INAF 5409/PSCI 4809: Securing the Flank: Security Challenges from the Baltics to the Black Sea

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Course Description
This course aims to explore the contemporary security challenges the Transatlantic community faces in NATO's eastern flank, from the Baltic Sea to the Black Sea. We will explore those challenges (from military confrontation to cyber and information warfare, from democratic backsliding to alliance cohesion) and the policies/strategies of the major actors involved. The course includes a crisis simulation/wargame that will enable the students to put their newly acquired knowledge and skills to use.

We will use a hybrid of asynchronous and synchronous approaches to online teaching. There will be videos that you can follow on your own in addition to the readings. We will also have weekly live Q&A sessions on the readings and assigned webinars/videos. We will be meeting weekly at:

h ps://carleton-ca.zoom.us/j/91072369629?pwd=b05ncjVYM3JLM3FuU3kwTHJwV1FyZz09

Meeting ID: 910 7236 9629
Passcode: 809984

The course will include a policy brief writing workshop and a wargame where you can use the knowledge acquired in the class in a real-world like se ing.

Learning Outcomes:
1. Understand the most important security issues and the policies and strategies of major actors in the Baltics and the Black Sea.
2. Acquire knowledge of recent developments in the field and able to reflect on the future developments in these regions.
3. Describe, understand, and analyze the security challenges in the regions under investigation.
4. Understand and critically analyze the policies of major actors in the relevant regions.

5. Acquire hands-on experience in dealing with geopolitical and geoeconomic events in the real world through crisis simulation and policy brief writing.

Schedule

Sept. 13 Introduction

Sept. 20 Traditional Security Challenges to NATO's Eastern Flank

Andrea Kendall-Taylor & Jeffrey Edmonds (2019) IV. The Evolution of the Russian Threat to NATO, Whitehall Papers, 95:1, 54-66, DOI: 10.1080/02681307.2019.1731209

Stephanie Pezard and Ashley Rhoades. 2020. What Provokes Putin's Russia? Deterring Without Unintended Escalation. RAND.
h ps://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/perspectives/PE300/PE338/RAND_PE338.pdf

Clint Reach et. al. 2021. Competing with Russia: Militarily Implications of Conventional and Nuclear Conflicts. RAND. Available at
h ps://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/perspectives/PE300/PE330/RAND_PE330.pdf

Sten RYNNING. 2019. NATO's Futures: the Atlantic Alliance between Power and Purpose NDC Research Paper No. 2 - March 2019, available at [NATO's Futures: the Atlantic Alliance between Power and Purpose](#)p. 1 - 20

Video: The Future of NATO's Nuclear Deterrence Posture. 2021. DGAP.
h ps://youtu.be/aHUmHR h5Y

Sept. 27 Below the Threshold: Subversion, Disinformation, and Hybrid Warfare

Breitenbauch, H. and Byrjalsen, N., 2019. Subversion, Statecraft and Liberal Democracy. Survival, 61(4), pp.31-41.

Ben Connable et.al. 2020. Russia's Hostile Measures: Combating Russian Gray Zone Aggression Against NATO in the Contact, Blunt, and Surge Layers of Competition. RAND Corporation. ([Russia's Hostile Measures: Combating Russian Gray Zone Aggression Against NATO in the Contact, Blunt, and Surge Layers of Co](#))

Video: Russian Political War. 2019. RUSI. h ps://youtu.be/BW9bIFG88Qo

Video: Does Hybrid Warfare Exist? 2018. RUSI. h ps://youtu.be/1nob7-cYiLY

Oct. 4 Securing the Baltics: Deterring Russian Aggression in the Eastern Flank

Stephen J. Flanagan et.al. 2019. Deterring Russian Aggression in the Baltic States Through Resilience and Resistance. RAND Corporation. [Deterring Russian Aggression in the Baltic States Through Resilience and Resistance](#)

Veebel, Viljar. 2019. "Researching Baltic security challenges after the annexation of Crimea", Journal on Baltic Security 5, 1: 41-52, doi: [Researching Baltic security challenges after the annexation of Crimea](#)

Christian Leuprecht et. al. 2020. Leveraging the eFP: Future Multilateral Cooperation. Defence and Security Foresight Group Working Paper. [h ps://uwaterloo.ca/defence-security-foresight-group/sites/ca.defence-security-foresight -group/files/uploads/files/dsfg_leuprecht_lanoszka_derow_muti_workingpaper.pdf](#)

Video: Securing the Flank: Defending Canada's allies and partners from the Baltics to the Black Sea. MLI. 2021. [h ps://youtu.be/EGaq9-XichA](#)

Video: Standing Guard: What have learned from the eFP on NATO's Frontier? MLI. 2021. [h ps://youtu.be/JhwcldkGAPA](#)

Oct. 11 NO CLASS - Thanksgiving

Oct. 18 Workshop: How to write policy briefs

Fonberg, Robert. 2020. Practical Guide to Writing Briefing Notes in the Government of Canada. Defence and Security Foresight Group. Available at [h ps://uwaterloo.ca/defence-security-foresight-group/sites/ca.defence-security-foresight -group/files/uploads/files/dsfg_policy_brief_writing_guide_v2.pdf](#)

Oct. 25 FALL BREAK

Nov 1 Black Sea Security - Re-emergence of Security Competition

Flanagan, Stephen J. and Chindea, Irina. 2020. Russia, NATO, and Black Sea Security. RAND Corporation. ([h ps://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/research_reports/RRA300/RRA357-1/RAND_RRA357-1.pdf](#))

Video: One Flank, One Threat, One Presence: A Strategy for NATO's Eastern Flank. CEPA. 2020. [h ps://youtu.be/Fz0jnuwrBsA](#)

Nov 8 Looking Ahead: The future of NATO

NATO 2030: United for a New Era (Reflection Group Final Report). 2021. Available at [h ps://www.nato.int/nato_static_fl2014/assets/pdf/2020/12/pdf/201201-Reflection-Grou p-Final-Report-Uni.pdf](https://www.nato.int/nato_static_fl2014/assets/pdf/2020/12/pdf/201201-Reflection-Grou p-Final-Report-Uni.pdf)

Nicholas Burns and Douglas Lute. 2019. NATO at Seventy: An Alliance in Crisis. Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard Kennedy School, available at NATO at Seventy (PDF)

Sten RYNNING. 2019. NATO's Futures: the Atlantic Alliance between Power and Purpose NDC Research Paper No. 2 - March 2019, available at NATO's Futures: the Atlantic Alliance between Power and Purpose p. 21 - 53.

Video: Is NATO Prepared for the Future? Reflections on NATO 2030: United for a New Era? Wilson Center. 2021. [h ps://youtu.be/rjdoJimltA8](https://youtu.be/rjdoJimltA8)

Nov 15 Introduction to Wargaming - Tutorial

Nov 22 Policy Brief presentations and Peer Feedback

Nov 29 Wargame (crisis scenario TBD)

Dec 6 Policy Briefs are due

Evaluation

Wargame performance (20%): We will do a crisis wargame/simulation exercise (topic to be announced) on November 29 that will enable you to put your newly acquired knowledge into practice in a simulated international crisis. You will be part of a team of 2 or 3 students. Your team and role assignments will be provided before the wargame. The simulation will take place online. Details of the wargame will be provided in due course. Taking active part in the simulation is required and expected.

Policy Briefs (50%): You will be delivering *two policy briefs* for the Canadian government (it could be the Privy Council Office (PCO), Department of National Defense, or Global Affairs Canada) on *two separate issues* relevant for the course. Your policy briefs can take the form of either *wri en briefs* (around 1200-1500 words each excluding references) or *video briefs* (10 to 12 minutes accompanied by a brief synopsis/summary of ~250 words). It's up to you to choose whether you want to do both of your briefs as wri en or video or do one of each. You have to confirm your topics with me by October 18. There will be a session/workshop on how to write a policy brief on October 18. There will also be a peer-feedback session on your policy brief drafts on November 22. Policy briefs are due

<u>December 6</u>. Further guidance will be provided in due course. There will be no final exam.

Presentations (15%): You will give a 5 min presentation on only <u>ONE</u> of your policy briefs on <u>November 22</u>. You are allowed to use 2 powerpoint slides (excluding title slide). Further instructions will be discussed at the October 18 policy brief workshop.

Peer-Feedback (5%): You will be providing wri en (one paragraph, ~150 words) feedback for two of your classmates' policy briefs after their presentation.

Class Participation (10%): Regular a endance and active participation during class discussions are expected.

Carleton University's grading system will be used for the evaluation.

cuLearn

This course uses Brightspace, Carleton's learning management system. To access your course on Brightspace go to h p://brightspace.carleton.ca. For help and support, go to h p://carleton.ca/culearnsupport/students. Any unresolved questions can be directed to Computing and Communication Services (CCS) by phone at 613-520-3700 or via email at ccs_service_desk@carleton.ca.

Communications

Please do not hesitate to contact the instructor if you have any questions or concerns. Please use your Carleton email account for all course-related correspondence and make sure to include "INAF 5409" in the subject line. Students are encouraged to check Brightspace and their Carleton email account regularly for all course-related correspondence and announcements.

Copyrights

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Plagiarism

The University Senate defines plagiarism as "presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own." This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublishedmaterial, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source;

- submi ing a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignmentwri en, in whole or in part, by someone else;

- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideaswithout appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;

- using another's data or research findings;

- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when usinganother's works and/or failing to use quotation marks;

- handing in substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than oncewithout prior wri en permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course's instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course. The Academic integrity policy can be accessed at h p://www2.carleton.ca/studentaffairs/academic-integrity.

Complementarity: Students are encouraged to build up expertise in areas that may cross multiple courses. It is acceptable to write assignments on related topics. However you may not simply cut and paste your work from one assignment to another, or essentially submit the same work for two or more assignments in the same or different courses. If you plan on writing on related topics in different courses, you must inform the instructors and discuss what will be acceptable in terms of overlap, and what is not. Failure to notify the faculty members will be viewed unfavorably should there be a suspicion of misconduct.