

COURSE OUTLINE

(1) GENERAL

SCHOOL	SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES		
ACADEMIC UNIT	DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCES AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS		
LEVEL OF STUDIES	POSTGRADUATE		
COURSE CODE		SEMESTER	WINTER
COURSE TITLE	The EU and Conflict Management in the Balkans and the Eastern Mediterranean		
INDEPENDENT TEACHING ACTIVITIES <i>if credits are awarded for separate components of the course, e.g. lectures, laboratory exercises, etc. If the credits are awarded for the whole of the course, give the weekly teaching hours and the total credits</i>		WEEKLY TEACHING HOURS	CREDITS
Lectures		2	1
Background paper			1
Project Preparation and Presentation			1,7
Final Written Essay			4,3
Total			8
<i>Add rows if necessary. The organisation of teaching and the teaching methods used are described in detail at (d).</i>			
COURSE TYPE <i>general background, special background, specialised general knowledge, skills development</i>	SPECIALISED GENERAL KNOWLEDGE		
PREREQUISITE COURSES:	NONE		
LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION and EXAMINATIONS:	ENGLISH		
IS THE COURSE OFFERED TO ERASMUS STUDENTS	YES		
COURSE WEBSITE (URL)	https://eclass.uop.gr/courses/816/		

(2) LEARNING OUTCOMES

Learning outcomes

The course learning outcomes, specific knowledge, skills and competences of an appropriate level, which the students will acquire with the successful completion of the course are described.

Consult Appendix A

- Description of the level of learning outcomes for each qualifications cycle, according to the Qualifications Framework of the European Higher Education Area
- Descriptors for Levels 6, 7 & 8 of the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning and Appendix B
- Guidelines for writing Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course students are expected to have fully grasped the EU's multifaceted role in conflict management in the Balkans and the Eastern Mediterranean. Moreover, they are expected to be fully acquainted with the EU conflict analysis guidelines and to be able to apply theoretical and methodological tools to comprehend and assess specific cases studies. Finally, the students will be equipped with the analytical concepts and necessary contextual knowledge to analyse and critically evaluate the impact of the EU policy in the field of conflict management, while acquiring the capacity to evaluate potential scenarios and make policy prescriptions.

General Competences

Taking into consideration the general competences that the degree-holder must acquire (as these appear in the Diploma Supplement and appear below), at which of the following does the course aim?

Search for, analysis and synthesis of data and information, with the use of the necessary technology	Project planning and management
Adapting to new situations	Respect for difference and multiculturalism
Decision-making	Respect for the natural environment
Working independently	Showing social, professional and ethical responsibility and sensitivity to gender issues
Team work	Criticism and self-criticism
Working in an international environment	Production of free, creative and inductive thinking
Working in an interdisciplinary environment
Production of new research ideas	Others...

Search for, analysis and synthesis of data and information, with the use of the necessary technology
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 Respect for difference and multiculturalism
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 Production of free, creative and inductive thinking

(3) SYLLABUS

Conflict prevention, peace building, mediation and crisis management are central pillars of the European Union's (EU) commitment to act as a global actor that promotes international peace and security as the basis of a rules-based multilateral order. The course examines the EU as a sui generis foreign policy actor that is firmly anchored on the principle of peace and discusses the evolution of the EU approach to conflict management and resolution across time and specific cases. It explores a series of "old" and "new" crises and conflicts focusing on the Balkans and the Eastern Mediterranean, two regions of great EU foreign policy concern and engagement, which are home to

several—often interconnected yet disparate—examples of EU conflict management. In this context, the course traces and analyses traditional and more innovative approaches to conflict management; from conflict resolution and crisis management to supporting mediation, strengthening inclusivity and facilitating multi-track coordination. The course will be divided into four parts; each taught by a different expert. The first part (3 weeks) will introduce the students to the main concepts, tools and debates on EU foreign policy in conflict management. The following three parts will explore specific cases of conflicts and crises and respective EU initiatives, starting from the Balkans and moving clockwise down to the southern shore of the Eastern Mediterranean.

Themes of Lectures/Seminars

- The Evolution of integration and the dynamics of political unification in the EU
- The EU as a sui generis foreign policy actor
- The EU’s response to emerging and ongoing conflicts: from conflict resolution and crisis management to peace mediation
- Conflict prevention through state-building: the EU in Bosnia and Herzegovina
- The EU’s mediation role in the Serbia-Kosovo dispute
- The EU’s crisis management capabilities and interethnic tensions in North Macedonia
- The EU’s conflict management approach to the Greek-Turkish dispute
- The EU and conflict resolution in the Cyprus question
- The EU’s mediation support in the Syrian civil war
- The EU’s multi-phased and multi-faceted role in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict
- The EU’s crisis management efforts during Egypt’s post-Mubarak transition
- The EU and the Balkan-EastMed security complexes: between old conflicts and new security challenges

(4) TEACHING and LEARNING METHODS - EVALUATION

<p style="text-align: center;">DELIVERY <i>Face-to-face, Distance learning, etc.</i></p>	<p>Face-to-face. The course combines the delivery of lectures with the organization of seminars.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY <i>Use of ICT in teaching, laboratory education, communication with students</i></p>	<p>The course uses extensively the e-class platform for several services (e.g., announcements, distribution of supplementary teaching material, essay topic assignment, submission of essays and feedback on performance).</p> <p>In addition, most lectures are delivered with the assistance of projected presentations. Final term marks are submitted and announced in a classweb platform (https://e-secretary.uop.gr/classweb/).</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">TEACHING METHODS</p> <p><i>The manner and methods of teaching are described in detail.</i></p> <p><i>Lectures, seminars, laboratory practice, fieldwork, study and analysis of bibliography, tutorials, placements, clinical practice, art workshop, interactive teaching, educational visits, project, essay writing, artistic creativity, etc.</i></p> <p><i>The student's study hours for each learning activity are given as well as the hours of non-directed study according to the principles of the ECTS</i></p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;"><i>Activity</i></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><i>Semester workload</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Lectures</td> <td style="text-align: center;">12 weeks x 2 hours = 24 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Background paper</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4 weeks x 8 hours = 24 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Project Preparation and Presentation</td> <td style="text-align: center;">(1 contact hour + 9 weeks x 3 hours) x 1,5 = 42 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Final Written Essay</td> <td style="text-align: center;">12 weeks x 6 hours x 1,5 = 108 hours</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Course total</td> <td style="text-align: center;">198 hours</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Semester workload</i>	Lectures	12 weeks x 2 hours = 24 hours	Background paper	4 weeks x 8 hours = 24 hours	Project Preparation and Presentation	(1 contact hour + 9 weeks x 3 hours) x 1,5 = 42 hours	Final Written Essay	12 weeks x 6 hours x 1,5 = 108 hours	Course total	198 hours
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<p style="text-align: center;">STUDENT PERFORMANCE EVALUATION</p> <p><i>Description of the evaluation procedure</i></p> <p><i>Language of evaluation, methods of evaluation, summative or conclusive, multiple choice questionnaires, short-answer questions, open-ended questions, problem solving, written work, essay/report, oral examination, public presentation, laboratory work, clinical examination of patient, art interpretation, other</i></p> <p><i>Specifically-defined evaluation criteria are given, and if and where they are accessible to students.</i></p>	<p>Final grades of students are based on the evaluation of performance in a series of tasks, which are weighted as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background papers: 30% of grade. A short paper of no more than 1.500 words that outlines the key aspects and components of a specific conflict or wider issue that is of EU foreign policy concern. The backgrounder should be compiled following the EU conflict analysis guidelines and among other things should identify conflict drivers and their historic context, map key actors and stakeholders and analyse recent conflict dynamics. • In-class presentations: 30% of grade. A 15' presentation (with the projection of a powerpoint file) of an issue of EU foreign policy concern, discussing the Union's ongoing initiatives and their objectives, the adopted policies and the attained results. The selected case study may be any specific conflict or crisis where EU has undertaken some type of conflict management initiatives. • Written Essays: 40% of grade. It concerns academic essays of around 3,000 words that examine at greater depths a specific case study focusing on the EU's decisive and/or transformative role in leading or supporting mediation efforts. Essays should fully observe academic rules of writing (e.g., structure, documentation) and should take note of the relevant scholarly literature. 												

(5) ATTACHED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Course Bibliography:

General readings

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Pevehouse, J. C. W. & Joshua S. Goldstein, J. S. (2021). *International Relations* 12th. ed., Boston: Pearson.

Baylis, J. Smith, S. & Owens, P. (eds) (2020). *The Globalization of World Politics*, 8th. ed., Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Bibliography by Theme:

1. The Evolution of integration and the dynamics of political unification in the EU (E. T. Fakiolas)

Suggested Reading

Brunazzo, M. (2022). "The Politics of EU Differentiated Integration: Between Crises and Dilemmas", *The International Spectator*, 57 (1), 18-34.

Ferrara, F. M. & Kriesi, H. (2022). "Crisis Pressures and European Integration", *Journal of European Public Policy*, 29 (9), 1351-1373.

Peritz, L., et.al. (2022). "Enduing the Great Recession: Economic Integration in the European Union", *The Review of International Organizations*, 17, 175-203.

Toshkov, D. & Krouwel A. (2022). "Beyond the U-curve: Citizen Preferences on European Integration in Multidimensional Political Space", *European Union Politics*, 23 (3), 462-488.

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Szymanowski, R. (2020). "One Step Too Far? The Euro and European Integration", *Journal of European Integration*, 42 (4), 601-608.

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Troitino, D. R., et.al. (eds) (2020). *The EU in the 21st Century. Challenges and Opportunities for the European Integration Process*, Gewerbestrasse, Cham: Springer.

Rossi, L. S. & Casolari, F (eds) (2014). *The EU After Lisbon. Amending or Coping With the Existing Treaties?* Cham: Springer

European Union Institute for Security Studies (2012). *Citizens in an Interconnected and Polycentric World*, Paris: EUISS.

Post, P. D. & Talani, L. S. (eds). *Europe and the Financial Crisis*, Houndmills, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Reus-Smit, Chr. (2012). "International Relations, Irrelevant? Don't Blame Theory",

Millennium: Journal of International Studies, 40 (3), 525-540.

Cini, M. & Bourne, A. K. (eds) (2006). *Palgrave Advances in European Union Studies*, Houndmills, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Snyder, J. (2004). "One World, Rival Theories", *Foreign Policy*, 145, 52-62.

Singer David, J. (1961). "The Level-of-Analysis Problem in International Relations", *World Politics*, 14 (1), 77-92.

2. The EU as a sui generis foreign policy actor (E. T. Fakiolas)

Suggested Reading

Piechowicz, M. & Szpak, A. (2022). "Evolution of the CSDP in the Setting of European Integration and International Relations Theory", *Comparative Strategy*, 41 (1), 60-77.

Lavery, S. & Schmid, D. (2021). "European Integration and the New Global Disorder", *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 59 (5), 1322-1338.

Petri, F. et.al. (2020). "Contestation of European Union Foreign Policy: Causes, Modes and Effects", *Global Affairs*, 6 (4-5), 323-328.

Missiroli, A. (ed.) (2016), *The EU and the World: Players and Policies Post-Lisbon. A Handbook*, Paris: EUISS.

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Zyla, B. (2020). *The End of European Security Institutions? The EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy and NATO After Brexit*, Gewerbestrasse, Cham: Springer.

Ramirez, J. M. & Biziewski, J. (eds) (2020). *Security and Defence in Europe*, Gewerbestrasse, Cham: Springer.

Bremberg, A. & Michalski, A. & Oxelheim, L. (eds). (2020). *The European Union in a Changing World Order*, Gewerbestrasse, Cham: Palgrave Macmillan.

Jorgensen, K. E. & Laatikainen, K. V. (eds.) (2013), *Routledge Handbook on the European Union and International Institutions. Performance, Policy, Power*. London and New York: Routledge.

3. The EU's response to emerging and ongoing conflicts: from conflict resolution and crisis management to peace mediation (E. T. Fakiolas)

Suggested Reading

Loschi, C. & Russo, A. (2021). "Whose Enemy at the Gates? Border Management in the Context of EU Crisis Response in Libya and Ukraine", *Geopolitics*, 26 (5), 1486-1509.

Giulia, M. & Vicere, A. (2021). "Externalizing EU Crisis Management: EU Orchestration of the OSCE During the Ukrainian Conflict", *Contemporary Security Policy*, 42 (4), 498-529.

Bergmann, J. & Muller, P. (2021). "Failing Forward in the EU's Common Security and Defense Policy: the Integration of EU Crisis Management", *Journal of European Public Policy*, 28 (10), 1669-1687.

Hollis, S. (2020). "Crisis Management in Europe: Exploring Transgovernmental Solutions to Transboundary Problems", *Journal of Transatlantic Studies*, 18, 231-252.

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Fakiolas, E.T. (2011). “Human and National Security: A Relation of Contradiction or Commonality?”, *Southeast European and Black Sea Studies*, 11 (4), 369-384.

4. Conflict prevention through state-building: the EU in Bosnia and Herzegovina (N. Tzifakis)

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Tzifakis, N. (2012). “Bosnia’s slow Europeanisation”, *Perspectives on European Politics and Society*, 13(2), 131-148.

Juncos, A. E. (2012). “Member state-building versus peacebuilding: the contradictions of EU state-building in Bosnia and Herzegovina”, *East European Politics*, 28(1), 58-75.

Richter, S. (2018). “Missing the muscles? Mediation by conditionality in Bosnia and Herzegovina”, *International Negotiation*, 23(2), 258-277.

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Koneska, C., Huskić, A., & Krasniqi, G. (2022). Macedonia, Bosnia and Kosovo: Contested Statehood and the EU. *Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding*, 1-19.

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Aybet, G. & Bieber, F. (2011). “From Dayton to Brussels: The Impact of EU and NATO Conditionality on State Building in Bosnia & Hercegovina”, *Europe-Asia Studies*, 63(10), 1911-1937.

Sebastian, S. (2009). “The Role of the EU in the Reform of Dayton in Bosnia-Herzegovina”, *Ethnopolitics*, 8(3-4), 341-354.

Tolksdorf, D. (2014). “Incoherent Peacebuilding: The European Union's Support for the Police Sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2002–8”, *International peacekeeping*, 21(1), 56-73.

Sweeney, S. (2018). “The European Union and EUFOR Althea’s Contribution to a Dysfunctional Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Bureaucratic Politics, Emergent Strategy?”, *Journal of Regional Security*, 13(1), 3-38.

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Police Sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2002–8”, *International peacekeeping*, 21(1), 56-73.

5. The EU’s mediation role in the Serbia-Kosovo dispute (N. Tzifakis)

Suggested Reading

Tzifakis, N. (2022). “Hostile Division and Territorial Jurisdiction: Kosovo's Independence”, in Kevin W. Gray, (ed.), *Global Encyclopedia of Territorial Rights*, Cham: Springer, pp. 1-14 https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-68846-6_271-1.

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Economides, S., Ker-Lindsay, J. (2010). “Forging EU foreign policy unity from diversity: the ‘unique case’ of the Kosovo status talks”, *European Foreign Affairs Review*, 15(4), 495–510.

6. The EU’s crisis management capabilities and interethnic tensions in North Macedonia (N. Tzifakis)

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Statehood and the EU. *Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding*, 1-19.

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Koinova, M. (2011). "Challenging assumptions of the enlargement literature: The impact of the EU on human and minority rights in Macedonia", *Europe-Asia Studies*, 63(5), 807-832.

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7. The EU's conflict management approach to the Greek-Turkish dispute (A. Klapsis)

Suggested Reading

Alioğlu Çakmak, G. (2021). The European Union and the Turkish-Greek Rapprochement in 2000s: From Europeanization to De-Europeanization? In A. Heraclides & G. Alioğlu Çakmak (eds.), *Greece and Turkey in Conflict and Cooperation: From Europeanization to De-Europeanization*. Routledge: London, 161-180.

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8. The EU and conflict resolution in the Cyprus question (A. Klapsis)

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Kyris, G. (2013). *Europeanisation and Conflict Resolution: The Case of Cyprus*. IBEI Working Paper No. 39. https://www.ibei.org/europeanisation-and-conflict-resolution-the-case-of-cyprus_20622.pdf

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Tannam, E. (2012). The European Union and Conflict Resolution: Northern Ireland, Cyprus and Bilateral Cooperation. *Government and Opposition*, 47(1), 49-73.

9. The EU's mediation support in the Syrian civil war (M. Eleftheriadou)

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Pierini, M. (2016). In search of an EU role in the Syrian war (pp. 1-22). *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*. https://carnegieendowment.org/files/CP_284_Pierini_Syria_Final.pdf

Blockmans, S. (2017). In Search of a Role to Play: The EU and the War in Syria. *European Papers*, 2(1), 9-13.

Asseburg, M. (2020). Reconstruction in Syria: challenges and policy options for the EU and its member states. *SWP Research Paper 2020/RP 11*, <https://www.swp-berlin.org/10.18449/2020RP11/>

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10. The EU's multi-phased and multi-faceted role in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict (M. Eleftheriadou)

Suggested Reading

Bicchi, F., & Voltolini, B. (2021). The European Union and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict: How Member States came together only to fall apart again. In D. Bouris, D. Huber & M. Pace, *Routledge Handbook of EU–Middle East Relations*. New York: Routledge, 311-320.

Persson, A. (2018) How, When and Why Did the Way the EU Speaks About the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict Change?, *Middle East Critique*, 27:4, 335-349

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11. The EU's crisis management efforts during Egypt's post-Mubarak transition (M. Eleftheriadou)

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Further Reading

Amadio Viceré, M. G., & Fabbrini, S. (2017). Assessing the high representative's role in Egypt during the Arab Spring. *The International Spectator*, 52(3), 64-82.

Zahran, A.H. (2019), "EU's democracy promotion in Egypt before and after Arab uprisings", *Review of Economics and Political Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1108/REPS-03-2019-0034>

Behr, T. (2013) EU Foreign Policy and Political Islam: Towards a New Entente in the Post-Arab Spring Era?, *The International Spectator*, 48(1), 20-33

12. The EU and the Balkan-EastMed security complexes: between old conflicts and new security challenges (M. Eleftheriadou)

Suggested Reading

Zaragoza-Cristiani, J. (2017) Containing the Refugee Crisis: How the EU Turned the Balkans and Turkey into an EU Borderland, *The International Spectator*, 52(4), 59-75

Shtuni, A. (2019). Western Balkans Foreign Fighters and Homegrown Jihadis: Trends and Implications. *CTC Sentinel*, 12(7), 18-24.

Talbot, V. (2021). The Eastern Mediterranean: A Testing Ground for the European Union? In Talbot, V. (ed.) *The Scramble for the Eastern Mediterranean: Energy and Geopolitics*. ISPI Report. <https://www.ispionline.it/en/pubblicazione/scramble-eastern-mediterranean-energy-and-geopolitics-31250>

Further Reading

Tzifakis, N. (2007) EU's region-building and boundary-drawing policies: the European approach to the Southern Mediterranean and the Western Balkans, *Journal of Southern Europe and the Balkans*, 9(1), 47-64

Rubin, A., & Eiran, E. (2019). Regional maritime security in the eastern Mediterranean: expectations and reality. *International Affairs*, 95(5), 979-997.

Grigoriadis, I. N. (2021). The European Union in the Eastern Mediterranean in 2020: Whither Strategic Autonomy. *JCMS: Journal of Common Market Studies*. <http://yoksis.bilkent.edu.tr/pdf/files/15779.pdf>

Klemenc, J., Hrabálek, M., & Đorđević, V. (2021). Regional security cooperation revisited: the Western Balkans as the future security provider. *European Security*, 30(2), 285-304.

Karagiannis, E. (2016). Shifting eastern Mediterranean alliances. *Middle East Quarterly*. <https://www.meforum.org/5877/shifting-eastern-mediterranean-alliances>

Related academic journals:

Balkanologie, British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies, Communist and Post-Communist Studies, Croatian Review of International Affairs, Ethnopolitics, East European Politics, East European Politics and Societies, European Foreign Affairs Review, Europe-Asia Studies, European Security, International Peacekeeping, Journal of Balkan and Near Eastern Studies, Journal of Communist Studies and Transition Politics, Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding, Journal of Palestine Studies, Journal of Slavic Military Studies, Mediterranean Politics, Middle East Policy, Nationalities Papers, Problems of Post-Communism, Romanian Journal of Political Science, Journal of Regional Studies, Romanian Journal of European Affairs, Southeast European and Black Sea Studies, Southeastern Europe, Südosteuropa, The Middle East Journal

Most of these journals are freely available via the Hellenic Academic Library Network (HEALink) that can be accessed at PSIR's IT lab or through the university-provided VPN service. Detailed instructions on the use of VPN are available at the following link <http://library.uop.gr/images/odigos-vpn.pdf>

Other (online) sources

Students are encouraged to keep themselves updated on recent developments through non-academic journals (e.g. Economist and Le Monde Diplomatique), newspapers (e.g. Politico, EU Observer, Euractiv, New York Times, Le Monde, The Guardian και The Washington Post) and news agencies/portals (e.g. Euronews, AFP, Reuters, BBC, DW, Al Jazeera, CNN, Al-Monitor, Middle East Eye, Middle East Monitor).

Further, students can refer to publications by specialized research centers providing timely in-depth analysis and reports:

Balkans in Europe Policy Advisory Group

<https://biepag.eu/>

Belgrade Centre for Security Policy

<https://bezbednost.org/en/>

Centre for Mediterranean, Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies (CEMMIS)

<https://www.cemmis.edu.gr>

Democracy for Development

<https://d4d-ks.org/en/home-en/>

European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMed)

<https://www.iemed.org>

European Centre for Minority Issues

<http://www.ecmi.de/>

European Council on Foreign Relations

<https://ecfr.eu/>

European Policy Centre

<https://epc.eu/en/>

European Stability Initiative

<http://www.esiweb.org/>

European Union Institute for Security Studies

<http://www.iss.europa.eu/>

Institut de Prospective Economique du Monde Méditerranéen – IPEMED

<http://www.ipemed.coop>

Institute for Democracy "Societas Civilis" – Skopje

<https://idscs.org.mk/en/>

Institute for Studies on the Mediterranean (ISMed)

<https://www.ismed.cnr.it>

International Crisis Group

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/>

International Institute for Middle East and Balkan Studies

<http://www.ifimes.org/>

Italian Institute for International Political Studies (ISPI)

<https://www.ispionline.it>

Middle East Institute

<https://www.mei.edu/>

PRIO-Eastern Mediterranean

<https://www.prio.org/research/locations/eastern%20mediterranean>