Armed Conflict, Peacebuilding and Development
M.Phil. in International Peace Studies
Irish School of Ecumenics
Trinity College Dublin

Second Term 2016-2017
Mondays 2 PM - 4 PM

There will be no lecture during Reading Week (Feb. 27 – March 3).

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Office hours: Tuesdays 2-4 PM

Module code: EM7431
ECTS allocation: 10 credits

Introduction:

This module will examine the complex relationship between armed conflict and development, based upon a critical examination of development and peacebuilding theory and practice. This includes issues such as the connection between conflict and economic grievances, the role of NGOs in development, the impact of multilateral institutions on development, and links between peacebuilding and development in conflict situations. Case studies will be used from Africa, Latin America, the Middle East and East Asia to explore connections between the local and regional dynamics of conflict and peacebuilding and its geopolitical context. Each student is required to participate in one of the seminar groups attached to the module.

Module aims:

- To provide a background in relevant theories of development and peacebuilding
- To examine critically the impact of development policies and programmes on the Global South
- To connect development as a process of social, economic and political change to armed conflict and peacebuilding

Teaching Method:

The teaching method for this module consists of one lecture and one seminar per week. The seminars consist of student presentations followed by discussion on relevant weekly topics (see lecture descriptions). Students will be divided into seminar groups at the beginning of term. Attendance at seminars is mandatory and students must be prepared to participate. There will be no seminar the first week of term.
Assessment:

Assessment is by means of one 4000-word essay. The list of essay topics is attached, and the essay is due no later than April 19, 2017.

The essay for this module must be submitted using Turnitin software, available through the TCD website. The “Turnitin Student Quickstart guide” is available on the “Student Training” section of the Turnitin website. **The class ID for this module is: 14071702. The enrolment password for this module is: acpd.** You will also need to submit a hard copy of the essay to Mary Priestman, Executive Officer, International Peace Studies, by 5 PM on the essay deadline.

Seminars:

The seminars are based on responses to particular topics or particular readings. Seminar presentations should be brief and to the point, and aim at generating discussion. All participants are expected to be prepared for seminars. Seminar readings are available online through Blackboard, and include relevant case study material.

Lecturers:

Patty Abozaglo
Dr Yaser Alashqar
Dr Iain Atack
Dr Tedla Desta
Dr Dong Jin Kim
Dr Cathriona Russell

Core texts:

Lectures:

1. **Theories of development** (Jan. 16) (Iain Atack)

Two theories or types of theory have been especially influential in determining our understanding of development in the countries of the South. This lecture will outline modernisation and dependency theories, as well as some of the criticisms directed at them.

*There is no seminar the first week of term.*


Kapoor, Ilan, “Capitalism, culture, agency: dependency versus postcolonial theory” (Blackboard)


Ziai, Aram, “‘Development': Projects, Power, and a Poststructuralist Perspective” (Blackboard)

2. **Militarisation and development** (Jan. 23) (Iain Atack)

Scarce resources in many economically impoverished countries are often directed towards the military and armed conflict. Furthermore, the military are often used as internal agents of repression. Sources of armed conflict in developing countries will be examined as well as its human and economic costs, in terms of civilian casualties and human rights violations. The complex correlation between armed conflict, peacebuilding and development will be examined.

Seminar topic:
“Economic development and the elimination of poverty are essential to ending armed conflicts in developing countries.”
Seminar readings:
Murshed and Tadjoeddin, “Revisiting the Greed and Grievance Explanations for Violent Internal Conflict”
Jantzi and Jantzi, “Development Paradigms and Peacebuilding Theories of Change”

Other reading:
Bornstein, “Peace and Conflict Impact Assessment (PCIA) in Community Development” (Blackboard)
Mac Ginty and Williams, “Poverty, profit and the political economy of violent conflict” (Blackboard)
Woodrow and Chigas, “A Distinction with a Difference: Conflict Sensitivity and Peacebuilding” (Blackboard)

3. Development ethics (Jan. 30) (Cathriona Russell)

Development ethics provides the moral and theoretical underpinning required by the normative practice of development. This lecture will explore and assess some of most influential theories of development ethics, the human rights based approach to development and the capability theories of Amartya Sen and Martha Nussbaum.

Seminar topic:
“As a category for analysis of people’s lives, capabilities are superior to human rights.”

Seminar readings:
Harris-Curtis, “Rights-based approaches—issues for NGOs”
Jaggar, “Challenging Women’s Global Inequalities: Some Priorities for Western Philosophers”
Nussbaum, “Women’s Capabilities and Social Justice”

Other reading:
Pogge, Thomas and Daniel Moellendorf (eds) (2008) Global Responsibilities (two volumes), Paragon House, St. Paul MN.

4. Alternative approaches to development and peacebuilding (Feb. 6) (Iain Atack)

The importance of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in developing countries as agents of development and conflict transformation will be explored. The challenges of development cooperation in conflict-affected countries will also be discussed when examining the link between the field of development and the scope of peacebuilding.

Seminar topic:
“NGOs play a vital role in development and peacebuilding.”

Seminar readings:
Banks, Hulme and Edwards, “NGOs, States, and Donors Revisited: Still Too Close for Comfort?”
Gerstbauer, “The Whole Story of NGO Mandate Change: The Peacebuilding Work of World Vision, Catholic Relief Services, and Mennonite Central Committee”
Mitlin, Hickey and Bebbington, “Reclaiming Development? NGOs and the Challenge of Alternatives”
Gender, development and peacebuilding (Feb. 13) (Iain Atack)

The centrality of women's social and economic contribution to all societies contrasts with their subordination to men in many spheres of life, from property ownership through to political and social rights. Such gender inequalities are central to assessing the impact of development policy and practice.

Seminar topic:
“Self-organisation by women is the only route to gender equality in development.”

Seminar readings:
Anandi Collective, “The Dalit Women’s Movement in India”
Chakravarti, “Beyond the Mantra of Empowerment: Time to Return to Poverty, Violence and Struggle”
Cornwall, “Revisiting the ‘Gender Agenda’”
Other reading:
Chant, Sylvia and Matthew C. Gutmann, “‘Men-streaming’ Gender? Questions for gender and development in the twenty-first century” (Blackboard)
Crowell, Daniel W., “The SEWA Movement” (Blackboard)
Rajagopal, Balakrishnan, “Markets, gender, and identity: a case study of the Working Women’s Forum as a social movement” (Blackboard)

6. Aid effectiveness and dilemmas in international development and peacebuilding
   (Feb. 20) (Iain Atack)

The political economy of development assistance and aid effectiveness within the context of conflict situations will be examined. The role of international aid organisations will be discussed.

Seminar topic:
“Can international aid prevent or transform conflict?”

Seminar readings:
Carbonnier, “Humanitarian and Development Aid in the Context of Stabilization”
Lotz, “Financing for Peacebuilding: The Case for a Broader Concept of Aid Effectiveness”
Mac Ginty and Richmond, “The Local Turn in Peace Building: a Critical Agenda for Peace”

Other reading:
Ahearne, James, “Neoliberal Economic Policies and Post-Conflict Peace-Building: A Help or Hindrance to Durable Peace?” (Blackboard)
Eyben and Ferguson, “How Can Donors Become More Accountable to Poor People?” (Blackboard)
Keen, David, “Aid” (Blackboard)
Mac Ginty and Williams, “Development, aid and violent conflict” (Blackboard)
O’Gorman, “The Aid Policies and Architecture of International Conflict and Development” (Blackboard)
Petrik, “Does foreign aid alleviate violent tensions?” (Blackboard)

7. Reading Week (Feb. 27): no lecture

8. **Case Study 1: Colombia** (March 6) (Patty Abozaglo)

Using Colombia as an example, this lecture will explore the linkages between post-conflict peacebuilding and development processes. The lecture examines development and peacebuilding in the context of armed conflict, introducing key concepts and terminology.

Seminar topic:
Apply conflict analysis tools (e.g. the Conflict Tree, the Lederach Pyramid) to gain a deeper understanding of the relevance of conflict analysis when implementing development programmes, using Colombia as an example.

Seminar readings:
Abozaglo, “Conflict Sensitivity Toolkit: Part Two”
“Conflict-Sensitive Approaches to Development, Humanitarian Assistance and Peacebuilding”
Pearce, “Give Peace a Chance: Lessons for Colombia from the Central American Peace Processes”, British Academics for Colombia under Peace (BACUP)

Other reading:
ABColombia, British Agencies working on Colombia
Abozaglo, Patty (2008) *The Role of NGOs in Peacebuilding in Colombia*, Kimmage Manor Development Studies Centre, Dublin (Blackboard)
Clancy & Hamber, “Trauma, Peacebuilding and Development” (Blackboard)
Condon & Cane, “Capacitar: Healing Trauma, Empowering Wellness” (Blackboard)

9. Human security and sustainable development (March 13) (Iain Atack)

Human economic activity in both developed and developing countries has a huge impact upon the natural environment at both the local and the global level. Sustainable development is an attempt to reconcile the competing demands of poverty alleviation and economic growth with the requirements of environmental protection. Issues related to human security and sustainable development will be discussed.

Seminar topic:
“Sustainable development must be primarily a local phenomenon.”

Seminar readings:
Babcicky, “A Conflict-Sensitive Approach to Climate Change Adaptation” (Blackboard)
Grist, “Positioning Climate Change in Sustainable Development Discourse” (Blackboard)
Richmond, “Post-Colonial Hybridity and the Return of Human Security”

Other reading:
Sousan, John, “Linking the Local to the Global: Can Sustainable Development Work in Practice?” (Blackboard)

10. Case Study 2: The Horn of Africa (HoA), Abyei (March 20) (Tedla Desta)
The Horn of Africa (HoA) region is one of the most conflict prone regions in the world, with many conflict and peacebuilding cases to study. This lecture broadly introduces the trajectory of conflicts and peace processes in the region from multidimensional perspectives and uses Complex Systems theory to analyse recent geopolitical developments in the region and particularly focus on the conflict between Sudan and South Sudan over the oil rich area known as Abyei.

Seminar topic:
“The conflicts in the Horn of Africa mainly emanate from international historical interests and agreements rather than indigenous factors; therefore, ceasing outside influences and agreements could end the conflicts in the region.”

Seminar readings:
Salman, “The Abyei territorial dispute between North and South Sudan”
Ulrichsen, “The geopolitics of insecurity in the Horn of Africa and the Arabian Peninsula”

Other reading:

11. **Case Study 3: Palestine** (March 27) (YaserAlashqar)

This lecture will explore the relationship between conflict and development in the Israeli-Palestinian situation. The impact of military occupation and blockades on peacebuilding and economic initiatives will be also discussed, particularly in the context of Gaza. In addition, European Union aid to Palestine and its political implications will be examined in the lecture.

Seminar Topic:
“For effective foreign aid and economic growth to succeed in Palestine, a genuine and credible political settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is an essential requirement.”

Seminar readings:
Abdel-Shafi, “Realigning EU Policy in Palestine: Towards a Viable State Economy And Restored Dignity”
Cuhadar and Hanafi, “Israel and Palestine: Civil Societies in Despair”

Other Readings:

12. **Case Study 4: The Korean Peninsula** (April 3) (Dong Jin Kim)

This lecture will explore aid activities in North Korea in the context of the Korean conflict and discuss the possibility of aid for peace on the Korean peninsula in the future. North Korea’s dependence on South Korean and international aid and its impact on the peace process will be assessed.

Seminar Topic:
“How to link development and peacebuilding, using the Korean peninsula as an example.”

Seminar readings:
Kim, “Aid to the Enemy: Linking Development and Peacebuilding on the Korean Peninsula”
Manyin and Nikitin, “Foreign Assistance to North Korea”
Park, “Norms and Realities of Applying the Aid Discourse on Fragile States to North Korea”

Other reading:
Taylor, Mi Ae and Mark E. Manyin (2011) “Non-Governmental Organizations’ Activities in North Korea”, Congressional Research Service Report for Congress (Blackboard)
1. Examine the link between peacebuilding and development in conflict-affected developing countries. (IA)

2. Using case studies, evaluate the importance of non-governmental organisations to development and peacebuilding in conflict-affected developing countries. (IA)

3. “Women’s agency is an important development goal in itself, not just as a means for reducing poverty and eliminating inequality.” Discuss. (IA)

4. Assess the significance of sustainable development, in theory and practice, as an innovative approach to development. (IA)

5. Evaluate the role of development aid in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. (IA)

6. Assess the role of EU aid in Palestine within the context of economic development and peacebuilding. (YA)

7. Critically discuss the potential and the effectiveness of aid to North Korea for the promotion of peace in the Korean peninsula. (DJK)