

ECTS Syllabus

Course Title	European Foreign and Security Policy in the era of Transatlantic Shifts and Tech Revolutions				
Course Code	PGT-308				
Course Type	Elective				
Prerequisite	PGT-104				
Level	1st cycle				
Year / Semester	6th-8th semester				
Teacher's Name	Dr. Constantinos Adamides				
ECTS	6	Lectures / week	1	Laboratories / week	N/A
Course Purpose and Objectives	Purpose: This course provides a comprehensive exploration of European Foreign and Security Policy, with a particular emphasis on the transformations brought about by shifting transatlantic relations and rapid technological change. It aims to equip students with a critical understanding of the EU's foreign policy instruments, strategic objectives, and the obstacles it faces in a complex and evolving global landscape. By analyzing the EU's response to contemporary challenges such as geopolitical conflicts, technological disruptions, and transatlantic tensions, the course seeks to foster nuanced perspectives on the EU's role as an international actor and the future of European security. Objectives: • The main goal of the course is twofold: to provide a reflective analysis of the goals and the underlying logic driving the formulation and evolution of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP). • Evaluate the major challenges the European Union (EU) encounters in implementing its foreign and security policy goals, particularly in the context of changing transatlantic relations and rapid technological advancements. • Critically examine the EU Global Strategy, assessing the feasibility of its proposed goals in light of transatlantic realignments and the impact of technological disruptions. • Focus on the EU's challenges and opportunities in its pursuit to become a global geopolitical actor, especially considering the impact of the war in Ukraine, transatlantic dynamics, and the transformative effects of technology.				

	• Analyze the challenges and potential risks associated with the EU's 'de-risking' strategies in a world shaped by shifting alliances and technological dependencies. • Explore the future trajectory of EU-NATO relations and the broader prospects for European defense cooperation, taking into account both transatlantic tensions and the potential for technological innovation to reshape military capabilities. • Focus on contemporary EU foreign and security developments, including disinformation campaigns, terrorism, immigration pressures, the war in Ukraine, and tensions in the Eastern Mediterranean, while also examining the roles of transatlantic relations and technological factors in exacerbating or mitigating these challenges.
Learning Outcomes	After completion of the course students are expected to be able to: 1. Illustrate knowledge of the historical evolution and present development of CFSP and CSDP. 2. Assess and appraise the composition and functioning of the CFSP and CSDP. 3. Discuss the complexity of inter-state relations and state power balance within the Union in the context of the CFSP/CSDP. 4. Analyze whether and to what extent the 27 EU member states have managed to create a common and coherent foreign policy. 5. Assess the processes and interests that shape the steps and decisions undertaken by the EU member states and the Union as a whole concerning foreign and defense policy matters. 6. Assess the EU's ability to deal with border conflicts. 7. Assess the EU's ability to act as a geopolitical and geostrategic actor and as a security provider for the neighborhood (not least by analyzing the EU's Global Strategy). 8. Assess the geopolitical challenges faced by the EU, following the war in Ukraine, but also the contemporary challenges such as disinformation and other hybrid threats. 9. Demonstrate comprehension of the foreign and defense policies of the EU vis-à-vis third states and regions as mentioned above. 10. Demonstrate comprehension and ability to analyze the impact of EU foreign and security policy regarding specific contemporary issues such as the geopolitical developments in the East Med region, terrorism, the exit of the UK from the EU, and the war in Ukraine. 11. Demonstrate a strong ability to comprehend the EU's challenges in balancing its relationship with the US and the growing pressure from China. 12. Analyze the extent to which the EU can de-risk before creating major vulnerabilities. 13. Critically assess how the technological developments create challenges for the EU coping as a major geopolitical actor with global influence

Prerequisites	N/A	Required	N/A
Course Content	EFSP – historical and institutional part • Integration developments/models • EU's international role • Historical Evolution of CFSP and ESDP/CSDP • Pre and post-Lisbon Treaty CSDP • CSDP Missions • CSDP and the gender dimension • EU's existential crises and dilemmas – EU in a complex world • EU as a global foreign and security actor • EU as a normative power (?) EU as a strategic and geopolitical actor • EU as a hard security actor • EU's quest for a strategy for dealing with global developments • The challenges of formulating an EU Global Strategy • The challenge for implementation & PESCO • Safeguarding democracy and countering foreign interference (focus on disinformation) • Europe's security and defense • CSDP and gender • The hard and soft power of the EU • EU and NATO relations • EFSP in the post-Brexit era • Dealing with terrorism • CSDP and Cybersecurity & disinformation • Regional geopolitics and the EU's role as a foreign and security actor • EU and Eastern Mediterranean • War in Ukraine Transatlantic Relations in Flux • Impact of the shifting US foreign policy priorities on EU security and defense. • Areas of cooperation and divergence between the EU and the US in addressing global challenges. • Implications of transatlantic trade disputes and technological competition for EU foreign policy. • EU-NATO relations • Role of technological innovation in shaping the future of European defense capabilities. • The EU in the Age of Technological Disruption • Challenges and opportunities posed by artificial intelligence, cyber warfare, and other emerging technologies.		

	• EU's regulatory approach to technology and its impact on foreign policy objectives. • The role of technological innovation in enhancing EU defense capabilities and promoting strategic autonomy. The EU's Digital Foreign Policy • EU's approach to digital diplomacy and cyber security on the global stage. • EU's role in shaping international norms and standards for technology governance. • Impact of disinformation and cyberattacks on EU foreign policy decision-making.
Teaching Methodology	Lectures, Student Presentations, Assignments, Class discussions
Bibliography	<u>Required Textbooks (books/articles), Podcasts and Websites</u> <u>Readings</u> • Bindi Federiga (2010). "European Union Foreign Policy: a Historical Overview". In <i>The Foreign Policy of the European Union: Assessing Europe's Role in the World</i> ed. Federiga Bindi. Washington DC: Brookings Institution Press • Biscop, S. (2020) European Defence and PESCO: Don't Waste the Chance. Available at: https://www.cidob.org/en/content/download/75670/2435377/version/2/file/Policy%20Paper%20No.%201.%20European%20Defence%20and%20PESCO.%20Don%27t%20Waste%20the%20Chance%20%281%29.pdf and on the platform. • Bodnar J., Schafer B. and Soula E. (2023). <i>A Year of Disinformation: Russia and China's Influence Campaigns During the War in Ukraine</i>. Available at: https://securingdemocracy.gmfus.org/a-year-of-disinformation-russia-and-chinas-influence-campaigns-during-the-war-in-ukraine/ on the platform. • Bond Ian and Scazzieri L. (2022) <i>The EU, NATO and European security in a time of war</i>. Center for European Reform. • Bond Ian (2020). "Post Brexit foreign and security and defense co-operation: we don't want to talk about it". <i>Center for European Reform</i>. November 2020. Available on the platform. • Brethous M. and Kovalcikova N. (2023). <i>Next Level Partnership: Bolstering EU-NATO cooperation to counter hybrid threats in the</i>

Western Balkans. EUISS Brief / 2. Available at:

https://www.iss.europa.eu/sites/default/files/EUISSFiles/Brief_2_Western%20Balkans.pdf and on the platform.

- CSDP Handbook, (2021). “Handbook, CSDP: The Common Security and Defence Policy of the European Union”. Vol. 1, 4th ed. Directorate for Security Policy of the Federal Ministry of Defence and Sports of the Republic of Austria. Available at the Moodle Platform
- Csernaton R. 2021. The EU’s Defense Ambitions: Understanding the Emergence of European Defense and Industrial Complex. Carnegieendowment.org. Available at: https://carnegieendowment.org/files/Csernaton_EU_Defense_v2.pdf and on the platform
- Dempsey J. (2023). Judy Asks: Is Ukraine a Game Changer for European Defense?. Available at: <https://carnegieeurope.eu/strategieurope/89832> and on the platform
- EU Global Strategy Report (2019)
 - Available at the Moodle Platform
- EU Parliament factsheet (2023). Available on the platform.
- European Commission: Joint Research Centre, Eulaerts, O., Grabowska, M. and Bergamini, M., *Weak signals in science and technologies 2024 – Technologies at an early stage of development that could impact our future*, Publications Office of the European Union, 2025, <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2760/6571994>. Available [here](#)
- EPC (2023). Europe in the world in 2023: Learning the language of power?. Available at https://www.epc.eu/content/PDF/2023/2023_EPC_Outlook_Paper.pdf and on the platform.
- EUISS (2023a) Buying weapons together (or not): Joint defence acquisition and parallel arms procurement. Brief 7. April 2023
- EUISS (2023b) The new civilian CSDP Compact: Food for impact.
- EUISS (2022). Yearbook of European Security
- Fix and Carlough (2024) “The trajectory of US-EU relations in a tumultuous year”. ARI 102/2024 - 22/7/2024 - Elcano Royal Institute

- Hybrid CoE & European Commission (2023). Hybrid Threats: A Comprehensive Resilience Ecosystem. EUR 31104EN. Available on the platform
- ICG (International Crisis Group) (2023). Rethinking Gas Diplomacy in the Eastern Mediterranean. Report No. 240. Available at <https://icg-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/2023-04/240-east-med-gas-diplomacy.pdf> and on the platform.
- Lehne Stefan (2020). “How the EU Can Survive in a Geopolitical Age”. Carnegie Europe. Available at: https://carnegieendowment.org/files/2-24_Lehne-EU_Geopolitics.pdf and on the Platform. File Name: Lehne (2020)
- Rhinard M. and Sjostedt G. (2019). The EU as a Global Actor: A new conceptualization four decades after ‘actoreness’. Swedish Institute of International Affairs. 6/2019. Available at <https://www.ui.se/globalassets/ui.se-eng/publications/ui-publications/2019/ui-paper-no.-6-2019.pdf> and on the platform.

Recommended Text

- Berzina K., Kovalcikova N. and Soula E. (2019). European Policy Blueprint for Countering Authoritarian Interference. GMF. Available on the platform
- European Commission (2017). “White Paper on the Future of Europe: Reflections and Scenarios for the EU27 by 2025”. Available on the platform, file name: “White Paper Future of Europe 2017”
- European Commission (2016): *Shared Vision, Common Action: A Stronger Europe: A **Global Strategy** for the European Union’s Foreign And Security Policy*. June 2016.
- Holman Otto, (2019). “Global Europe: The External Relations of the European Union”. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press.
 - Available as an e-book at the university library website
- Puglierin J. and Zerka P. (2023). “Keeping America close, Russia down, and China far away: How Europeans navigate a competitive world”. European Council of Foreign Relations (ECFR). Available at <https://ecfr.eu/publication/keeping-america-close-russia-down-and-china-far-away-how-europeans-navigate-a-competitive-world/> (and on the platform)
- Rieker P. & Riddervold M. (2022) Not so unique after all? Urgency and norms in EU foreign and security policy, *Journal of European Integration*, 44:4, 459-473

- Tocci Nathalie, (2017). “Framing the EU Global Strategy: A Stronger Europe in a Fragile World”. London: Palgrave Macmillan.
 - Book available for download at the University of Nicosia library (library.unic.ac.cy) or at the Moodle Platform.
- Whitman R.G. (2016). “The UK and EU foreign, security and defence policy after Brexit: Integrated, associated or detached?”. *National Institute Economic Review*, Vol 238 (1): pp.R43-R50. Available at: <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/002795011623800114#articleCitationDownloadContainer> and on the platform.

Websites

- EU Missions and Operations: https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/missions-and-operations_en#9620 (if for some reason the link ‘dies’ – i.e. becomes outdated – search for EU missions and operation).
- Churchill 1946. Speech delivered at the University of Zurich - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=giilcPJsYuw> (link is also on the platform)

Podcasts:

- CER 2023a: Is the EU Ready for Enlargement? (CER Podcast): <https://www.cer.eu/media/cer-podcast-eu-ready-enlargement>
- CER 2023b: The politics of China-US-EU trade: pulling up the drawbridge? (CER Podcast): <https://www.cer.eu/media/cer-podcast-politics-china-us-eu-trade-pulling-drawbridge>
- CER 2023c: Russian Hybrid Threats: <https://www.cer.eu/media/cer-podcast-russian-hybrid-threats>
- CER 2023d: The implications of Russia’s war against Ukraine. <https://www.cer.eu/media/cer-podcast-implications-russias-war-against-ukraine>
- Diplomatic Academy (UNIC). Womens’ Role in CSDP missions. Available at: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/7MBYQIB5usDT8XD47d0hx6?si=YZhEzmK4QNGJkytcxVr2SQ&nd=1>
- Euraktiv 2023: EU’s de-risking strategy in the face of China. <https://www.euractiv.com/section/economy-jobs/podcast/eus-de-risking-strategy-in-the-face-of-china/>

	• ECFR 2023. NATO's Vilnius summit: The highlights and the future challenges. Available at: https://ecfr.eu/podcasts/episode/natos-vilnius-summit-the-highlights-and-the-future-challenges/ • ECFR 2022a. "The crisis of European security: What Europeans think about the war in Ukraine". Available at: https://ecfr.eu/podcasts/episode/the-crisis-of-european-security-what-europeans-think-about-the-war-in-ukraine/ • ECFR 2022b. "Europe's role in tackling the Russia-Ukraine crisis". Available at: https://ecfr.eu/podcasts/episode/russia-ukraine-conflict-yalta-2-0-full-scale-war-or-wake-up-call/ • Politics on Point Podcast: EU-US Relations: A solid alliance in a shifting global landscape • https://open.spotify.com/episode/0ljeOBVJx6AUH9utO6RKhK?si=VY5HhpgNRaqBD-8A7oVaUw
Assessment	Class Participation, Class Presentations, Mid-Term, Take-home assignments Final-Exam
Language	English