



UNIVERSIDADE
CATÓLICA
PORTUGUESA



Course: Humanity's Biggest Challenges

SDG #16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions)

Syllabus



Characteristics

- Elective course, 3 ECTS
- Second Trimester/1st Semester 2022/23
- Lecture from five different Professors (from different Schools)
- Taught in English
- Online classes
- Wednesday, 17h30-20h15
- Six classes (three hours each; total of 18 hours): October 26; November 2 - 23; December 7
- The first five applicants from each college are guaranteed enrollment.
- Maximum of 45 students

Topics and Content

Week 1 (Context)

- Historical perspective: The SDG Agenda and where it comes from
- Why are the SDGs important? A Common language for prosperity
- 2030 Agenda: SDG per SDG
- Systemic perspective of the SDGs: multi-level, multi-sector, multidisciplinary

- Why SDG 16 and why is it important?
- Organization's role and citizens' role on the SDG Agenda

Week 2 (Political Studies)

- Introduction: Changing Meanings of Conflict and Peace in the 21st Century
- Context & Concepts: From new wars to new strategies for Peace
- Peacemaking, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding in the tradition of the UN
- Peacebuilding and civil society (the perspective of NGOs and Think Tanks)
- Transitions to Democracy and the Democratic Peace Thesis in debate
- Peace and justice through the lens of the Truth and Conciliation approach
- The transformational peace approach: broader possibilities for peace and justice

Week 3 (Philosophy and Social Science)

- Special questions in social ethics.
- Effective governance for SDG Implementation (international to local strategies and innovative practices)
- Key actions needed to tackle global challenges
- Multi-stakeholder engagement
- Strengthening Institutional Effectiveness: action plan for accelerating change

Week 4 (Business & Economics)

- What can be the meaning of just companies?
- Corruption in the corporate world
- Whistleblowing channels and the protection of whistleblowers
- Can corporations be instruments of peace?

Week 5 (Law)

- The principle of equality and non-discrimination
- Affirmative action measures: a comparative constitutional law approach
- Equality, justice and inclusion in sport: a gender and human rights approach
- Child's rights and corporal punishment. The CRC and ECHR provisions.
- Corporal punishment around the world.
- Strategies for elimination of corporal punishment around the world.

Week 6 (Group Assignment presentations)

- Groups to present their assignments

Objectives

- Understand the importance of the SDG as a universal and strategic language for the future of humanity
- Understand the challenge posed by SDS 16 with a multisectoral lens: public, private sector and civil society
- Open up for a broader and active concept of peace
- Understand the connection between Peace, Justice and State / Institution Building

- Learn the main concepts of effective institutions
- Understanding why effective institutions is vital for SDG implementation
- Understanding institutional roles and responsibilities
- Identify approaches to effective institution building
- Strengthened understanding of the importance of stakeholder engagement in SDG implementation
- Explore and deepen knowledge on the role of companies in the context of SDG16, with a particular emphasis on target 16.5 (substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms)
- Understand Target 16.2: End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children
- Understand Target 16.7: Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision making at all levels
- Understand target 16.b: Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development

Metodologies

- Interactive exhibition with student participation
- Group and individual work of research and problem solving
- Participation of external guests – inspiration
- Preparation of Case Study Research Portfolios
- Case discussion

Evaluation

The evaluation will consist of a Group Work ("**Pick a multinational company!**") that will be developed throughout the various classes and with final presentation (4-page report and 8 slides) in the last class. The groups to be constituted will be composed of students from the various faculties and "peer evaluation" will be a component of the award of the final grade. An individual assessment may also be required.

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