



IR/PO 440 EUROPEAN SECURITY: GEOPOLITICS, HUMAN SECURITY AND THE SHIFTING GLOBAL ORDER

IES Abroad Freiburg
European Union Program

SEMESTER: SPRING/FALL

DESCRIPTION:

As European security transitions from its origins in Cold War deterrence to a position within an increasingly dynamic and multipolar global landscape, shifting alliances and renewed power politics are fundamentally transforming the security environment in ways that surpass the explanatory capacity of traditional Cold War frameworks. This course critically analyzes the dynamic nature of European security in the 21st century, exploring how traditional and emerging threats intersect in a rapidly evolving geopolitical landscape. Through case studies and policy debates, students will critically evaluate defense strategies, legal and ethical frameworks, and the global implications of European security perceptions.

The course is structured in three parts, beginning with foundational theories and core concepts in international security studies. Students will engage with major theoretical approaches to security and analyze how decisions are formulated for defense, resilience, and strategic deterrence, the role of regional and global actors, non-state players, and shifting alliances. Special attention is given to the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), its relationship with global security actors such as NATO and the UN Security Council, and the institutional and strategic dimensions of European defense policymaking.

The second part of the course focuses on conventional security challenges, including the political economy of warfare, the role of the rising defense expenditure as well as growing defense industry, and the strategic implications of great power rivalries. Case studies will explore territorial conflicts in the EU's neighborhood—particularly with Russia and in the Arctic region—as well as the EU's positioning in response to global military shifts, including China's rise.

In the final section, the course examines Europe's vulnerabilities and modern threats such as irregular warfare, terrorism, cybersecurity, energy insecurity, and climate risks. Students assess how the EU and its members respond to these challenges and review strategies for resilience, crisis management, humanitarian intervention, peacekeeping, non-proliferation, economic sanctions, global norm shaping, and the EU's role as a soft power. The course concludes with a forward-looking discussion on future scenarios for European security in a multipolar world.

The European Union Program

This course is embedded in the EU Program: Law, Economics and Politics, which is an interdisciplinary program focusing on key actors, complex policymaking processes, and multilevel governance structures within Europe, as well as the EU's dynamic role in the international system. Course-related trips are a distinctive feature of the EU Program and provide a unique opportunity to connect in-class academic learning with practical experience. As part of the broader EU Program, students will visit key EU institutions in Brussels, Strasbourg and national institutions in other European cities, where they engage directly with policymakers, legislators, and civil society actors in structured meetings that provide firsthand insight into EU decision-making processes at the European and Member State levels. These lectures offer invaluable exposure to EU decision-making processes and bring to life the complex realities of international and European security.

In this context, by focusing on the EU's critical role in global security, the course offers students critical insights into how the EU shapes global norms and responds to transnational challenges. In connecting classroom learning with



direct engagement with experts at European institutions, the course strongly supports the program's commitment to experiential learning and provides students with a nuanced and practical understanding of the EU's leadership. For more details, please see the course-related trip descriptions below and the EU Program's webpage: <https://www.iesabroad.org/programs/freiburg-european-union-politics-law-economics>

CREDITS: 3

CONTACT HOURS: 45 hours

COURSE FREQUENCY: Two sessions per week

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Isik Gurleyen

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

ADDITIONAL COST: None

PREREQUISITES: At least two prior courses in international relations (e.g., International Relations Theory) or in security studies (e.g., International Security, or Conflict Studies.)

METHODS OF PRESENTATION: discussion of readings, case studies, and presentations; talks by academics and practitioners including meetings with policymakers and other relevant actors during course-related trips.

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

- Participation – 10%
- Two in-class strategic decision-making exercises 10%
- Midterm exam– 25%
- Analytical review and presentation – 20%
 - Written analytical review 15%
 - Brief oral presentation of reviews in class 5%
- Research Paper and Poster Presentation 35%
 - Written paper 25%
 - Poster presentation based on research findings 10%

Course Participation:

Active and consistent participation is a vital component of this course. Students are expected to complete all required readings prior to each session and contribute thoughtful, informed insights during class discussions. To support preparation, discussion questions based on the required readings will be posted on Moodle before each session; students are expected to reflect on these questions and be prepared to engage with them verbally during class. Written responses are not required. Recommended readings will also be provided for those who wish to explore topics in greater depth. Participation also extends to meetings during course-related trips as well as to local field trips in Freiburg. These components collectively determine the course participation grade, which will be recorded on the participation sheet to provide students with clear insight into their standing.

**In-class strategic decision-making exercises:**

Students will participate in two collaborative, in-class role-plays of fictional European security crises. Each exercise is scheduled for 20 minutes and is worth 5% (10% total) of the final grade. Working in assigned groups (3-4 students), students will assume the role of key EU-level actors such as the European External Action Service, the European Commission, and the European Parliament. As a group, students will develop strategic responses to unfolding crisis scenarios (this may include global health crises, water shortages, electricity blackouts, sabotage on critical infrastructures, etc.). These exercises are designed to foster strategic thinking, teamwork, and rapid decision-making under pressure. No prior preparation is required, as prompts and background information will be provided during the class. Assessment will focus on students' engagement, strategic reasoning, teamwork, and ability to respond effectively within the institutional perspective they represent.

Midterm Exam

The in-class written midterm (90 minutes, Session 9) will be held after the end of the first part of the course. The exam will consist of two parts:

- The first part (70% of the midterm grade) will be an essay (400-450 words) chosen from one of three alternative questions. It is designed to evaluate students' analytical engagement with the first half of the syllabus and will assess their ability to define key concepts and demonstrate understanding of the key arguments of the required readings, lectures, and in-class discussions.
- The second part (30% of midterm exam grade) will be a brief reflection (150-200 words) on key takeaways from the course meeting in Brussels during the EU Institutions course-related trip.

More detailed guidelines, a sample question and a grading rubric will be provided on the course Moodle page.

Analytical Review and Presentation*Analytical Review (15%)*

Each student will complete an individual analytical review (approximately 2,000 words) that critically examines a recent news article related to one of the session topics on European security (Sessions 4–17). The selected article must have been published within the past one to two months and should address a relevant issue such as EU foreign and security policy, NATO, cybersecurity, Arctic geopolitics, migration and border control, or energy and climate security. The review should include a concise summary of the news item and a critical analysis that applies relevant theoretical and conceptual frameworks introduced in the course. Students are expected to demonstrate their ability to connect current developments to broader themes such as strategic deterrence, resilience, soft power, multilevel governance, or the EU's evolving role in global security. The analytical review must be submitted as a Word document via Moodle prior to the student's assigned presentation date. Individual topics will be assigned in Session 2.

Detailed guidelines and a grading rubric will be available on the course Moodle page.

Presentation of Analytical Review (5%)

In addition to the written analytical review, each student will deliver a brief in-class presentation (5–6 minutes) summarizing the key findings and theoretical insights from their analytical review. The presentation should clearly communicate the relevance of the selected news item, highlight the main arguments of the analysis, and demonstrate the student's ability to apply course concepts to real-world developments. Presentations will take place during the second half of the course, with individual slots assigned in Session 2. This component is designed to foster



peer learning and encourage concise, focused communication of complex ideas.

Further guidance and a presentation rubric will be provided on the course Moodle page.

Research Paper and Poster Presentation

Research Paper (25%)

Students will write an individual research paper (3,000–4,000 words) analyzing the defense and security priorities of a selected European Union Member State. The paper should situate the national strategy within the broader context of EU security and defense policy. Students are expected to critically engage with relevant security theories and strategic concepts, demonstrating a clear understanding of the chosen Member State's strategic priorities, threat perceptions, defense policies, and its role within the EU's evolving security architecture. The paper should reflect analytical depth, use appropriate academic sources, and present a well-structured argument. An outline of the paper is due in Session 9, and the final paper must be submitted by Session 15.

Detailed guidelines and a grading rubric will be available on the course Moodle page.

Poster Presentation (10%)

In Session 19, students will present the key findings of their research paper through a visual poster presentation. The presentation (10–15 minutes, including discussion) should clearly communicate the main arguments, highlight critical insights, and reflect on the implications of the Member State's defense and security posture for the EU as a whole. The poster should be visually engaging, well-organized, and accessible to a broad audience. Students are encouraged to use visual tools (e.g., charts, maps, infographics) to support their analysis. This component is designed to foster concise communication of complex research and to facilitate peer learning.

Further instructions and a grading rubric will be provided on the course Moodle page.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- analyze core topics, concepts, and debates in international and European security using major theoretical approaches in security studies;
- apply and evaluate theoretical and scholarly frameworks to real-world European security challenges through empirical case studies.
- analyze interactions among multiple actors at international, European, and national levels that are involved in security and defense policymaking processes;
- compare and contrast contemporary security challenges and policy responses in Europe within a broader global context;
- assess how the erosion of rules-based liberal international order shapes threat perceptions, strategic priorities, and policy choices of European leaders;
- design and present an independent research project that integrates theory, empirical analysis, and evidence-based policy recommendations related to European security.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

All IES courses require attendance and participation. Attendance is mandatory per IES Abroad policy. Any unexcused absence will incur a penalty on your final course grade (1 absence - 1%, 2nd absence -2%, 3rd absence - 3%). Any student who has more than three (3) unexcused absences will receive an "F" as the final grade in the



course. Any student who misses more than 25% of a course, whether the absences are excused or are unexcused, will receive an “F” as the final grade in the course. Absences due to sickness, religious observances, and family emergencies may be excusable at the discretion of the Center Director. In the case of an excused absence, it is the student’s responsibility to inform the Academic Dean of the absence with an Official Excused Absence Form, as well as any other relevant documentation (e.g. a doctor’s note), and to keep a record thereof. The absence form must be turned in as soon as possible before the class, in the case of a planned absence, or immediately upon return to the Center, in the case of an unplanned absence, in order for the absence to be considered excused. It is also the student’s responsibility to inform the professor of the missed class. Students can collect and submit the Official Excused Absence Form from the office of the Academic Dean.

TESTS OR PRESENTATIONS MISSED DURING UNEXCUSED ABSENCES CANNOT BE MADE UP!

ASSIGNMENTS NOT HANDED IN ON THE DUE DATE WILL BE SUBJECT TO A 3% PENALTY PER DAY POST-DUE DATE (with the exception of students who have an excused absence).

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY CODE:

Regardless of the quality of work, plagiarism is punishable with a ‘failing grade’ in the class. Plagiarism may be broadly defined as “copying of materials from sources, without acknowledging having done so, claiming other’s ideas as one’s own without proper reference to them, and buying materials such as essays/exams.”

Updated information on your course and readings, including additional readings from journalistic articles, can be found on the Moodle platform at <https://moodle.iesabroad.org/login/index.php>

Use of Unauthorized Materials: The use of any books, papers, notes, Internet search results, AI-generated text, or other materials for reference during closed book examinations or other academic exercises is not allowed unless specifically permitted by the instructor.

CONTENT:

Week	Content	Assignments and Readings
Part I: Major Theories, Core Concepts, and Key Actors		
Session 1	Introduction to the Course: Foundations of International Security - Anarchical order - Major actors of the international system - Power in the International System: Unipolarity, Bipolarity, and Multipolarity - Positive and negative security - Human Security	<u>Required readings</u> - Berenskötter, “Studying with concepts,” pp. 13-26. (13 pages) - Hoogensen Gjør, “Security by any other name: negative security, positive security, and a multiactor security approach,” pp. 835-854, 858-859. (21 pages) <u>Recommended readings:</u> - Bilgin, “Security,” pp. 228-242. (14 pages) - Vejnović and Obrenović. “Human Security in Traditional Security Theories—Challenges and Perspectives,” pp: 243-255 (12 pages).

Session 2	Theoretical Underpinnings of International Security Studies - Realist School and use of force in international relations - Pluralist (Liberal) School and interdependence in international system - Critical Security Approaches: Feminist security perspective, post-colonial perspective and ontological security <i>Assignment of presentation topics and times</i>	<u>Required readings</u> - Williams et. al. "Realisms," pp. 19-39 (20 pages) - Williams et. al. "Liberalism(s) and International Security," pp. 40-59 (19 pages) <u>Recommended readings:</u> - Heathcote, "Filters and Fragments: Making Feminist Sense of Security," pp. 254–258 (4 pages). - McKeil, "The Limits of Realism after Liberal Hegemony," pp. 1–22 (22 pages). - O'Sullivan and Krulisova, "Central European subalterns speak security (too): Towards a truly post-Western feminist security studies," pp. 660–674 (14 pages).
Session 3	Decision making process in security and defense policies - Rational choice vs. Liberal perspectives - Foreign policy objectives and instruments: Brute force, diplomacy, economic sanctions, intelligence and propaganda.	<u>Required readings</u> - Pursiainen & Forsberg. "The Cognitive Limitations of Rationality," pp. 47–87 (40 pages- SKIM). - Nissen & Dreyer. "From optimist to sceptical liberalism: re forging EU foreign policy amid crises," pp: 675–690 (15 pages). <u>Recommended readings:</u> - Bueno de Mesquita. "Foreign Policy Analysis and Rational Choice Models," https://oxfordre.com/internationalstudies/display/10.1093/acrefore/9780190846626.001.0001/acrefore-9780190846626-e-395 (29 pages).
Session 4	Global Security Institutions and Alliances - The UN Security Council in a new geopolitical system - Shifting alliances in a turbulent geostrategic context - The United States and NATO	<u>Required readings</u> - Gowan, "The UN Security Council: still room for compromise?," pp: 249–259 (10 pages) - Olsson and Tryggestad, "Backlash and Progress in a New Geopolitical Reality: Women, Peace and Security and the Ambiguous Role of the UN Security Council," pp: 25-38 (13 pages). <u>Recommended readings:</u>

		• Forsberg and Christiansson, "Conclusion: A Strategic Shift and Its Paradoxes", pp: 146-153 (7 pages). • Hardt, "NATO after the invasion of Ukraine: how the shock changed alliance cohesion," pp. 8373–8401 (28 pages). • Helmuller et al., "Rethinking UN Peace and Security engagements in a changing world," pp: 261-271 (10 pages). • Wessels and Rose, "A Choice of Allies", pp: 15-28 (13 pages).
Session 5	Intergovernmental cooperation vs. Supranational Integration: Security at the EU Level • Supranational governance in European Security • The EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy • Diverging threat perceptions vs. collective security and defense interests • EU's Strategic Autonomy and Strategic Compass • European Defense Fund	<u>Required readings</u> • Berger, "A Europe of defense? The establishment of binding commitments and supranational governance in European security and defense", pp: 403–418 (15 pages). • Fiott, "The three images of EU strategic autonomy: perspectives on wedging, binding and hedging," pp: 825-842 (16 pages). <u>Recommended readings:</u> • Hofmann, "Organizing European security in yet another geopolitical era: consensus escapism or compartmentalized multilateralism?," pp: 919–930 (11 pages). • Ossa, "European strategic autonomy in the transatlantic security context: American perceptions of European security and defense integration 1998-2022," pp: 495-518 (23 pages). • Sweeney, & Winn, "Understanding the ambition in the EU's Strategic Compass: a case for optimism at last?," pp. 192–210 (18 pages).

Session 6	Warfare and Political Economy of Security - Strengthening military capabilities in a multipolar international system - The Military–Industrial Complex - Defense industries beyond Europe: China, emerging powers and Global South - Technological transformation of warfare: drones and digital-industrial ecosystems	<u>Required readings</u> - Andersson and Britz, “The European Union’s role in European defence industry policy,” pp. 322-341 (19 pages) - Tripathi and Sablin, “Introduction: Technology, Energy and Warfare in Evolving Geopolitics,” pp: 1-3 (3 pages) <u>Recommended readings:</u> - Bellais, “Market Structures, Competition and Innovation: Grounds for an Alternative Defence Industrial Policy. Defence and Peace Economics,” pp: 448–463 (15 pages). - Mawdsley & Martins “War economy vs European Silicon Valley? The EU's competing sociotechnical imaginaries of defence innovation and industry,” pp: 1-20 (20 pages). - Newlove-Eriksson and Eriksson, “Conceptualizing the European military-civilian-industrial complex: the need for a helicopter perspective”, pp: 561–588 (27 pages). - Streeck, "Notes on the political economy of war," pp: 19-33 (14 pages).
Part 2: Conventional Threats and Great Power Rivalries		
Session 7	Regional Security Challenge I - From interdependence in post-Cold War to revisionist Russia since 2008 - The Russia-Ukraine conflict and EU’s multilayered response - Energy weaponization	<u>Required readings</u> - Genini, " How the war in Ukraine has transformed the EU’s Common Foreign and Security Policy," pp. 1-22, (22 pages pages). <u>Recommended readings:</u> - Bellamy, "The Responsibility to Protect in a Time of War: Ukraine and Beyond," pp. 2115–2133 (18 pages). - Genini, "How the war in Ukraine has transformed the EU’s Common Foreign and Security Policy," pp. 22-43 (21 pages).
Experiencing Europe: “EU Parliament” Course Related Trip Destinations: Strasbourg, France (1 day)		

Session 8	Regional Security Challenge II - Assessing emerging threats in the EU's immediate neighborhood - Geostrategic significance of Arctic region - Political (in)stability in the Western Balkans - Preparation for course meeting in Brussels: The Brussels Institute for Geopolitics - TBC https://big-europe.eu/home	<u>Required readings</u> - Cotta, "Navigating Arctic realities: Geopolitics, security, and climate change," pp. 41–65 (24 pages). <u>Recommended readings:</u> - Hoogensen Gjørsv, "Security by any other name: negative security, positive security, and a multiactor security approach," pp. 854-859 (3 pages). - Trbojevic an et. al. "Security policies and sustainable development in the Western Balkan region beyond 2022: current status, challenges, and prospects," pp: 1-12 (12 pages).
Experiencing Europe: "EU Institutions" Course Related Trip Destinations: Brussels, Belgium, and Paris, France (7 days)		
Session 9	Global Power Shifts and the EU - Emerging power constellations and the EU's strategic positioning in a multipolar international system - China's rise as a military power (Western Balkans, Africa and elsewhere) - Security constraints and opportunities in the Indo-Pacific <i>Research Paper outline due</i>	<u>Required readings</u> - Anghel, "Global risks to the EU", pp: 1-11, (10 pages). - Bonifert, "The Global South as 'Europe's Jungle': A Postcolonial Critique of EU Foreign Policy in a Changing World Order," pp: 107-116, 122-124 (13 pages). <u>Recommended readings:</u> - Atanassova-Cornelis, et. al. "Security Order and Strategic Alignment in Europe and the Asia-Pacific: Times of Global Power Shifts," pp: 1-7 (7 pages). - Caruso and Ruehlig, "The dependence gap in Russia-China relations" https://www.iss.europa.eu/publications/analysis/dependence-gap-russia-china-relations (25 pages). - Cottey, "NATO and China: a mission too far?," pp. 699-706 (7 pages) - Ditrych and Everts, "Unpowering Russia: How to do it," pp. 80-85 (5 pages).
Session 10	Mid-term examination	
Part 3: Europe's Vulnerabilities and Emerging Threats		

Session 11	Irregular Warfare and Hybrid Threats - Defining irregular wars, insurgencies, coup d'états, civil war, war of independence, and hybrid warfare - European Strategies for countering irregular and hybrid warfare	<u>Required readings</u> - Parkes, "Introduction: The EU's Responses to Hybrid Threats," pp. 4–10, (6 pages). - Bartoszewicz, "Hybrid Everything, Operational Nothing: Conceptual Drift, Perpetual Crisis, and the Failure to Prepare for Proxy Terrorism", pp: 1-19 (19 pages). <u>Recommended readings:</u> - Renz, "Russia's Hybrid Warfare: Going Beyond the Label," pp. 283–300 (17 pages). - Victoria, "Europe's Vulnerabilities in Modern Conflict", pp:23-28, 68-85 (5, 17 pages).
Session 12	Non-State Actors and Asymmetric Threats - Political violence and terrorism - Counterterrorism strategies and coordination in Europe	<u>Required readings</u> - D'Amato & Terlizzi, "Strategic European counterterrorism? An empirical analysis," pp. 540–557 (17 pages) <u>Recommended readings:</u> - Bures and Bätz, "European Union and the fight against terrorism: a differentiated integration theory perspective", pp. 75–104 (29 pages). - Coolsaet and Renard, "The Evolution of the Threat in Jihadi Terrorism in Europe After the Islamic State", pp. 1–13, (13 pages).
Session 13	Environmental Security - Climate related security risks - Water scarcity - Food Safety	<u>Required readings</u> - Hardt and Armino, "Climate change and security: the case of the European Union," pp: 127 – 141 (14 pages) - Jarchow and Lonardo, "EU Sustainable Water Diplomacy: Security Challenges in EU External Relations Law," pp: 279-303 (24 pages). - Youngs, et al. "The EU's Triple-Nexus Challenge: Climate, Conflict, Democracy," pp: 1-7 (7 pages). <u>Recommended readings:</u>

		- Papale and Castelli, "Russia, Ukraine and food warfare," pp: 23–42 (19 pages). - Mudie-Mantz and Werz, "Turning Dependency into Despair: Methods of Using Food as Long-Range Weapon," pp. 1-8 (8 pages). - Tarif, "Climate Change, Human Mobility and Security", pp.1-8 (8 pages).
Experiencing Europe: The European Union Funds in the Region Destination: South Baden, Germany (see selection in description below) (1 day)		
Session 14	Cybersecurity and Information Warfare - Foundations of cyberspace and cyber threats - Cybercrime - Cyberwar - Disinformation and misinformation - EU's pursuit of digital sovereignty to mitigate vulnerabilities in critical digital infrastructure	<u>Required readings</u> - Farrand, et. al. "The new geopolitics of EU cybersecurity: security, economy and sovereignty," pp: 2379–2397 (18 pages). - Morse and Pratt, "Information disorder and global politics," pp. 26-43, (16 pages). <u>Recommended readings:</u> - Davies, "France to ditch US Platforms Microsoft Teams, Zoom for 'sovereign platform' citing security concerns," https://www.euronews.com/next/2026/01/27/france-to-ditch-us-platforms-microsoft-teams-zoom-for-sovereign-platform-amid-security-con (3-4 minutes). - Javadi, et. al. "The European Union's missing voice: member states' forum shopping in military AI governance" pp: 2-22 (20 pages). - Kello, "The Meaning of the Cyber Revolution: Perils to Theory & Statecraft," pp. 7–40, (34 pages).
Session 15	Energy Security - Dependence vs. interdependence - Critical infrastructure and strategic investment - Securitization of energy	<u>Required readings</u> - Mikulska and Finley, "Asymmetric Interdependence and Wielding the Energy Weapon: Russia and the EU Post Russian Invasion of Ukraine," pp. 39–44 (5 pages) - Siddi, "The EU's Energy Security after Russia's Invasion of Ukraine," pp. 854–874, (20 pages). <u>Recommended readings:</u>

	Research Paper due	- Goldthau and Sitter, "Power, authority and security: the EU's Russian gas dilemma," pp. 1–18 (18 pages). - Karoui, "The EU's Limited Leverage: Normative Power vs. Gulf Realpolitik", pp. 126-133 (7 pages).
Experiencing Europe: "EU Member States Course Related Trip" Destinations: 2 countries (see selection in description below) – 7 days		
Session 16	Economic Security and Financial Instruments - EU's soft power as a security instrument - Economic statecraft - EU's economic, financial and trade vulnerabilities	<u>Required readings</u> - Perfetto, "Weaponization of Interdependence: Unpacking European Ontological Anxieties," pp. 33–65, (32 pages). <u>Recommended readings:</u> - Pertiwi, "The EU's Approach to Sanctions on Russia: A Critical Analysis of the Existing Literature," pp. 61–86 (25 pages).
Session 17	Transnational Organized Crime and Illicit Networks - Human trafficking and securitization of migration - Europol - EU collaboration for arms smuggling and organized crime - Financial crimes	<u>Required readings</u> - Europol, "European Union Serious and Organized Crime Threat Assessment (SOCTA) 2023 – Executive Summary," pp. 1–10, (10 pages). - Chick, "Securitization of African Migrants in Europe and North America," pp. 37-56, (19 pages). <u>Recommended readings:</u> - Snaphaan, and van Ruitenburg, "Financial crime scripting: An analytical method to generate, organise and systematise knowledge on the financial aspects of profit-driven crime," pp. 695-715 (20 pages).
Session 18	Future scenarios for European Security in the post-liberal international order - Transatlantic renaissance - Total fragmentation - A European Army	<u>Required readings</u> - Schuetz & Schwarzer, "Europe in 2030: Three Security Scenarios," pp. 1–12, (12 pages) <u>Recommended readings:</u> - Fiott, "European Defense in 2040," pp. 1–20 (20 pages). - Albert, "Introduction to the Special Issue—COVID-19, International Relations, and Security Studies: Has the

		Pandemic Altered the Study and Practice of International Security?" pp: 4–10 (6 pages).
Session 19	Final presentations • Student presentations of their individual research papers	

COURSE-RELATED TRIPS:

- Franco-German History Trip: Alsace, France – 1 day
During the first course-related trip you will visit two significant historical and cultural landmarks in Franco-German history. You will have guided tours and learn about how age-old controversies and catastrophes in the heartland of Europe are represented, the role of memorials in constructing a European identity, and the challenges of overcoming centuries of conflict and rivalry.
- Germany in Europe: Then and Now Trip: Berlin, Germany – 5 days
During the course-related trip to Berlin, you will continue to learn about the past and present of German culture, economy, and politics of Germany. Historically, this capital is a crucial place if one wants to understand the importance German politics has for the dynamics of European integration. In Berlin, you will learn about the fall of the Berlin Wall, the reunification of Europe after the end of the Cold War, the challenges that emerged during the process of post-communist transition and Germany's hegemonic position within the EU.
- EU Parliament Trip: Strasbourg, France – 1 day
During this one-day trip, which is thematically linked to the EU Institutions trip you will visit the European Parliament in session in Strasbourg, France. There you will attend the parliamentary session and meet a Member of European Parliament who will discuss current events and elaborate on the workings of the European Parliament.
- EU Institutions Trip: Brussels, Belgium and Paris, France – 7 days
This course-related trip will take you first to Brussels, the EU's institutional power center. In Brussels you will have the opportunity to meet with not only EU officials but also representatives of national delegations to the EU, think tanks and NGOs, as well as academic experts. The EU institutions you will visit include the European Commission, the Council of the EU and the European Council, and you will have a chance to discuss with those actors who draft, shape, and finally take decisions in the European Union. You will continue to have first-hand experience of the EU by visiting various agencies, institutions, and museums in Paris, you will meet French academic experts to discuss French culture, economy, politics, and society.
- EU Funds in the Region Trip: South Baden, Germany – 1 day
This day trip will start with a meeting where an expert from the region will introduce you to EU's agricultural and structural funds and their implementation with examples from the region. Following the meeting, you will visit a family farm that is typical of South Baden.
- EU Member States Trip - 7 days
Students choose 1 out of the three following course-related trip options, e.g.:
 1. Stockholm, Sweden; Warsaw, Poland/Prague, Czechia
 2. Rome, Italy; Budapest, Hungary
 3. Athens, Greece; Sofia, Bulgaria/Bucharest, Romania

The destinations may vary according to the topicality and nature of challenges of the EU and its integration process. The member states of the EU are still characterized by different state structures, economic ideologies, and cultural identities. This last course-related trip gives you the opportunity to choose between three different trip options. On these trips, you will learn about the current challenges of European integration. Experiencing the particularities and cultural diversity of these societies is essential in order to understand the variation in terms of domestic debates and

national preferences when it comes to such important issues like, for instance, immigration, macroeconomic integration as well as European security.

The local field trip destinations may vary based on topical relevance and evolving contexts in the field of international environmental law.

REQUIRED READINGS:

- Anghel, Veronica, "Global risks to the EU", EUI, RSC, Research Project Report, European Governance and Politics Programme, 2025.
- Andersson, Jan Joel & Malena Britz. "The European Union's role in European defence industry policy," *Defence Studies*, 25:2, pp. 322-341, 2025.
- Bartoszewicz, Monika G. "Hybrid Everything, Operational Nothing: Conceptual Drift, Perpetual Crisis, and the Failure to Prepare for Proxy Terrorism" *European Journal for Security Research*, pp: 1-19, 2025.
- Bellais, Renaud. "Market Structures, Competition and Innovation: Grounds for an Alternative Defence Industrial Policy. Defence and Peace Economics," 35:4 pp: 448-463, 2024.
- Berenskötter, Felix (ed.), *Concepts in International Relations. A New Introduction*, London, 2026.
- Berger, Tina E. "A Europe of defense? The establishment of binding commitments and supranational governance in European security and defense" *Journal of European Integration* 47:3, pp: 403-422, 2025.
- Bonifert, Rita. "The Global South as 'Europe's Jungle': A Postcolonial Critique of EU Foreign Policy in a Changing World Order," *Central European Journal of International and Security Studies* 19:3, pp: 107-128, 2025.
- Chick, Edmond, "Securitization of African Migrants in Europe and North America" in *Contemporary Security Issues: Understanding Security within the Realm of State Power*, Port Louis, Mauritius, 2025.
- Cotta, Filippo A. "Navigating Arctic realities: Geopolitics, security, and climate change." *Il Politico*, 89(1), pp. 41-65, 2024.
- D'Amato, Silvia & Andrea Terlizzi. "Strategic European counterterrorism? An empirical analysis." *European Security*, 31(4), pp. 540-557, 2022.
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FURTHER RESOURCES:

For updates on European security, it is recommended to visit the following websites:

- Arctic Institute <https://www.thearcticinstitute.org/category/article/>
- Brussels Institute for Geopolitics <https://big-europe.eu/home>
- CEPS- Center for European Policy Studies <https://www.ceps.eu/about-ceps/>
- European External Action Service <https://www.eeas.europa.eu/en>
- European Policy Center <https://www.epc.eu/>



- European Union Institute for Security Studies <https://www.iss.europa.eu/>
- ENISA- European Union Agency for Cybersecurity <https://www.enisa.europa.eu/>
- Finnish Institute of International Affairs <https://fiia.fi/en/>
- French Institute of International Relations <https://www.ifri.org/en>
- German Institute for International and Security Affairs <https://www.swp-berlin.org/en/>
- Istituto Affari Internazionali <https://www.iai.it/en>
- Munich Security Conference <https://securityconference.org/en/>
- Stockholm International Peace Research Institute <https://www.sipri.org/>
- The Peace Research Institute Oslo <https://www.prio.org/>

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