

**Resoconto riunione del
COMITATO STRATEGICO
16 marzo 2022**

Il Comitato Strategico del Corso di laurea in Global Governance dell'Università di Roma Tor Vergata si è riunito 16 marzo 2022 alle ore 17.00 in modalità telematica su piattaforma ZOOM.

ORDINE DEL GIORNO:

- 1) Scenari di guerra e Global Governance (Amb. Massolo and Gen. Giancotti);
- 2) Capstone projects and the demand for young graduates (Prof. Cerruti and Dr. Pace);
- 3) Prof. Paolo Vineis- corso "Globalization and health: scientific, ethical and political challenges"- Chair IntesaSanpaolo 2021-2022;
- 4) Prof. Douglas Brown: the challenges of Covid-generation students (with GG3 student representatives).

Prof Piga: We need to discuss on the complexity that the sudden war has had on education. There is a huge request by students to address them in a global conversation on the war, and to hear your perspective on it, Ambassador Massolo. Also considering that In Global Governance we have different Russian, Belarusian and Ukrainian students.

Amb. Massolo: I see 4 perspectives

- 1) The perspective of the battlefields: what is happening on the ground predetermines the other developments,
- 2) What can be a possible way out of the conflict,
- 3) The result of a pseudo-solution and the consequences it will have on the security balance in Europe
- 4) The result of a possible accommodation as far as the overall balance is concerned

Direct negotiations are meaningful, is already something that those negotiations are taking place. At the end of the day Russia doesn't control the sky and the flow of the external help coming to Ukraine. Nevertheless, in my perception time is not yet ripe for Putin to say ok I have to start

meaningfully negotiating. What is actually going on the ground reflects the perception of Putin that the war is not over yet.

It is not irrelevant what the outcome of the settlement negotiations in Ukraine will lead to, since Putin's goal is to reshape the security order in Europe as if the Soviet Union had not lost the Cold War, so the goal of Ukraine and Western countries must be to make a possible outcome for Putin less positive than possible. They must minimize the chances of a positive outcome for Putin on the ground. If some sort of plan is emerging, this plan must consider several elements: ceasefire, methods, status of future Ukraine, what does neutrality mean? How do you ensure neutrality, disarmament, what does it mean? What to do with Donbass and Crimea? The status of the two populations etc. It all depends on how the situation on the field will develop.

What will happen in Europe? There is no going back to the Cold War pattern, with Putin establishing political control over neighbouring states.

How the future is determined depends on what the end of the fight will be and what situation will arise. It must be admitted that it is difficult to see beyond a frozen conflict and think about serious negotiations with Putin, because a relationship of trust needs to be built, threats and opportunities need to be discussed, etc.

A comprehensive understanding of all this should be achieved, and this is difficult to achieve. There should be an international guarantee in Ukraine etc. And I don't see this coming quickly.

The overall balance will be reinvented, China is tempted by the lack of autocrats and can't wait to have Moscow with it to embarrass the United States in this race for supremacy. On the other hand, the fact that they are linked to someone who can very well be imagined as an adventurer who knows how to take risks very seriously, who explodes the price of energy and violates all recognized international principles, is very complicated for China because of their internal problems, such as their ambitions towards Taiwan, so I wouldn't be surprised if China was colder towards Russia than we expected.

We have a third power (Moscow) which although not at the same level of the other two (USA and China) still enjoys high blackmail power due to nuclear power and veto power in the Security Council.

It's too early to jump to conclusion.

Prof. Piga: listening to this will structure students' minds in a more purposeful way and help them understand how to contribute to the world out there, coming and talking to the students will be a fantastic way to help them fully understand what is happening to them.

Fernando Giancotti: I think that when something like this happens, education needs to integrate it deeply into its discourse. I really think this is critical for them to feel this, but I also think there's a new need now. They see this world becoming really messier every year, the pandemic is still there, now there is a terrible war, I think they need to make sense of all this with a constructive perspective. We adults feel helpless, can you imagine how they feel?

So, I think we need a narrative that makes sense of what's happening and what we can do about it. So, to make it concrete, I think we need a speech that starts by saying that Global Governance wants to address this challenge and this challenge is to educate our students with a positive vision with the will to do things and not just get discouraged. First, global governance is what we need because it is failing dramatically everywhere. It's cognitively and psychologically overwhelming. There are many things done in global governance that are applicable to this situation. Each of us could add something to a speech to tell them not to give up, or to be discouraged because there are options to rebuild a better world order.

Silvia: It is priceless to have this type of conversation, with such a strategic method, as I imagine students are exposed to other types of conversations as well. We need to enable them to have a strategic mind, to be able to think. I think there's tremendous strategic value in hearing what we just heard. The other thing is that these young people are facing enormous challenges, war, climate crisis, pandemic, and I feel that there is a sort of need to go back to the origins, to the rule of law and international justice.

I guess we also lost touch with Putin a little and his personality, if we could read what he wrote, what his vision is for the conquest of Ukraine. To go back to the sources on how to study as this idea of social media has diverted attention.

Prof. Piga: We still need to discuss three other points, two of them are strictly connected so we will start by them. Paolo Vineis is our first San Paolo visiting professor, Paolo tell us what your impression on Global Governance was, what do you think of the students etc. And then we will leave the floor to Douglas Brown that can expand on what are the fragilities of the students of the first year.

Paolo Vineis: Thank you for giving me this opportunity, it is the first time I have taught this course and I believe it is consistent with the spirit of Global Governance. We are facing major challenges such as climate change and health inequalities. We are seeing how social inequalities impact the biology of individuals. These are the two issues I am addressing. One of the goals is to make students aware that these challenges can be addressed rationally and that if we don't act now the situation will get worse and worse. The fundamental thing is prevention, the only way to prevent disasters.

I give them the opportunity to discuss in class and make presentations, I completely agree with what has been said, we can create future leaders in global governance, health has become a central issue, people have understood the idea that diseases they can come from very far away and will change and increase due to climate change. Prevention and planetary health, these are the things I teach.

Prof. Piga: How difficult challenging was to explain this things to students with a relatively poor background on this field?

Paolo Vineis: It was not too difficult, students are open to learn and understand, I try to simplify as much as I can, and I find them prepared for the challenge.

Prof. Piga: Our thanks go to San Paolo for completing such an agreement. Douglas, I wanted you to tell us a little bit, you've been here for 10 years, so you know how it works, update us on how you've seen the students, regarding their fragilities, and what we can do to bring further added value to their lives.

Douglas Brown: I agree with what has been shared so far, Global Governance was tailor-made for the problem we are facing, and global challenges are why our students chose this course. I have seen some changes in the last two years first with zoom and this year again in the classroom. There are more fragilities, the students have enthusiasm but underneath there is something that unsettles them. What I teach through public speaking is that they must face their fear, they must know how to react to their emotions and understand themselves better. I'm not sure how this discussion fits into the Global course curriculum but having our students deal with their personal trauma would be right, we don't want to become psychotherapists but when I teach public speaking what comes out first is the fear that prevents them from getting up and saying their name, so I have to go there speaking in theory, but the theory is not enough I have to make them face their fear, if I only talk about the emotions it is not enough I have to bring out the emotional side and then how teacher deal with it. All this with a class of 65 people. See the photos of my lessons with people with big red noses, those are all exercises to bring out their emotions. This is a group of students who chose Connection for the symposium, it's an emotional group of students. There must be the theoretical side and the practical side. We should bring this a little more into some courses, I can do that in my course. We can't avoid emotions; we need to face them and understand them a little more.

Fernando Giancotti: we talk a lot about emotion management also when we talk about the strategic part of leadership. I think that addressing this issue is good, especially with this idea of confronting big challenges and finding answers towards the challenges.

It's not too complicated to give some guidelines to be interactive, we are working to establish a strategic thinking making group in which people talk also about their emotions.

Amb.Massolo: to me the added value of this course s to teach people the synthesis that is we are increasingly prompt to take decisions in different field. What is taught in university is a bit more sectorial, so I agree with what I heard that there is a need of a moral value framework. The lack and the need to have a better management of the emotions. The purpose is to consider all the elements and to be trained to consider as many elements as possible and then be able to make a synthesis.

Prof. Piga: Something can be built. I think we could spend a day talking about this issue with the students starting with your kick-off speech.

Ora passo all'italiano

Corrado Cerruti il nuovo direttore ha creato una serie di approcci per il rapporto tra i nostri studenti e delle imprese che va al di là delle internship e ci dà un senso delle aspettative che ci sono la fuori, la domanda di lavoro anche si è rivoluzionata durante questi anni. Sta costruendo con delle aziende una serie di iniziative. Pamela Pace ha accettato la sfida di Cerruti nel campo della cybersecurity, altri campi saranno aperti.

Corrado Cerruti: l'idea di "Capstone" è quella di chiudere gli studi con un aspetto di pratica, non solo dare dei modelli ai nostri studenti ma anche di portarli direttamente a farli. Dentro questo contesto la maggior parte dei progetti è legato alle tematiche digitali. Il digitale sta entrando profondamente nelle nostre vite, rimanendo nel nostro tema specifico: studenti ed esperienza applicativa e mondo digitale.

Pamela Pace: è interessante questa esperienza che stiamo per far partire per diversi aspetti.

Per come è sviluppato il corso di global governance dove la multidisciplinarietà si scontra con l'approccio molto verticale che troviamo soprattutto nelle tematiche tecnologiche. Dal mio punto di vista è l'opposto, la capacità di padroneggiare più temi e poi specializzarsi è l'elemento vincente. C'è la necessità di affrontare i temi a 360 gradi.

Il progetto che stiamo portando avanti che sarà l'inizio, spero, di una serie che verte sulla gestione del rischio in un ambiente complesso. Ci sembrava il progetto kick off che meglio si potesse sposare con il corso.

Il progetto "Capstone" fa anche sposare una parte universitaria squisitamente teorica con una parte invece più pratica sui progetti realizzati per le aziende

Fornire ai ragazzi non solo l'opportunità di vedere cosa significa lavorare in una azienda e progettare un progetto per l'azienda ma anche testare se la scelta della tematica che hanno selezionato è effettivamente un percorso che vogliono traguardare.

Corrado Cerruti: volevo ricordare a tutti i membri del comitato strategico che adesso siamo partiti con una prima turnata di progetti, se alcuni di voi hanno specifici interessi siamo a disposizione per darvi tutte le informazioni e il supporto.

Prof. Piga: È evidente che qualcosa va fatto rapidamente ma senza superficialità