



## DOMESTIC CONFLICTS

Academic Year 2018/2019  
1st Semester 9 hrs

António Fontes Ramos  
3 ECTS

### Overview of the goals of the course

Domestic Conflicts are the most frequent and dramatic expression of contemporary violence, but we have frequently been surprised when they erupt. The USSR collapse and the subsequent conflicts in the Balkans, the sudden irruption of the so called Islamic State, but also the riots in London, Paris or Stockholm, all came as surprises.

Many countries live under latent conditions of violence. The number of displaced people is the highest since the Second World War. Terrorism “knocks” at our door and produces daily bloodbaths around the globe.

In fact, inter-communal conflicts have increasingly replaced inter-state wars. Violence moved into the states and is being conducted in different forms and by multiple agents from mobilized mobs, organized crime structures, insurgent groups or terrorists.

### Goals

We want to understand this massive change and how to respond to it. During this Course, we will therefore reflect, discuss and comment on:

- Geopolitical trends shaping national and international environments;
- Typology and dynamics of the XXI century domestic conflicts;
- Conflict resolution theories and the available tools to prevent and contain violence, or to make and keep the peace.

### Requirements students are expected to meet

Student’s Preparation: Before each Session, students are expected to visit the Moodle Page of this discipline, where the Professor will post:

- The Learning Objectives to be achieved;
- The texts that Students should read or scan.

### Evaluation Method

Individual evaluation will result from the combination of:

- Class participation (30%) and
- A written essay (max 3000 words using Times New Roman 12 – 1,15 spaces) (70%) on one of the Themes (below). Students can propose other themes of individual interest.
- Written essay must be submitted by January 15, 2018



## Course Outline by Session

### Session 1 - Geopolitical Trends

- Heavy Geopolitical Trends;
- The World Order. New paradigms;
- The State between integration and disintegration forces.

### Session 2 – Ideological Conflicts

- The Political framework;
- Insurgency and Subversive strategies;
- Terrorism in context. The Radical jihadist terrorism.

### Session 3 - Ethnic Conflicts

- The nature of ethnic identity;
- The ethnic mobilization process;
- Response to ethnic conflicts.

### Session 4 - Societal Violence. The “gray” areas

- Fragile States and diffuse violence;
- Violence in urban spaces;
- Conflicts of “chaos”.

### Session 5 - Conflict Resolution: Containing Violent Conflicts.

- Models and Theories of Conflict Resolution;
- Conflict Mapping;
- Preventing and Containing Violent Conflicts.

### Session 6 - Conflict Resolution: Ending Violent Conflicts.

- Ending Violent Conflicts;
- Post War Reconstruction and Peacebuilding.

Preparation for each Session **includes the readings** for the particular day and may also include study questions for which students will be responsible on a particular day.

## Bibliography

### Session 1- Geopolitical Trends

Heidelberg Institute for International Conflict Research, “Conflict Barometer 2017”

Crisis Group, “Crisis Watch”, May 2018

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), “Human Development Report 2016”

United Nations, “World Population Prospects – 2017 Revision”,

German Advisory Council on Global Change (WBGU), “Climate Change as a Security Risk”

DEMMERS, Jolle, *Theories of Violent Conflict* (Routledge, 2012)

NYE, Joseph, *The Paradox of American Power* (Oxford University Press, 2002)

NAÍM, Moises, *The End of Power* (Basic Books, 2013)

COOPER, Robert, *The Breaking of Nations* (Atlantic Books, 2004)



GUIDDENS,  
*Mundo na Era da Globalização* (Editorial Presença 2000)  
KISSINGER, Henry, *World Order* (Allen Lane, 2014)

Anthony, O

### **Session 2 – Terrorism and Subversion**

DUVERGER, Maurice, *The Study of Politics* (Nelson’s University Paperbacks, 1972)  
ACEMOGLU, Aron et al., *Why Nations Fail* (Crown Publishers, 2012)  
COUTO, Abel C., “Estratégia da Guerra Subversiva” in *Elementos de Estratégia*, Vol 2 (Edição do Instituto de Altos Estudos Militares)  
O’NEIL Bard, *From Revolution to Apocalypse, Insurgency & Terrorism* (Potomac Books, 2005, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed)  
LEWIS, Bernard, *What Went Wrong?* (PHOENIX, London, 2002)  
BURKE, Jason, *Al-Qaeda* (Quetzal Editores/Bertrand Editora, Lda., 2004)  
ATWAN, Abdel B., *After Bin Laden* (The New Press, 2012)  
STERN, Jessica, et al., *Islamic State - The State of Terror* (Ecco, 2015)  
GERGES, Fawaz A., *A History of ISIS* (Princeton University Press, 2017)

### **Session 3 - Ethnic Conflicts**

TARAS Raymond C. e GANGULY, Rajat, *Understanding Ethnic Conflict, The International Dimension* (Longman, NY, 2<sup>a</sup> Ed. 2002)  
GURR Ted and Barbara Harf, *Ethnic Conflict in World Politics* (Wesview, 2004)  
GURR Ted R., *Peoples versus States* (US Institute of Peace Press, 2002)  
DOYTCHEVA Milena, *Le Multiculturalisme* (La Decouverte, 2011)  
CLYNE. Michael and James Jupp, *Multiculturalism and Integration A Harmonious Relationship?* (Australian National University, 2011)

### **Session 4 – Societal Violence. The “gray” areas Conflicts.**

FUKUYAMA, Francis, *The Great Disruption* (New York, Simon and Schuster, 2000)  
The World Bank, *Breaking the Conflict Trap* (A co-publication of the World Bank and Oxford University Press, 2003)  
KALDOR, Mary, *New and Old Wars: Organized Violence in a Global Era* (Cambridge: Polity, 1999)  
MUNKLER, Herfried, *The New Wars* (Germany, Polity Press, 2005)  
CREVELD, Martin, *The Transformation of War* (The Free Press, 1991)  
TELO, António and Nuno L. Pires, *Conflitos e Arte Militar* (Tribuna, 2013)  
NAÍM, Moisés, *The End of Power* (Basic Books, 2013)



### **Session 5 - Conflict Resolution. Containing Violent Conflicts**

MIALL, et al., *Contemporary Conflict Resolution* (Polity, 3rd Ed, 2011), Part I, Chapter 5 and 6.

WOLF Stefan and Chistalia Yakinthou, Ed., *Conflict Management in Divided Societies* (Routledge, 2012)

MAYER, Bernard, *The Dynamics of Conflict*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed (Jossey-Bass, 2012)

BOUTROS Boutros-Gali, *An Agenda for Peace* (United Nations Publication, 1995)

### **Session 6 - Conflict Resolution: Ending Violent Conflicts**

MIALL, et al., *Contemporary Conflict Resolution* (Polity, 3rd Ed, 2011), Part I, Chapter 7 and 8.

### **Themes for 2018/2019:**

1. World Order unpredictability and Domestic Conflicts.
2. Major Agreements of United Nations Framework Conventions on Climate Change. Challenges ahead.
3. Multiculturalism and Integration: A Harmonious Relationship?
4. The refugees' crisis in Europe. Contributions to a Strategy.
5. The EU approach to the refugee's crisis. An appreciation.
6. The challenge of terrorism in our century.
7. The EU response to the terrorist threat. The internal security model.
8. Salafism and Global Jihadism. An analysis
9. Al Qaeda and the "Islamic State". Competing or associated organizations?
10. The future of the "Islamic State". Possible Consequences.
11. Peace Agreements. Content and Implementation challenges.
12. The Arab Spring. An analysis from the Relative Deprivation perspective.
13. The case of Syria. A course of action to pacify the country.
14. Iran involvement in the Syria conflict. Consequences
15. Bosnia-Herzegovina instability twenty Years after Dayton.
16. Central African Republic instabilities. What is to be done?
17. Bicesse Peace Agreements and Angola. An analysis.
18. Mozambique. What critics to the Rome Peace Agreements.
19. Guinea-Bissau. Challenges and opportunities.
20. Conflict Mapping: a case analysis. (as proposed by the Student)
21. Another subjects (to be proposed to the Professor)