

THE ARMS TRADE AND GLOBAL (IN)SECURITIES

3rd year option 2022/23

Prof. Anna Stavrianakis

MODULE CONVENOR

- My name is Anna Stavrianakis; you can contact me on A.Stavrianakis@sussex.ac.uk
- I research the international arms trade, UK arms export policy and international arms control as vectors of security, insecurity and militarism. I've been working on these topics since 2003.
- I work a lot with NGOs, campaigners, journalists and MPs you will hear lots of stories about how activists try and generate change on the arms trade! I will bring real-life examples and that experience into the classroom.



ABOUT THE MODULE

Our core question: what is the role of the arms trade in global (in)securities?
 Focus on:

Global networks of arms production: countries, companies, brokers

Global patterns of arms transfers: who supplies what weapons, where, and with what effects?

Power and politics in the arms trade and efforts to control it

• Next slides: example cases of the war in Yemen; gun violence in the USA and the Americas. Other cases tbc.



ARMING THE WAR IN YEMEN

YEMEN

- Who is arming the war in Yemen?
- Who/what is being made secure and who/what is being made insecure by the war?
- What opposition and resistance has there been to the war, and to arms exports?
- Would ending western arms sales to the Saudi-led coalition stop the war?



GUN VIOLENCE IN THE AMERICAS

- Who owns and uses guns in the Americas?
- Who/what is made secure by guns and who/what is made insecure?
- How does gun policy in the USA affect gun violence and control in the Americas?
- What are the racial and gendered politics of gun violence and control in the Americas?

SEMINAR FORMAT

- Weekly 3-hour seminar (with breaks!)
- Combination of small group and individual work, class discussions, some lecture material
- We will use policy documents, NGO reports, journalism, videos as well as scholarly literature
- We will combine empirical analysis of specific cases with theoretical and conceptual analysis of the meaning and significance of the arms trade for global (in)securities

ASSESSMENT

• In-class presentation during term, worth 30% of your mark

This will take the form of a simulation, role play or debate on one of the weekly topics.

We will work together to find a format that allows everyone to participate.

• 3500-word essay on one of our topics, worth 70%; due in Assessment Block

SAMPLE RESOURCES!

- 7 Myths that Sustain the Global Arms Trade, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sj1pEofz8uQ& feature=youtu.be
- How the Military Pollutes Our Planet and Gets Away With it, https://www.doubledown.news/watch/2021/nove mber/8/how-the-military-pollutes-our-planet-and-gets-away-with-it
- Demilitarise Education, @dED_ucation
- European Network Against Arms Trade, http://enaat.org/arms-trade-research

INDICATIVE READINGS

- Chew, Emrys (2012) Arming the Periphery. The Arms Trade in the Indian Ocean during the Age of Global Empire (London: Palgrave Macmillan)
- Cooper, Neil (2018) "Race, Sovereignty and Free Trade: Arms Trade Regulation and Humanitarian Arms Control in the Age of Empire," Journal of Global Security Studies, 3(4): 444-462
- Dunbar-Ortiz, Roxanne (2018) Loaded. A Disarming History of the Second Amendment (San Francisco: City Light Books)
- Mutimer, David (2006) "'A serious threat to peace, reconciliation, safety, security': An effective reading of the United Nations Programme of Action", Contemporary Security Policy, 27(1): 29-44
- Stavrianakis, Anna (2020) "Requiem for Risk: Non-knowledge and domination in the governance of weapons circulation," International Political Sociology, 14: 233-251