**Moscow's Relations with the West after Russia's pivot to Asia**

The course focuses Russia’s ‘pivot to Asia’ and the impact on relations with the West. The aims of the course is to develop an understanding for why Russia pivoted to Asia, what the pivot entails, the extent to which the pivot is permanent, and how it will impact relations between the West and Russia. Since the Cold War came to an end, the West and Russia have struggled to develop a new and mutually acceptable format for Europe. The course will analyse the competing conceptions of post-Cold War Europe and how the competition between Russia’s ‘Greater Europe’ and the West’s ‘Wider Europe’ affected the scope for cooperation and the proclivity for conflict. The course provides students with a theoretical foundation to understand the competing perspectives on why the West and Russia have acted the way they did in Ukraine. Following the Ukraine crisis, Russia intensified its pivot to Asia in terms of politics, economics, and military. Has Russia left Europe or is Russia merely changing its approach to Europe? To answer this question, students will develop an understanding for what the Russia’s pivot means in terms of political, economic, and security relations with the West. An important feature of the course is to give students the theoretical tools required to analyse what is a current and evolving issue. After Russia’s pivot - what defines the cooperation and competition with the West in terms of politics, ideology, economy and security? At the end of this course, students should be able to make their own arguments about what will replace the former competition between ‘Greater Europe’ and ‘Wider Europe’.

**Lectures**

**Before the pivot**

Lecture 1: Greater Europe versus Wider Europe: Theories and perspectives on relations between the West and Russia in the 2000s

* Zwolski, K., 2017. Wider Europe, Greater Europe? David Mitrany on European Security Order. *JCMS: Journal of Common Market Studies*, *55*(3), pp.645-661.
* Sakwa, R., 2015. The death of Europe? Continental fates after Ukraine. *International Affairs*, *91*(3), pp.553-579.

Lecture 2: Conflicts in a divided Europe

* Averre, D., 2009. From Pristina to Tskhinvali: the legacy of Operation Allied Force in Russia's relations with the West. *International affairs*, *85*(3), pp.575-591.
* Diesen, G., 2017. The EU, Russia and the Manichean Trap. *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*, *30*(2-3), pp.177-194.
* Smith, N.R., 2017. What the West Can Learn from Rationalizing Russia's Action in Ukraine. *Orbis*, *61*(3), pp.354-368.

Lecture 3: Russia’s pivot to Asia: what does it mean?

* Krickovic, A., 2017. The symbiotic China-Russia partnership: Cautious riser and desperate challenger. *The Chinese Journal of International Politics*, *10*(3), pp.299-329.
* Charap, S., Drennan, J. and Noël, P., 2017. Russia and China: a new model of great-power relations. *Survival*, *59*(1), pp.25-42.
* Kuhrt, N. and Buranelli, F.C., 2018. Russia and the CIS in 2017: Russia in Asia: Succumbing to China’s Embrace?. *Asian Survey*, *58*(1), pp.55-64.

Lecture 4: A changing and fragmenting West? US pivot to Asia and the EU in perpetual crisis

* Simón, L. (2015) ‘Europe, the rise of Asia and the future of the transatlantic relationship’, International Affairs 91:5, 269-289.
* Haglund, D.G. and Quessard, M., 2018. How the West Was One: France, America, and the “Huntingtonian Reversal”. *Orbis*, *62*(4), pp.557-581.

**After the pivot**

Lecture 5: The political economy of Russia-Western relations

* Szabo, S.F., 2017. Germany: From Civilian Power to a Geo-economic Shaping Power. *German Politics and Society*, *35*(3), pp.38-54.
* Chebakova, A., Gulyaeva, O., Shaban, T. and Verdun, A., 2017. Russia and EU cooperation in energy policy–Sending and receiving messages?. *Comparative European Politics*, *15*(1), pp.45-63.

Lecture 6: Politics, ideology and values in Russia-Western relations

* Anheier, H.K. and Falkner, R., 2017. Europe challenged: an introduction to the special issue. *Global Policy*, *8*, pp.5-8.
* Clunan, A.L., 2018. Russia and the Liberal World Order. *Ethics & International Affairs*, *32*(1), pp.45-59.
* Wilson, J.L., 2018. Russia’s relationship with China: the role of domestic and ideational factors. *International Politics*, pp.1-17.

Lecture 7: Security in Russia-Western relations

* Karaganov, S., 2018. The new Cold War and the emerging Greater Eurasia. *Journal of Eurasian studies*, *9*(2), pp.85-93.
* Wohlforth, W.C. and Zubok, V.M., 2017. An abiding antagonism: realism, idealism and the mirage of western–Russian partnership after the Cold War. *International Politics*, *54*(4), pp.405-419.

Lecture 8: Europe on the Western Periphery of Greater Eurasia: Mapping the scope for cooperation and conflict

* Berkofsky, A. (2014) The European Union (EU) in Asian Security: Actor with a Punch or Distant Bystander?, Asia-Pacific Review 21 (2), 61-85.
* Dzarasov, R., 2017. Russian neo-revisionist strategy and the Eurasian Project. *Cambridge Journal of Eurasian Studies*, *1*, p.3P7NAR.
* Kaczmarski, M., 2017. Non-western visions of regionalism: China's New Silk Road and Russia's Eurasian Economic Union. *International Affairs*, *93*(6), pp.1357-1376.

**Assessment:**

Research Question and method - 20%

Formulate a research question based on a puzzle related to relations between the West and Russia after Russia’s pivot to Asia. Avoid questions starting with ‘how’ as it will produce a descriptive answer. The method outlines how you intend to answer the research question – can the question be answered, if so, what is the ideal approach? The research question and method should be 500 words long and be submitted in lecture 4.

Research Essay – 80%

The research essay answers the research question related to Russia’s pivot to Asia and the impact on relations with the West. Keep in mind that the structure should be informed by the method (how to answer the question). Furthermore, there is special emphaises on critical analysis as it is imperative to compare competing perspectives. The research essay must be 3000 words long and must be submitted in lecture 8.