European notions and institutions of peace and security in international relations and international law
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GESI, room 3.15

The European Union’s grand narrative concerning security is „lessons learnt“. After World War II, finally Europeans would have embarked on a path towards organized peace and security on the continent. However, attempts for a common European security system are not unique to the EU – in the „long 19th Century“ as well as in the interwar period there have been collective security systems organized by empires and nation states. In parallel, international and transnational interactions and encounters have been increasingly shaped by modern international law and by international organisations. On the other hand, more recently some assumptions from the EU’s peace and security narrative have been put in question: With liberalism and multilateralism in decline, is the EU really able to deliver peace and security for Europe and its neighbouring spaces, or even for its member states? This seminar will analyse ideas, norms and policies for European common security systems. It will furthermore scrutinise their institutionalisation in International Law and international organisations, especially in the EU’s different foreign policy formats. Special attention will be directed towards the eastern dimension of European and EU’s peace and security concerns.

Sessions

1. Introduction to the seminar; requirements and assignments

2. Lessons learned? The European Union as a peace project


3. Problems and Systems of security in the „long 19th Century“


4. International Law as civilizer of international relations


5. The Balkan Wars and WW I


6. The League of Nations and Collective Security


7. Regional and Sub-regional collective systems: Pan-Europa and the The Little Entente


8. World War II


Danel Marc Segesser: On the Road to Total Retribution? The International Debate on the Punishment of War Crimes, 1872–1945, in: Chickering / Förster / Greiner, A World of Total War, pp. 355-374.

9. Cold War and CSCE


10. European Foreign Policy: Integration and Security


12. Russia and its „Near Abroad“


13. International Terrorism and European Responses

Dietmar Müller: In the League of Nations’ Orbit: International Law Debates and Networks in Interwar Europe, manuscript (in print), 25 pp.

14. Final discussion and evaluation of the seminar

Additional Reading