



UNIVERSIDADE LUSÍADA
LISBOA

Course Unit Program
Decision in External Politics

Academic Year 2024/2025

1. Organic Unit

Faculty of Law

2. Course

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

3. Cycle

2nd

4. Course Unit

Decision in External Politics (74206)

5. Scientific Area

6. Curricular Year

1st

7. Type of Curricular Unit / Semester

1st Semester



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8. Class type and workload (work time)

Theoretical classes:

Practical classes:

Theoretical-Practical Classes 15,00

Tutorial Guidance: 20,00

9. ECTS Credits

7,50

10. Scientific Area Coordinator

11. Regent

Prof. Doutora MARIA MIGUEL SOUSA GALITO

12. Assistants

13. Teaching Language

Portuguese

14. General Objectives

Allow the development of students' analytical capacity in the context of the decision-making process in Foreign Policy.

15. Specific Objectives

To develop the ability to participate in the decision-making process of States. Negotiation practice of peaceful resolution of conflicts, with proper monitoring of the implementation of the defined objectives. Foreign policies of some developed countries. Decision-making process within the European Union.

16. Skills to be acquired

In addition to deepening their knowledge and improving their skills in the field of Foreign Policy analysis, students will need to learn about different stages of Foreign Policy's decision-making process, both at State's level (mainly Portugal) and at the European Union's level.

17. Teaching Methodology

Program analysis. Discussion of relevant issues of the week, encouraging students to follow the news about international foreign policy.

18. Course Unit Program



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1. Definitions of Nation, State and Foreign Policy
2. National Interest and Foreign Policy Development
3. Foreign Policy Analysis
 - 3.1. Analytical Traditions of Foreign Policy
 - 3.1.1. Bureaucratic policy
 - 3.1.2. Compared Foreign Policy
 - 3.1.3. Leadership. Psychology of Political Leaders
 - 3.2. Decisional Analysis Models
 - 3.2.1. Analysis and Evaluation of Results
 - 3.2.2. Essential Factors for Understanding the Foreign Policy of States
4. Foreign Policy Decision Process
 - 4.1. Types of Decision in Foreign Policy
 - 4.1.1. National Security and the Dilemma of the Fundamental Decision.
 - 4.1.2. Bridge Construction (Renshon & Renshon)
 - 4.1.3. Crisis Management and Decision Making in a Challenging Context
 - 4.2. Decision Making Models
 - 4.2.1. Rational Actor Model
 - 4.2.2. Decisional Model of Snyder, Burton and Sapin (SBS).
 - 4.3. Determinants of the Decision-making Process in Foreign Policy
 - 4.3.1. National Agenda
 - 4.3.2. International Agenda
 - 4.3.3. Cultural Factors
 - 4.3.4. Other Possible Factors
5. The European Union's Foreign Policy Decision-making Process
6. Implementation of the Foreign Policy

19. Assessment Methods

Active participation in classes. Individual and/or group dynamics. Tests and exams.

20. Didactic Resources

Books and research articles. Documentaries on relevant political topics about foreign policy and decision-making processes.

21. Sustainability Objectives

Main goals:

- 1 - Ensure equal access to quality technical, professional and cultural education.
- 2 - Substantially increase the number of young people and adults with relevant qualifications, including technical and professional skills, for employment, decent work and entrepreneurship.
- 3 - Guarantee equal opportunities in university education, including for people in vulnerable situations.
- 4 - Promoting the gradual dematerialization of the teaching/learning process.

Specific goals:

- 1 - Promot



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22. Keywords

Foreign policy
Diplomacy
Decision-Making Process
Conflict resolution

23. Main Bibliography

Author(s): BEACH, Derek
Title: Analyzing Foreign Policy
Edition: Year: 2012
Local: New York
Publisher: Palgrave Macmillan

Author(s): MINTZ, Alex and DEROUEN JR, Karl
Title: Understanding Foreign Policy Decision Making
Edition: Year: 2010
Local: Cambridge
Publisher: Cambridge University Press

Author(s): SANTOS, Vitor M.
Title: Elementos de Análise de Política Externa
Edition: Year: 2012
Local: Lisboa
Publisher: Instituto Superior de Ciências Sociais e Políticas

24. Complementary Bibliography

Author(s): SNYDER, R. and BRUCK, H. and HUDSON, V.
Title: Foreign Policy Decision-Making (Revisited)
Edition: Year: 2002
Local: New York
Publisher: Palgrave Macmillan

Author(s): SOUSA GALITO, Maria
Title: Ensaio sobre Política Externa Portuguesa
Edition: Year: 2019
Local: Lisboa
Publisher: CESA-CSG WP 176, Instituto Superior de Economia e Gestão, Universidade de Lisboa, pp. 1-33



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