“The Politics of Multinational Military Operations”

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Guest Course
Charles University, Prague, November 6-8, 2019

Course Description

This course will introduce participants to current topics surrounding the politics of international security, and specifically political debates surrounding countries’ participation in multinational military operations, taking a comparative perspective. The three-day course will be split into six sessions, starting with (1) a general introduction to gain an overview over recent political and academic debates surrounding these topics. Individual sessions will focus on (2) party politics and security policy, (3) parliamentary involvement in decision-making on the use of military force, (4) the British parliament and war involvement, (5) coalition and alliance dynamics, including coalition formation, burden-sharing, and coalition withdrawal, and (6) national restrictions in multinational military operations.

Instructor Information

Patrick A. Mello is Visiting Scholar at the Willy Brandt School of Public Policy at the University of Erfurt, Germany. His research focuses on international security, foreign policy analysis, and qualitative research methods, especially fuzzy-set Qualitative Comparative Analysis (QCA), on which he is currently completing a textbook for Georgetown University Press. His book Democratic Participation in Armed Conflict: Military Involvement in Kosovo, Afghanistan, and Iraq (Palgrave Macmillan) received the 2015 Dissertation Award from the German Political Science Association (DVPW).

Course Structure and Assessment

Each course session comprises a lecture part and ample room for in-class discussions and debates. The course assessment will be based on a research paper of about 4000 words length. Among other requirements, research papers must include a clearly-defined research question, a concise review of existing literature on the topic, and an empirical section. Details and potential paper topics will be discussed throughout the course.
**Schedule and Session Overview**

**Wednesday, 6 November 2019**

(1) 17.00–18.15 hrs  
**Introduction: The Politics of International Security**

*Mandatory reading:*


(2) 18.30–20.00 hrs  
**Party Politics and Security Policy**

*Mandatory reading:*


**Thursday, 7 November 2019**

(3) 17.00–18.15 hrs  
**Parliaments in Security Policy**

*Mandatory reading:*

(4) 18.30–20.00 hrs

The British Parliament and War Involvement

*Mandatory reading:*


Friday, 8 November 2019

(5) 11.00–12.15 hrs

Military Coalitions: Formation and Defection

*Mandatory reading:*


(6) 12.30–14.00 hrs

National Restrictions in Multinational Military Operations

*Mandatory reading:*

Further Reading (Selection)


