

## FOREIGN POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD

Professor: **Carl Rihan**  
Language of instruction: **English**  
Number of hours of class: **12.5h**



### Objective of the Course

This course is expected to introduce students to international relations, foreign policy, as well as security studies, and to serve as a foundational course for those interested in pursuing studies in these fields. The course builds upon several themes explored in the Master Classes and will focus on the functioning of States within the broader “Global Order” from an international security lens.

The course tackles a broad range of subjects including State power and the measurement thereof, balance of power scenario-building, theories of war, proxy warfare and terrorism, and the application of data science and artificial intelligence in the fields of governance and security.

By the end of the course, it is expected that students will have grasped the theoretical foundations of international politics, the characteristics of the international order, the nature of international challenges, and will have learned how to prepare practice-oriented proposals as well as how to discuss policy challenges in an informed manner.



### Summary

The course is structured around 5 classes of 2.5 hours each, followed by an oral presentation, the “Petit Oral”. Sessions will revolve around the following topics:

**Session 1:** Foundations of Foreign Policy and Security Studies

**Session 2:** Measuring State Power and the Global Hierarchy of States

**Session 3:** The Balance of Power, Theories of War, and Proxy Warfare

**Session 4:** International Political Economy, Global Governance and Power Shifts

**Session 5:** Data Science and Artificial Intelligence in Security Studies: Algorithmic Governance, Quantitative Modeling, and Autonomous Systems



**Professor's Biography**



Carl Rihan is an adjunct professor of politics, economics and data science at the Catholic University of Lille and a lecturer on security studies and governance at SciencesPo Lille. He is also an associate and visiting fellow of the German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA). With more than twelve years of experience in the field of State-building in fragile and conflict-affected settings (FCS), he is also the author of *Governance Cooperation in a Conflict-Affected Setting* (2024), *Coup in Damascus: Syria and the Birth of Arab Military Rule* (2025).