JAGIELLONIAN UNIVERSITY
IN KRAKÓW

ISAD

MA in International Security and Development

Join us

and become a leader of the future!

www.isad.uj.edu.pl

Welcome

The MA in International Security and Development is designed to educate responsible and competitive leaders for our globalised world and this innovative study program translates theory into practice. The Jagiellonian University is one of the most prestigious universities in Poland and has a very rich tradition of academic excellence. The university is based in Krakow - a city known as a fantastic place to live and offering not only a vast range of learning opportunities, but also a chance to meet students from all over the world. In Poland, the rapidly growing economic leader of Central Europe, you may also develop your future career as many international corporations have chosen to open branches here.

Foto: Adam Koprowski, materials of the Jagiellonian University, Fotolia and Wikimedia

General information

International Security and Development (ISAD) is an international MA programme of studies addressed to students from all over the world who are interested in security and development issues. The programme provides not only theoretical, but also practical knowledge, as Polish and international academic staff and practitioners are part of our team. ISAD aims to foster creative thinking about complex problems of global security and development, as well as to equip students with the requisite analytical tools, language expertise, and cross-cultural understanding. It also helps graduates obtain professional skills needed for managing global security and development in an international environment. During the whole two-year programme, six scholarships are available for the top students. There are three partial fee waiver scholarships at the first year of studies for three students at the top of the recruitment list, and another three partial fee waiver scholarships in the second year for three students at the top of the list based on academic merit (GPA).

Academic Tracks

International Security

The aim of this academic track is to extend knowledge of the causes of contemporary conflicts and crisis response based on the analysis of empirical cases, as well as intercultural communication including varying regional conditions in different parts of the world (Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America). The studies include the analysis of non-traditional threats (hybrid warfare, cyberterrorism, the spread of international terrorist and criminal networks, energy security, climate protection) and conflict management, peace building on many levels.

International Development

This academic track provides knowledge of the difficulties faced by governments, international institutions, aid agencies, and NGOs in the case of conflicts, humanitarian crises, poverty challenges, post-conflict reconstruction etc. We focus on gaining basic skills within planning, designing, conducting and managing aid policies. The studies also include challenges associated with development effectiveness and human security.

Programme structure

The courses and modules are divided into two major categories: the mandatory modules prevailing in the first two semesters will give you a solid foundation in security and development studies. Academic track courses taught in the third and fourth semesters will provide more focused knowledge and competence in your chosen area. Apart from these, there are a number of optional courses offered every year. Additionally, we offer a language course in one of the following languages: German, French, and Polish, and other languages may also be available. As a two year programme, ISAD is divided into four semesters and students need to complete modules worth at least 60 ECTS credits each year and 120 ECTS in total.

Programme structure

The first semester	Hours	ECTS

Obligatory module: Introduction to International Relations and Development

	Hours	ECTS
International Relations Analysis	30+15	6
Development Economics	30+30	9
Foreign Language	30	4
University Tutorial and Intellectual Property	10	1

Elective courses: Non-Traditional Security and Development

	Hours	ECTS
The International Order and Development Policy	30	4
Just War Theory and Its Adversaries	30	4
Leadership and Human Resources Management	30	4
Conflicts, Peacebuilding and Development	30	4

The second semester

Obligatory module: History and Theory of International Security and Development

	Hours	ECTS
World Politics since 1945	30+30	9
Introduction to Security Studies	30+15	6
Foreign Language	30	4
Diploma Thesis Seminar	20	5

Elective courses: Understanding Causes of Conflict

	Hours	ECTS
Cultural Awareness	30	4
Cross-cultural Communication	30	4
Psychology of Security	30	4
Preventive Diplomacy and Multilateral Conflict Management	30	4

Programme structure

	Hours	ECTS

Academic Track: International Security

Obligatory courses:

Conflicts in the 21st Century	30	4
Military Forces in Contemporary World	20	3
Elective courses:	20	3
Fragile and Failed States Impact in a Globalized World		
Problems of Security in the Middle East and North Africa	30	4
War and Defence in Space	30	4
Problems of Security in the Asia-Pacific	30	4
Armed Conflicts Law and Peace Operations	20	3

Specialisation: International Development

Obligatory courses:

Global Economic Governance	30	4
Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development: Theories and Practice	20	3

Elective courses:

Migration and Development	20	3
Epidemics and International Cooperation in Health	30	4
Development and Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific	30	4
From Aid to Development Effectiveness	20	3
Development and Cooperation in the Latin America	20	3

Obligatory courses:

Diploma Thesis Seminar	20	5
Internship	60	6

Programme structure

The fourth semester	Hours	ECTS

Specialisation: International Security
Obligatory courses:

	Hours	ECTS
International Organizations in Crisis Management	30	4
International Policy of Counterterrorism	30	4

Elective courses:

	Hours	ECTS
Politics and Ideology of International Protection of Human Rights	20	3
Cyber Security	30	4
Problems of Security in Africa	30	4
Minerals, Water and Conflicts in 21st Century	30	4
International Responsibility to Protect and Humanitarian Intervention: Workshops and Practice	20	3

Specialisation: International Development
Obligatory courses:

	Hours	ECTS
Trade and Economic Development	30	4
Global Poverty and International Financial Aid Institutions	30	4

Elective courses:

	Hours	ECTS
Fundraising, Monitoring and Project Cycle Management: Workshops and Practice	20	3
Working with Volunteers: NGO's Aid Development after Crisis Situation	30	4
Energy Security and Environmental Protection in the Era of Climate Change	30	4
Political Economy in Sub-Saharan Africa and Developing Countries	30	4
Management of Humanitarian Programmes and Post-Conflict Reconstruction	20	3

Obligatory courses:

	Hours	ECTS
Diploma Thesis Seminar	20	10

Why ISAD?

This programme combines intellectual rigour with a practical focus that allows students to understand the complexity of contemporary global security and development issues. Recognized as an innovative project, ISAD was awarded a grant by the Polish National Centre for Research and Development and is co-financed by the European Union.

Why the JU?

The Jagiellonian University is the oldest university in Poland and the leading national centre in the field of security and development. It was named the best university in Poland in 2021 (in the "Perspectives" journal ranking) and is one of top academic institutions in this part of Europe (QS EECA University Ranking and Webometrics Ranking of World Universities).

Why Kraków?

Studying is not only about university, but also the city and the people you will meet. Magical Krakow, with its wide range of cultural and social events, around 200,000 students, and millions of tourists passing through this UNESCO site each year, is the perfect place to study.
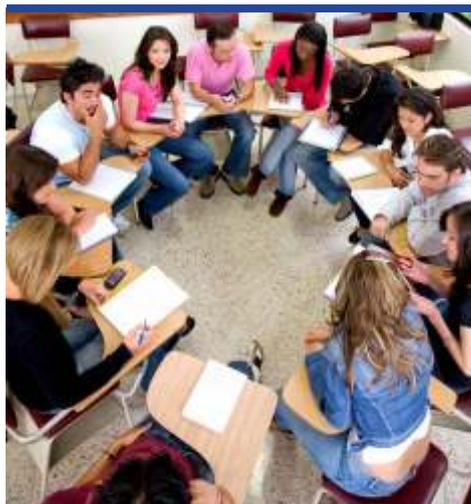
Why Poland?

Poland is the largest economy in Central Europe and one of the fastest growing in the continent as a whole. As a development success story, it offers unique job opportunities and is an excellent place to gain experience for your future career.

Who is it for?

The programme is designed for students with a BA in social sciences, humanities, and other relevant fields. It is ideal for people who want to increase their knowledge in international security and development. It is perfect for those who are interested in both fields, but from different perspectives and different academic disciplines such as politics, history, economy, culture and sociology. With the ISAD programme, they will gain a solid grounding that will develop their career. Graduates of ISAD are ready to work in a variety of public and private institutions and organizations, both national and international, including governmental and international bodies dealing with development and security issues, as well as non-governmental organizations. In addition, they have a very good command of English and a se-cond language at B2 level.

ISAD student testimonials

Patricia Ferreira, Brazil

During my MA in International Security and Development at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, I met incredible people from all over the world, had the most interesting classes and discussions on the world's issues, from so many different perspectives, and I was able to really set the way for my professional career development. The programme offered me expertise, critical thinking, determination and a positive sense of accomplishment. Not even one year after completing my studies, I now hold a position as one of the Directors of Lifting Hands International in Greece, a non-governmental grassroots organisation that provides direct relief and capacity-building services to refugee camps in Northern Greece.

Ulyana Kubenko, Ukraine

Studying in ISAD gives you both good theoretical and practical knowledge on development and security matters. It helps you understand the challenges that countries face all around the world and guides you in developing your critical thinking needed to analyse these challenges. This international programme also offers you an opportunity to study in a highly multicultural environment - while it provides you with different perspectives in international affairs, it also widens your network of international friends!

ISAD student testimonials

Christopher Wijono, Indonesia

Studying in the ISAD program has completely broadened my perception on security as a concept; it goes beyond stockpiling weapons, strengthening borders and armed forces, or combatting belligerents. It is the study of concepts, to understand what it means to be peaceful, what it means to be violent, and what it means to be safe, and ultimately, of course, what it means to be secure, and how we accomplish that not only for ourselves, but for the people around us and beyond.

David Ferrero, Portugal

During my time on this program, I learned to identify properly the ways the world works, to recognize the ideas that set the globe alight in the past and the ones that govern it in the present. It is a fantastic way to explore the problems posed by an increasingly interconnected world, the sources of conflict and institutions that deal with them. Furthermore, you are encouraged to explore solutions, to debate and express your ideas in order to deal with real-world problems.

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Persons eligible to apply for the programme are holders of a higher education diploma (at least undergraduate) in any field.

An additional formal requirement is a documented command of English that is at least at the B2 level specified by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. At the same time, we accept a number of recognized language certificates. English native speakers or graduates from study programmes where English was the language of instruction are exempted from this require-ment.

Candidates are placed on a ranking list, expressed on a scale from 0 to 100, calculated as follows:

• Assessment of a motivation letter written in English (a preliminary thesis project will also be assessed as a part of the motivation letter) - maximum of 50 points;

• Points awarded for reference letters - maximum of 50 points.

Fees

The tuition fee for the programme is 4000 EUR per annum (8000 EUR for the full two-year programme).

Cooperation networks

The Jagiellonian University is a member of a tremendous research and teaching networks - both nationally and internationally.

Founded in 1985 and formally constituted by Charter in 1987, the Coimbra Group is an association of long-established European multidisciplinary universities of high international standard. The Coimbra Group is committed to creating special academic and cultural ties in order to promote, for the benefit of its members, internationalisation, academic collaboration, excellence in learning and research, and service to society. It is also the purpose of the Group to influence European educational policy and to develop best practice through mutual exchange of experience.

Una Europa is the axis of leading European research universities united to create the Una Europa university union. Their institutions have been educating European citizens for almost 1000 years. Together they teach over 400,000 students. Their academic community reaches half a million, and the number of people learning remotely is several million. Una Europa aims to create the university of the future - a truly European inter-university environment, built on the potential and strengths of its partners.

The Europaeum is an association of leading European university institutions, designed to serve as an 'international university without walls', in which future scholars and leaders of our new Europe will have an opportunity to share common learning and confront common concerns together.

Contact us!

ISAD – International Security & Development

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