

210121-1 SE M4: International Politics and Development (2024S)

International Cooperation and Policy-Making in Times of Institutional Complexity

Time: Tuesdays, 15:30h-16:30h

05/03/2024-25/06/2024

Contact: arne.langlet@univie.ac.at

Office hour: by appointment

Introduction into the course

This course explores and engages with the intricate world of international policy-making and cooperation, where a myriad of international governmental and non-governmental organizations intersect and interact within shared domains. It introduces students to the complexities of policy-making and cooperation in situations where multiple organizations overlap, co-exist and cooperate within the same issue-area and explores different international institutions.

In an era marked by a proliferation of international bodies, the landscape of global governance has become increasingly complex and cooperation has become ever more crucial. The number of international institutions acting in certain policy areas on the international level has risen steadily and dramatically creating a plethora of international rules and institutions each with diverging interests, memberships and expertise which is commonly described as a “regime complex”. Thus, states and other actors have deal with many different organizations when pursuing their policy objectives and the international organizations and their staff have to constantly cooperate and collaborate while being aware of other organizations, their interests, authority, and potential conflicts arising from cross-cutting activities. Understanding this reality of international governance characterized by regime complexity and interinstitutional cooperation motivates this course.

Aims, content and method

To address institutional complexity, the curriculum is thoughtfully structured as follows: Initially, students will explore foundational theories on regime complexity, exploring its causes, effects, and the mechanics of international cooperation. The course then delves into two critical areas of international governance: humanitarian aid and environmental protection. These fields are exemplary cases where the intricacies of institutional complexity are profoundly evident.

This course has a special blend of theoretical learning and real-world insights. Vienna, a hub for numerous international organizations and NGOs, provides rich first-hand experience. The course includes a series of guest lectures from professionals at the forefront of international governance from organizations such as the Ministry for European and International Affairs (BMEIA), UN Environmental Programme (UNEP), UN Office for Drugs and Crime (UNODC), UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), High Seas Alliance (HSA), International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and Jugend Eine Welt – Don Bosco. These guest lectures provide a rare glimpse into the daily realities of those working within international organizations and NGOs, facing complex institutional frameworks. You'll hear firsthand accounts of international cooperation, challenges faced, and strategies employed by these organizations to navigate the intricate world of global governance. This course isn't just an academic exercise but it's also an opportunity to understand the pulse of international cooperation, getting to know the people involved, learn about how they perceive and experience institutional complexity in their everyday work and develop the skills needed to make a meaningful impact.

The course aims to

1. familiarize students with

- 1.1. the complexity of international legal and political frameworks
- 1.2. the mandates and daily work of many different international organizations and NGOs
- 1.3. current developments in two dynamic issue-areas, namely humanitarian aid and environmental conservation
- 1.4. the everyday practicalities of international cooperation between diverse international organizations

2. support students to

- 2.1. develop key skills required in the international policy arena, namely the preparation of short policy-briefs, the presentation of a research exposé, and the development of research papers.
- 2.2. apply concepts and approaches to analyze international policy-making and cooperation (e.g. roles of state and non-state actors, frameworks of cooperation) and different methods to study international policy-making and cooperation (ethnography, social network analysis etc.).

The course targets master students with interest in international organizations, global policy-making, international cooperation, and environmental or humanitarian policy.

The method of the course consists of

- short lectures by representatives from different international organizations and NGOs,
- reading of academic literature,
- preparation of a policy-brief,

- short group presentations,
- writing of final seminar paper in groups
- discussions.

Assessment and criteria

Students will be assessed in three steps:

Policy-brief:

30% of the grade will come from the preparation of a policy-brief which students will prepare individually for one of the substantive guest lectures. Students can pick one of the organizations that will be presented and are expected to formulate a policy-brief to lay out an approach, interest, strategy and possible policy solution for the selected organization on a given topic. This paper will serve as a discussion starter for the respective guest lecture in which the students are expected to discuss the content of the guest lecture.

Presentation:

20% of the grade will be determined by a short presentation that the students will give in a group presenting the draft and research design of their final paper. The presentations are scheduled for the penultimate session of the semester. Students are expected to present in 5-10 min the current draft of their final research paper.

Final group research paper:

The main part of the final grade (50%) will be made up of the final research paper. Students are expected to conduct innovative research on cases of international policy-making or cooperation potentially looking at some of the IOs that were introduced by the guest lectures. As the whole course is about cooperation, this final paper is a group exercise and students are expected to collaborate in groups between 2-5 persons.

Grading:

100 to 90 Points: Very good (1)

89 to 80 Points: Good (2)

79 to 70 Points: Satisfactory (3)

69 to 60 Points: Sufficient (4)

<60 Points: Poor (5)

Minimum requirements and assessment criteria:

The minimum requirement for successfully passing the course is the fulfillment of all three assignments (policy-brief, presentation and final paper), reaching a total of over 60% of the achievable points.

The detailed minimum criteria for fulfilling each of the assignments are:

The position paper needs to have 500-1000 words, clearly state the topic and the student's name. The topics for the individual position paper will be distributed and can be selected by the students after the first session. The position paper is expected to cover: brief introduction into the problem, identification of the target audience for the paper, a justified response/approach/strategy that addresses the identified problem.

The presentations are expected to last 5-10 minutes and cover: introduction into topic/case, background on the case or the IOs under research, relevance, methodological approach and potentially first findings. Students need to provide slides which will be made available to all participants and one slide needs to clearly state the topic and the student's name.

The final research paper should have 4.000-6.000 words (excluding reference list) and it should contain at least: title, introduction, research question, relevance / motivation, review of relevant literature, hypotheses (if applicable), method, limitations / reflection, results, discussion / conclusion / generalization of findings, list references. As it is the outcome of a group work, students are asked to provide an overview about each group member's individual contribution. Each paper will receive one grade and each group member will receive the same grade.

Structure, topics and timeline of the seminar

05/03/2024: General introduction into the course

19/03/2024: Regime complexity - causes, origins, consequences & Introduction into two issue-areas

26/03/2024 & 02/04/2024: Easter holidays

09/04/2024: Case humanitarian aid – guest lecture Michaela Markova (OHCHR)

16/04/2024: Case environmental protection – guest lecture Colin Craig (UNODC)

23/04/2024: Case humanitarian aid – guest lecture Konrad Fentzloff (Jugend eine Welt)

30/04/2024: No class.

07/05/2024: Case environmental protection – guest lecture Clement Chazot (IUCN)

14/05/2024: Case humanitarian aid – guest lecture Antonia Praun (BMEIA)

21/05/2024: Case environmental protection – Daniel Kachelriess (High Seas Alliance)

28/05/2024: Case humanitarian aid – guest lecture Sibel Uranüs (UNHCR)

04/06/2024: Case environmental protection – guest lecture Ansgar Fellendorf (UNEP)

11/06/2024: How to research and make meaning of complexity + lecture on the role of municipal actors (Tilo Hase)

18/06/2024: No class.

25/06/2024: Research design presentations

Detailed overview of the course

1. Session: 05/03/2024, 15:00-16:30h. General introduction into the course

To do's:

- Get familiar with literature and moodle
- Attend

Learning objectives:

- Clarify your questions

Literature:

Orsini, A., Morin, J.-F., & Young, O. R. (2013). Regime complexes: A buzz, a boom, or a boost for global governance. *Global governance*, 19, 27.

2. Session: 19/03/2024, 15:00-16:30h. Theoretical background on regime complexity

To do's:

- Prepare (mandatory) literature!
- Have a look at additional literature
- Pick the organization & topic for your policy-brief

Learning objectives:

- Get an understanding about the causes and consequences of regime complexity
- Get an understanding about the different actors in regime complexity
- Being able to discuss the pro's and con's about multiple organizations within one issue-area

Literature (mandatory):

Gomez-Mera, L., Morin, J.-F., & Van de Graaf, T. (2020). Regime Complexes. In F. Biermann & R. E. Kim (Eds.), *Architectures of Earth System Governance: Institutional Complexity and Structural Transformation* (pp. 137-157). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Randall Henning, C., & Pratt, T. (2023). Hierarchy and differentiation in international regime complexes: A theoretical framework for comparative research. *Review of International Political Economy*, 30(6), 2178-2205.

Keohane, R. O., & Victor, D. G. (2011). The regime complex for climate change. *Perspectives on politics*, 9(1), 7-23.

Gehring, T., & Faude, B. (2013). The dynamics of regime complexes: Microfoundations and systemic effects. *Global governance*, 119-130.

Further literature on the idea of one global environmental organization as opposed to multiple regimes:

Charnovitz, S. (2002). A World Environmental Organization. *Colum. J. Envtl. L.*, 27, 323.

Najam, A. (2003). The case against a new international environmental organization. *Global governance*, 9, 367.

Further literature describing different regime complexes in election monitoring, climate change, internet governance, bribery, finance, marine biodiversity, human rights, food security, refugees:

Kelley, J. (2009). The More the Merrier? The Effects of Having Multiple International Election Monitoring Organizations. *Perspectives on Politics*, 7(1), 59-64.

Jho, W., & Kim, Y. (2022). Regime complexity and state competition over Global Internet Governance. *Telecommunications Policy*, 46(2), 102245.

Horner, J. (2017). Mapping and evaluating the regime complex for bribery. Victoria University of Wellington Legal Research Paper, Student/Alumni Paper(44).

Henning, C. R. (2019). Regime Complexity and the Institutions of Crisis and Development Finance. *Development and Change*, 50(1), 24-45.

Langlet, A., & Vadrot, A. B. M. (2023). Not 'undermining' who? Unpacking the emerging BBNJ regime complex. *Marine Policy*, 147, 105372.

Hafner-Burton, E. M. (2009). The power politics of regime complexity: Human rights trade conditionality in Europe. *Perspectives on politics*, 7(1), 33-37.

Margulis, M. E. (2013). The regime complex for food security: Implications for the global hunger challenge. *Global Governance*, 19, 53.

Betts, A. (2010). The refugee regime complex. *Refugee Survey Quarterly*, 29(1), 12-37.

Rodríguez Fernández-Blanco, C., & Burns, S. (2019). Mapping the fragmentation of the international forest regime complex: institutional elements, conflicts and synergies. *International Environmental Agreements: Politics, Law and Economics*, 19

3. Session: 09/04/2024, 15:00-16:30h. Guest lecture Michaela Markova (OHCHR)

To-do's:

- Prepare readings

- Think of questions
- Be ready to present your policy brief

Learning objectives:

- Understand the work of the presented organization(s)
- Situate the presented organization in the system, understand who are its cooperation partners etc.

Literature:

Echavez, Chona R., Leah Wilfreda RE Pilongo, Aruni Jayakody, Ahmad Saboor Hamza Noorzai, Michaela

Markova and Suparva Narasimhaiah (2016) "Transitional Justice: Views from the Ground on How Afghanistan Fares"

United Nations General Assembly (2023), Report of the International Commission of Human Rights Experts on Ethiopia

Tracing the Untraceable – ISIS,

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/1eba9811745b42cbae4dda5e6cf089b8>

4. Session: 16/04/2024, 15:00-16:30. Guest lecture Colin Craig (UNODC)

To-do's:

- Prepare readings
- Think of questions
- Be ready to present your policy brief

Learning objectives:

- Understand the work of the presented organization
- Situate the presented organization in the system, understand who are its cooperation partners etc.

Literature:

The international legal framework section (pp 7-21) in

Craig, C. et al. (2022) Combating waste trafficking - united nations office on drugs and crime. Available

at: https://sherloc.unodc.org/cld/uploads/pdf/Combating_Waste_Trafficking_-_Guide_on_Good_Legislative_Practices_-_EN.pdf (Accessed: 08 February 2024).

Loibl, G. (2001). The proliferation of international institutions dealing with international environmental matters. In Proliferation of International Organizations (pp. 151-175). Brill Nijhoff.

Witbooi, E., Ali, KD., Santosa, M.A. et al. Organized crime in the fisheries sector threatens a sustainable ocean economy. *Nature* 588, 48–56 (2020).

5. Session 28/05/2024 15:00-16:30h: Guest lecture Sibel Uranüs (UNHCR)

Betts, A. (2013). Regime Complexity and International Organizations: UNHCR as a Challenged Institution. *Global governance*, 19(1), 69-81.

Who We Are: 70 Years of the UN Refugee Agency: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2xepu2fQbUM>

30/04/2024: No class.

6. Session : 07/05/2024 15:00-16 :30h: Guest lecture Clement Chazot (IUCN)

To-do's:

- Prepare readings
- Think of questions
- Be ready to present your policy brief

Learning objectives:

- Understand the work of the presented organization
- Situate the presented organization in the system, understand who are its cooperation partners etc.

Literature:

MacDonald, K. I. (2003). IUCN: a history of constraint. In: *Address given to the Permanent Workshop of the Centre for the Philosophy of Law*, Université Catholique de Louvain (Vol. 6).

Turner, S. D. (2009). Strategic review of the IUCN Programme on Protected Areas. Gland (Switzerland): *IUCN*.

Additional literature:

Ofir, Z. (2005). Review of IUCN's Influence on Policy, Gland (Switzerland): *IUCN*.

IUCN Yearly Report 2022 (2023). Gland (Switzerland): *IUCN*.

7. Session: 14/05/2024 15:00-16:30h: Guest lecture Antonia Praun (BMEIA)

To-do's:

- Prepare readings
- Think of questions
- Be ready to present your policy brief

Learning objectives:

- Understand the work of the presented organization
- Situate the presented organization in the system, understand who are its cooperation partners etc.

Literature:

Bjola, C. (2015). Introduction: Making sense of digital diplomacy. *Digital diplomacy: Theory and practice*. p. 1-11

Kamphof, R. and Melissen, J. (2018), SDGs, Foreign Ministries and the Art of Partnering with the Private Sector. *Glob Policy*, 9: 327-335.

Bjola, C. (2018). Digital diplomacy: From tactics to strategy. *The Berlin Journal*, (32).

8. Session: 21/05/2024 15:00-16:30h: Case environmental protection – Daniel Kachelriess
(High Seas Alliance)

To-do's:

- Prepare readings
- Think of questions
- Be ready to present your policy brief

Learning objectives:

- Understand the work of the presented organization
- Situate the presented organization in the system, understand who are its cooperation partners etc.

Literature:

Kachelriess, D. (2023). The High Seas Biodiversity Treaty: An Introduction to the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction. In M. Epps & C. Chazot (Eds.), (vi+33p). IUCN

Keck, M. E., & Sikkink, K. (1998). Transnational advocacy networks in international and regional politics. *International Social Science Journal*, 68, 89-101.

Vadrot, A.B.M, Langlet, A., Tessnow-von Wysocki, I., Tolochko, P., Brogat, E., Ruiz-Rodríguez, S.C. (2021). Marine Biodiversity Negotiations During COVID-19: A New Role for Digital Diplomacy?. *Global Environmental Politics*, 21 (3): 169–186.

Additional literature:

Keck, M. E., & Sikkink, K. (2014). Activists beyond borders: Advocacy networks in international politics: Cornell University Press.

Kachelriess, D. (2023). Improving synergies between Regional Fishery Bodies and CITES Authorities for the Management and Conservation of Marine Elasmobranchs. Webinar Summary. BMUV

9. Session: 23/04/2024 15:00-16:30h: Case Guest lecture Konrad Fentzloff (Jugend eine Welt)

To-do's:

- Prepare readings
- Think of questions
- Be ready to present your policy brief

Learning objectives:

- Understand the work of the presented organization

- Situate the presented organization in the system, understand who are its cooperation partners etc.

Literature:

Metcalfe-Hough, Victoria; Fenton, Wendy; Willitts-King, Barnaby; Spencer, Alexandra (2021): The grand bargain at five years: An independent review, HPG Commissioned Report, Overseas Development Institute (ODI), London

Inter-agency Standing Committee. *The grand bargain: A shared commitment to better serve people in need, 2016*. Available at: <https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/grand-bargain/grand-bargain-shared-commitment-better-serve-people-need-2016> (Accessed: 27 February 2024).

Inter-agency Standing Committee. The grand bargain – one pager, 2023. Available at : <https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/sites/default/files/migrated/2023-10/One%20Pager%20Grand%20Bargain%202023-2026.pdf> (Accessed:29 February 2024).

10. Session 04/06/2024 15:00-16:30h: Guest lecture Ansgar Fellendorf (UNEP)

The UN Environment Programme needs new powers. *Nature*. 2021 Mar;591(7848):8.

United Nations Environment Programme and GRID-Arendal (2022). Mountains ADAPT: Solutions from the South Caucasus. Nairobi: United Nations Environment Programme.

Adler, C., P. Wester, I. Bhatt, C. Huggel, G.E. Insarov, M.D. Morecroft, V. Muccione, and A. Prakash, 2022: Cross-Chapter Paper 5: Mountains. In: Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [H.-O. Pörtner, D.C. Roberts, M. Tignor, E.S. Poloczanska, K. Mintenbeck, A. Alegría, M. Craig, S. Langsdorf, S. Löschke, V. Möller, A. Okem, B. Rama (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK and New York, NY, USA, pp. 2273–2318,

Website: www.unep.org, especially “Who we are” + “What we do”

11. Session 11/06/2024 15:00-17:30h: How to research and make meaning of complexity - Guest lecture Tilo Haas: Discourse analysis as a methodology for researching international organizations

To do's:

- Think about what method you would like to apply
- Pay special attention to the method of your interest

- Prepare the literature on the method of your interest

Learning objectives:

- Learn about examples of literature using different methods
- Get a better idea about the pros and cons of different methods
- Learn about how others have applied the method of your interest

Literature on discourse analysis:

Laclau, Ernesto; Mouffe, Chantal (2001): *Hegemony and socialist strategy: towards a radical democratic politics*, London ; New York: Verso. P. 105-148

Glasze, Georg (2007): The Discursive Constitution of a World-Spanning Region and the Role of Empty Signifiers: The Case of Francophonie. *Geopolitics*, Jg. 12, Nr. 4, p. 656–679.

Jørgensen, Marianne; Phillips, Louise (2011): *Discourse analysis as theory and method*, Los Angeles, Calif: Sage. p. 24 – 59

Literature on network-analysis:

Kim, R. E. (2019). Is Global Governance Fragmented, Polycentric, or Complex? The State of the Art of the Network Approach. *International Studies Review*, 0, 1-29.

Paterson, M. (2023). Networks: Collecting Data for Social Network Analysis. In A. B. M. Vadrot & H. Hughes (Eds.), *Conducting Research on Global Environmental Agreement-Making* (pp. 228-246). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Literature on system-analysis:

Kim, R. E., & Morin, J.-F. (2021). Massive institutional structures in global governance. *Global Environmental Politics*, 21, 48.

Literature describing one case:

Keohane, R. O., & Victor, D. G. (2011). The regime complex for climate change. *Perspectives on politics*, 9(1), 7-23.

Raustiala, K., & Victor, D. G. (2004). The regime complex for plant genetic resources. *International organization*, 58(2), 277-309.

Literature using ethnography:

Langlet, A., & Vadrot, A. (2024). Negotiating regime complexity: Following a regime complex in the making. *Review of International Studies*, 50(2), 231–251.

Corson, C., Campbell, L. M., Wilshusen, P., & Gray, N. J. (2019). Assembling global conservation governance. *Geoforum*.

Literature using interviews:

Siebenhüner, B. (2009). The biodiversity secretariat: Lean shark in troubled waters. Managers of global change: The influence of international environmental bureaucracies, 265-291.

Yamineva, Y. (2023). Interviews: Conducting and Using Interviews on and at Negotiations (pp. 168–185). chapter.

Literature using legal documents:

Kim, R. E. (2013). The emergent network structure of the multilateral environmental agreement system. *Global Environmental Change*, 23(5), 980-991.

Guest lecture Tilo Haas: The role of municipal development policy in the system of international relations and development

Literature:

Marschall, Paul; Wingens, Christopher; Dick, Eva (2021): Briefing Paper 17/2021. Municipal Development Policy in Germany: Current Status and Prospects. Bonn. German Development Institute.

Beck, A., Bruder, M., Dick, E., Gantner, V., Hermanns, K., Schmitt, J., Wingens, C. (2023). Municipal Development Policy in Germany: Current Trends, Challenges and Recommendations for Further Promotion. (DEval Policy Brief, 6/2023). Bonn: Deutsches Evaluierungsinstitut der Entwicklungszusammenarbeit (DEval).

18/06/2024: No class

12. Session 25/06/2024 15:00-17:30: Presentations

Final paper deadline 30/09/2024