**“The European Initiative on Security Studies”**

Our Department and our University is a member of the European Initiative on Security Studies (EISS) is a Europe-wide cluster of over eighty universities that share the goal of consolidating security studies in Europe.

The *European Initiative on Security Studies* is a Europe-wide network of over eighty universities (see the list of partner institutions in the annex) that share the goal of consolidating security studies in Europe. Specifically, the aim of the EISS is two-fold. The first is to develop and sustain a Europe-wide network in the field of security studies. This gives visibility to the range of individual and collective research projects currently underway in Europe. The second goal is to establish a forum for the exchange of ideas in order to foster new joint research projects and develop international research partnerships.

The EISS has three main characteristics: it is (1) thematically-driven and open to all theoretical approaches, (2) multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary and (3) geographically inclusive. First, the EISS is not only limited to one specific theoretical approach to security studies but rather seeks to be inclusive. This is reflected, for instance, in the EISS Conference’s panels, which cover a large range of themes in the field of security studies. The EISS welcomes works on both so-called ‘traditional’ and ‘non-traditional’ security issues. Second, the EISS is multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary in that it gathers among others historians, political scientists, economists, geographers, anthropologists and sociologists sharing an interest in developing security studies in Europe. Finally, the EISS seeks to be as inclusive as possible from a geographical perspective. The EISS welcomes works focusing on any region of the world. It aims to establish a European network of scholars and institutions working on a broad range of themes and of geographical areas in the field of security studies. By doing so, its ambition is to contribute to overcoming the existing fragmentation in European security studies and to fostering and consolidating a European field of security studies.

From our perspective, the two first outputs of this network are the following publications:

F. Coticchia, “Italy” (2018), in H. Mayer and M. Weiss, *The Handbook of European Defense Policies and Armed Forces*, Oxford University Press. Book presented at the EISS first conference.

F.Coticchia and S.D’Amato(2018) “Can you hear me Major Tom? News, narratives and contemporary military operations: the case of the Italian mission in Afghanistan”, *European Security*, , 27(2), 224-244. Paper presented at the EISS first conference.

**Parole chiave:**

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