**Identities in International Relations**

Code:

Term: Spring

ECTS credits: 6

Lessons per week: 90 + 90 min

Language: English

Instructor:

Form of study: lecture+seminar

# Prerequisites

None

# Course Objectives

* Identity based explanation of international politics could, compared to interest based explanation, reveal and better comprehend states’ alteration of policies in international relations.
* To launch discussion within the understanding of constructivist explanation of IR
* Endorse students to use interdisciplinary approach in explaining IR phenomena

# Contents

Course provides an option for students that are ready to systematically explore the analytical and normative value of identity perspective in IR. It is suitable for students with strong analytical and critical thinking, with ability to challenge entrenched discourse within the IR.

Course is structured into two main realms: firstly, as an interdisciplinary approach it will draw on multiple fields, ranging from psychoanalysis, political psychology, and sociology. Secondly, readings are constructed so, that after theoretical conceptualizations empirical study of relevant cases follows. Study of particular cases ranges from: understanding changes in Slovak foreign policy; elaborating on European identity; discussing changing perception of Russia, the “other” and self in IR; role of identity with respect to US foreign policy or identity formation in Nordic states and Balkans.

# Themes and Readings involved

What is Identity?

Evolution of identities

Identity in IR

Challenging identity

The Role of “the Other”

Nordic cooperation and identity formation

Identity in EU Foreign policy

Role of Identity in Balkans

US Foreign Policy and the Role of Identity

# Obligatory Readings

* Abdelal, R., Herrera, Y.M., Johnston A. I., McDermott, R. (2009): Identity as a Variable. In Abdelal, R., Herrera, Y.M., Johnston A. I., McDermott, R. Measuring Identity: A guide for Social Scientist
* Antonsich, M. (2008): The Narration of Europe in ‘National’and ‘Post-National’ Terms Gaging the Gap between Normative Discourse and People’s Views. European Journal of Social Theory 11(4): 505-522
* Batora, J. (2012): Compliance and non-compliance as sources of recognition: Slovakia and NATO in Communist and Post-Communist studies
* Bozdaghoglu, Y. (2003): “Modernization and the Construction of Turkey’s Official Identity in Bozdaghoglu, Y., Turkish Foreign Policy and Turkish Identity: A Constructivist Approach, Routledge, New York.
* Campbell, D. (1992): Writing Security. United States Foreign Policy and the Politics of Identity
* Jenkins, R. (2008) Social Identity. Chapter 1, 2 and 4.
* Lebow, R. N. (2008): “Identity and International Relations” in International Relations, 22:473. DOI: 10.1177/0047117808097312
* McDermott, R. (2009): Psychological Approaches to Identity: Experimentation and Application In Abdelal, R., Herrera, Y.M., Johnston A. I., McDermott, R. Measuring Identity: A guide for Social Scientist
* Moravcsik A.: Bringing Constructivist Integration Theory Out of the Clouds: Has it Landed Yet? and Checkel, J. T.: Constructivism and Integration Theory: Crash Landing or safe Arrival? In European Union Politics.
* Morozov, V. and Ruelili, B. (2012): The external constitution of European identity: Russia and Turkey as Europe-makers in Cooperation and Conflict, 47:28, DOI: 10.1177/0010836711433124
* Neumann. Iver, B. (1998): “Uses of the Other in World Politics” in Uses of other in The East European Identity Formation. The University of Minnesota Press.
* Ringmar, E, (2002) ‘The Recognition Game: Soviet Russia Against the West’, Cooperation and Conflict: Journal of the Nordic International Studies Association, vol. 37, no.2, pp. 115-136.
* Rogers Brubaker and Frederick Cooper. "Beyond 'Identity'" Theory and Society 29 (2000): 1-47.
* Ruggie, J.G. (1998): Interest Identity and American Foreign Policy in Constructing the World Polity
* Strath, B. (2002): European Identity. Historical Limits of a Concept in European Journal of Social Theory 5(4): 387-401.
* Wendt, A. (1996): “Identity and Structural Change in International Politics” in Lapid Y. and Kratochwil F., The Return of Culture and Identity in IR Theory, Lynne Rienner Publishers, Inc
* Wodak, R. (2009): “‘Politics as Usual’ on the ‘European Stage’: Constructing and Performing ‘European Identities’ in Wodak, R. The Discourse of Politics in Action. Politics as Usual. Palgrave Macmillan.

# Supplementary Readings and Sources

* Adler, E. and Barnett, M. (1991) Security communities in theoretical perspective in Adler E. and Bernett, M. Security Communities
* Aggestam, L. (1999): Role Conceptions and the Politics of Identity in Foreign Policy. ARENA Working Paper.
* Hopf, T. (2009): Identity Relations and the Sino-Soviet Split. in Abdelal, R., Herrera, Y.M., Johnston A. I., McDermott, R. Measuring Identity: A guide for Social Scientist
* Kojeve,A, Bloom, A. (eds.) (1980): Introduction to the reading of Hegel: Lectures on the Phenomenology of Spirit
* March, J.G. and Olsen, J.P. (1998): “The Institutional Dynamics of International Political Orders” in International Organization, Vol. 52, pp. 943-969
* Neuman, Iver. B, (1996): Russia and the Idea of Europe: A study in Identity and International Relations,Routledge
* Wendt, A. (1999): “Process and structural change” in Wendt, A. *Social theory of international politics*, Cambridge University Press.

# Evaluation Criteria

Midterm exam: 30%

Active participation: 10%

Presentation: 20%

Research paper: 20%

Defense of research paper: 20%

# Course Evaluation (%)

A – excellent: 100-93%,

B – very good: 92-84%,

C – good: 83-74%,

D – satisfactory: 73-63%,

E – sufficient: 62-51%,

Fx – fail: 50-0%.

Passing a course assumes that student was not absent at more than 4 lessons.