ECONOMICS OF CONFLICT

Teacher: Petros Sekeris
Academic year 2017/2018: Paris School of International Affairs – Spring Semester

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Petros G. Sekeris is Associate Professor at the Montpellier Business School. He has a PhD in Economics (2009) from the University of Namur (Belgium) and has also done graduate coursework in Economics from the Université Catholique de Louvain (Belgium). He has recently joined Montpellier in 2016, and has previously worked at the University of Portsmouth (2013-2016). He is the author of several journal articles on international relations, political economy, institutions and development in both economic and political science journals. His research interests include modeling conflict, applied game theory, conflicts, political economics, and development economics.

COURSE OUTLINE

Session 1: Armed Conflicts. Why do wars happen at all? How do we define conflict? are the rationalist explanations for war?

Required readings:


Recommended readings:


Session 2: The Democratic Peace argument. The role of regime type in explaining inter-state wars

Required readings:

Recommended readings:


Session 3: Causes of civil wars: greed and grievances, and the opportunity cost of fighting

Required readings:


Recommended readings:


Session 4: Causes of civil wars: natural resources and environmental scarcities. Is there a general theory of Civil Wars?

Required readings:


Recommended readings:

Session 5: Inequality, Polarization and Civil War

Required readings:

Recommended readings:

Session 6: Inter-state Wars. The Role of Trade in explaining inter-state wars

Required readings:

Recommended readings:

Session 7: Democratic Transitions: Resources, Cooptation and Coups.

Required readings:

Recommended readings:

Session 8: Stable Regimes

Required readings:

Recommended readings:

Session 9: Explaining and Combatting Insurgencies
Required readings


Recommended readings:


Session 10: Terrorism. What are the economic and social determinants of terrorism?

Required readings:


Recommended readings:

Session 11: The Economic Consequences of Conflict. How much does war cost? How should we measure the cost of war?

Required readings:


Recommended readings:


Session 12: Third Party Intervention. Why do third parties intervene in internal conflicts? How do they affect the conflict outcome and its duration?

Required readings:


Recommended readings: