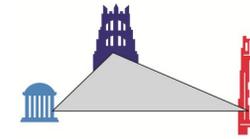


Medha Surampudy

Thesis Title: *Comparative Approaches to Transitional Justice in the Former Yugoslavia*

Bio: Medha Surampudy is a senior at North Carolina State University, majoring in Political Science with a concentration in International Politics. Her thesis is part of her capstone project for the University Honors Program. In addition to being an Honors student, she is a Caldwell Fellow and is on the Dean's List. While attending N.C. State, she served as the President for the university chapter of Amnesty International and also worked as an intern at the Amnesty International office in Washington, D.C.. In addition, Ms. Surampudy sang in an a cappella group, in the N.C. State Chorale, and competed in various music competitions. Along with majoring in Political Science, she completed two minors in Nonprofit Studies and in Music.

Abstract: This paper examines the international and domestic efforts in the Balkans to create peace, security, and reconciliation after the devastating wars of the 1990s. Through the examination of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, and the domestic courts in Serbia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, this paper determines the value of these efforts in establishing the facts of the war, but argues that these institutions largely failed to provide widespread justice and, equally important, reconciliation among the groups. It is argued that, in addition to these institutional failures, the Dayton Accords created a system that is designed to prevent future conflicts, but is not conducive to reconciliatory efforts, particularly within Bosnia and Herzegovina. By examining these institutions and the Dayton Accords, it is established that governmental efforts at transitional justice have largely failed to create social capital and understanding in the region. This paper makes the argument that, in order to see improved relations among the various ethnic and religious groups, international and domestic actors must instead focus on the development of civil society, nongovernmental organizations, and a reformed educational system. It is through these societal vehicles that these conflicting and polarized parties can develop the necessary social capital to move towards reconciliation.



The Triangle Institute for Security Studies

Welcomes you to its

Eighth Annual

Honor Student Dinner

featuring

Presentations of Honor Theses by Undergraduates in Security Studies

The Hotel Aloft
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

April 17th, 2012

5:45 – 9:15 pm

Cosponsored by Duke University's Program in
American Grand Strategy

Kelsey Farson

Thesis Title: *NATO-EU Intervention in the Balkans and Afghanistan: Explaining CSDP Development through British, French and German Contributions*

Bio: Kelsey Farson is graduating from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in May 2012 with a double major in Peace, War & Defense and Public Policy and a minor in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE). She has spent her undergraduate career studying the transatlantic relationship and NATO-EU cooperation in the field. In the summer of 2010, she traveled to France, Italy and the United Kingdom conducting interviews at military colleges, universities and think-tanks researching the defense relationship between NATO and the EU. This past summer she interned with former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright – chair of NATO’s Group of Experts for its 2010 Strategic Concept. Kelsey currently teaches a class at UNC for undergraduates entitled: “Collective Defense in the 21st century: NATO and the EU.” She plans on moving to Washington, D.C. after graduation.

Abstract: This research evaluates the evolution of the European Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP), explaining its pattern of development through an analysis of the factors that lead European nations to allocate resources to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and/or the European Union (EU) in crisis management operations. This pattern of development has led to a *de facto* division of labor in crisis management operations in which NATO and the EU are involved. The individual response of European member states to NATO and EU missions have led to this division of labor. Three factors help explain why European member nations decide to allocate resources to either NATO and/or the EU: geographical location, domestic politics and relative power in international relations. This pattern of resource allocation has led to specialization in crisis management operations in which NATO and the EU are involved – NATO focuses on force projection whereas the EU focuses on civilian peacekeeping. The allocation of resources by member nations reinforces this specialization. This thesis utilizes troop and civilian commitments to NATO-EU operations in the Balkans and Afghanistan to analyze this emerging division of labor in crisis management operations.

Bradley Smith

Thesis Title: *Strategic Loss Avoidance: Domestic Signals and Interstate Military Coalition Participation*

Bio: Bradley Smith is a senior undergraduate Political Science major at UNC Chapel Hill from Burlington, North Carolina. His research interests are in international relations, more specifically in military cooperation and the relationship between domestic and international politics. Next year he will begin his studies at the University of Rochester, where he will be pursuing a Ph.D. in Political Science.

Abstract: This paper examines how the domestic political conditions of the U.S. affect the likelihood that states will join a U.S.-led military coalition. I contend that the domestic political environment of the U.S. at the time of a coalition’s formation functions as a signal to potential coalition partners, allowing them to discern the intention of the U.S. in seeking to form a multilateral coalition. In turn, I argue that these perceptions of U.S. intent, formed through observation of U.S. domestic politics, shape potential partner states’ predictions of the costs they will incur through coalition participation. I expect that these predictions of cost affect states’ likelihood of coalition participation. As such, this study aims to uncover a hidden aspect of the strategic interaction between the U.S. and friendly states once the U.S. has made clear that it desires to seek multilateralism through the formation of a military coalition. By introducing this theory and identifying salient measures of the U.S. domestic political environment, this research will contribute to the growing literature that explores the link between domestic political processes and international interactions. To test this theory, I have compiled a dataset to conduct an empirical test of the influence of congressional opposition, economic conditions, and Presidential election cycles on the likelihood of state participation in every U.S.-led military coalition from 1945-2003. This empirical analysis provides support for the idea that Congressional support and Presidential election cycles serve as influential signals that affect coalition participation decisions.

Erin Sanderson

Thesis Title: *A Complementary Approach for Combating Global Nuclear Proliferation: Examining the Roles of Multinational Fuel Banks and Small Modular Reactors*

Erin Sanderson is a graduating senior at UNC-Chapel Hill double majoring in Peace, War, and Defense and Political Science. While studying abroad in Tanzania and Mexico she completed two research papers, and presented her findings on Tanzanian land rights at a globalization conference at the University of Dar es Salaam. Nuclear nonproliferation, specifically as it relates to international diplomacy and organizations is her main research interest. Ms. Sanderson also works as a research assistant on the *Mapping the Trajectories of Military Intervention and Occupation* project funded by the Office of Naval Research.

Abstract: The potential proliferation of nuclear weapons has plagued international security for decades. International organizations hesitate to ban nuclear use, as nuclear power is cost effective and clean. However the by-products of uranium enrichment and reprocessing necessary for fuel assemblies are also essential for nuclear weapons production. The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) was one of the first attempts to reconcile the peaceful applications of nuclear energy with the goal of complete nuclear weapons disarmament. The treaty has been largely successful with preventing weapons proliferation. Unfortunately the verification and enforcement aspects of the treaty are unequally imposed. A single rogue state is still a threat to the delicate nuclear balance. This paper focuses on two emerging and potentially complementary solutions to nuclear non-proliferation: a multinational fuel bank and Small Modular Reactors (SMRs). Both approaches have several different proposed designs. This paper will outline selected proposals while focusing on the aspects of each that serve to increase proliferation resistance. A multilateral fuel bank could provide international guarantee for bilateral fuel arrangements, provide access to enriched fuel, and provide options for spent fuel management. While SMRs have the capability to run for multiple decades without refueling, underground storage, and complete fuel burn up. These two new approaches and technologies could form a complementary approach to inhibit further nuclear weapons proliferation.

Michelle Lu

Thesis Title: *Economic Interdependence and the Development of Cross-Strait Relations: to what degree can economic interdependence encourage peace in the inherently conflictual relationship between China and Taiwan?*

Bio: Michelle Lu is a senior at Duke University, majoring in Public Policy and Asian and Middle Eastern Studies with a Chinese concentration. Her strong interest in international affairs has led her to study abroad in Beijing, China and London, England and spend a summer working with a nonprofit in Cape Town, South Africa. She has also interned at the United Nations Information Center in Washington, DC.

Abstract: By measuring the extent to which improved economic relations between China and Taiwan has led to improved political relations, this project uses the case of cross-Strait relations to test the idea that economic interdependence encourages peace. Trade ties and indicators of political relations measure the extent to which economic interdependence can encourage peace and work toward conflict resolution in an inherently conflictual relationship. Economic interdependence expands contacts between states, encourages the building of cooperative institutions, and introduces new incentives for peace over conflict. This paper argues that economic interdependence is not sufficient to resolve political conflict, but it builds an environment conducive to improved political relations and easing of tensions. These improvements are not high-level, political, diplomatic ties but rather the building of lower level political and societal exchange. Trade relations have grown between China and Taiwan from 2003 and 2011, and this economic interdependence is correlated with expanded interaction in tourism, transportation, political dialogue and cultural exchange. These effects allow for greater mutual understanding and contact, which create a reciprocal effect by contributing to increased economic interaction. While progress in cross-Strait relations is constrained by the internal politics of both China and Taiwan at any moment, the United States plays an important role in reinforcing the positive effects of economic interdependence.

Keri Majikes

Thesis Title: *The Role of Water in the Palestine-Israel Conflict*

Bio: Keri Majikes is a senior at UNC Chapel Hill double-majoring in Peace, War & Defense and Arab Cultures. In addition to her honors thesis, she has completed the Carolina Research Scholars and Business Essentials certification programs. Ms. Majikes currently works part time at a local law firm. During the summer of 2011, she worked at the National Defense University in their International Student Management Office. She spent the previous summer volunteering and studying Arabic in the Palestinian Territories. Ms. Majikes speaks Arabic and some Swahili, making the Middle East and Eastern Africa a natural area of focus. She plans to continue doing research in these areas after graduation.

Abstract: This thesis asserts that water has had a significant role in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and that defining water rights might alleviate this tension. The role of water scarcity is evident in historical events, cultural identities, and direct quotations from political figures. The lack of agreement over water allotments has periodically aggravated tensions in the past. This paper ultimately determines that defining water rights via international law is an important step in reducing the aggravation of conflict and water scarcity. This issue is vital firstly because of the importance of water to everyday life. Secondly, it is significant because addressing water allocations might pave the way for negotiations on the other issues.

Cody Poplin

Thesis Title: *Going Public, Going Global: Presidential Leadership of Foreign Public Opinion: An Examination of Europe's Reaction to the War on Terror*

Bio: Cody Poplin is a senior from Thurmond, North Carolina. He is pursuing an honors degree in Political Science and Peace, War, and Defense Studies, with a minor in History, at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In the spring of 2010, he completed a Burch Field Honors Research fellowship on foreign policy at the University of North Carolina's Washington International Institute in Washington, D.C. under the tutelage of former National Security Council Executive Secretary and Ambassador, William Itoh, later publishing this research on the conflict in Kashmir in the *Global Security Studies Journal*. While in Washington, D.C., Mr. Poplin interned with World Vision and in the fall of 2010, he studied at the War Studies Department of King's College London. He has also been very active on the Carolina campus. Mr. Poplin was recently named a Henry Luce Scholar and will be spending the next year in India researching and developing policy on democratization, the protection of minority rights, and conflict management. He plans to enter a career in national security and foreign policy advisement in hopes of contributing to the emerging framework of global relations.

Abstract: This paper examines if and how the US president can shape public opinion in other countries. Scholars have long known about the "rally around the flag" effect in which the US president often receives an increase in public approval during international military crises. This paper asks whether the president can also influence public opinion globally in these situations. In particular, it looks at how the public rhetoric of George W. Bush surrounding the "War on Terror" influenced opinions in Western European states. It explores how and why Bush was able to marshal public support for intervening in Afghanistan but was less successful in the case of Iraq. The paper also explores the difference among the responses in Britain, France, and Germany. The research draws on survey data and content analysis of media sources,