



ESTONIAN SCHOOL OF DIPLOMACY

FOREIGN POLICY ANALYSIS

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Course Structure: 16 Hours

Interactive Seminars on the 28th, 29th, 30th Jan and the 1st Feb.

Lesson time: 16.45-19.45

Topic	Reading
Session One: What is Foreign Policy Analysis?	David Brulé and Alex Mintz, 'Foreign Policy Decision Making: Evolution, Models, and Methods'.
Session Two: Case Study: Cuban Missile Crisis and Iraq.	Barton J. Bernstein, 'Understanding Decision Making, U.S. Foreign Policy, and the Cuban Missile Crisis: A Review Essay', <i>International Security</i> , 25:1, (2000), 134-164  Daniel Byman,, 'An Autopsy of the Iraq Debacle: Policy Failure or a Bridge Too Far?' <i>Security Studies</i> , 17 (2008), pp. 599-643
Session Three: Contemporary Issues: Brexit, the Rise of China, and US foreign policy.	Read the transcript or listen to Stephen Walt: <a href="https://www.wbur.org/onpoint/2018/10/15/stephen-walt-us-foreign-policy-hell-of-good-intentions">https://www.wbur.org/onpoint/2018/10/15/stephen-walt-us-foreign-policy-hell-of-good-intentions</a>  Naná De Graaff And Bastiaan Van Apeldoorn, 'us–china Relations And The Liberal World Order: Contending Elites, Colliding Visions?', <i>International Affairs</i> , 94:1, (2018) 113-131

Session Four: Who influences foreign policy? The Media, think tanks, academia, public opinion and politicians	Gilboa et al., 'Moving media and conflict studies beyond the CNN effect', Review of International Studies, 42:4, (2016), 654-672

**Assessment:** The assessment for this course is a Chatham House style briefing paper. The word count is **3,500** words. Harvard referencing is required for the paper and plagiarism is strictly not allowed.

The briefing paper should be designed to provide an analysis of a contemporary conflict. The following 2 links can be used to identify and choose a current crisis:

<https://www.cfr.org/interactives/global-conflict-tracker#!/global-conflict-tracker>

<http://www.irinnews.org/maps-and-graphics/2017/04/04/updated-mapped-world-war>

The briefing paper should address the following questions:

1. What is the political, economic and socio-cultural context?
2. Who are the main actors? What are their interests and motivations?
3. What are the trigger factors or causes of the conflict?
4. What is the current situation of the conflict? Can any trends be identified?
5. What policy recommendations can you provide?

Due date: **1st March**

The following can be used as a template to follow:

BRIEFING PAPER: Name of Conflict   
Student Name

#### Summary points

- Write key points of your report
- Describe what your report covers
- Explain your findings

#### Introduction

1. What is the political, economic and socio-cultural context?

2. Who are the main actors? What are their interests and motivations?

3. What are the trigger factors or causes of the conflict?

4. What is the current situation of the conflict? Can any trends be identified?

5. What policy recommendations can you provide?

#### Conclusion

Bibliography