

Section 8 – Relazioni internazionali

Panel 7. Change and continuity in European states' defence policies

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European states are usually blamed for their reluctance to invest in defence policy. This is witnessed in particular by the mere lack of resources devoted to military assets, as well as the limited weight of defence issues in public debates. However, most – if not all – European states have transformed their defences since the end of the Cold War. Moreover, European armed forces have been deployed in complex military operations abroad, modifying doctrines and tactics on the ground. Reforms have been undertaken across the continent to adapt to the contemporary security context. Examples of this include the demise of the draft, collaborative procurement, multinational exercises and other initiatives. On top of that, since the launch of the European Defence Agency, the European Union has progressively – although erratically – gathered momentum as a catalyst for further cooperation. Also NATO has played a relevant role in shaping the military transformation in Europe.

Starting from these premises, the aim of the panel is to investigate on the defence policies of European states from a comparative perspective. As a result, essays are welcome that cover one or more of these topics:

- Empirical analyses of the defence policy of one or more European states.
- Theoretical accounts of the evolution of one or more case studies.
- In-depth analyses of individual defence policy initiatives and military innovation.
- Theoretical and/or empirical investigations of the influence of the EU on one or more European States.
- Theoretical and/or empirical investigations of the influence of NATO on one or more European States.