Conceptual Quartet of Security, Peace, Development and Environment

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The Brundtland Commission Report (1987) argued that the linkages between the four concepts of the conceptual quartet of peace, security, development and the environment are “complex and, in many cases poorly understood.” It suggested that a comprehensive approach to international and national security must transcend the traditional emphasis on military power and armed competition. The real sources of insecurity also encompass unsustainable development, and its effects can become intertwined with traditional forms of conflict in a manner that can extend and deepen the latter (WCED 1987).
Three Methods of the Global Review of the Thinking on Security

- **Etymology**: analysis of the term „security“ and its equivalents and opposites in different languages, cultures, religions etc.
- **Conceptual History**: of the political and scientific concept of „security“ reflecting the different political and philosophical contexts.
- **Conceptual Mapping**: An analysis of the use of the term, word, concept of security as a tool to address political issues of utmost importance that require extraordinary policy responses.
### Conceptual Quartet: Security Concepts Linkages with Peace, Environment and Development

#### IR research programmes
- Peace Research
- Security Studies
- Development Stud.
- Environment Studies

#### Conceptual Quartet

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#### Conceptual Linkages
- Political use of concepts & theoretical debates on 6 linkages
  - Peace & security (Waever)
  - Peace & development (Indra de Soysa)
  - Peace & environment (Oswald)
  - Development & security (Uvin)
  - Development & environment (Casey Brown, Columbia Univ.)
  - Security & environment (Simon Dalby)
2. Concepts of Security

- Western or occidental tradition
  - philosophical and psychological state of mind, subjective feeling of freedom from sorrow.
  - Political concept of 'Pax Romana': stability in era of Augustus.
  - Western thinking ‘security’ synonymous: ‘certitudo’ ('certainty')
  - Since Augustus, and Middle Ages, ‘securitas’ was linked with ‘pax’ & ‘libertas’ that was associated with ‘quieteness’.
  - 19th century, ‘state’ is key security institution governed by law.
  - 20th century, security also associated with preventing internal & external dangers; police & courts (internal: justice & home affairs) & political, economic, military measures (external: security & defence).
  - a general ‘societal idea of value’, a universally employed ‘normative concept’, different meanings in affirmative manner.
  - political value, is related to individual or societal value systems

- Eastern (China, Koream, Japan, India) or oriental traditions (Arab, Turkish, Iranian etc.)

- Unwritten, Indigenous traditions (Africa, Mesoamerica)
<table>
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<th>Security dimension ⇒ ↓ Level of interaction</th>
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Perceptions of security threats, challenges, vulnerabilities, risks depend on worldviews of analyst & mind-set of policy-maker.

Mind-set (Ken Booth): have often distorted perception of new challenges: include ethnocentrism, realism, ideological fundamentalism, strategic reductionism

Booth: Mind-sets freeze international relations into crude images, portray its processes as mechanistic responses of power and characterise other nations as stereotypes.

Old Cold War mind-sets have survived global turn of 1989/1990

3 worldviews are distinguished by the English school:

- **Hobbessian** pessimism (realism)
- **Kantian** optimism (idealism) where *international law* and *human rights* are crucial; and
- **Grotian** pragmatism where *cooperation* is vital
Wolfers (1962) pointed to two sides of the security concept: “Security, in an *objective* sense, measures the absence of threats to acquired values, in a *subjective* sense, the absence of fear that such values will be attacked”.

From a constructivist approach in international relations ‘security’ is the outcome of a process of social & political interaction where social values & norms, collective identities % cultural traditions are essential. Security: *intersubjective* or “what actors make of it”.

Copenhagen school security as a “speech act”, “where a securitising actor designates a threat to a specified reference object and declares an existential threat implying a right to use extraordinary means to fend it off”.

Such a process of “securitisation” is successful when the construction of an “existential threat” by a policy maker is socially accepted and where “survival” against existential threats is crucial.
‘Peace’ is a religious and scientific concept in philosophy, theology, history, international law and in the social sciences.

A declared goal of national policymaking, of diplomacy, and of many international organizations.

Many scientific concepts of peace were used in different time periods, disciplines, and within disciplines.

As peace requires a minimum of order and consensus, peace is closely associated with law that presupposes freedom.

Peace is no state of nature but must always be created anew by human beings, and thus it often relies on legal agreements that are in most cases backed by power.

In many cultures the internal peace corresponds closely with the defence of the territory against outside infringements.
Western tradition and national traditions

- For Plato war and conflicts were to be avoided within the polis. Aristotle combined peace (‘eirene’) with politics and emphasized that all political goals may only be realized under conditions of peace, and war is only accepted as a means for the defence of the polis.
- During the Roman period, ‘pax’ was closely tied to law and contracts, and with the emergence of the Roman Empire; the imperial Pax Romana relied on the contractual subjugation under the emperor in exchange for protection against external intruders.
- The Westphalian Peace of 1648 requested that all parties adhere to the ‘pax Christina universalis perpetua’. After the Peace of Utrecht (1713), Abbé de Saint-Pierre called for a federation of princes to secure a ‘paix perpétuelle’ in the tradition of peace proposals from Thomas More’s Utopia (1516) to William Penn’s Essay towards the present and future peace in Europe (1693), and by utilitarian (Bentham) and socialist authors (Fourier, Saint-Simon).
- Defence of the territorial peace by monopoly of force by the sovereign rulers.
- ‘peace within the state’ vs. ‘peace between and among states’: a major concern of modern international law since 16th and 17th century (Grotius, Pufendorf). War a legitimate means for the realization of interests among states (ius ad bellum) but at the same time they called for constraints during war, a continuation of diplomacy and of the activity of neutral organizations (ius in bello).
- Kant’s Eternal Peace: a) rule of law; b) league of nations, c) human rights

Eastern tradition: Indian (ahimsa), Chinese, Japanese et al.
- India: Hinduist and Buddhist tradition
- Modern tradition influenced by Gandhi and his critics: ahimsa

Indigenous traditions: Africa and Mesoamerica

League of Nations: Covenant of 1919: Kantian & Wilsonian influence

UN Charter (26 June 1945): „International peace and security“
Peace: basic value, goal of political action, situation of non-war, a utopia of a more just world (Zsifkovits 1973).

Schwerdtfeger (2001) distinguished definitions of peace: 1. a nominal definit.; 2. result of a contemplative hermeneutic process; 3. review of the historic evolution of the concept; 4. determination by analysis of opposite concepts.

Galtung (1967) distinguished: a condition of ‘negative’ (absence of physical or personal violence – or a state of non-war) and ‘positive peace’ (absence of structural violence, re-pres-sion, injustice).

Picht (1971). peace as protection against internal and external violence, as protection against want and freedom as three dimensions of political action.

In ‘civilisatory hexagon’ Senghaas (1994) referred to six aspects: 1. efficient monopoly over the use of force; 2. effective control by an independent legal system; 3. interdependence of social groups; 4. democratic participation; 5. social justice, 6. political culture of constructive and peaceful conflict transformation. Among the many attempts to de-fine peace, no consensus on a generally accepted minimal definition emerged.

Huber/Reuter (1990): basic condition for peace is the survival of humankind: “talking about peace does not make sense any longer, if life on the planet is destroyed.” Discord exists on processes that threaten life on earth, e.g. by an exploitation and destruction of nature, that lead to mass hunger and to an endangerment of life by military means.

Brock (2002) reviewed that peace should be more than the absence of war in the framework of five dimensions: a) of time (eternal peace), b) space (peace on earth), c) society (domestic intra-societal peace), and d) procedure (peace as peaceful dispute on peace), e) a heuristic dimension to move from the study of causes of war to conditions of peace.
4. Concepts of Development

- **Development**: major scientific concept, area for national & international policy making. Impact of global environmental change on society is closely linked with stage of economic development that determines available resources for adaptation & mitigation measures to enhance resilience.
- During decolonization development theory emerged as a variant of modernization theory.
- A “pro-longed and steady increase of national income”: indicator of economic development. Accompanied by rapid population growth due to declining mortality, longer life expectancy, rapid urbanization, improved standards of literacy and education.
- Sen (1981) argued that distribution of income should be complemented by a fair distribution of entitlements to food, shelter, clean water, clothing and household utensils.
- **Definitions excluded environmental factors** contributing to & constraining economic development. Concept of ‘**sustainable development**’ was introduced by the Brundtland Report (1987) that defined sustainability “to ensure that it meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” Sustainable development was understood as “a process of change in which the exploitation of resources, the direction of investments, the orientation of technological development, and institutional change are made consistent with future as well as present needs” (1987).
- ‘**Sustainable development**’ contains two key concepts: a) **concept of needs**, essential needs of the world’s poor, to which overriding priority should be given; and b) **idea of limitation imposed by the state of technology and social organization on the environment’s ability to meet present and future needs** (1987).
- This concept calls for a ‘sustainable development’ path with “a concern for social equity between generations, a concern that must logically be extended to equity within each generation.”
Policy goals of development differed among the industrial (OECD, G 8) or developing countries (G 77 and China) or between those who supply or receive development aid.

During Cold War these goals were closely associated with the economic systems in a bipolar world. The goals differed on import-substitution or export-led industrialization, capital or labour intensive strategies.

Stallings (1995) used economic development, i.e. for growth and equity of distribution pointing to five new elements in international context for development since 1990: “the end of the Cold War, new relations among advanced capitalist powers, increased globalization of trade and production, shifting patterns of international finance, and new ideological currents”.

With the end of bipolar order, geo-strategic importance of several developing countries declined, as did the security-motivated economic and military aid which contributed in some cases to weak, failing or failed states.

Development research emerged after World War II: an objective of social and political science. Before: domain of anthropological, ethnological research.

Two main theories emerged: modernization (OECD), critical approaches: imperialism, dependencia, self-reliance, or autocentric development.

Shift in focus: from economics first to human development & security!
5. Concepts of Environment and Ecology

- ‘Environment’ & ‘ecology’ as basic terms & key concepts in the natural and social sciences have been used in different schools, conceptual frameworks & approaches, as guiding concepts for national & international governance.

- Encyclopaedia Britannica (1998) defines ‘environment’ as: “the complex of physical, chemical, and biotic factors that act upon an organism or an ecological community and ultimately determine its form and survival”.

- Modern definition of ecology includes a) the interactions between organisms (individuals, populations, biocoenosis), b) in their abiotic and biotic environment and c) the links in the energy, material and information flow.


- Charter lacks reference to environmental protection and ecological concerns.

- Stockholm Conference (1972) to set up UN Environment Programme (UNEP) in Nairobi and the adoption of the Agenda 21 and of several environmental regimes at the Earth Summit (UNCED) in Rio (1992). Brundtland Report (WCED 1987) new thinking, fostered an integrated global approach supported by regional economic commissions (ECE, ECA, ESCWA, ESCAP, ECLA) under the ECOSOC and UNEP.

- The progressing awareness and commitment for international environmental problems re-quires a management of national environmental adjustments.

- Four social science concepts; security, peace, development & environment: four research programmes in political science:
  - *peace research* as a value-oriented research programme;
  - *security, strategic or war studies* as a theory and policy-oriented research field,
  - *development and environmental studies*.
  - This conceptual quartet implies six dyadic linkages.

- UN Charter focuses on classic ‘agenda’ of peace & security
- In decolonization process ‘development’ was added in 1950’s.
- Since the 1990’s, three phases of research addressed linkages between security and environment.
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Security dilemma

- A security dilemma exists “where the policy pursued by a state to achieve security proves to be an unsatisfactory one” and states were confronted “with a choice between two equal and undesirable alternatives”. 
- Collins (’95): 5 def. of this dilemma
  - decrease in the security of others;
  - decrease in the security of all;
  - uncertainty of intention;
  - no appropriate policies;
  - required insecurity.
- The first four relate to one another & form a coherent explanation of a traditional security dilemma.
- Can security dilemma be escaped in security communities, such as European Union?

Survival dilemma

- What is the dilemma about & what are choices for whom?
- Whose survival is at stake: humankind, state, own ethnic group, family or individual?
- What is the referent of the “survival dilemma”: intern. anarchy, nation state, society, own ethnic or religious group, clan, village, family or individual?
- What are the reasons that necessitate a choice between leaving the home or fighting (decline, disintegration)?
- Is this Surv. D. socially or environmentally driven or both?
- Two phases: from a state-centred to human-centred concept
Sustainable Development on linkage between development and environment


Major guideline for UN Development policy rhetoric

Crutzen/Schellnhuber/Clark: new sustainability paradigm

Policy task for peace policy for 21st century: from research to action
- Contain and escape the security dilemma of states by constructing security communities, such as the European Union;
- To cope with the survival dilemma of socially vulnerable, marginalized and poor people by addressing the root causes of poverty and of global environmental and climate change by adaptations, mitigation and resilience
- Develop and implement the sustainability paradigm
- Develop strategies for a sustainable peace based on sustainable development

Sustainable Peace: linkage of peace and sustainable development

IPRA motto: enacting peace & development

Rhetorical debate in UN circles

Much conceptual work is needed
From a European perspective this paper addressed the discourse on reconceptualization of security and reviewed its four key concepts.

Analyses from other cultural backgrounds, intellectual traditions, disciplines and in other languages are needed to diversify this Eurocentred perspective.

Framework for multidisciplinary & multicultural mapping of the rethinking of security since 1989-1990: widening, deepening, and sectorialization of the security concept.

Securitization has shifted from narrow military focus of the Cold War to new security concerns posed by global environmental and climate change.

Fundamental new policy of peace and security are needed with sustainable development and sustainable peace as two strategic components to deal both with the ‘security dilemma’ among nations (top-down perspective) and with the ‘survival dilemma’ posed for the most vulnerable and poor people (bottom-up perspective) in the developing countries.

Better coping capacities require local survival strategies and resilience building to protect and to empower the people to overcome the hardship.
Thank you for your attention and patience.

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