



Course program and reading list

Semester 1 Year 2024

School: Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy & Strategy B.A

Human Security

Lecturer:

Dr. Daphne Richemond Barak barak.daphne@runi.ac.il

Teaching Assistant:

Ms. Ela Blatt ela.blatt@post.runi.ac.il

Course No.:	Course Type :	Weekly Hours :	Credit:
4962	Lecture	2	2

Course Requirements :	Group Code :	Language:
Final Paper	241496200	English

Course Description

This class introduces the notion of human security as a key concept in security studies. We will first attempt to define what security means: What actors – beyond the state – have the capacity or the duty to promote security? Are states the sole bearers of the responsibility to ensure security? What are some key vectors of insecurity in today's world? Why speak of "human" security?

This course promotes a broad and multi-disciplinary approach to security and introduces students to critical issues of our time (water security, food security, health security). Students will better understand the role played by nonstate actors – alliances, international organizations, multi-national corporations, and even individual citizens – as *agents of security*. They will shape their own view about the strength and scope of the human security paradigm, assess the value of human security in contrast to "hard" security, and acquire the tools to think critically about the role states and nonstate actors play in enhancing or, on the contrary, impeding human security.

We will become familiar with the notion of *vector of (in)security* and discuss the role that climate, gender, food, domestic violence, and political instability – to name only a few – have on human security. We will examine the tension,

if any, between human security and state sovereignty.



Course Goals

This course aims to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of human security, its various dimensions, and the challenges it poses in the modern world. Through a multidisciplinary approach, students will explore topics such as conflict, health, environment, and more, with a focus on practical solutions to enhance human security.

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Define the concept of human security and its evolution over time.
 2. Analyze and compare traditional security and human security paradigms.
 3. Identify global phenomena that impede human security.
 4. Analyze case studies to understand specific human security challenges and their implications.
 5. Formulate strategies and policies to enhance human security.
 6. Communicate effectively about human security issues through written assignments and class discussions.
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Grading

- Final assignment - 100% of the grade
 - Bonus points - up to five bonus points to be obtained via in class exercises, quizzes, and other activities. This will be further explained in class.
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Lecturer Office Hours

Office hours can be arranged via email at barak.daphne@runi.ac.il.



Reading List

Part I – Human Security: Evolution and Academic Foundations

Lesson 1 – Introduction to Human Security

Provides a comprehensive overview of the concept of human security, its origins, and its evolution.

- Historical context
- Whose security
- Defining Security
- Do we have a right to security?
- Human Security v. "hard security"
- Human Security, a multi-disciplinary query

Reading:

- Boutros Boutros-Gali, *Let's Get Together to Halt the Unraveling of Society*, New York Times (February 10, 1995).
- Nigel D. White and Auden Davies-Bright, *The Concept of Security in International Law*, The Oxford Handbook of the International Law of Global Security (2021), pp. 1-6.
- Hitoshi Nasu, *Human Security and International Law: The Potential Scope for Legal Development within the Analytical Framework of Security*, in *Security and International Law* (Mary Footer et al., eds.) (2016), pp. 12-15.

Lesson 2 – Theoretical Perspectives on Human Security

Explores different theoretical frameworks and approaches to understanding human security.

- Gender perspectives
- Copenhagen School and the concept of "referent object"
- International law and security studies

Reading:

- United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, S/RES/1325 (31 October 2000).
- Aili Mari Tripp, *Toward a Gender Perspective on Human Security*, in *Gender, Violence, and Human Security: Critical Feminist Perspectives* (Tripp A., Ferree M., & Ewig C., eds.), pp. 3-22 (2013).
- Buzan, Barry, Wæver, Ole and de Wilde, Jaap, *Security Analysis: Conceptual Apparatus*, in *Security: A New Framework for Analysis* (1998), pp. 21-48.
- *Gender-Based War Crimes in Hamas' Massacre in Israel Oct 7th 2023*, Dr. Cochav Elkayam-Levy, Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), <https://youtu.be/88gFNVwz8ps> (2023).

Lesson 3 – Human Security: The View from the UN

The United Nations played a key role in the framing of human security. How does human security sit with the organization's other priorities? Do all UN member states support the concept of human security and agree on its content? How does human security get translated into practical UN goals?

- Sustainable Development Goals
- Human security and sovereignty
- Human security and development
- Emerging perspectives on human security

- Limits to Human Security

Reading:

- Understanding the Human Security Approach, <https://www.unssc.org/news-and-insights/resources/understanding-human-security-approach>.
- United Nations General Assembly Resolution 66/290 (10 September 2012), <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N11/476/22/PDF/N1147622.pdf?OpenElement>.

Part II – Who Provides Human Security?

Human security highlights the role played by non-state actors in enhancing and impeding security.

Lesson 4 – Agents of Human Security (I)

International organizations and alliances, which are made up of states, also contribute to security.

- International organizations
- Alliances
- NATO and human security

Reading:

- Edward Luttwak, *Give War a Chance*, Foreign Affairs (1999).
- NATO, https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_181779.htm.
- Kaleigh Reid and Kristin Thue, *A New Era? NATO's Prioritization of Human Security in an Insecure World* (2022), <https://www.rand.org/pubs/commentary/2022/08/a-new-era-natos-prioritisation-of-human-security-in.html>.

Lesson 5 – Agents of Human Security (II)

What non-state actors play a role in security, alongside states? Do they contribute to security? Do they at times act as vectors of insecurity? Among other actors, this lesson examines the impact of multi-national corporations and tech companies on human security.

- Multi-national corporations and tech companies
- Individual citizens
- Women

Reading:

- *Addressing the Surge in Global Antisemitism on Social Media Platforms*, <https://en.huji.ac.il/news/addressing-surge-global-antisemitism-social-media-platforms> (2023).
- *How Tech Can Promote Human Security*, <https://humansecurity.world/how-tech-can-promote-human-security/> (2023).
- Devorah Margolin, *The Changing Roles of Women in Violent Islamist Groups*, in *Perspectives on the Future of Women, Gender & Violent Extremism*, Program on

Extremism, George Washington University (2019), pp. 40–49.

Lesson 6 – Agent of Human Security (III)

One of the goals of international justice is to contribute to international peace and security and provide justice to the victims. Do international courts and tribunals achieve this goal? We will discuss the aims and limits of international justice.

- The peace versus justice dilemma
- Genocide and crimes against humanity
- The contribution of international courts and tribunals to human security
- ISIS and the Yazidis as an example

Reading:

- *The Peace versus Justice Dilemma*, <https://youtu.be/PWFpngEfu84?si=DFzI4W-HbKOr--W9>.
- Lauren Balasco, *The International Criminal Court as Human Security Agent*, Fletcher Journal of Human Security (2013), pp. 49–54.

Part III – Vectors of (in) Security

Lesson 7 – Climate Security

Scholarship is growing on the connection between climate and insecurity. We will unpack the notion of climate conflicts, and the legal and policy challenges they raise.

- Notion of climate hazard
- Climate and the environment as security issues
- Statelessness and rising seas
- “Climate refugees”

Reading:

- Robert Kaplan, *The Coming Anarchy*, The Atlantic (1994), read uploaded excerpt.
- Francesco Femia and Caitlin E. Werrell, *Climate Change, the Erosion of State Sovereignty, and World Order*, in *Epicenters of Climate and Security* (2017).
- Kayly Ober, *How Heat Waves are Destabilizing Asia*, United States Institute of Peace (2023), <https://www.usip.org/publications/2023/06/how-heat-waves-are-destabilizing-asia>
- Facultative reading: Joyeeta Gupta and Hilmer Bosch, *Climate Change and Security*, The Oxford Handbook of the International Law of Global Security (2021).

Lesson 8 – Migration

Investigates how the risk of uncontrolled migration interacts with other vectors of insecurity, such as conflict, water scarcity, and climate change.

- Migration as a security issue
- Migration and conflict
- Syria as a case study
- Migration as a threat or opportunity?

Reading:

- Sita Bali, *Migration and Refugees*, in *Security Studies: An Introduction* (Paul Williams and Matt McDonald, eds.) (2023).

Lesson 9 – Food Security

Examines the concept of food insecurity and how food contributes to stability and economic development. In Israel, the state budget included funds earmarked to combat food insecurity for the first time in 2021.

- The right to food in international law
- Food security in Israel and in the world
- Food and conflict: starvation

Reading:

- Food Security, *The Oxford Handbook of the International Law of Global Security* (2021), pp. 484-495.
- *Over 2.5 million Israelis live in poverty, among them 1.1 million kids, report finds*, Times of Israel (2021), <https://www.timesofisrael.com/over-2-5-million-israelis-live-in-poverty-among-them-1-1-million-kids-report-finds/>.

Lesson 10 – Water Security

This lesson looks at water as a source of insecurity but also as a source of diplomacy and cooperation in the regional and international arenas.

- Notions of water security and water scarcity
- Water and conflict
- Water and development

Reading:

- *Water Security*, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qa7o_E5IsDk
- Pierre Thielbörger, *Water Security*, in *The Oxford Handbook of International Law of Global Security* (Robin Geiß and Nils Melzer, eds.) (2021), pp. 1-4.
- Scott Moore, *How to Solve the Global Water Crisis* (Foreign Affairs, 2018).
- *When Water Ends*, https://e360.yale.edu/features/when_the_water_ends_africas_climate_conflicts
- Innovation Africa, <https://youtu.be/l0adOS2B2fI>

Lesson 11 – Health Security

Investigates the intersection of global health issues and human security, including pandemics, access to healthcare, and health inequality.

- Health issues as security issues: Antimicrobial resistance, HIV, COVID, Ebola
- World Health Organization
- Global Health
- International Health Regulations

Reading:

- Kaleem Hawa, *Health and Climate Security: Interconnected Security Challenges of Climate Change and Infectious Disease*, in *Epicenters of Climate and Security* (2017).
- Lisa Forman, *Global Health Law: WHO, COVID-19, and Human Security*, in *Research Handbook on International Law and Human Security* (Gerd Oberleitner, ed.) (2022).

Lesson 12 – Review and preparation for final assignment

- Multiple-choice review
- Sample exam
- Guidelines ahead of final assignment