



ECTS CARD

STUDY PROGRAMME(S) / STUDY TRACK(S)

Master of Arts in European Interdisciplinary Studies (Study Track: European Security and Strategy)
Master of Arts in Transatlantic Affairs (Study Track: European Interdisciplinary Studies - European Security and Strategy)

YEAR

2026-2027

COURSE TITLE

Drafting a Peace Treaty for the End of the Cold War

SEMESTER

1

PROFESSOR(S)

MINK Georges & CICHOCKI Marek Aleksander

ACADEMIC ASSISTANT(S)

DAMIANI Giulio

COURSE TYPE

Simulation Game

MAJOR(S)

Not applicable

ECTS CREDITS

0

TEACHING HOURS

10

INDIVIDUAL & GROUP STUDY TIME

10

TUTORIAL(S)

0

COEFFICIENT

0

LANGUAGE(S)

EN

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The Cold War as the direct consequence of World War Two was often described as “a peace” without peace. This led to the opinion that the key leftovers from the Second World War should be resolved through a new peace treaty which would contribute to the end of Cold War competition. The CSCE with the Helsinki Final Act can be viewed as the step heading in such a direction. However, the Cold War didn't end with any principal peace treaty. In turn, the new post-Cold War order occurred as the effect of different developments, agreements, decisions, and events, like the Paris Charter, German unification, the Maastricht Treaty, enlargement, and the dissolution of the Soviet Union. Was it so because one principal design of peace after the end of the Cold War was not possible? Through the simulation game, we would like to check different options and alternatives for the end of the Cold War.

In the simulation game, students take on the roles of the major actors at the end of the Cold War (1989-1991): of great powers US, USSR, China, of the major European victorious countries of World War Two – Great Britain and France, of divided Germany, countries of the Central and Eastern European region, and some key countries of the Non-Aligned Movement. The aim of the simulation game is to design the alternate history peace conference of these parties for the foundation of the new post-Cold War order.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of this course, the students will be able to:

- 1) Acquire an understanding of the disciplines of history, political science, law, economics and international relations, including relevant theories, methodologies and techniques from

related sub-disciplines, which is sufficient for them to study the European Union in particular and European Studies more generally on an interdisciplinary, cross-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary basis at an advanced level (A1);

- 2) Acquire a sound understanding of EU economic integration, including monetary union and the making of EU economic policy in its global context. They are able to employ quantitative data and basic economic theory to analyse and evaluate the effectiveness of EU economic policies (A5);
- 3) Develop the personal maturity, cross-cultural sensitivity and linguistic skills necessary for successful teamwork and negotiation in a multi-cultural and international Environment (B1);
- 4) Develop core leadership skills in setting and achieving collective goals, overcoming setbacks, managing group dynamics, equitably empowering others and building mutual trust (B2);
- 5) Develop the ability to construct, present and defend a case clearly and coherently in writing as well as before their peers orally, and constructively to question and critique the cases made by others (B4);
- 6) Develop the ability autonomously to gather, sift, assess and interpret information from multiple sources. On the basis of referenced evidence, they are able to formulate and develop a coherent and reasoned stance, justifiable conclusions, specific policy recommendations and/or historical arguments (B6);
- 7) Analyse developments within Europe/the US that impact their relative geopolitical standing, thereby influencing EU and/or US interests relevant to transatlantic affairs (MATA1.6);
- 8) Acquire a nuanced perspective of internal political, economic, and/or social pressures and how they may impact, either directly or indirectly, the transatlantic relationship and the capacity of the transatlantic partners to act in accordance with the needs of the transatlantic partnership (MATA1.7).

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION

None.

TEACHING METHOD(S)

Preparatory lectures (4h) & simulation game (6h).

ASSESSMENT METHOD(S)

None.

COURSE CONTENTS

In the simulation game students will take on the roles of the major actors at the end of the Cold War, among others those of:

- The "great powers" (the US, USSR, PCR);
- The major European victors of the Second World War (the UK, France);
- The divided Germany (BRD / DDR);
- The CEE countries, including USSR satellite states and former SSRs;
- Key countries of the Non-Aligned Movement.

The actors will interact with each other during several rounds of negotiation. Based on assigned brief readings, they will form proposals and put them forth during an international conference. The participants will strive to negotiate and draft a final agreement with all the actors, they will also be

able to form coalitions and adopt resolutions in sub-groups which will later represent their interests on the higher stage. Should one country decide to opt-out of the final draft, it would be expected to submit a 250-word press release outlining the reasons for taking such position.

COURSE MATERIALS (readings and other learning resources/tools)

1. Georges Mink & Jean-Charles Szurek, *La Grande Conversion*, Editions du Seuil, Paris, 1999 – Chapters: *La révolution gorbatchévienne, les tables rondes, dans le camp de l'ennemi socialdémocrate, langage et idées des réformateurs*, pp. 9-95.
2. Rochard K. Herrmann & Richard Ned Lebow (ed.) *Ending the Cold War. Interpretations, Causation, And The Study of International Relations*. Palgrave Macmillan 2004, pp. 31-153.
3. Kristina Spohr & Daniel S.Hamilton, *Exiting the Cold War, Entering a New World*, Transatlantic Leadership Network 2019.
4. Marek Cichocki, *War in Ukraine and the Narrative About a New Cold War*, In: Georges Mink, Iwona Reichardt (eds.) *The End of The Soviet World. Essays on Post-Communist Political and Social Change*, SPPS – Soviet and Post-Soviet Politics and Society Serie, Vol. 280, ibidem-Verlag, Hannover. Stuttgart 2025, pp. 33-53.