

Seminar Outline

The Challenges of Peace Processes

CONTENT

This course introduces the study and practice of conflict resolution, offering participants a broad conceptual framework for the analysis of peace processes. It also aims to show how ideas about conflict resolution can cast light on individual conflicts and peace initiatives. The classes will focus on various thematic issues and debates, which will be combined with individual conflict situations and practical insights.

We will take a look at factors of successful mediation and the negotiation of peace agreements, the substance of peace agreements, and difficulties during the implementation process (e.g. spoiler, warlords, organized crime, elections). Empirical examples will include the peace processes in DRC, Kenya and Syria. Additionally, we will look at the tasks of political affairs in peacekeeping missions and how they can be integrated into the planning process for the mission in Kolpoto.

In the end, participants will have a thorough understanding of peace processes and will be able to link theory and practice.

SEMINAR STRUCTURE

The four-day seminar focuses on thematic issues related to peace processes and conflict resolution. The following topics will be addressed:

Monday:	Conflict resolution in the twenty-first century
Tuesday:	Opportunities for peace-making and mediation
Wednesday:	The substance of peace agreements
Thursday:	Challenges during peace implementation

The sessions will follow a coherent structure. We will start each day with an introductory lecture to the thematic issue. Afterwards, you will split up into working groups and either deal with an empirical example (case study) or central sub-topics. Each group will present their findings and we will draw conclusions in a final discussion.

SYLLABUS

1	Introduction: conflict resolution in the twenty-first century	
	Monday, 03.09.2018	<p>This seminar will begin with a general overview of the course, followed by a discussion of the state of conflict today. We will focus on four key topics that will be used during the rest of the seminar.</p> <p>How has armed conflict evolved since the end of the Cold War? What are the primary causes of war and violence? What are the main challenges to conflict resolution?</p>
	Lecture	<p>The state of conflict resolution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ History of conflict resolution○ Trends in international conflicts○ Methods of conflict resolution
	Working Groups	<p>Conflict Analysis for Kolpoto</p> <p>The working groups will each deal with one conflict analysis tool and apply it to the conflict in Kolpoto</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(1) Conflict profile / timeline (background)(2) Conflict mapping (actors)(3) Conflict tree (causes) <p>Fisher, Simon, Dekha Ibrahim Abdi, Jawed Luding, Richard Smith, Steve Williams and Sue Williams (2000): Working with Conflict. Skills and Strategies for Action. London: Zed Books, 17-35.</p> <p>Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (2005): Conflict Analysis Tools. Bern: SDC.</p>
	Presentations & Wrap-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Presentation of conflict analysis○ Movie: UN – Last Station Before Hell (2015)

2	Opportunities for peace-making and mediation	
	Tuesday, 04.09.2018	<p>This session addresses potential forms of international engagement in actual conflicts and focuses on mediation.</p> <p>Under what circumstances is it possible to engineer an end to armed conflict? What pressures may push opposed parties to talk? Which actors are best-placed to mediate or guide negotiations, what principles should they follow and what limits do they face? How is the multiplicity of mediators changing the conflict resolution field? Can – or should – multiple mediators be 'managed'?</p>
	Lecture	<p>The when, who and why of international mediation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Conditions for mediation ○ Who mediates? Mediator personality ○ Who brings which peace? Neutral versus biased mediation ○ Types of mediation process
	Working Groups	<p>Successful and unsuccessful mediation attempts.</p> <p>The working groups will take a closer look at two recent cases of mediation attempts, one case of successful conflict resolution (Kenya) and one case of complete failure (Syria). Please discuss the assigned texts and prepare a presentation on your case study.</p> <p>(1) Kenya</p> <p>Lindenmayer, Elisabeth and Josie Lianna Kaye (2009): "A Choice for Peace? The Story of Forty-One Days of Mediation in Kenya", New York: International Peace Institute.</p> <p>(2) Syria</p> <p>Hinnebusch, Raymond and I. William Zartman (2016): "UN Mediation in the Syrian Crisis: From Kofi Annan to Lakhdar Brahimi", New York: International Peace Institute.</p>
	Presentations & Wrap-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Presentation of the two case studies: what makes a successful mediation and what are possible obstacles?

3	The substance of peace agreements	
	Wednesday, 05.09.2018	<p>Peace agreements are negotiated in widely different contexts and under an array of different pressures. Spanning a range of pre-negotiation agreements, framework or comprehensive agreements, and implementation agreements, their contents are no less diverse.</p> <p>What can we learn from the substance of peace agreements about the likelihood of peace? Can or should outside actors push for the inclusion of some elements over others? How far can or should peace agreements go in proscribing recipes for governance, human rights or gender sensitivity?</p>
	Lecture	<p>Armed Conflicts and Peace Agreements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The quality of peace agreements matter: how do I recognize a good agreement when I see it? ○ What's in a peace agreement? ○ Sequencing tactics ○ Central dilemmas and implementation strategies
	Working Groups	<p>The Kolpoto Peace Agreement</p> <p>The Security Council has mandated an Advance Mission to Kolpoto to complete the operational planning in the country and to prepare for a fast and smooth deployment of a full sized, multidimensional Peacekeeping Mission. Everybody expects that the parties will sign a peace agreement within the next weeks.</p> <p>Please read the draft of the Peace Agreement and the report of a DPKO Technical Survey Team and prepare a presentation on one of the following sections.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Security (2) Governance (3) Rehabilitation and reconstruction (4) Wealth sharing <p>What is the content of each section and what are the related tasks for mission planning?</p>
	Presentations & Wrap-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Presentations on the Kolpoto Peace Agreement ○ Overall question: who owns the peace? ○ How involved should outside actors be?

4	Challenges during peace implementation	
	Thursday, 06.09.2018	<p>After conflicts end, there is still a high chance of war recurrence or a gradual erosion of a peace settlement. The presence of "spoilers" – actors opposed to lasting peace – can complicate or undermine stability. The legacies of war economies can constitute a major recurrent obstacle to conflict resolution. Peacekeeping forces or other security arrangements are often necessary to provide security and maintain confidence in a fragile peace agreement, but they can face operational difficulties.</p> <p>What are the main priorities and pitfalls facing international actors in this phase? Why do outside actors frequently fail to grasp the political and economic factors affecting countries emerging from conflict?</p> <p>And what is the role of Political and Civil Affairs elements in peacekeeping missions?</p>
	Lecture	<p>Obstacles to peace</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The causes of civil war recurrence ○ Peacebuilding approaches ○ Evaluation of peacekeeping missions ○ Political and Civil Affairs elements in peacekeeping missions
	Working Groups	<p>Case study: MONUSCO</p> <p>The working groups will review the current mandate for MONUSCO and discuss the tasks for the civilian and military components.</p> <p>(1) Tasks for political and civil affairs (2) Tasks for the military</p> <p>UN Security Council Resolution 2147 (2014) Department of Peacekeeping Operations (2003): Handbook on United Nations Multidimensional Peacekeeping Operations. New York: United Nations, 23-44.</p> <p>Kolpoto mission planning</p> <p>The working groups will discuss the tasks for the civilian and military components of the UN Mission in Kolpoto based on the Peace Agreement, the report of the UN Technical Assessment Mission (TAM), and the USG's Planning Directive.</p>
	Presentations & Wrap-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Presentation of the mission tasks ○ What can we take away from this seminar? ○ What are the implications for next week's exercise?