
Course plan

B2.517 - Conflict Resolution and Crisis Management

Credits: 3.0

Subject coordinator

Mariona Cardona Valles

Course instructors

Leila Benkirane , May Tony Akl and Patricia de Briones .

Index

Presentation

Description

Objectives and competencies

Content

Resources

Support tools and learning resources

Bibliography and information sources

Presentation

Description

Conflict resolution is the set of methods and approaches used to facilitate the peaceful de-escalation and termination of a conflict. Defined broadly, it may include democratization or even development. Indeed, political participation through democratic processes may be a method to avoid conflict in the first place or at least to ensure the fair treatment of the causes of the conflict. Alternatively, conflict resolution can be defined

more narrowly to refer solely to those efforts undertaken to resolve conflicts directly through communication (negotiation, mediation, peace conference, diplomacy, etc.).

This course is designed to give students command over and deepen their understanding of conflict resolution and crisis management from the UN perspective. The course analyses the evolution of international conflict resolution (from Cold War to peacebuilding) and the role of the United Nations in the international security agenda. The UN Charter gives the Security Council of the United Nations the primary responsibility to maintain international peace and security and provides for modes of intervention.

The course is split into three Modules each centered on an activity. The first Module presents the evolution of conflict resolution since the end of the Cold War. Students will also analyse one mode of UN intervention, primarily the pacific settlement of disputes (peacemaking and preventive diplomacy).

The second Module focuses on another UN intervention strategy, primarily enforcement measures (sanctions and the use of military force).

The last Module will be dedicated to analysing the definition, history and principles of peacekeeping (also a UN mode of intervention).

Objectives and competencies

Upon completion of the course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a sophisticated and critical knowledge of the evolution of international conflict resolution and crisis management;
- Appraise the role of the United Nations in conflict setting and international crisis management and the various modes of intervention under the UN Charter;
- Think critically and analytically and communicate concepts and ideas in a scholarly and professional manner;
- Work autonomously and demonstrate superior planning skills.

Content

This course is divided into three learning Modules, each of which is evaluated through a Continuous Assessment Test. Students must complete the compulsory readings enumerated throughout each Module and within the epigraph directly below:

Module 1: PACIFIC SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

1. The evolution of international conflict resolution: from Cold War to post-Cold War
2. The pacific settlement of disputes: peacemaking and preventive diplomacy

EVALUATION: CAT 1 (30% of the final grade)

Module 2: ENFORCEMENT MEASURES

1. UN sanctions
2. The use of military force

EVALUATION: CAT 2 (30% of the final grade)

Module 3: PEACEKEEPING

1. What is peacekeeping
2. History
3. Principles

EVALUATION: CAT 3 (40% of the final grade)

Resources

Support tools and learning resources

MANDATORY READINGS:

Module 1: THE PACIFIC SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES UNDER CHAPTER VI OF THE UN CHARTER

1. United Nations Charter: Chapter VI
2. UN website: Prevention and Mediation
3. UN website: Partnership and Cooperation
4. UN Secretary-General. An Agenda for Peace: Preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peacekeeping. Report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly and the Security Council bearing reference A/47/277 and S/24111 of 17 June 1992. ONLY Pages 1 to 11 and 16 to 17 .
5. Babbitt, E.F. "The Evolution of International Conflict Resolution: From Cold War to Peacebuilding". En: Negotiation Journal, 25 (4). p.539-548. ISSN 07484526. ONLY pages 539-548.
6. Goodrich, L. (1945). III. Pacific Settlement of Disputes. The American Political Science Review, 39(5), 956-970. doi:10.2307/1950036 ONLY Pages 962-970.
7. Clyde Eagleton. "The Pacific Settlement of Disputes Under the Charter". En: The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, Volume: 246 Issue 1 (1946). p. 24-29. ISSN 00027162 ONLY Pages 24-26.
8. The Office of Legal Affairs Handbook on the Peaceful Settlement of Disputes between States:
 - Principle of the Peaceful Settlement of Disputes: ONLY page 3 - A. Charter of the United Nations: paragraph 1;
 - Negotiations: page 9 paragraph 22 and page 10 paragraph 23;
 - Inquiry: page 24 paragraphs 74, 75 and 76;
 - Mediation: pages 40 and 41 paragraphs 123, 124, 125 and 126;
 - Conciliation: pages 45 and 46 paragraphs 140, 141 and 142;
 - Arbitration: page 155 paragraphs 168, 169 and 170;
 - Judicial Settlement: page 66 paragraph 196, 197 and 198;
 - Resort to regional agencies or arrangements: pages 81 and 82 paragraphs 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235 and 236;
 - Other peaceful means: page 98 paragraphs 288 and 289.

Module 2 - ENFORCEMENT MEASURES UNDER CHAPTER VII OF THE UN CHARTER

1. United Nations Charter: Chapter VI: ONLY articles 39-51.
2. Actions with Respect to Threats to the Peace, Breaches of the Peace, and Acts of Aggression: NOTE: Students should only read the text and do not need to read the repertoires.
3. UN website: Sanctions: NOTE: Students should not read the 2019 fact sheet. Students should only read the text

4. United Nations Security Council Regimes: Fact Sheets:NOTE: pages 4 and 5 of the "2020 FACT SHEETS" Subsidiary Organs of the United Nations Security Council

5. Burkle, Frederick M., Jr. (2019). United Nations Charter, Chapter VII, Article 43: Now or never. *Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness*, 13(4), 655-662.

6. de Wet, E. (2002). The Relationship between the Security Council and Regional Organizations during Enforcement Action under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. *Nordic Journal of International Law*, 71(1), 1-37. Only from page 14 to 20 (7 pages).

Module 3: PEACEKEEPING

1. United Nations Peacekeeping Operations Principles and Guidelines, known as the Capstone Doctrine. United Nations, Department of Peace Operations, 2008 NOTE: Students should read pages 1-35.

2. Hatto, R. (2013). From peacekeeping to peacebuilding: The evolution of the role of the United Nations in peace operations. *International Review of the Red Cross*, 95(891-892), 495-515.

3. UN. Principles of Peacekeeping

4. UN website: Peacekeeping: Our history

5. UN website: What is Peacekeeping

Bibliography and information sources

OPTIONAL READINGS:

Module 1: THE PACIFIC SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES UNDER CHAPTER VI OF THE UN CHARTER

Bruno Simma. *The Charter of the United Nations: A Commentary*. New York : Oxford University Press, cop. 2012. p. 1069-1236. ISBN 9780199639762

COCOSATU, M. (2012). The Role of the Security Council in the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes. *Strategic Impact*, 45(4), 109

Module 2 - ENFORCEMENT MEASURES UNDER CHAPTER VII OF THE UN CHARTER

Bar-Siman-Tov Y. (2007) *Dialectic Between Conflict Management and Conflict Resolution*. In: Bar-Siman-Tov Y. (eds) *The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*. Palgrave Macmillan, New York

BARNETT, M. et al. 'Peacebuilding: What Is in a Name?'. *Global Governance*, jan. 2007. v. 13, n. 1, p. 35-58. ISSN 1075-2846.

Thomas, D; Stephan, S; Mathias, A. *The European Union and Border Conflicts: The Transformative Power of Integration*. *International Organization*. 3, 563, 2006. ISSN: 00208183

Peacebuilding, United Nations and Civil Society: The Case of Cyprus. Ladini, Gianfabrizio. *Cyprus Review* Volume: 21 Issue 2 (2009) ISSN: 1015-2881

Module 3: PEACEKEEPING

Report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations (2000) known as the Brahimi Report. Report to the General Assembly and the Security Council bearing reference A/55/305 and S/2000/809 of 21 August 2000: **NOTE:** Students should read the Executive Summary and the Substantive part of the report (paragraph 1 to 83, i.e. pages 1-14).

