

## Understanding “New Wars” and International Interventions

**Time: Feb. 15, 2021 10:00 AM**

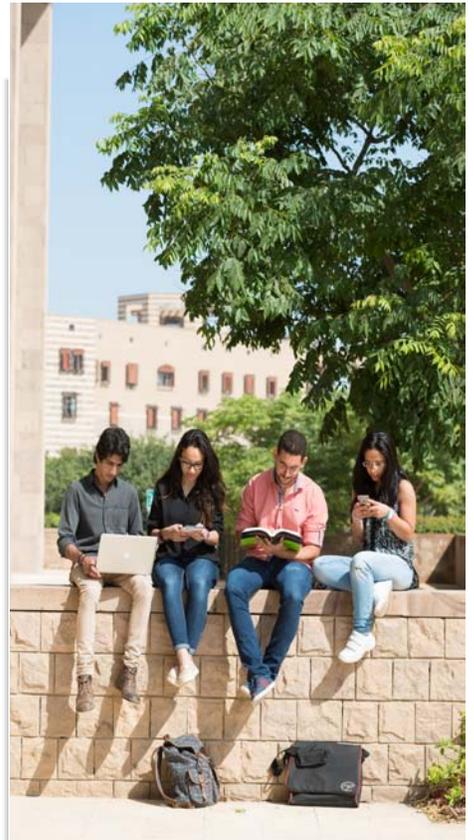
**Zoom Meeting: <https://aucegypt.zoom.us/j/96145400350>**

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The decades following WWII are sometimes described by scholars of International Relations as “The Long Peace.” Despite obvious tensions between the two superpowers during the Cold War, the world’s most powerful states did not go to war with each other. Indeed, some scholars wonder whether warfare between powerful states has become obsolete. Nevertheless, the past half century has seen tens of millions of casualties in many other conflicts. This lecture will examine the broad contours of these “new” wars and international efforts to prevent or terminate them. We will trace the origins of the current norm that the international community has a responsibility to protect civilians when governments themselves are unable or unwilling to do so. The lecture will assess strategies that international policymakers deploy to address contemporary cases of warfare, e.g., diplomatic solutions, military interventions, humanitarian assistance, economic sanctions, and human rights prosecutions, among others. The objective of this lecture is to increase students’ understanding of modern-day conflicts, the responses of external actors to them, and the efficacy of these interventions.

### David Peyton

David Peyton received his PhD from Northwestern University. His current research project analyzes strategies of wealth protection in areas affected by conflict, focusing on eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, where he spent 20 months conducting doctoral fieldwork. His research has been supported by Fulbright-Hays, the Social Science Research Council, Foreign Language and Area Studies Program, Conflict and Development Foundation, Buffett Institute for Global Affairs, and a one-year doctoral exchange fellowship at the *Centre de Recherches Internationales* at Sciences Po-Paris. Prior to his doctoral studies, David worked as a writer-editor at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies in Washington, DC and served as a Tom Lantos Congressional Fellow in the office of Congressman Tom Perriello. He has also worked as a research associate at Urwego Bank in Kigali, Rwanda, where he conducted market research on small and medium-sized enterprises. David is a senior fellow of Humanity in Action, a non-profit organization that promotes research and educational exchanges about human and minority rights.



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For inquiries please contact  
the department of political science  
[polisci@aucegypt.edu](mailto:polisci@aucegypt.edu)