

(HUMAN) SECURITY AND (SUSTAINABLE) DEVELOPMENT

Masters degree studies, 2021-2022 academic year, Institute of International Relations and Political Science, Vilnius University.

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Time and location

Thursdays, 18.30-20.00, Room: 305

Subject Outline

This course aims to analyze the **interrelation between security and sustainable development**. Students will learn about the main concepts, their relations, and the impact of public policies. The emphasis is on the sustainable development concept, which is defined as development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. During this course, students will be familiarized with different development theories and elements (democracy, the inclusion of civil society, environment, and economic growth).

Aims and objectives

This course aims to provide students with theoretical arguments and analytical tools used for the analysis of sustainable development and human security, with particular emphasis on the EU external policies. It is expected that after finishing the course, students will not only have specific practical knowledge but also will be capable of analyzing political and economic reality and thinking about development programs and projects.

Course requirements

Attendance of seminars is obligatory. Students who miss more than three meetings are obliged to take an extra assignment. The final assessment shall not be positive if attendance is below 50%, or any other assignment is missing.

Assessment

40% final exam, written form, will be discussed during the course.

30% performance in seminars: a) knowledge of reading materials (good preparation: the ability to explain the key concepts presented, ability to understand theoretical assumptions, ability to present research question and conclusions), b) ability to connect different concepts with empirical evidence/apply theories for the analysis of empirical reality c) ability to express your thoughts in a well-argued manner.

30% policy brief Each student will have to prepare a policy brief on the subject.

- The policy brief is a document which outlines the rationale for choosing a particular policy alternative or course of action in a current policy debate. Bear in mind: it is not a research but policy brief
- The requirements for policy brief are attached to this program. More info will be given during the course.

SCHEDULE

Concepts		
1.	Introduction to the course. Sustainable development	09 09
2.	History of development thought I	09 16
3.	History of development thought II	09 23
4.	Human security: the good, the bad and the ugly	09 30
5.	Conflict, security, and development: do we have a right/obligation to protect?	10 07
6.	Security and development: climate change	10 14
Practice		
7.	Securitization of development: development and security nexus in the EU foreign policy	10 21
8.	Working in fragile conflicts. Peacebuilding	10 28
9.	Development “industry” and its critiques. EU development cooperation	11 04
10.	Implementing development projects. Monitoring & Evaluation. How to write a good policy brief	11 11
Cases and debates		
11.	Discussion I*: Migration, development and securization I <i>Case in point:</i> EU migration policies towards African countries <i>Guests:</i> dr. Oriol Puig Cepero, (Centre for International Affairs of Barcelona, Spain) & Alba Guitart Galo, (NGO “Farmamundi”, Spain)	11 18
12.	Discussion II*: Migration, development and securization II <i>Case in point:</i> US –Mexico border. Security, regulation and in(visibilization) of migrants <i>Guest:</i> dr. Ieva Jusionytė (Brown University, USA)	11 25
13.	Discussion III: Democracy and sustainable development <i>Case in point:</i> Belarus. Is democracy good for development? Supporting democracy in authoritarian countries – should we do that? <i>Guest:</i> Ognjen Radonjic (“ForumCiv Eastern Europe”, Lithuania)	12 02
14.	Discussion IV*: Economy and sustainable development. <i>Case in point:</i> ZEDEs in Honduras. Theoretical benefits vs. resistance on the ground <i>Guest:</i> Beth Geglia, (American University, USA)	12 09
15.	Wrap up of the course	12 16

*taking place online

A. CONCEPTS

1. Sustainable development

Issues to be discussed: Sustainable development: what we want to preserve, what we want to develop, for how long. And how it relates to human security?

2. History of development: theory and practice I

Issues to be discussed: how do our ideology shapes our belief of what is development? How has it changed during the years? How limited are our ways of thinking about development?

Readings:

- Benjamin Knutsson (2009). *The Intellectual History of Development Towards a Widening Potential Repertoire, Perspectives*, no. 13, pp. 1-8 (in e-learning system)
- Hopwood, Bill Mellor, Marry, O'Brien, Geoff (2005) "Sustainable Development: Mapping Different Approaches," *Sustainable Development*, 13, 38-52, https://www.open.edu/openlearn/ocw/pluginfile.php/630982/mod_resource/content/1/t863_2_reading2.pdf

3. History of development: theory and practice II – the 17 of September

Issues to be discussed: Different theories of development – similarities, differences, and status quo.

Readings:

- Benjamin Knutsson (2009) *The Intellectual History of Development Towards a Widening Potential Repertoire, Perspectives*, no. 13, the rest of the article

• **Group 1**

US Strategy for Engagement in Central America
https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/docs/central_america_strategy.pdf

• **Group 2**

JOINT COMMUNICATION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS Renewed partnership with the Southern Neighbourhood A new Agenda for the Mediterranean, pp. 1-5,
https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/default/files/joint_communication_renewed_partnership_southern_neighbourhood.pdf

4. Human security: the good, the bad and the ugly – the 27 of September

Issues to be discussed: What is Human Security, how it differs from traditional approaches, and what does it mean for development?

Readings:

- Sen, Amartya (2014) *Birth of the Discourse*. In Martin, Mary, Owen, Taylor, *Routledge Handbook of Human Security*, pp. 17-28.
- Duffield, Mark (2014) *The Merging of Development and Security*, in "Global Governance and the New Wars: The Merging of Development and Security." (in e-learning system)

11 Security and development: climate change

Issues to be discussed: climate change as threat multiplier

- Francesca De Châtel (2014) *The Role of Drought and Climate Change in the Syrian Uprising: Untangling the Triggers of the Revolution*, *Middle Eastern Studies*, 50:4, 521-535, <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/00263206.2013.850076?journalCode=fmes20>
- Froese, R., Schilling, (2019) *J. The Nexus of Climate Change, Land Use, and Conflicts*. *Curr Clim Change Rep* 5, 24–35 <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s40641-019-00122-1>

6. *Securitization of development? Conflict, security, and development (invited lecturer dr. Thomas Peak)*

Issues to be discussed: Development in post-conflict societies: conflict sensitivity, humanitarian assistance, peacebuilding. What is the role of cooperation after the conflict? Humanitarian intervention and R2P.

B. PRACTICE

6. *Securitization of development: development and security nexus in the EU foreign policy*

Issues to be discussed: How the EU sees the security-development nexus? What role in the security strategies do we give to development? Development cooperation as a soft power and *imperialism*?

Readings:

- European Commission (2016) *Shared Vision, Common Action: A Stronger Europe A Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign And Security Policy*, http://www.mfa.gov.rs/eugs_review_web.pdf

7. *Working in fragile conflicts. Peacebuilding*

Issues to be discussed: Different conflict frames, development & fragility, peace building.

Readings:

- Bigdon, Christine, Benedikt Korf, *The Role of Development Aid in Conflict Transformation: Facilitating Empowerment Processes and Community Building*, http://edoc.vifapol.de/opus/volltexte/2011/2590/pdf/bigdon_korf_handbook.pdf
- Additional task will be given before the class.

8. *Development industry and its critiques. EU development cooperation*

Issues to be discussed: Institutions working for sustainable development and their critique. EU as a donor: goals and instruments.

Task:

- To map out profiles of main donors (countries and organisations). Materials will be given before the class.

9. *Implementing development projects. How to write a good policy brief*

Issues to be discussed: from ideas to actions. Problem/ solution trees & policy briefs

Readings:

- Planning tools: Problem Tree Analysis, <https://odi.org/en/publications/planning-tools-problem-tree-analysis/>

C. CASES AND DEBATES

Readings will be given before each discussion