Higher School of Economics
COURSE SYLLABUS
“INTERNATIONAL AID HISTORY AND POLITICS”
Professor Igor PELLICCIARI

Course Rationale
The course provides a historical, theoretical and operational perspective of the evolution of International Aid as one of the emerging tools of foreign policy among sovereign States and International Organizations. The final objective is to explain how Aid has become a new powerful political instrument of the traditional State power policies at international level, with competing Donors often having greater political interests than Recipients, despite the general rhetoric of coordination. The course will refer almost exclusively to public funded Aid policies with related Actors, types of assistance and scenarios of intervention over the last three decades with particular focus to the post-soviet and post-war transitions environments.

Detailed Course Content

1. Aid as a political category. The multiple dimensions of Aid interventions.
2. International Aid in the context of International Law and International Relations
3. International Aid between Idealism and Realism. The Soft Power approach.
4. Framing the operational definition of International Public Aid Policies
5. International Aid and Sanctions
6. International Aid in the XIX century
7. Historical Periodization of International Aid policies after World War II
8. Evolution of International Aid Policies since the fall of the Berlin wall.
9. Typologies of Actors, Types of assistance and Scenarios of Intervention
10. Donors- Recipients dynamics of political interaction
11. Post-war International Aid in Western Balkans
12. Post-soviet International Aid in Russia
13. Recipient Countries as re-emerging and new Donors
15. Project programming, design, management, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Comparative practical challenges, procurement and political implications for Donors and Recipients.
16. Case sector study: International Aid towards Justice reform in post-war and post-soviet environments
17. Trends in the evolution of aid intervention models
18. Practical simulations of project design in post-war and post-soviet transitions
Textbooks \ Literature

(select list)

16.) BACH, Q. (2003), *Soviet Aid to the Third World*, Book Guild Ltd, Hove

Additional Specific bibliography and working documents and materials will be recommended for the development of each topic throughout the course.