

International Relations Program Winter 21

Course title:	United Nations: International Peace and Security
Language of instruction:	English
Professors:	Dr. Pol Bargués
Format:	Online
Professor's contact:	pbargues@cidob.org
Course contact hours:	To be arranged with the instructors
Time Schedule:	-
Recommended credit:	3 US credits-6 ECTS credits
Course prerequisites:	There are no prerequisites for this course
Language requirements:	None

Course focus and approach: From a scholar approach of International Relations, the course offers an historical overview of 'what is peace?' from the 1950s when the United Nations were created in the dawn of the Cold War to today's dominant understandings of international peacebuilding as resilience. The course focuses on specific historical cases and explores the number of proliferating critiques and alternative proposals that have emerged in response to the limitations of international interventions. Finally, the course will also explore what it means to foster resilience in times of pandemics.

Course description: The course examines the evolution of the meaning of peace: from the Cold War, to and 2000s until today. This chronology is useful to grasp how understandings of peace have evolved until today and give context to UN peace interventions. The course also focuses on specific historical examples (the Congo, Somalia, the Balkans, Sierra Leone, Syria, etc.) that students will investigate and discuss in class. It finally addresses the number of proliferating critiques and alternative proposals that have burgeoned in response to the limitations of international interventions. Gender and decolonial sensitivities, as well as concerns with local contexts and everyday experiences of the people will be used to rethink humanitarian action.

Learning objectives: The aim of this course is twofold: first, to introduce students to international peacebuilding and focus on the evolution of the meaning of peace since the end of the Cold War until today; and second, to provide a systematic toolkit which helps students out in critically analyzing the performance of the international interventions, by identifying strengths and weaknesses of different historical operations.

Course workload: The course will entail online attendance to a series of lectures and seminars, as well as some short activities related to readings and assignments proposed by the instructors.

Teaching methodology: The course comprises ten weeks, starting on January 18. The teaching of the course would combine traditional online lectures, seminars with a reduced number of students and will require students to do research, reading and writing

**International Relations Program
Winter 21**

Assessment criteria: Students will be assessed through different items: a series of practical essays and written tasks (30%), oral presentation and class participation (20%), and a final exam (50%). Further indications will be given by the instructors at the beginning of the course.

Absence policy:

Attending class is mandatory and will be monitored daily by professors. Missing classes will impact on the student’s final grade as follows:

Absences	Penalization
Up to two (2) absences	No penalization
Three (3) absences	1 point subtracted from final grade (on a 10 point scale)
Four (4) absences	2 points subtracted from final grade (on a 10 point scale)
Five (5) absences or more	The student receives an INCOMPLETE (“NO PRESENTAT”) for the course

The PEHE/HESP attendance policy **does not distinguish between justified or unjustified absences**. The student is deemed responsible to manage his/her absences.

Emergency situations (hospitalization, family emergency...) will be analyzed on a case by case basis by the Academic Director of the HESP.

Weekly schedule

WEEK 1: VICTOR’S PEACE: AFTER THE SECOND WORLD WAR

Description: After the Second World War ended, peace as the absence of war was assumed. The United Nations were created to provide global governance and strive for international peace.

Required readings for class discussion:

Justin Morris (2013) From ‘Peace by Dictation’ to International Organisation: Great Power Responsibility and the Creation of the United Nations *The International History Review* 35 (3): pp. 511-533.
Cohn, Carol. 1987. ‘Sex and Death in the Rational World of Defense Intellectuals’. *Signs* 12 (4): 687–718.

WEEK 2: DEMOCRATIC PEACE: LIBERALISM AND THE EXPANSION OF THE DEMOCRATIC ZONE OF PEACE

Description: Johan Galtung and the Journal of Peace Research began to define peace as more than the absence of war. Since the late 1980s, there was an exultant optimism and consensus in international

International Relations Program Winter 21

relations: liberal democracies do not fight each other. Exporting democracy and economic liberalism were the means to build international peace.

Required readings for class discussion:

Huntington, Samuel P (1991) "Democracy's Third Wave," *Journal of Democracy* 2 (2): 12–34.

Johan Galtung (1964) An Editorial, *Journal of Peace Research*, vol 1 (1), pp. 1-4.

WEEK 3: STATEBUILDING: BUILDING INSTITUTIONS TO STABILIZE POST-CONFLICT SOCIETIES

Description: The failure of democratization and the need for top-down institutionalization. New wars, difficult peace. Institutionalisation before liberalization. The case of Bosnia.

Required readings for class discussion:

Zakaria, Fareed (1997) "The Rise of Illiberal Democracy," *Foreign Affairs* 76 (6): 22–43.

Caplan, Richard. 2007. "From Collapsing States to Neo-Trusteeship: The Limits to Solving the Problem of 'precarious Statehood' in the 21st Century." *Third World Quarterly* 28 (2): 231–44.

WEEK 4: THE DILEMMAS OF STATEBUILDING

Description: Peace in Crisis. Rethinking the failures of the 2000s. Contradictions and Dilemmas of Statebuilding. The cases of Afghanistan and Iraq.

Required readings for class discussion:

Paris, Roland, and Timothy Sisk. 2010. 'Conclusion: Confronting the Contradictions'. In *The Dilemmas of Statebuilding. Confronting the Contradictions of Post-War Peace Operations*, edited by Roland Paris and Timothy Sisk, 304–15. London: Routledge.

3

WEEK 5: LOCAL OWNERSHIP

Description: Building Peace from Below. Transferring responsibilities to Local Populations. The case of Kosovo.

Required readings for class discussion:

Bargués-Pedreny, Pol. 2018. *Deferring Peace in International Statebuilding: Difference, Resilience and Critique*. London and New York: Routledge, Chapter 5.

Donais, Timothy. 2009. 'Haiti and the Dilemmas of Local Ownership'. *International Journal: Canada's Journal of Global Policy Analysis* 64 (753–773).

WEEK 6: MID TERM ACTIVITY: CONFLICT AND CINEMA

Description: Albert Kuhn will present his work as filmmaker who has experience in working in post-conflict environments

WEEK 7: HYBRID PEACE

Description: The Liberal peace critique. Top down, bottom up and hybrid peace. What about the critique of the critique?

Required reading for class discussion:

**International Relations Program
Winter 21**

Mac Ginty, Roger. 2010. 'Hybrid Peace: The Interaction Between Top-Down and Bottom-Up Peace'. *Security Dialogue* 41 (4): 391–412.

WEEK 8: CRITIQUES EUROCENTRISM IN THE LIBERAL PEACE

Description: Eurocentrism plagues the theory and practice of liberal peace, as well as its critiques. Can the other be thought without reproducing colonial distinctions? Peace operations in Africa: Sierra Leone, Rwanda, and DRC.

Reading and class discussion:

Abrahamsen, Rita. 2013. "African Democracy – Still Disciplined after All These Years?" *International Relations* 27 (2): 241–46.

WEEK 9: UN PEACE AND GENDER

Description: The United Nations Women, Peace and Security Agenda. Experience in war and peacebuilding. Embodiment. Critical feminism, women's memoirs and 'hybrid clubs'.

Reading and class discussion:

Martin de Almagro, Maria. 2018. 'Hybrid clubs: a feminist approach to peacebuilding in the Democratic Republic of Congo.' *Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17509744.2018.1511111>

WEEK 10: UN PEACE AND RESILIENCE

Description: The UN has introduced resilience as a policy strategy to correct the deficits of previous interventions. In a world of complexity of growing uncertainty, in which policies do not work linearly, interventions must be radically different.

Reading and class discussion

Coning, Cedric de. 2016. "From Peacebuilding to Sustaining Peace: Implications of Complexity for Resilience and Sustainability." *Resilience*, 166–81

Recommended Bibliography

Bargués-Pedreny, Pol. 2018. *Deferring Peace in International Statebuilding: Difference, Resilience and Critique*. London and New York: Routledge, forthcoming.

Boutros-Ghali, Boutros. 1992. 'An Agenda for Peace: Preventive Diplomacy, Peacemaking and Peace-Keeping'. *International Relations* 11 (3): 201–218.

Caplan, Richard. 2007. "From Collapsing States to Neo-Trusteeship: The Limits to Solving the Problem of 'precarious Statehood' in the 21st Century." *Third World Quarterly* 28 (2): 231–44.

Chandler, David. 2015. 'Reconceptualizing International Intervention: Statebuilding, "Organic Processes" and the Limits of Causal Knowledge'. *Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding* 9 (1): 70–88.

Cohn, Carol. 1987. 'Sex and Death in the Rational World of Defense Intellectuals'. *Signs* 12 (4): 687–718.

Donais, Timothy. 2009. 'Haiti and the Dilemmas of Local Ownership'. *International Journal: Canada's Journal of Global Policy Analysis* 64 (753–773).

Galtung, Johan (1964) An Editorial, *Journal of Peace Research*, vol 1 (1), pp. 1-4.

Galtung, Johan (1969) Violence, Peace, and Peace Research. *Journal of Peace Research* vol 6 (3), pp. 167-191.

**International Relations Program
Winter 21**

- Heathershaw, John. 2008. 'Seeing like the International Community: How Peacebuilding Failed (and Survived) in Tajikistan'. *Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding* 2 (3): 329–51.
- Huntington, Samuel P (1991) "Democracy's Third Wave," *Journal of Democracy* 2 (2): 12–34.
- Mac Ginty, Roger. 2010. 'Hybrid Peace: The Interaction Between Top-Down and Bottom-Up Peace'. *Security Dialogue* 41 (4): 391–412.
- Martin de Almagro, Maria. 2018. 'Hybrid clubs: a feminist approach to peacebuilding in the Democratic Republic of Congo.' *Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17502977.2018.1482079>
- Meier, Patrick. 2015. *Digital Humanitarians. How Big Data Is Changing the Face of Humanitarian Response*. Boca Raton: CRC Press. Chapter 1.
- Justin Morris (2013) From 'Peace by Dictation' to International Organisation: Great Power Responsibility and the Creation of the United Nations *The International History Review* 35 (3): pp. 511-533.
- Paris, Roland, and Timothy Sisk. 2010. 'Conclusion: Confronting the Contradictions'. In *The Dilemmas of Statebuilding. Confronting the Contradictions of Post-War Peace Operations*, edited by Roland Paris and Timothy Sisk, 304–15. London: Routledge.
- Pupavac, Vanessa. 2001. "Therapeutic Governance: Psycho-Social Intervention and Trauma Risk Management." *Disasters* 25 (4): 358–72.
- Randazzo, Elisa. 2016. 'The Paradoxes of the "Everyday": Scrutinising the Local Turn in Peace Building'. *Third World Quarterly* 37 (8): 1351–70.
- Róisín Read (2018): *Embodying Difference: Reading Gender in Women's Memoirs of Humanitarianism*, *Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding*, DOI: 10.1080/17502977.2018.1482079
- Sabaratnam, Meera. 2013. 'Avatars of Eurocentrism in the Critique of the Liberal Peace'. *Security Dialogue* 44 (3): 259–278.
- Zakaria, Fareed. 1997. 'The Rise of Illiberal Democracy'. *Foreign Affairs* 76 (6): 22–43.

Recommended Bibliography to Develop the Discussions further

- Adebajo, Adekeye. 2011. 'The Tragic Triplets: The UN in West Africa'. In *UN Peacekeeping in Africa : From the Suez Crisis to the Sudan Conflicts*, xviii, 270 p. Boulder, Colo.: Lynne Rienner Publishers.
- Aoi, Chiyuki, Cedric De Coning, and Ramesh Chandra Thakur. 2007. *Unintended Consequences of Peacekeeping Operations*. Tokyo and New York: United Nations University Press. <http://www.loc.gov/catdir/toc/ecip079/2007003294.html>.
- Autesserre, Séverine. 2010. *The Trouble with the Congo. Local Violence and the Failure of International Peacebuilding*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- . 2014. *Peaceland. Conflict Resolution and the Everyday Politics of International Intervention*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Bargués-Pedreny, Pol. 2015. 'Realising the Post-Modern Dream: Strengthening Post-Conflict Resilience and the Promise of Peace'. *Resilience* 3 (2): 113–32. <https://doi.org/10.1080/21693293.2015.1023488>.
- Bargués-Pedreny, Pol, and Elisa Randazzo. 2018. 'Hybrid Peace Revisited: An Opportunity for Considering Self-Governance?' *Third World Quarterly*, April, 1–18. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01436597.2018.1447849>.
- Barnett, Michael N. 1997. 'Bringing in the New World Order: Liberalism, Legitimacy, and the United Nations'. *World Politics* 49 (4): 526–551. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0043887100008042>.
- Chandler, David. 2006. 'Back to the Future? The Limits of Neo-Wilsonian Ideals of Exporting Democracy'. *Review of International Studies* 32 (3): 475–94.
- . 2013. 'International Statebuilding and the Ideology of Resilience'. *Politics* 33 (4): 276–86.
- . 2014. *Resilience: The Governance of Complexity*. London: Routledge.
- Chesterman, Simon. 2004. *You, The People: The United Nations, Transitional Administration, and State-Building*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Doyle, Michael W., and Nicholas Sambanis. 2006. *Making War and Building Peace : United Nations Peace Operations*. Princeton Paperbacks. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press.

**International Relations Program
Winter 21**

- Ejdus, Filip, and Ana E. Juncos. 2018. 'Reclaiming the Local in EU Peacebuilding: Effectiveness, Ownership, and Resistance'. *Contemporary Security Policy* 39 (1): 4–27. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13523260.2017.1407176>.
- Finkenbusch, Peter. 2016. "'Post-Liberal' Peacebuilding and the Crisis of International Authority'. *Peacebuilding* 4 (3): 247–61. <https://doi.org/10.1080/21647259.2016.1193937>.
- Gallagher, Julia, Carl Death, Meera Sabaratnam, and Karen Smith. 2016. 'Teaching Africa and International Studies: Forum Introduction'. *Politics* 36 (4): 441–52.
- Hearn, Sarah, Alejandra Kubitschek Bujones, and Alischa Kugel. 2014. *The United Nations 'Peacebuilding Architecture': Past, Present and Future*. New York: New York University, Center on International Cooperation.
- Joseph, Jonathan. 2013. 'Resilience as Embedded Neoliberalism: A Governmentality Approach'. *Resilience: International Policies, Practices and Discourses* 1 (1): 38–52.
- . 2016. 'Governing through Failure and Denial: The New Resilience Agenda'. *Millennium: Journal of International Studies* 44 (3): 370–90.
- Koddenbrock, Kai Jonas. 2016. *The Practice of Humanitarian Intervention: Aid Workers, Agencies and Institutions in the Democratic Republic of the Congo*. London and New York: Routledge.
- Mac Ginty, Roger. 2012. 'Hybrid Reconstruction: The Case of Waad in Lebanon'. In *Hybrid Forms of Peace: From Everyday Agency to Post-Liberalism*, edited by Oliver P Richmond and Audra Mitchell, 208–25. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Paris, Roland. 2004. *At War's End: Building Peace after Civil Conflict*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Read, Róisín, Bertrand Taithe, and Roger Mac Ginty. 2016. 'Data Hubris? Humanitarian Information Systems and the Mirage of Technology'. *Third World Quarterly* 37 (8): 1314–31. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01436597.2015.1136208>.
- Richmond, Oliver P. 2014. *Failed Statebuilding: Intervention, the State, and the Dynamics of Peace Formation*. New Haven and London: Yale University Press.
- Richmond, Oliver P, and Roger Mac Ginty. 2015. 'Where Now for the Critique of the Liberal Peace?' *Cooperation and Conflict* 50 (2): 171–89.
- Rutazibwa, Olivia U. 2014. 'Studying Agaciro: Moving Beyond Wilsonian Interventionist Knowledge Production on Rwanda'. *Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding* 8 (4): 291–302.
- Schmidt, Jessica. 2013. 'The Empirical Falsity of the Human Subject: New Materialism, Climate Change and the Shared Critique of Artifice'. *Resilience* 1 (3): 174–192.
- Tadjbakhsh, Shahrbanou, ed. 2011. *Rethinking the Liberal Peace. External Models and Local Alternatives*. Abingdon: Routledge.
- Winckler, J. G. 2015. 'Exceeding Limitations of the United Nations Peacekeeping Bureaucracy: Strategies of Officials to Influence Peacekeeping Activities within the United Nations Mission in Liberia and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations'. *International Peacekeeping* 22 (1): 43–64. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13533312.2014.992576>.