Mi 14-16 Proseminar

The role of Europe in a multipolar world

The seminar aims at studying the impact of external policies of the EU on a global scale. It will provide students with a theoretically guided and empirically supported understanding of the EU’s role as a global actor. The seminar will analyze a complex institutional architecture of foreign policy making in the EU and will explore different instruments and mechanisms deployed by the EU to achieve its foreign policy objectives. Although with its main focus being on the EU, the seminar will be comparative in nature and will analyze the nature of the EU as a global actor in comparison to another state- and non-state global players including USA, China, Russia, NATO etc.

The seminar is divided into two parts. The first part will explore the nature of the EU as a sui generis in international politics. A number of conflicting identities of the EU will be analyzed in great detail: EU as a normative power, EU as an economic power/market power, EU as a regional power and EU as a military and political union. In the second part, the relations of the EU with other global players and regional blocks will be explained. In particular, EU’s relations with Russia, China/East Asia, USA, Africa, MENA and developing world/BRICS. Each lecture will also have its narrow thematic focus which will correspond to the actual developments in the world (among others TTIP, BREXIT, refugee crisis, wars and military tensions in MENA, Africa, and East Asia etc.).

Overview Literature


