurizio Carbone: E-mail: [Maurizio.Carbone@Glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:Maurizio.Carbone@Glasgow.ac.uk); Office hours: Monday: 2 to 4.