

Seminar on
**INTERNATIONAL CRISIS DIPLOMACY:
IN SEARCH OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ORDER**

Wolfgang Danspeckgruber & Joschka Fischer

This seminar is designed to explore the intricacies, challenges, and possibilities of international diplomacy during crises between states, or between state and non-state actors in a conceptual and applied manner. Discussions and analyses of the issues involved will also draw heavily from the personal experience of the teaching faculty. In recent history the international system has seen important crises which have emanated from the disintegration of the bipolar framework, from ethnic-religious rivalries, leadership ambitions, power politics, search for natural resources, and economic-strategic interests. In today's interdependent world, terrorism, weapons of mass destruction, poverty, militant fundamentalism, pandemics and environmental dangers present significant new challenges. At the same time, the power and relevance of non-state actors has increased and the efficiency of existing inter-governmental institutions has been called into question. Within this new global complexity, both crisis diplomacy and the possible anticipation of crises have become increasingly complicated.

As a result, there have been intensified concerns about global security, integration, and interaction in the current 'uni-polar' world. These developments have also given rise to new challenges in dealing with local and regional problems, conflict, or actual war. Issues such as the specific causes of crises, the role of leadership and negotiators, outside power interests, crisis management instruments, as well as the geopolitical context of the crisis scenario are of interest. The seminar will analyze two specific clusters of international crises, their origins, development, as well as, potential suggestions for amelioration.

The seminar schedule is divided into four parts: the first and second parts, which make up the introductory section, provide for debate of the fundamentals of related concepts in international diplomacy, historic examples, relevant theoretic dimensions, experiences in negotiations, crisis mechanisms and instruments, and prepare for the case studies. Part three focuses on two larger case-studies of crisis-diplomacy: the Balkans – the war in Bosnia and the Dayton peace negotiations; and the ongoing crisis in Kosovo. The second case study will discuss the wider Middle East – Iraq, Israel and the Palestinian territories, Afghanistan, and a special combined session will deal with the Lebanon war and the Iranian nuclear crisis. Finally, in the fourth section, issues such as environmental and health crises are debated, and we shall try to outline models for appropriate crisis diplomacy and anticipatory strategies in that emerging international order.

Course Requirements

Student participation is critical since this seminar has a strong “cooperative” dimension. Students should have a background in international relations and/or political science (an introductory course or equivalent).

It is important to *attend all seminars* and *complete the required readings* before the appropriate seminar. As of the second week, each session will be introduced by *student presentations* consisting of two or three students with introductory handout(s) (circulated the day before class) and presentation — additional individual research will be rewarded. The presenters will meet with wfd and jmf prior to their presentations for *privatissima*. Course grades will be based upon in-class presentations, active seminar participation, and a final take home paper due on Dean’s Date (30%, 20%, 50%).

Readings

Some readings are on reserve in Stokes Library. Other assigned reading will be on reserve at WWS Library (Wallace Building) or on *E-Reserve*.

Materials can also be borrowed from the LISD Library.

Readings called *Presentation Materials* should be considered for the preparation of in-class presentations; *Background Reading* is optional and can be utilized for assistance for the presentations and take home examination.

E e-reserve
W... .. S tokes Library - Wallace Hall

Additional Information

Students who are scheduled to make presentations are invited to join Professors Danspeckgruber and Fischer in a *privatissimum* on Monday for a lunch discussion of the weekly materials. Meetings will be held in 012 Bendheim at 12:30pm.

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

I. INTRODUCTION

1. September 20, 2006

*Introduction, Crisis, "Private Diplomacy", and Course Overview
International Background, Crisis Management, the actors*

II. MODERN CRISIS DIPLOMACY

2. September 27, 2006

*Instruments for Crisis Management: the UN Security Council &
the International Criminal Court, etc.*

Guest: Ambassador Christian Wenaweser

3. October 4, 2006

The Mechanisms of Crisis Diplomacy

III. CASE STUDIES

The Balkans

4. October 11, 2006

*The violent break up of Yugoslavia
– a 'local crisis' with continuation*

Invited Guest: Ambassador James Dobbins

5. October 18, 2006

Kosovo

The Middle East

6. October 25, 2006

Israel – Gaza and the Westbank

7. November 8, 2006

*The Iraqi Operation
– a look at US foreign policy towards the Middle East*

8. November 17, 2006

The Lebanon War

- & 9. November 18, 2006

"The Axis of Evil" - A nuclear Iran ?

10. November 29, 2006

Afghanistan – State and security building

11. December 6, 2006

*Other potential crises management
Health (HIV/Aids, SARS) and Natural disaster*

IV. SUMMARY AND PROJECTION

12. December 13, 2006

Lessons and Propositions