

MASTERCLASS 'Dialogue of disciplines' – 27/29 January 2021

Information about the contribution from the participating Masters (*)

| 1. GENERAL INFORMATION | |
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| -Denomination of the Master | Master 2 International Relations: Borders- Cooperation and Conflicts |
| -University | Science Po Strasbourg |
| -N.of participants | Total in master FRONT: 35 Group 2: 9 |
| -Name and e-mail address of the director of the master | birte.wassenberg@unistra.fr |
| -Name and e-mail address of the students' contact person | Johanfredsted(at)yemail.com rdichuta@gmail.com |

| 2. CONTRIBUTION TO THE MASTERCLASS | |
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| -Title | Understanding European cooperation in the face of migrant smuggling networks in the Mediterranean region |
| -Summary of the main contents | <p>As part of the masterclass we have decided to focus on the general issue of refugees crossing from Turkey to enter Europe. Our study will be based on a literature review and on testimonials from individuals who took this path. As we know, the EU has signed an agreement on migration with Turkey in 2016 in an effort to reduce the migration flow towards its territory. However, the diplomatic crisis between Ankara and Brussels, as well as with other European capitals, has called the agreement into question. As we have seen, Ankara has used this agreement as leverage to obtain concessions from the EU on multiple occasions. This normative web and current geopolitical context is our starting point. We wish to further narrow this down by focusing on the smuggling networks, i.e. alternative passages used to cross the Aegean Sea and enter the old continent by bypassing the 'official routes' and migrants camps. In this case, migrant smuggling refers to the illegal crossing of an international border using the services of "smugglers". This includes transport, accommodation, documents (visas, identity cards etc.). According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime estimates that at least 2.5 million migrants were smuggled in 2016, generating nearly \$7 billion for smugglers. This highlights both the importance of the networks and the urgent need for closer cooperation to fight these forms of organized crime.</p> <p>It is therefore clear to us that the fight against migrant smuggling requires clear and effective transnational cooperation. Therefore, our starting research question will be how do smugglers benefit from the migrants and is the current cooperation to fight migrant smuggling networks sufficient?</p> |

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| -Envisaged format for the presentation (ppt,video,other) | Video |

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