



EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Consortium

Promoting the European network of independent
non-proliferation and disarmament think tanks

Master Syllabus:

A conventional introduction to Arms Control (update 2025)

Suitable for undergraduates with some background knowledge in International Relations or graduate students.

Session 1: Why armament?

Buzan, B. (1987): Strategic Rivalry and Military Technology: The Arms Dynamics. In B. Buzan, An Introduction to Strategic Studies. Military Technology & International Relations. Houndmills: Macmillan, pp- 69-113.

Trachtenberg, D. J., Dodge, M., & Payne, K. B. (2021). The “Action-Reaction” Arms Race Narrative vs. Historical Realities. *Comparative Strategy*, 40(6), 521–562.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/01495933.2021.1983336>

Session 2: Why Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation - Basic Concepts

Larsen, Jeffrey A. (2009): An Introduction to Arms Control and Cooperative Security. In: Larsen, J./Wirtz, J. (Eds): Arms Control and Cooperative Security, Lynne Rienner: Boulder, 1-20.

Müller, Harald (2012): Security Co-Operation. In: Carlsnaes, W./Risse, T./Simmons, B. (Eds): Handbook of International Relations. Sage: Thousand Oaks, 607-634.

Rodgers, J., & Williams, H. (2023). The Irreversibility Paradox: What Makes for Enduring Arms Control and Disarmament. *Journal for Peace and Nuclear Disarmament*, 6(2), 244–262.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/25751654.2023.2292812>

Session 3: The (ongoing) Crisis of Arms Control

Wisotzki, Simone/Kühn, Ulrich (2021): Crisis in arms control: an introduction. In: *Zeitschrift für Friedens und Konfliktforschung* 10, 183–194

Kühn, U. (2021): The crisis of nuclear arms control. In: *Zeitschrift für Friedens und Konfliktforschung* 10, 319–344

Schmidt, H.-J. (2023): How the Russia–Ukraine War Could End, and Its Impact on Conventional Arms Control. Istituto Affari Internazionali: Rome.
<https://www.iai.it/sites/default/files/iaip2310.pdf>

Session 4: Nuclear Weapons – a Historical Overview

- Cirincione, J. (2008). *Bomb scare: The history & future of nuclear weapons*. Columbia University Press.
- Freedman, L. (2003). The arrival of the bomb. In *The evolution of nuclear strategy* (3rd ed.). Palgrave Macmillan.
- Woolf, A. F. (2024). Irreversibility in Nuclear Arms Control: Lessons from the US-Soviet/Russian Arms Control Process. *Journal for Peace and Nuclear Disarmament*, 7(1), 27–40. <https://doi.org/10.1080/25751654.2024.2359229>

Session 5: Controlling Nuclear Weapons

- Wan, Wilfred / Chernavskikh, Vladislav /Erästö, Tytti/ Fedchenko, Vitaly (2024): Nuclear disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation. In: SIPRI Yearbook 2024, Oxford University Press: Oxford, 371-414
- Rodgers, J., & Williams, H. (2023). The Irreversibility Paradox: What Makes for Enduring Arms Control and Disarmament. *Journal for Peace and Nuclear Disarmament*, 6(2), 244–262. <https://doi.org/10.1080/25751654.2023.2292812>

Session 6: Chemical Weapons

- Jakob, Una/Lenzos, Filippa (2024): Chemical, biological and health security threats. In: SIPRI Yearbook 2024, Oxford University Press: Oxford, 415-456
- Walker, J. (2024). Lessons from the Chemical Weapons Convention Negotiations and Implementation for the Diplomatic Challenges of Negotiating ‘Irreversibility.’ *Journal for Peace and Nuclear Disarmament*, 7(2), 385–391. <https://doi.org/10.1080/25751654.2024.2358595>

Session 7: Biological Weapons

- Lentzos, Filippa (2025) How can the BWC respond to the rapid advancements in science and technology? in *The Biological Weapons Convention at Fifty: Codifying 100 years of efforts to combat biological warfare*. UN Office for Disarmament Affairs.
<https://disarmament.unoda.org/the-biological-weapons-convention-at-fifty/>
- Zanders, Jean-Pascal (2023): The Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention Confronting False Allegations and Disinformation. SIPRI: Stockholm,
<https://www.sipri.org/publications/2023/eu-non-proliferation-and-disarmament-papers/biological-and-toxin-weapons-convention-confronting-false-allegations-and-disinformation>

Session 8: European Arms Control before and after the crisis

- Lippert, W. E. (2024). How conventional arms control failures caused the Russo-Ukraine War. *Defense & Security Analysis*, 40(1), 138–160.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/14751798.2024.2300889>
- Moeller, R. R. (2024). Transparency in Arms Control: The Collapse and Future of the Open Skies Treaty. *Peace Review*, 36(4), 625–636.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/10402659.2024.2393830>

Session 9: Missiles and the MTCR

- Hoffmann, F. R. (2024). The strategic-level effects of long-range strike weapons: A framework for analysis. *Journal of Strategic Studies*, 47(6–7), 964–1000.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/01402390.2024.2351500>
- Brockmann, K/ Bromley, M/Héau, L (2022): Adapting the Missile Technology Control Regime for Current and Future Challenges. SIPRI: Stockholm,
<https://www.sipri.org/publications/2022/sipri-policy-briefs/adapting-missile-technology-control-regime-current-and-future-challenges>

Session 10: Controlling Arms Exports

- Kanetake, M. (2021). Dual-Use Export Control: Security and Human Rights Challenges to Multilateralism. In: Bungenberg, M., Krajewski, M., Tams, C.J., Terhechte, J.P., Ziegler, A.R. (eds) *European Yearbook of International Economic Law 2020*. *European Yearbook of International Economic Law*, vol 11. Springer, Cham.
https://doi.org/10.1007/8165_2021_67
- de Bruin, E. (2021): Export Control Regimes—Present-Day Challenges and Opportunities. In: Beeres, R./Bertrand, R./Klomp, J./Timmermans, J./Voetelink, J. (Eds): *Netherlands Annual Review of Military Studies*, Springer: Berlin, 32-52

Session 11: Rethinking Arms Control – Norms vs. Coercion

- Müller, Harald/Becker-Jakob, Una/Seidler-Diekmann, Tabea (2013): *Regime Conflicts and Norm Dynamics: Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Weapons*. University of Georgia Press: Athens: 51-81
- Kreps, S. E., & Fuhrmann, M. (2011). Attacking the atom: Does bombing nuclear facilities affect proliferation? *Journal of Strategic Studies*, 34(2), 161–187.

Session 12: Actors

- Wessel, R. (2022): The European Union and international arms control: Assessing legal competences and instruments. In: Eric Myjer, E/Marauhn, T. (Eds): *Research Handbook on International Arms Control Law*. Edward Elgar: Cheltenham, 89-105
- Gottenmoeller, Rose/Hill, Steven (2020): NATO's Current and Future Support for Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-proliferation. *Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI)*,
<https://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep28799>

Session 13: Arms Control in the Cyber-realm?

- Reinhold, T. & Reuter, C. (2019): Verification in Cyberspace. In C. Reuter: Information Technology for Peace and Security. IT Applications and Infrastructures in Conflicts, Crisis, War, and Peace. Wiesbaden: Springer, pp. 257-276.
- Roguski P. (2021): An Inspection Regime for Cyber Weapons: A Challenge Too Far? AJIL Unbound. 2021;115:111-115. doi:10.1017/aju.2021.6.
<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/american-journal-of-international-law/article/an-inspection-regime-for-cyber-weapons-a-challenge-too-far/0FD64925A8CA9DDBCB7AF05F6CBEAB2D>

Session 14: LAWS, AI and Arms Control

- Schörnig, Niklas (2022): Artificial Intelligence as an Arms Control Tool. In: Reinhold, T./Schörnig, N. (Eds): Armament, Arms Control and Artificial Intelligence. Springer: Cham, 57-72
- Sauer, Frank (2021): Lethal autonomous weapons systems. In: Elliott, A. (Ed): The Routledge Social Science Handbook of AI. Routledge: London, 237-250

Session 15: Arms Control in Space

- Neuneck, G. (2022): A New Arms Race in Space? Options for Arms Control in Outer Space. In J.C. Peña (ed.) Security and Defence: Ethical and Legal Challenges in the Face of Current Conflicts. Wiesbaden: Springer, pp. 23-36.
- Brockmann, K. and R., 2022. NewSpace and Missile Proliferation: Challenges for the MTCR, SIPRI: Stocckholm, <https://coilink.org/20.500.12592/4rqxsh> on 09 Apr 2025. COI: 20.500.12592/4rqxsh.