International Political Organisations

Instructor
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Content
The course will address the role and functions of international organizations in general but also give special emphasis to some of the most significant institutions such as the UN, the EU and NATO.

Knowledge
Students should achieve
- a comprehensive knowledge of the role and work of international organisations.
- a comprehensive understanding of debates over the role of international organisations in international politics

Skills
Students should be able to
- analyse dynamics and politics of important policy issues related to international organisations
- select and apply theories and concepts to analyse specific policy issues.

Competences
By the end of the course students should have a sound understanding of
- the concept of an international organization
- different arguments regarding the role of International Organisations within international politics
- the political dynamics associated with their creation, structure and functioning, as well as their relationship to other international actors.

Course structure: One lecture per week, 14.00-17:00 Thursday (U151). Classes will involve a combination of lecturing designed to clarify key aspects of theories and interactive class discussion that applies these theories to examples to assess their utility. At the beginning of each class, every text on the reading list will be summarized in 5-10 minutes by a student that I will randomly select, so you must prepare the readings. This will form the basis of the discussion for the first hour. During the second hour, students will have to work in groups and research a topic which will be assigned by the instructor, which will then be presented and discussed during the third hour.
**Equity and Disability Policies:** The University of Southern Denmark and I are committed to providing a supportive learning environment. I will not accept disparaging comments and disruptive behavior. If you are facing medical, emotional or personal circumstances that will affect your attendance and performance, please see me.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism will not be tolerated and could result in a grade of zero for the course or expulsion from the University. Please see the University's plagiarism policies.
http://www.sdu.dk/en/Om SDU/Faellesomraadet/IT-service/Services/antiplagiat

**General resources**

The following books constitute useful complements to the class.


**Mandatory readings**

**Session 1: Introduction**


**Session 2: theoretical approaches**


Session 3: The institutional design of IOs


Session 4: The legitimacy debate


Session 5: The compliance debate


**Examples of contemporary IOs**

**Session 6: The United Nations**


**Session 7: The UN in action. Guest speaker: Finn Reske-Nielsen, former assistant-secretary general of the United Nations.**


**Session 8: The European Union**


Session 9: NATO


Session 10: Practical activity: Simulation of international negotiation

Practical activity in class