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# UN Peacekeeping in a Multipolar World

Module: (SOT86705) Disruptions in Governance and Technology - Seminar 2

Lecturer: Dr. Burak Giray

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Day and Time: Th 1:15–2:45 PM  
Course Format: *Onsite*

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## Seminar Description

This module focuses on UN peace operations within the context of a shifting global order. It offers an examination of the development, core principles, and key debates surrounding the authorization, deployment, and outcomes of UN peace operations. Following an overview of the historical evolution of UN peace operations within a changing global political landscape, it investigates various aspects including the use of force and protection of civilians, the interaction between UN peace operations and local populations, the role of emerging powers, and recent trends characterized by increased geopolitical competition and their impact on UN peace operations. Moreover, it introduces different approaches for evaluating the success or failure of UN peace operations and concludes with a discussion on potential future trajectories.

## Seminar Style

Every session relies on a required reading, which participants are required to review prior to the session. Consequently, it is anticipated that all attendees will be capable of grasping the fundamental message conveyed in the required reading and contribute comments or critiques for group discussion. Supplementary readings are utilized as foundations for the presentations.

## Examination of the module

The module grade is based on a written examination in the form of a seminar paper (13 – 15 pages). Through their seminar paper, students will document to which extent they have gained a foundational understanding in the area of contemporary UN peacekeeping operations. The seminar paper is accompanied by a presentation (10-15 min) to test the communicative competence of presenting scientific topics to an audience. The presentation must be supplemented by a short-written handout.

- **Presentation (20%):** Each session contains a presentation part of 12-15 minutes per student. For each presentation, a handout of max. two pages is prepared. The presentation (1) summarizes the core statements of the supplementary texts briefly, (2) clarifies theoretical connections using empirical examples chosen by the students themselves, and (3) places the topic in the larger seminar context. In addition, (4) media supporting the content are used (e.g. blackboard, presentation slides, etc.) The presentation serves as content preparation for the seminar paper.
- **Seminar Paper (80%):** Written paper of 13-15 pages (without bibliography and title page) based on a theoretical question in the context of the seminar topic. The seminar paper explores the compulsory texts and the supplementary reading for a session in more depth. In addition, further secondary and primary sources should be consulted to answer the chosen question. Topic, question and approach can be discussed and determined together with the lecturers during the lecture period. If you would like to take advantage of this, please prepare a draft of your seminar paper (topic/session, possible question, theory, case selection) of no more than one page and send it by e-mail to the lecturer at least three days before the office hours. The seminar paper must be submitted via Moodle by **September 15, 2024** (midnight) at the latest.

## Session Overview

Session	Session Date	Session Title
1	02.05.2024	Course Overview & Introduction
2	16.05.2024	The Evolution of UN Peace Operations
3	23.05.2024	UN and non-UN Peacekeeping Operations
4	06.06.2024	Regional Organizations and UN Peace Operations: Africa's Role
5	13.06.2024	The European Union's Contribution to UN Peace Operations
6	20.06.2024	New Contributors of UN Peacekeeping
7	27.06.2024	Diversity and Peacekeeping Effectiveness
8	04.07.2024	Diversity in UN Peacekeeping and Persistence
9	11.07.2024	Adaptation and Resilience in UN Peace Operations
10	18.07.2024	Final Presentations

<b>Required Textbooks</b>
De Coning, C. and Peter, M., 2019. United Nations peace operations in a changing global order. Springer Nature.
Koops, J.A., MacQueen, N., Tardy, T. and Williams, P.D. eds., 2015. The Oxford handbook of United Nations peacekeeping operations. Oxford Handbooks.

## Course Sessions and Readings

<b>Session 1: Course Overview &amp; Introduction</b>	
<b>Required Readings</b>	Course Syllabus
	De Coning and Peter, Chapter 1: UN Peace Operations: Adapting to a New Global Order?

<b>Session 2: The Evolution of UN Peace Operations</b>	
<b>Required Reading</b>	De Coning and Peter, Chapter 2: Peacekeeping: Resilience of an Idea
<b>Presentation</b>	Myers, Z. and Dorn, W., 2022. UN Peacekeeping Missions in the Middle East: A Twenty-First Century Review. <i>International Peacekeeping</i> , 29(3), pp.413-435.

<b>Session 3: UN and non-UN Peacekeeping Operations</b>	
<b>Required Reading</b>	The Oxford Handbook, Chapter 3: The United Nations' Inter-organizational Relations in Peacekeeping
<b>Presentation</b>	Bara, C. and Hultman, L., 2020. Just different hats? Comparing UN and non-UN peacekeeping. <i>International Peacekeeping</i> , 27(3), pp.341-368.

<b>Session 4: Regional Organizations and UN Peace Operations: Africa's Role</b>	
<b>Required Reading</b>	De Coning and Peter, Chapter 11: Africa and UN Peace Operations: Implications for the Future Role of Regional Organisations
<b>Presentation</b>	Spandler, K., 2020. UNAMID and the legitimization of global-regional peacekeeping cooperation: Partnership and friction in UN-AU relations. <i>Journal of intervention and Statebuilding</i> , 14(2), pp.187-203.

<b>Session 5: The European Union's Contribution to UN Peace Operations</b>	
<b>Required Reading</b>	De Coning and Peter, Chapter 12: The European Union and UN Peace Operations: What Global-Regional Peace and Security Partnership?
<b>Presentation</b>	Sezgin, F.S., 2022. The European Union's Role in United Nations Peacekeeping Operations. <i>International Peacekeeping</i> , 29(3), pp.351-383.

<b>Session 6: New Contributors of UN Peacekeeping</b>	
<b>Required Readings</b>	De Coning and Peter, Chapter 13: China Rising and Its Changing Policy on UN Peacekeeping
<b>Presentation</b>	Levin, A., 2020. Whitewashing and extortion: why human rights-abusing states participate in UN peacekeeping operations. <i>International Interactions</i> , 46(5), pp.778-804.

<b>Session 7: Diversity and Peacekeeping Effectiveness</b>	
<b>Required Readings</b>	Bove, V. and Ruggeri, A., 2016. Kinds of blue: Diversity in UN peacekeeping missions and civilian protection. <i>British Journal of Political Science</i> , 46(3), pp.681-700.
<b>Presentation</b>	Giray, B., 2023. Troop-providers' ideational commitment to UN peacekeeping and effectiveness. <i>International Interactions</i> , pp.1-29.

<b>Session 8: Diversity in UN Peacekeeping and Persistence</b>	
<b>Required Readings</b>	Giray, B., & Chatagnier, J. T. 2024. Election accomplished: democracies and the timing of peacekeeper drawdowns. <i>Political Research Quarterly</i> , 77(1), 3-16.
<b>Presentation</b>	Oestman, J., 2021. A price for peace: troop contributing countries' responses to peacekeeper fatalities. <i>International Interactions</i> , 47(6), pp.986-1015.

<b>Session 9: Adaptation and Resilience in UN Peace Operations</b>	
<b>Required Readings</b>	De Coning and Peter, Chapter 15: UN Peace Operations and Changes in the Global Order: Evolution, Adaptation, and Resilience
<b>Presentation</b>	Dunton, C., Laurence, M. and Vlavourou, G., 2023. Pragmatic peacekeeping in a multipolar era: Liberal norms, practices, and the future of UN peace operations. <i>Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding</i> , 17(3), pp.215-234.

<b>Session 10: Final Presentations</b>	
<b>Structure</b>	10-minute presentation, supplemented by a short-written handout that outlines the research question, theoretical expectations, and the methodology.

## Research Paper Guidelines

### Formal

Length	13-15 pages, excluding references and title page
Font-size	Standard (Times New Roman 12)
Line spacing	1.5
Submission	Upload via Moodle in the following format LAST-NAME.ModuleNumber.pdf
Citation style	Any common social science citation style is accepted, e.g. Harvard in-text citation – Author (Year: pages). Important is that the used citation style is uniform and consistent throughout the paper. (Hint: Use a reference management program, e.g. EndNote)

## Structure

Title page (1 page)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Title of the paper (as precise and pertinent as possible, indicating the topic and approach, not be the same as the research question)</li> <li>• Name, student number, degree/program, email for contact, date, seminar name and reference, lecturer</li> </ul>
Introduction (2-3 pages)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear and precise presentation of the research problem and question, as well as its relevance</li> <li>• Development of a research question (formulated as a direct question that is answerable)</li> </ul>
Main part (10-12 pages)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of the selected methods and scientific approach</li> <li>• Concise presentation of the current literature on the topic</li> <li>• Argumentation for the selection of your theoretical approach</li> <li>• Justification for case selection and empirical focus</li> <li>• Formulation of theoretical propositions, eventually hypotheses</li> <li>• Empirical research and evidence of one or more cases that can support (or falsify) the theoretical propositions</li> <li>• Evaluation, analysis and interpretation of the empirical results/evidence collected on the basis of the theoretical propositions</li> </ul>
Conclusion (2-3 pages)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear answer to the research question</li> <li>• Summary of results and conclusions from the theoretical analysis</li> </ul>
References	Complete list of sources used (primary and secondary literature)
Appendix	Signed declaration of independence