# Peace Economics

## Prof. Raul Caruso

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to explore the key concepts of peace economics, not only from a theoretical perspective but also through selected empirical evidence. It will focus on the economic elements at the basis of armed conflicts and other forms of political violence, and the interdependence between economics, security, and peace on a global level.

The course can ideally be divided into four sections:

(i) the first section will introduce the main theoretical contributions to peace economics; (ii) the second one will present empirical evidence referring to the economic causes of conflicts; (iii) the third section will be focused on military expenditure; (iv) finally, the fourth and last section will analyse the economic aspects of international relations, especially in terms of security and peace keeping.

*Knowledge and Understanding*: at the end of the course, students will be able to:

– use the terminology and the main theoretical and conceptual tools of this subject;

– orient themselves among the different sources of information and international economic data in order to critically understand the impact of economic policies on peace;

– carry out a critical analysis of economic dynamics having consequences on global security and peace.

*Ability to apply Knowledge and Understanding*: at the end of the course, students will be able to:

– outline the economic aspects on which peace is based;

– identify the economic factors at the basis of armed conflicts, as well as the different manifestations of political violence;

– find personal economic policy solutions to maintain international peace and security.

***COURSE CONTENT***

Definition and domain of peace economics.

Threat, Exchange, and Integration: Boulding’s social triangle.

Hirshleifer’s continuing conflict model.

The economic causes of civil conflicts and political violence.

Military expenditure, economic development, and permanent war economy.

International trade, conflicts, and peace.

Economic sanctions and international exchanges.

The international market of conventional and light weapons.

Regulatory regimes for arms trade.

Global governance of economics: IMF, WTO, and World Bank.

Peacekeeping: between public goods and national incentives.

***READING LIST***

R. Caruso, *Economia della pace,* Il Mulino, 2017.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Frontal lectures.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

For both *attending* and *non-attending* students, the examination will involve producing an individual final essay (worth 100% of the final mark) to be submitted to the lecturer digitally. In particular students will be asked to choose a topic from among several proposed by the lecturer.

This mode of examination is designed to put students in the best position to approach and succeed in the assessment. In general, this mode of examination makes it possible to assess students’ overall preparation, as well as their ability to independently process what they have learned on particularly relevant topics. The assessment criteria are as follows: (i) appropriate use of specific terminology (20%), (ii) a logical structure and well-supported arguments (35%), (iii) ability to identify conceptual links (25%) and (iv) use of specific data and information (20%).

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

*Prerequisites*

There are no prerequisites for this course in terms of contents.

*Communications on the writing of the final assignment.*

The deadline will be made available on Blackboard.

In case the current Covid-19 health emergency does not allow frontal teaching, remote teaching will be carried out following procedures that will be promptly notified to students.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.