

Politics and security in Post-Soviet countries

The aims of the course are to provide the students with understanding of positive and negative trends in the post-Soviet space and to introduce students to cross-national analysis and area studies of domestic policies in Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania and bilateral/multilateral relations between them.

By the end of this course the students will be able to analyze the interplay of various factors including geography, history and legacy, economic development, market economy and resource base, democracy and authoritarianism, political agenda and challenges while critically interpreting bilateral and multilateral relations between post-Soviet countries (including integration projects), evaluate the political and economic issues of the region as it progresses into the XXI century, compare and contrast the contemporary political and security issues in the region with those of Russia. The students will be equipped with analytical tools and skills necessary to understand regional developments.