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University of
Kent



Human Security in a Globalizing World

Early Career Researchers Training School

ADA University, 15-19 February 2021

GCRF COMPASS: Comprehensive Capacity-Building in the Eastern Neighbourhood and Central Asia:
research integration, impact governance & sustainable communities (GCRF UKRI ES/P010849/1)



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Human Security in a Globalizing World

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Online, Microsoft Teams

The Training School's (TS) theme focuses on "Human Security in a Globalizing World". The TS reviews security phenomenon from broader approaches considering security threats where the security landscape is influenced by and has possible implications across different sectors such as the economy, the environment, migration, health and etc. The aim of the TS is to promote wider understanding of peace, security and international stability in the region and globally, by elevating human security as a crucial component of security policy.

Human security represents an emerging paradigm that seeks to shift the meaning of security from its traditionally military-oriented and state-centric focus to a "people-oriented". As noted in General Assembly resolution 66/290, "human security is an approach to assist Member States in identifying and addressing widespread and cross-cutting challenges to the survival, livelihood and dignity of their people. It calls for "people-centred, comprehensive, context-specific and prevention-oriented responses that strengthen the protection and empowerment of all people". Human security draws together the expertise and resources of a wide range of actors from governments, private sector, civil society, and local communities. Thus, this TS will seek to understand current processes, factors, crisis, conflicts and challenges related to any aspect of human security in local and international context.

The TS 2021 aims to engage PhD researchers, postdoctoral students and practitioners from different research streams. Topics may be wide-ranging, covering all aspects of human security such as economics, sociology, international affairs, peace studies and conflict resolution, social work, social development and etc.

The approach of the TS is interdisciplinary, meaning that we welcome participation from the social sciences, the humanities and law. Papers may focus exclusively on pressing global challenges including COVID-19, peace and security, ecology and climate change, economy and employment, inequality and well-being and international and national responses to current and emerging challenges. Comparative approaches are also welcomed.

The [GCRF COMPASS project](#) (ES/P010849/1, 2017-21) is an ambitious UK government capacity-building funding initiative, aiming to extend UK research globally, to address the challenges of growth and sustainability in the developing countries. Notably, the COMPASS project at the University of Kent, together with Cambridge University as research partner, seeks to establish '**the hubs of excellence**' at the top-level HEIs in Belarus, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, to enable them to become the centres for knowledge sharing and transfer for *research integration*, *impact governance*, and *sustainable communities*.

[The ADA University](#) was founded in 2006 as Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy, a training institute for young diplomats to meet the urgent needs of the expanding Foreign Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan. ADA was transformed into a full-fledged public university in 2014 and is accredited by the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan. ADA is home to an international community of approximately 2500 students and approximately 200 faculty and staff from 46 countries around the world. ADA is a truly international University with more international students studying here than in any other university in the country. Through a curriculum built around a triad of rigorous major study, electives and general education, combined with experiential learning and exchange opportunities, western style of education, academic excellence, innovation and employability are in the heart of the education process. All courses at ADA are taught in English.

The University is made up of four academic Schools:

- School of Public and International Affairs (SPIA)
- School of Business (SB)
- School of Education (SE)
- School of Information Technologies and Engineering (SITE)

Programme

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

DAY 1 - Monday 15.02.2021

14.00-14.30	<p>Welcoming</p> <p>Mrs Nargiz Ismayilova <i>Director, Centre of Excellence in EU Studies, ADA University, Azerbaijan</i></p> <p>Dr Anar Valiyev <i>Dean, School of Public and International Affairs, ADA University, Azerbaijan</i></p> <p>Professor Elena Korosteleva <i>PI, GCRF COMPASS project, United Kingdom</i></p> <p>Dr Siddharth Saxena <i>COI, GCRF COMPASS project, United Kingdom</i></p>
14:30-15:30	<p>Skills Workshop: Searching for relevant data. Collecting information. How to obtain relevant data for your research?</p> <p><i>Dr Anar Valiyev, ADA University</i></p> <p><i>Prof Elena Korosteleva, University of Kent</i></p>
15:30-16:15	<p>Paper Presentation by Nargiz Mammadova, Azerbaijan</p> <p><i>Supervised by Prof Elena Korosteleva, University of Kent</i></p>
16:15-16:45	<p>Prof. Mary Kaldor</p> <p><i>Director, Conflict Research Programme, LSE IDEAS</i></p>
16:45-17:00	<p>Q&A Session</p>

DAY 2 - Tuesday 16.02.2021

14:00-14:45	<p>Dr Mary Martin</p> <p><i>Senior Research Fellow, Director, UN Business and Human Security Initiative</i></p>
14:45-15:00	<p>Q&A Session</p>
15:00-16:00	<p>Skills Workshop: How to turn research into publications? Why do we need to publish? What is the impact of publication?</p> <p><i>Dr Anar Valiyev, ADA University</i></p>
16:00-16:30	<p>Paper Presentation by Nargiza Sodikova, Uzbekistan</p> <p><i>Supervised by Dr Artsiom Nazaranka, Belarus State University</i></p>
16.30-17.00	<p>Paper Presentation by Incha Aliyeva, Azerbaijan</p> <p><i>Supervised by Dr Munira Shahidi, Tadjik National University</i></p>
17:00-17:30	<p>Paper Presentation by Anastasiya Ihnatovich, Belarus</p> <p><i>Supervised by Dr Munira Shahidi, Tadjik National University</i></p>

DAY 3 - Wednesday 17.02.2021

14:00-14:30	<p>Critical discussion 'Study girl'</p> <p><i>Leaded by Shafag Mehraliyeva, ADA University</i></p>
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14:30-15:00	Human Security Issues in Karabakh after War <i>Dr Farid Shafiyev, Chairman of the Centre of Analysis of International Relations, Azerbaijan</i>
15:00-16:00	Skills Workshop: Happiness and academic careers: can they go together? https://researchwhisperer.org/2021/02/02/happy-and-untenued-researcher/ <i>Dr Abel Polese</i>
16:00-16:30	Paper Presentation by Alicja Prochniak, United Kingdom <i>Supervised by Dr Abel Polese</i>
16:30-17:00	Paper Presentation by Emiliya Ahmadova, Azerbaijan <i>Supervised by Ms Prajakti Kalra</i>
17:00-17:30	Paper Presentation by Sulaimon Kingakov, Tajikistan <i>Supervised by Ms Prajakti Kalra</i>

DAY 4 - Thursday 18.02.2021

14:00-14:30	Human Security Issues in Turkey – areas of research <i>Dr Ayca Ergun, Associate Professor, METU</i>
14:30-15:30	Skills Workshop: Formulate your research questions, develop your hypotheses & think of research methods <i>Dr Artsiom Nazaranka, Belarus State University & Dr Ingvild Bode, SDU</i>
15:30-16:00	Paper Presentation by Sabrina Gafforova, Tajikistan <i>Supervised by Dr Artsiom Nazaranka, Belarus State University</i>
16:00-16:30	Paper Presentation by Sama Baghirova, Roza Asgarova, Ulviyya Bayramli, Azerbaijan <i>Supervised by Dr Nargis Nurulla, Moscow State University</i>
16:30-17:00	Paper Presentation by Ugo Gaudinho, United Kingdom <i>Supervised by Dr Nargis Nurulla, Moscow State University</i>

DAY 5 – Friday 19.02.2021

14:00-14:30	Seeing Human Security through Technology <i>Dr Bruno Oliveira Martins, Senior Researcher, Peace Research Institute Oslo</i>
14:30-15:30	Skills Workshop: Building research design, literature review and other components <i>Dr Anar Valiyev, ADA University</i>
15:30-16:00	Paper Presentation by Darya Savateeva, Belarus <i>Supervised by Dr Anar Valiyev, ADA University</i>
16:00-16:30	Paper Presentation by Sara Gammon, United Kingdom <i>Supervised by Dr Anar Valiyev, ADA University</i>
16:30-17:00	Paper Presentation by Matlyuba Salikhova, Tajikistan <i>Supervised by Nargiz Gafarova, ADA University</i>
17:00-17:30	ADA Virtual Tour https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x0RTXgNTnGw Wrap-up of the Training School Certificates

Alicja Prochniak - How identity politics and use of political myths influence the foreign and security policy choices

In recent years, an important shift took place. Political actors in their messages introduce and popularize a new vision of national identity. Together with a new definition of national identity a revised system of values is spread and presented in the form of discourses and political myths embedded in historical narratives. The use of this type of framing is designated to gain popular support, legitimize government policies, mobilize society and to initiate a new nation-building process. The appeal to emotions and identity politics with the frequent use of political myths in the public political debate is often oversimplifying political reality. The narrowed debate affects the formulation of the most adequate security and foreign policy responses. The discourses and narratives loaded with emotional messages set paradigms and frameworks, which can hinder the perception of international affairs. They popularize a narrow view that does not allow the formulation of alternative definitions or criticism. The consistent implementation of this narration and political myths designated for purely domestic use by the time is influencing the way society, media and elites define international affairs. The political discussion dominated by those definitions can affect the threat assessment and the foreign and security policy formation in the country.

Anastasiya Ihnatovich - Climate change as the pressing human rights challenge

The XXI century climate change poses a global ecological challenge exerting adverse impacts on human rights of present and future generations. Specifically, climate change-related impacts, including, inter alia, extreme weather patterns and rising sea levels, prevent persons from full enjoyment of a range of human rights, thereby signifying the special human security concern. One of the current frameworks for combatting climate change is the human rights-based approach. However, the operationalization of this approach is inconsistent with its essence – its application to all human rights affected by climate change and climate action. In fact, the implementation of the aforementioned approach leads to contradiction between States' human rights obligations, which therefore accounts for insufficient climate action. It is suggested that the given approach be interpreted as built upon the rights of future generations. In the proposed interpretation it would help to address the problem of having to prioritize such obligations, namely, through the temporary restriction on the right to development while improving the existing approaches and developing new ones to ensure this right when reducing carbon emissions. The rationale behind this is the urgent need for climate action to avoid the long-term negative climate change implications on human security.

Darya Savateeva - The problem of unequal access to higher education in Germany at the beginning of the 21st century

The German higher education system is considered to be one of the best in the world. Despite this, at the beginning of the 21st century, there was a continuing trend towards unequal access of different segments of the population to higher education. This article analysed the data of the 18th report of the Student Self-Help Societies, which showed how social status affects access to education. We examined the measures taken by the German government to solve this problem. First of all, this is the reform of the Law on Assistance in Education. It should be noted that the Federal Republic of Germany has one of the most developed student support systems, a state mechanism in this area. Another government initiative in 2005-2009 was the Higher Education Pact 2020. The main goal of the Pact was to increase the number of students, to create favourable conditions for conducting scientific research. The pact addressed the issues of funding research and the issue of creating equal opportunities for women in science, through the creation of additional jobs at universities.

Emiliya Ahmadova - Vulnerability of Cyberspace and Human security

Development of the World Wide Web and advance of IT fostered the creation of a virtual environment or cyberspace. Kuehl defines cyberspace "as a global domain to create, store, modify, exchange, and exploit information via interdependent and interconnected networks using information-communication technologies." The Department of Défense defines cyberspace and a new domain along with other operational domains like sea, land, air and space. Along with creating new possibilities, new cyber domains or cyberspace created new forms of threat not only for states but also for ordinary people. Increasing dependency from cyberspace, easy of entry, diverse and anonymous actors, evaporation of physical distance, ease of offensive actions increase vulnerabilities of humans in the cyber domain. As a result, new concepts, such as cyber security, cybercrime, cyberattack, cyberthreat, cyber deterrence, cyberwar as well as cyber power became mainstream and entered the agenda of international relations. As a part of current

research, threats caused by cyberspace for ordinary people as well as possible actions for increasing human security in cyberspace will be analysed and discussed.

Incha Aliyeva - Arctic geopolitics and environmental concerns (did not present)

Since ancient times people had access to the Arctic Circle, however it has been the last decades through the recent technological advancements the area is being explored more comprehensively and turning it into a significantly more complex picture than before as it has been called the new "Great Game". Rising interests of eight nations and other non-circle countries in the region, overlapping territorial claims might create some challenges. Although there are high interests, there is a lesser increase in transit routes due to harsh climate.

"The Arctic is evolving from a regional frozen backwater into a global hot issue" The Arctic is experiencing environmental change that inescapably leads to new geopolitical reality. Current dramatic increase in greenhouse gas emissions has affected the Arctic more tense than elsewhere.

The core question (will) be: "What are the present geopolitical challenges in the Arctic circle region which are obstacles to find common ground?" Meantime, the paper will focus on current geopolitical interests in the Arctic and implications on environmental concerns within this area.

- Introduction
- Theory
- History
- Strategic importance of Arctic
- Crossing interests of eight Arctic countries, unequal distribution of borders - increasing competition for resources
- Climate change, melting ice of polar, environmental pollution,
- Involvement of outsiders – China, UK, Non state actors - NATO, EU – wide variety of actors and institutions
- Increasing Arctic sovereignty?
- Conclusion

Matlyuba Salikhova - Youth capacity building through civil society

The Republic of Tajikistan gained its independence in 1991 and has gone through very difficult social and economic processes. Today, the country is prospering in many areas. The IT industry, digitalisation of the service sector, professional sports, new opportunities for young people to receive quality education abroad, architecture and urbanisation are all developing rapidly, but there are still vulnerable areas in need of reform for sustainable and effective development, such as the economy, culture, the education system and other areas deriving from these. One reason is that the country is still at a developmental stage. Tajikistan is not rich in natural resources like oil gas etc. One of the country's most important resources is its human resources. According to the official data of the Republican Centre for Statistics of the Republic of Tajikistan more than 61 percent of the population of Tajikistan is young people, the average age of whom is 21-30 years old. On this basis, in this study I will also study the potential of youth and based on the results of the study I will make recommendations for the integration of youth through the public sector. As a community sector leader for 6 years, I have had the opportunity to interact with young people. I interviewed about 2000 young girls and boys about their future professions and areas of activity. I have drawn some conclusions from the survey results. The public sector is one of the highest priorities than the public and private sectors in two aspects:

1. personal and professional growth through civic initiatives and projects.
2. charitable initiatives, volunteering undertaken by public sector actors that promote philanthropy and life skills development among the younger generation and acquisition of leadership, independent problem-solving, communication and other soft skills that are necessary for the future professional prospects of young people.

The study will analyse the effectiveness of youth development through the community sector first in Tajikistan and compare it with the countries participating in the GCRF Compass Project in the future.

Nargiz Mammadova - Impact of Economic Institutions on Banking Stability: Evidence from CIS countries

The review of previous literature mainly focuses on the effect of bank and macroeconomic indicators by controlling the effect of only a few institutional factors to analyse the bank stability, which is the gap aimed to be addressed by this particular study. Being empirical in nature, our paper answers the question of how economic institutions, parallel to the macroeconomic, financial, and demographic indicators, affect the stability of selected Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) based on country-level panel data over the time horizon of 2006-2017. The dependent

variable is selected to be country-level z-score signifying bank stability whose explanatory variables are bank competition measured by Lerner Index, corruption, bank freedom, activity restrictions for banks, credit rights, business environment, education literacy, human freedom index, investment freedom, fiscal freedom, monetary freedom, trade freedom, GINI index, and many other institutional factors that we believe affects the bank stability in CIS countries. Considering that financial and unexpected crises indispensably influences the bank stability, our second research question turns out to be how the effects of institutional factors change during the financial crisis in a sense that whether they are strong enough to derive bank stability back to the trend growth. In view of this, we will add interaction of all institutional variables with year dummies for the 2007 financial crisis and 2015 negative oil price shock. Furthermore, the application of Logistic Regression Model for 12 CIS countries over 1996-2008 will enable us to measure the probability by which each democratic and dictatorship variable contribute to the probability of default risk in the banking system of those countries, which is scrutinized in Model 2. In utilizing this empirical approach, we can also investigate the 1998 Russian and 2007-2008 Financial crisis together with how democracy and dictatorship lessened or accelerated the default risk respectively.

Nargiza Sodikova - EU-CA: Impact of the pandemic on development of relationships

The paper studies the impact of the coronavirus crisis on development of relationships between the European Union and Central Asia. The new EU strategy for CA adopted in 2019 is the main instrument of cooperation with the countries of the region, which outlined priority areas like human rights protection. However, the coronavirus pandemic has introduced adjustments to the development of these relations. First, the current situation has caused significant damage to the positive image of the EU which is primarily associated with the perception of the EU as a coherent organisation. The internal problems of the EU have seriously shaken the perception of pan-European solidarity and unity. Second, the EU is revising its priorities in funding foreign policy programs that will be primarily aimed at supporting health care systems, including in Central Asia and continuing the previously adopted Green course, which covers all spheres of the economy. Third, the current crisis has demonstrated disconnect between the promotion of the concept of resilience and the presence of systemic problems within the EU, demonstrating the non-resilience of the organization itself. During the pandemic European institutions have failed to demonstrate an exemplary model of resilience facing a significant number of new challenges.

Nuray Akhundzada - Why did the 2020 Karabakh conflict escalation develop into the full-fledged war unlike the predecessors?

In September 2020, one of the few skirmishes in the history of the Frozen Nagorno-Karabakh conflict occurred. Unlike predecessors, such as those that happened in 2016, 2018 or July 2020, the fights were not short lasting and ended in the negotiation table again, but turned to be the 2nd Karabakh War, and declaration of the end of the Conflict by the President of Azerbaijan. The aim of this paper is to analyse the root causes of the war through cross examining with the existing literature on the conflict studies; particularly, why the nations go to war and the emerging security matters. Different factors such as the timing – better now than later, regime effect – the democracy level of the states, arm races and the change of the power balance, etc. are the matter of the evaluation. Paper will utilize a quantitative method by utilizing data on various indexes on the economy, military and democracy of the countries acquired through the official resources.

Roza Asgarova, Sama Baghirova, Ulviyya Bayramli - The destruction of cultural heritage in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan by Armenian side

During the years of occupation Armenian side was continuously destroying all the pieces of Azerbaijani cultural heritage. The main goal pursued by the Armenians was to demolish any trace of the inhabitation of Azerbaijanis in this territory. Thus, through years the representatives of the illegally established government in the occupied territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan were doing their best to erase any evidence of Azerbaijani presence and justify their crimes. So, this research will be aimed at finding out the list of destroyed sites, the circumstances which the destruction was committed under, locations where these sites were situated and also the historical value of above mentioned. The research could be used for presenting the international community the true face of Armenian propaganda as well as counterattack of false information disseminated by Armenian diaspora. The research will be useful especially in the post conflict period as the evidence of the attack of Armenians not only on the civilian population, but also on the cultural heritage.

Sabrina Gafforova - Central Asia in the context of Hybrid Warfare: implications for Tajikistan

As the human history shows there are recorded around 15.000 wars with different numbers of fatalities between tribes, nations, empires, etc. Gradually, diplomacy was established by the world community in face of the United Nations to prevent conflicts and live-in peace. But, if to have a look deeper at world politics, along with peace, security and friendship there appeared the words like 'soft power', 'humanitarian intervention', 'hybrid war', etc. It appears to mean that the wars are not stopped or prevented, but they have been continuing as the secret faces of friendly relations. The purpose of my research paper is to study the situation of Central Asia in the new conditions of world hybrid warfare and identifying its implications for CA countries, especially for Tajikistan. Over the past decade Central Asia has found itself in the spotlight of great powers such as America, Russia, China, India and Turkey. The common reason is noticeable – expanding the area of influence. But in what ways the players are going to meet their expectations and what elements of 'hybrid war' they use will be discussed in this research. In conclusion, the possible consequences of invisible elements of 'hybrid war' in Central Asia, especially in Tajikistan will be found out and several proposals will be put forward in this regard.

Sara Gammon - Food Insecurity in Uzbekistan

Norman Borlaug once said, “Food is the moral right of all those born into this world”. However, food insecurity continues to afflict the lives of hundreds of millions around the globe. This has critical implications for human security, as food insecurity undermines people’s ability to live a life free from fear and want. In Central Asia, roughly 16% of the population is food insecure. Achieving food security has been at the forefront of development objectives in Central Asia since the fall of the Soviet Union. In Uzbekistan specifically, state intervention allowed for the country to reach self-sufficiency wheat, boost their level of national food security and stabilize farm incomes. However, the Washington Consensus discourse regards the pursuit of national food security as “misguided” (Chang, 2009). It is argued that by liberalizing trade, countries will be able to specialize according to comparative advantage and procure needed goods from the international market and achieve food security. Public policy plays a crucial role in the path to food security. This paper explores the question of how Uzbekistan has progressed its food security. It argues that Uzbekistan’s success in national food security is largely attributed to its continued state intervention.

Ugo Gaudino - Securitization of Islam from Right to Left: translating security across the political spectrum

Both Right and centre-Left parties address Muslim radicalization as a security threat. While we have abundant literature about securitization of Islam, the nexus between political parties and securitization has received less attention. To what extent does the centre-Left copy the nativism, authoritarianism, and populism of the Radical Right? The paper contributes to securitization theories by analysing how Right and Left-wing parties distinctly securitize Muslims according to partisan ideologies. When conservative and progressive parties evoke the “Muslim otherness”, they have in mind different referent objects (white and Christian Europe for the Right, secular and liberal Europe for the centre-Left). However, both political sides govern Islam through a rationality of hierarchical control. To understand how securitization travels across parties, I use the intra-linguistic version of “translation”, defined as ideological, collective, and contextual transfer of meaning. Using such conceptual tools, I argue that the Right has translated some liberal-progressive discourses into a chauvinist version, while the Left has translated some Right-wing policies and discourses, without translating ethno-religious and populist semantics. Translation modifies but does not erase Right-Left cleavage Translation modifies but does not erase Right-Left cleavage because each party has to ideologically adjust security into its core values and to negotiate with internal audiences, who might dissent with translation and call to de-securitize Islam.

Participants' Biography

Alicja Prochniak. In her investigation into the role of myths in political discourses and narratives, Alicja combines knowledge and expertise from the field of International Relations, Security Studies, Communication, Sociology, Politics and Political Psychology. Alicja is a doctoral researcher within the Institute for Diplomacy and International Governance at Loughborough University London. She holds a BA in Journalism and Media and an MA in International Security and Global Governance from Birkbeck, University of London.

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Nargiz Mammadova graduated from ADA University in 2020 with major at Bachelor of Science in Economics. Currently, pursuing Master in Economics: Research Program at National Research University-Higher School of Economics with 100% Russian Government Scholarship in addition to ERP grant. She is extremely motivated to study Macroeconometrics, Advanced Monetary Economics, Macroprudential Policies in Emerging Economies, Behavioral and Experimental Economics, and Macroeconomic Diagnosis.

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Roza Asgarova is an Advisor in the Center of Analysis of international Relations, focusing on diaspora issues. Previously she worked as an information analyst in the Center of Strategic Communications NGO and interned in ADA University, Executive Power of Narimanov district and the Administration of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan. She has Bachelor's degree in Political Studies from the Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Master's degree in International Relations from Budapest Business School, Hungary.

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Sama Baghirova is an Advisor at the Center of Analysis of International Relations, focusing on Spanish speaking countries as well as on diaspora issues. She has a previous internship experience at the Embassy of the United States of Mexico in Azerbaijan as an assistant at the Ambassador's office. She holds bachelor's degree in International Studies from ADA University. Currently she is undertaking master's degree in Public Administration at the same university and is selected for the Graduate Assistantship Program.

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Ulviyya Bayramli is currently an Advisor at the Center of Analysis of International Relations. She holds a joint honours bachelor's degree in History and International Relation from King's College London.

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Ugo Gaudino is a PhD candidate in International Relations and a Graduate Teaching Assistant at the University of Kent, where he joined the School of Politics and International Relations in September 2019. He holds a Master's degree in International Relations (2015-17) from La Sapienza University (Rome) and a MA in 'Economy and Institutions of Islamic Countries' at LUISS University (Rome) in 2019. Currently, he is spending a research period at the Centre for International Studies (Sciences-Po, Paris).

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Nargiza Sodikova is a PhD Student at the University of World Economy and Diplomacy researching the EU's strategic interests in Central Asia. She holds BA and MA degrees in International Relations from the University of World Economy and Diplomacy. In her research she examines EU' strategy towards CA, EU's Global Strategy, regional security and sustainable development in Central Asia.

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Salikhova Matlubakhon. Affiliated member of GCRF Compass - Tajik National University team; Chairperson of Public Charity Organization "PESHRAFT".

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Darya Savateeva. In 2015 entered the history faculty of the Belarusian State University. After graduating from university, she got a qualification Historian. Teacher of history and social sciences. In 2019, entered the master's degree at the Faculty of History, majoring in general history. After graduating with honors, she defended her master's thesis on "Social policy of the coalition governments in Germany (2005-2017)". In November 2020, entered graduate school and specialize of the Department of Modern and Contemporary History.

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Anastasiya Ihnatovich is a PhD Candidate in International Law at the Belarusian State University Faculty of International Relations. She holds a Master's Degree in Jurisprudence (Hons) from the same university. Her current research interests are in the areas of International Human Rights Law and International Climate Change Law. Apart from the master's and doctoral theses devoted to international human rights obligations in the context of climate change, Anastasiya has a number of research papers which employ the human rights framework for dealing with climate change-related issues.

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Sara Gammon is pursuing an MPhil in Development Studies at the University of Cambridge as a 2020 Truman Scholar from the United States. She previously studied Agricultural Economics and Global Food Systems Leadership at Kansas State University. Her research interests include the role of agricultural development in decreasing food insecurity and malnutrition as well as methods to reducing gender inequities in agriculture.

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Biography of speakers and experts



Dr Abel Polese is a researcher, trainer, writer, manager and fundraiser. He is the author of “[The SCOPUS Diaries and the \(il\)logics of Academic Survival](#): A Short Guide to Design Your Own Strategy and Survive Bibliometrics, Conferences, and Unreal Expectations in Academia”, a reflection on academic life, research careers and the choices and obstacles young scholars face at the beginning of their career. You can find him on Twitter at [@Abiquitous](#) and [@scopusdiaries](#). His ORCID is [0000-0001-9607-495X](#)
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Dr Anar Valiyev is Dean and Associate Professor at ADA University School of Public and International Affairs. He is a member of several professional organisations such as APSA, Urban Affairs Association. International teaching and research experience of Dr Valiyev includes positions of post-doctoral researcher at Masaryk University in Brno (2007-2008), and Fulbright Scholar (2016-2017) at Johns Hopkins University. Also, Dr Valiyev was Erasmus visiting scholar at University of Glasgow, University of Tartu, Middle East Technical University. He is a constant contributor to publications of Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Henrich Boelle Foundation as well as recipient of European Commission grant on peace education. As an acknowledged researcher, he has received the Web of Science Award 2018 as the most productive author for Humanitarian and Social Sciences in Azerbaijan of the year. In 2020 Dr Anar Valiyev was appointed to Jean Monnet Chair of European Studies position.
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Dr Artsiom Nazaranka is Senior Lecturer in History and Chairman of Young Scientists Council at the Belarusian State University Faculty of History. MA in History. Finished PhD course at the Dep. of Constitutional Law of BSU, Intensive program in human rights in RWI, Lund University. Co-author of 8 educational standards, over 15 courses, experienced in developing and evaluation of curricula, ECTS. Author /co-author/ of 6 textbooks for different levels. He took part in implementation of several international projects, incl. Jean Monnet Module “Ethnic Minorities in the European Union” (EMEU). Belarus National Team Leader for GCRF COMPASS project. Member of UKRI International Development Peer-Review College. Participated in a number of policy-debate activities on sustainable development. His research focuses on History and Law, ICT Law, EU studies, Public Administration, Records Management & Archives, Higher Education.
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Dr Ayça Ergun is an associate professor of sociology and vice-chair of Centre For Black Sea and Central Asia at Middle East Technical University. She received her PhD. from the Department of Government at University of Essex. Her research interests include state-society relations, democratization, nation and state building, civil society in the South Caucasus, internationalization and qualitative methodology. She currently works on an edited volume on Turkish Foreign Policy in Eurasia (forthcoming, Routledge).
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Dr Bruno Oliveira Martins is a Senior Researcher at the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), where he coordinates the *Security Research Group*. Bruno’s main research interest lies at the intersection between technological developments, security practices, and societal change. He is currently leading three security technology-focused projects at PRIO: ReguAIR (on the reconceptualization and regulation of airspace in the context of drone proliferation), Disruptive Security Technologies (funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Defence in 2021), and RaceTech (an STS-informed initiative exploring biases in technology design and deployment).

Bruno is a former political analyst at the EU Embassy in Israel and holds both a PhD in Political Science and an MA in European Studies from the University of Minho, in Portugal.

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Security Cultures, published in May 2018 and Cities at War: Global Insecurity and Urban Resistance, co-edited with Professor Saskia Sassen and written alongside a team of international scholars, published in March 2020. At the request of Javier Solana, she was Convener for the Study Group on European Security Capabilities, which produced the influential Barcelona report, 'A Human Security Doctrine for Europe'.

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