Global Security challenges in this turbulent year 2017

Instructor: Prof. Pere Vilanova (Universitat de Barcelona); Dr. Pol Morillas (CIDOB); Coronel Ignacio Fuente Cobo (IEEE-Ministerio Defensa); Representative of the Mossos d’Esquadra

Date: June 26 - 30
Time: 11.30 am - 13.30 am
Room: 24.133 Fred Halliday - Mercè Rodoreda Building 24 (Floor 1)

This course will explore and make an assessment of the situation of Global Security in this turbulent year of 2017. We will explore the main challenges, elements of instability and uncertainties, as well as the profile that major actors are taking in the ongoing scenarios. Interactions among actors, trends of conflicts (new and old), and prospects for regional cooperation will be considered. The sessions will go around the following topics:

- The concept of National and supranational security scenarios and strategies: threats, risks, uncertainties.
- The instruments of national and supranational security policies.
- Europe in the storm? European strategies, European interests, problems ahead.
- Some conclusions: rethinking global governance from a strategic perspective.
Session 1. General Introduction: deconstructing the concept of Global Security (Pere Vilanova)

This session will be devoted to the study of the overall theoretical relevant framework concerning “Global Security”: the world political system and some analytical tools to define the concept conflict resolution, negotiation, stabilization, democratization.

Web of the European Union
Http://europa.eu.int/

Site of the United Nations
Http://www.un.org/depts/ptd)

Web of NATO
Http://www.nato.int/home.htm

Web of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
Http://www.osce.org/

Web of the Peace Research Institute of Oslo
Http://www.prio.no/

Web of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute
Http://www.sipri.se/

The Web Institute Affari internazionali
Http://www.iai.it/

Website of the Institute for War and Peace Reporting
http://www.iwpr.net

Session 2. Mossos d’Esquadra: a modern Police with social vocation (Representative Mossos d’Esquadra)

The goal of this session is to show, from a strategic perspective, how the threat, that we are facing, concerning extremist violent groups is shifting towards organized groups that work and structure themselves as a net. In order to develop such perspective the representative of the Mossos presents, on the one hand a conceptual framework as well as those determinant factors that influence the phenomena. On the other hand, he speaks in deep of the changing process of these groups regarding their organizational structures and functions. And finally, he presents an outlook of the main threats we face here in Catalonia nowadays and in the close future.

- Mossos d’Esquadra: a social approach of the Police
- Community Policing: strengthening civil society (prevention, assistance and relief)
Fighting Serious Crime and Organized Crime: confronting the noiseless threat
Fighting Extremism and Terrorism: tackling the radicalization and political and religious violence
Study cases


Session 3. The Spanish Vision on International Security (Coronel Ignacio Fuente Cobo)

Required reading:

https://www.cidob.org/en/publications/publication_series/monographs/monographs/the_spanish_security_strategy_ees_everyone_s_responsibility

Session 4. Europe’s security strategies in a changing global environment (Pol Morillas)

Brexit and Trump’s election were read as severe backlashes to the liberal international order founded more than 60 years ago with the end of World War II. The most prominent promoters of an international order based on liberalism and open societies were turning inwards, expressing a willingness to abandon the EU and electing an isolationist President. But do Trump’s election and Brexit really represent the demise of the liberal international order? Soon after, we have witnessed the defeat of populist leaders in Netherlands and France, where an alternative to the “Populist International” has emerged, also bringing back the relevance of the European Union and its ideas. Simultaneously, the EU is making progress in elucidating its role in global affairs, following the publication of its EU Global Strategy a couple of days after Brexit and carefully designing its implementation plan with the aim to reinforce its contribution in security and defence matters and to enhance the coherence of its external action. This session will present the main challenges to international relations and security after Brexit and Trump’s election and will analyse continuity and change in the EU’s role in international affairs, drawing from the insights provided by the European Security Strategy of 2003 and the EU Global Strategy of 2016.
Required reading:


https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/2016-12-12/liberalism-retreat

Session 5. Some Conclusions: Order and Disorder on a Global Scale (Pere Vilanova)

In search of some relevant conclusions, this session will explore trends towards order and disorder on a global scale, as well as emerging factors of conflict and stabilization, for example in some geopolitical subsystems of a special regional importance.

Spanish Security Strategy 2013: Everyone’s responsibility  
https://www.cidob.org/en/publications/publication_series/monographs/monographs/the_spanish_security_strategy_ees_everyone_s_responsibility

Center for Conflict Analysis at the University of Ulster and the United Nations University  
Http://www.incore.ulst.ac.uk/cds/countries/

Website of the International Crisis Group  
Http://www.crisisweb.org/

Web of Human Rights Watch, on human rights  
http://www.hrw.org/

Web of Cidob  
http://www.cidob.org