

HUMAN RIGHTS AND ARMAMENTS: Towards New Ethical Challenges

Master Class

Angers – Catholic University of the West (UCO-Angers)- March 27-29, 2019

CONTEXT

These Master Classes will take place in Angers within the scope of the research mission carried out by the *IFCU International Peace Studies Network*, an international group of multidisciplinary research dedicated to the study of international relations, conflict, and to developing strategies for conflict prevention and the construction of a sustainable peace.

We wish to place ourselves in a position of research and action by suggesting that participants from the Bretagne-Pays de la Loire region, home to many training schools for various weapons, collaborate in the completion of this three-day Master Class in Angers.

The aim of our network is to promote creative forward-thinking and to provide concrete solutions to contemporary challenges by involving different State figures, entrepreneurs and associations. These Master Classes will be mainly dedicated to the analysis of the following contemporary issues:

- Human rights and conflict prevention
- Analysis of issues related to weapons, especially nuclear weapons
- Analysis of issues related to new technologies, artificial intelligence and their implications for future security strategies
- Regulation of arms markets
- Fight against arms trafficking

RESEARCH TOPICS

Issues related to weapons and their uses are extremely diverse: Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), the movement of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW), legal and illegal arms markets, as well as cyber weapons. The relationship of weapons with fundamental rights is certainly a complex one. Nevertheless, it seems useful, without naivety or idealism, to try to grasp these phenomena in their entirety and complexity.

At first glance, a sort of principle opposition seems to arise from the confrontation between the concept of weapons and that of human rights. However, the contradiction quickly becomes obsolete in relation to the universal right to personal or collective self-defense. Realism and political history (*si vis pacem para bellum*) demonstrate, if need be, the level of moral complexity between the search for peace and the reality of the presence of weapons in and between societies. The question of weaponry will therefore be tackled by considering the abundance of types of weapons and their destructive power. Discussions will revolve around conventional weapons, nuclear weapons, as well as the proliferation of "smart weapons". An

assessment of this issue is needed to shed light on the multiplicity of options in relation to local, national and international players.

Each of the three days of the Master Class (see research topics) will start with an opening conference which will then be followed by two roundtables bringing together academics, experts and practitioners. The afternoon will be devoted to a workshop organized by students on the subject on the agenda which will conclude with a synthesis of their work. Visits may be held at the end of the afternoon: Humanitarian Demining Centre (Centre de déminage humanitaire- Ecole du Génie), Museum of Engineering (Musée du Génie), 2nd Fontevraud Dragons Regiment specialized in NBC defense, The Museum of the Armored Vehicles of Saumur (Musée des blindés de Saumur), etc.

AGENDA

DAY 1- Wednesday, March 27, 2019: Weapons of Mass Destruction

Morning

9:00 : Words of welcome: **Dominique Vermersch**, Rector of the Catholic University of the West (UCO-Angers); General **Patrice Quevilly** (Commander, Ecole du Génie); **Dominique Coatanea** (UCO-Angers); **François Mabile**, Secretary General of the International Federation of Catholic Universities (IFCU)

Prof. Alessio Pecorario, representative of **Mgr. Bruno-Marie Duffé**, Secretary of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, in charge and Disarmaments and Peace Questions.

9:30 - 10:30: Opening Conference: **Pascale Boucaud** (Dean of the Faculty of Law and Economic and Social Sciences of the Lyon Catholic University - UCLy) and **Guillaume Lasconjarias** (Ministry of National Education, former researcher at NATO Defense College)

11:00 – 12:00 Roundtable 1: Human Rights and Weapons of Mass Destruction

Chair: **Hélène Tessier** (School of Conflict Studies, Saint-Paul University, Ottawa).

- **André Dizdarevic**, Director IDHL-UCLy
- **Roger K. Koudé**, UNESCO-UCLy Chair: Historical Perspectives on Fundamental Human Rights
- **Marc Finaud** (GCSP- Geneva Centre for Security Policy): Weapons of Mass Destruction: Assessment and International Responses
- **Caroline Brandao**, Head of International Humanitarian Law at the French Red Cross: Weapons of Mass Destruction and Humanitarian International Law

12:00 – 13:00: Roundtable 2: Perceptions on the Nuclear Risk

Chair: **Dominique Coatanea** (UCO)

- **Admiral Jean Dufourcq (Ecole militaire)**, Risk and NRBC Defense
- **Jean-Marie Collin (ICAN)**: The Role of Civil Society: The Case of ICAN (International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons - 2017 Nobel Peace Prize Winner)
- **Gerard Powers** (University of Notre Dame): The Global Approach of the Holy See
- **Alain Paillard** (Justice and Peace, Bishops' Conference of France - CEF): A Catholic Approach of the Nuclear Risk: The Justice and Peace Commission

Afternoon: Workshops / Synthesis

International Negotiations - Multilateral Negotiation Simulation:

UN Security Council Resolution on "Conditions for a World Without Nuclear Weapons"

Afternoon teamwork session then recall of the Assembly: A real case through "story telling" (Pierre Gueydier and Master course lecturers) - Session of the Security Council featuring a Role-playing Game with the 15 Member States; Holy See Observer; NGOs.

Festive Evening around La Pintière's Tapestries (Bedouelle Lecture Hall)

DAY 2- Thursday, March 28, 2019: Conventional Weapons

Morning

9:00 - 10:00: Opening Conference: **Marc Finaud** (Geneva Centre for Security Policy-GCSP): Humanitarian Disarmament - **Jean-François Rioux** (Saint Paul University, Center of Conflict Studies, Ottawa)

10 :00 - 11 :00: Roundtable 1: Arms Trade

Chair : **Catherine Billet**, Pax Christi France

- **Nicolas Roy** (Ministry of Defense): French Control of War Material Exports
- **Aymeric Elluin** (Amnesty International): Arms Sales and Human Rights
- **Jean-Claude Brunet** (Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs): International Cooperation in the Fight against the illegal trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons
- **Alexandre Girard** (MBDA Export Service): Missile Exports

11 :30-12 :30: Roundtable 2: Prevention and Mine Clearance

Chair : **Pierre Gueydier** (UCO)

- **Pascal Rapillard** (Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining): The Implementation of Treaties on Anti-personnel Mines and Cluster Munitions
- **Hannane Boulmaoui** (United Nations Mine Action Service-UNMAS) or UNDP: Development and Mine Clearance (visioconference)
- **Pôle InterArmées Munitions-explosifs** (PIAM – French Military Explosives and Ammunition Centre): Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)

Afternoon: Visit and Workshop at the School of Engineering (Ecole du Génie, Rue Eblé, Angers)

14:30 – 16:30: Visit of the Ecole du Génie, Demining Center: Civil-Military Actions

17:00: Analysis of a Case Study (Diversion of Legal Delivery to a Rebel Group: Conclusions on Responsibilities, Regulatory and Practice Recommendations)

Civil Peace Intervention: **Cécile Dubernet**

18:00: IFCU Peace Studies Network presentation, Epistemology, Projects: **Hélène Tessier, François Mabile**

DAY 3- Friday, March 29, 2019: “New” Weapons: Cyber and Military Robotics

Morning

9: 00-10: 00 Opening Conference: **Brice Erbland** (Office of the Army Chief of Staff, France) and **Jacques Bordé** (Vice President - Pugwash France): Science and technology - Military or Peaceful Uses?

10:00 - 11:00 Roundtable 1: New technologies and weapon systems

Chair: **Corinne Mellul** (Institut Catholique de Paris, Sciences Po)

- **Eric Pomes** (Legal Expert, Institut catholique d'études supérieures - ICES)
- **Thierry Lorho** (engineer)
- **Stéphane Giron, CNAM**: New Weapons and New Technologies
- **General Olivier Kempf**: Cyber-war Prospects; A New War Space - Attacks on Computer Systems

11:00 – 12:00 Roundtable 2: Discussion: Ethics and Arms Uses in Conflict

Chair: Marc Finaud

- **Sami Aoun** (Center for Applied Political Studies, Université de Sherbrooke)
- **Nadia-Elena Vacaru** (Faculty of Theology, Université Laval)
- **Hélène Tessier** (Epistemology of Research, Saint Paul University, Ottawa)

12 :00 – 12 :30 Closing Session

- **Mgr. Marc Stenger** (Pax Christi): Conclusion
- **François Mabile and Dominique Coatanea**: Acknowledgments and reading of the text of Rector Buonomo, Pontifical Lateran University
- **Alessio Pecorario**, representative of **Mgr. Bruno-Marie Duffé**, Secretary of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, in charge and Disarmaments and Peace Questions.
- **Marc Finaud and Pierre Gueydier**: Synthesis

13 :00 : Lunch