SPD module

Policy& Strategy Bibliography

Interconnected world:

Major challenge that the global security has to contend with is the concept of security and the security complex.

Concept of security: Security concerns are deeply interconnected to the point that one state’s security needs cannot be realistically considered without taking into consideration the security needs of other states (Mcsweeny).

Security complex: Breeds rivalry among states. Remedy for such rivalry lies in cooperation. Solving the competition with peaceful terms. Minor and major competition. Logical process of reasoning, choices, actions. Dpends on the interest of the state.

Long term interest of the Soviet Union: access to the med. Through the black sea.

How foreign policy decisions made? Link between ukraine war.

Relationship between strategy and polcy? Not just one dimension of security. Economic, food etc.

Policy sits above. Strategy then tries to translate that policy. Builds a bridge between where the state is today and where it intends to arrive in the realization of policy.

On War, Clausewitz

War is inevitable part of this competition.

* War does not belong in the realm of arts and sciences; rather it is part of man's social existence. (War is an act of human intercourse, p.149)
  + I.Z: He sees war as social phenomena.
* War is a clash between major interests, which is resolved by bloodshed- I.Z: It is that War is merely the continuation of politics by other means. p.87,
* that is the only way in which it differs from other conflicts. (War is an act of human intercourse, p.149)
* War is a social activity between actors with a will of their own and with hostile feelings and intentions and emotions[p.76], the ‘collision of two living forces’[p.77] that are ‘opposed in equal measure to each other’.[p.83]
  + I.Z: Clausewitz defines war as clash of opposing mindsets. Process of this: He relates two wrestlers in a ring. Before ring they are preparing themselves. From this here is organizational development. You cannot just walk to war, you have to develop the capability.
* War in itself has no logical limit to the application of force (p.77).
  + I.Z: War has a tendency to premordial violance, devoid of reason and purpose. It has tendency to escalate beyond any usefulness to policy. Ukraine war: violence that possibly doesn’t need to reach the extremes. That it seems to reach.
* Each side will compel ‘its opponent to follow suit; a reciprocal action that must lead, in theory, to extremes’[p.77] in use of force, exertion of strength and to rendering the enemy powerless.
  + I.Z: One of the purposes of policy serves for us, limiting this process. We impose ourselves limits. Do not use the ultimate force, nuclear weapons. Regulated by laws, geneva conventions. Laws of war, humanitarian law. All of these are created to regulate war not to go these limits.
* Strategy: Principle notions and effects
  + Effects that are likely contribute towards a lot of metrics that you are going to be studying.

Zaidi, Iftikhar.

* Relationship between policy and strategy:
  + I.Z: Policy, intent, strategy, plans are all conceptual undertakings. There is nothing happening on ground. But to put things on ground, you have got to go into action.
  + Journey from production of policy to production of action we transition;
    - from aspiration to an intent,
    - from intent to action,
    - And action we must measure against the aspirations.
* A screenshot of a computer

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  + We go around this outer circle of this prism.
  + Where does aspiration comes from? How does it produce intent?
    - Aspiration-intent plane, anology of white light striking prism, white light is public pulse, the elective,
    - Abstract questions: What the public&people wants? What do the people that are aligned towards their common purpose that constitutes the nation state?
    - The purpose of the leadership&politicians is to translate this into policy. They do this in three steps:
      * What is national purpose? What are national aims and objectives? Maybe not written. Just in heart. Embodied in collective rather than individual.
      * This pulse is what the politicians must work with. From this pulse they produce policy. That is converting aspirations into intent. And the first level of expression of intent is policy.
      * Who makes policy? Made by people. Turn up to Clausewitz, war is a social undertaking. You can take it to any policy. It is people who make choices. Inclinations, perceptions of others is important in how they process information. Decisions they arrive.
  + Labor and conservative parties: National purpose, aim and objectives are the same. They lead same people. Objective is maximizing the potentials of its citizens. Thats why governments exists for. Provide an environment for citizens to achieve their maximum potentialty.
  + Political particularism: Different policies, Conservatives policy may be different, prism is replaced, they view through all these by their prism, others with other prism.
  + As a result of particular prism being placed, dealing with the same national purpose, aim and objectives, the intent will alter, as a result of this intent, the emerging grand strategy, strategy, operational and tactics will also alter.
  + It is a political undertaking with a political outcome. Because it is political it is subject to change. As government change, the whole prism may be replaced. Personality in parties change, the focus changed. That will have an impact on the outcome out of prism.
  + Strategy is always subservient to policy. And must recognize that a limitation that it has to serve policy. And policy is not something that is fixed.
  + Policy can be defined generically as a course of principle of action adopted or proposed by an organization or individual.
  + Policy only works if there is a credible strategy to deliver it.
  + Strategy demands an achievable policy and state. Policy cannot ambitiously demand something of strategy that it cannot resource.
  + Strategy must have clear liberties within that policy framework iot be able to act and deliver.
  + Good policy should ordain the end and indicate the broad parameters of the means, but not necessarily the ways. So strategy, similarly, whet it translates into lower levels of action must in turn do the same.
* Grand Strategy: So policy dominates the strategy by its articulation of the end state and and its guidance regarding resources, limitations on actions. While Grand strategy: Intellectual architecture that gives form and structure to strategy, operations, and tactics.
  + Grand strategy can be seen at its most fundemental level as a foreign policy, and all those contributing policies which, although pointing inwards, make the state competitive.
  + Foreign policy, by extention, grand strategy is a political process. It nonetheless stems from a aspirations that represents the sum of ideas, hopes, visions of the constituency. That’s the light we are talking about. If this is not represented, there will be disconnect. This is where clausewitzian idea of again applying it to war. Golden trinity, all tied up: The people, the military, and the government.
  + Political leaders not reacting events when they craft policy. They create meaning and understanding to enable grand strategy. A purposeful and coherent set of ideas about what nation seek to accomplish and how it should go about doing so.
  + Grand strategy require clear understanding of what is happening in the international environment. A countries highest goal and interest within the environment.It is a rational understaking. Balancing aspirations with means. Means in national level are national power, or elemnts of power. DIME~material + Cultural or social power~non-material. Culture is power denominator, soft power that provides impetus to government.
* What is security?
  + The preservation of the norms, rules, institutions and values of society. Samuel Makinda, 1998
    - I.Z: Centext free definition. Thats why it is good. It links it back to social undertaking that Clausewitz alludes to. It is about preserving something we have created. And anything that threatens those, we would like to prevent. And that is security.
  + “..security is therefore a powerful political tool in claiming attention for priority items in the competition for government attention” (Paul D. Williams, 1998)
    - IZ: This introduces slighly different component. He is talking about politicians using security as an instrument to draw attention towards what is important to them. Sometimes creating security issues iot further their own agenda.
    - War is continuation of politics not policy. This is echoed in this definition.
  + Concept of security, Giovanni Muntah, 2002:
    - Security equation as being a relationship between an asset, a threat and protector.
    - If there is an asset and there is no threat, then there is no need for security. You have something nobody wants it. Therefore there is no threat.
    - But if there is a threat and there is no protector than the asset is good as gone. The threat will subsume the asset.
    - Iot create security equation you need all three. Asset needs to have a protector so it can deal with threat. How the protector deals with the threat, how the protector resourced and what strategy emerged is process of policy and strategy.

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McSweeny, Bill. Security, Identity and Interests, Cambridge University Press, 1999.

National Interests, National Power, Interstate Competition, Dr Gemma Collantes Celador, Guest Lecture

* National Interest
  + Definition
    - Thoughts: Aspirations for future, Goals and objectives, Aspirations and objectives above politics commonly agree among society
    - Includes what (like territorial integrity)?
      * Anything that threatens the survival or well-being is in it.
      * It has to be related with the basic existence of the state.
      * Something thriving or the prosperity of the states could be considerd in it.
    - GCC: These things are omnipresent but poorly defined.
    - “Slippery concept” (Nye 1999: 22) – description and prescription in relation to the aspirations of sovereign entities in the international arena (Nuechterlein 1976: 246).
      * GCC:
        + It prescribes what aspirations should be like how state wants to be and wants other to see it in 2025.
        + It also describes what the aspirations is. Reality of how state understand it like sensitivity of territorial integrity.
        + Should and is playing here.
        + 1976-1999 not managed to solve yet.
    - “It carries an assumption that is it possible to define the national as a melding and cohering of all interests, including business, sectoral, regional, and religious, within a country.” (Deighton 2017: online source).
      * GCC: Melding together all other forms of it reflects the plurality of society. Is above politcs and relies on consensus. National interest also need to fulfill the needs of the society.
    - “It is a term deployed to allude to grand ideas and strategies and to conjure up an image of national power, rather than to illuminate what is actually going on in the foreign policy process, or routine political activity” (Deighton 2017: online source)
      * GCC: National interest is very closed with foreign policy but it goes beyond it through security policy. National interest is extremely important to conceptualize the concept of security.
    - GCC: There is no agreed definition but;
      * It has to be above politics and daily discussion (Deighton),
      * Supposed to be based on consensus, amalgamation of other forms of interest (Deighton)
      * Different level of discussion, value of topic is high.
      * Since there is no agreed def, it is sometimes abused, provide legitimacy to specific issues.
      * Different types of it (enduring, contexual etc) also contributes variety of definition.
    - “The national interest is the perceived needs and desires of one sovereign state in relation to other sovereign states comprising the external environment” (Nuechterlein 1976: 246).
      * GCC:
        + Nothing to do within the state.It makes sense to apply Nuec’s definition to Realist theory of IR where the focus is on how states interact with each other. Less attention to within the state.
        + Aspiration way is more close to think it domestically where interest comes from internal dynamics.
        + What factors feed into how states determine interest? Internal or external. And how they balance.
    - The national interest/s as entailing:
      * What a state aspires to become – for example, a developed country, a regional or global power, the promoter of ideological preferences and so forth.
      * What it needs to meet that aspiration – security, economic well-being, and so forth.
    - Attitude represents a disposition to manifest specific behavior regarding some goal and need. Interest, then, is the power of the attitude based on a need. Exhausted from studying, I want to watch television. “situation” is I am tired, the "want" is to watch television, and the "goal" is to relax without mental effort. Watching TV depends on my interest, the power of my need at that time. If the interest is low and there are no good programs, I may instead read a magazine or go to sleep early. (Rummel, 1975)
  + Rationality vs morality:
    - “Pursuing the national interest is, for any government, a practically unavoidable goal, and that adopting ends incompatible with it is, therefore, irrational” (Oppenheim 1987: 369).
    - “In a democracy, the national interest is simply the set of shared priorities regarding relations with the rest of the world. It is broader than strategic interests, though they are part of it. It can include values such as human rights and democracy, if the public feels that those values are so important to its identity that it is willing to pay a price to promote them […] A democratic definition of the national interest does not accept the distinction between a morality-based and an interest-based foreign policy. Moral values are simply intangible interests. Leaders and experts may point out the costs of indulging these values. But if an informed public disagrees, experts cannot deny the legitimacy of public opinion. Polls show that the American people are neither isolationist nor eager to serve as the world’s police. But finding a middle course is proving difficult and complex” (Nye 1999: 23-24)
      * GCC:
        + Definition is made after US intervention in Kosovo while trying to define what is US interest.
        + If public feels.. Inward looking. Public expectations feed into notion of national interest.
        + Alludes to public and national identity. Implicitly engaging the notion of national identity.
        + Nye implicitly emphasizes increasing connection between core values of states and societies with the definition of security. In this view security is conceptualized as protection of core values that embedded in identities.
        + Moral or interest based foreign policy:

This differantiation depends on the context.

Oppenheim’s definition is made during cold war, where countries cannot afford to take decisions on a morality based. Because rational choice requires any action should be fulfilling the national interest and needs of state. Therefore there is no role for morality.

Inward (protection of core values) or outward (it might be national interest to adhere the rules of UN which are morality based) looking.

It is difficult to disaggregate those.

* + - GCC:
      * The context and evolution in our thinking is very important to decide rational or moral view. National interest in Cold War era will be different today. Different variables operate in different context.
      * Complex questions to be asked about morality and rationality embedded in the national interest.
      * Delicate balance to bringing forward both rationality and morality in exercising national interest.
    - Gordon Browns Global Ethic vs. National Interest Speech at TED
      * He is calling for global ethic. It is about global citizenship and recognizing responsibilities to others. It is obvious to build a better world to better met the challenges. It will make people talk each other across continents. That requires to create institutions that make that global society work. Massive changes of technology make possible to link the people accross the world. How to combine patriotism with it? National identity remains important. But it is not at the expense of people accepting their global responsibilites.
        + Recession is caused by people become more protectionist. Looking inward at the expense of other nations. Motor of world economy canno move forward unless there is trade between nations. Any problem can be solved by nation.
        + Public persuation on long term interest of state is proper engagement with the world.
        + It is enlightened self-interest for us to work with other countries. National and global interest come together in the long run in tackling the poverty and climate change.
    - GCC: National interest based on Rational choice or values, ethics which pushes us beyond our comfort zone.
      * Overlap in core values of identity and protecting it is in national interest and the values at regional and international level. Complemetary
      * Difficult to maintain balance between them when implementing national interest. There are different things put together in an equilibrium.
* National Power
  + Definition
    - “The ability of a country to shape world politics in line with its interests” (Beckley, 2018: 7)
      * GCC: Power is the ability to influence the behaviour of others so they would behave in the way that you want them to behave.
      * This is basic definition. To into deeper we may look it from security perspective.
    - Hans Morgenthau – power for different purposes, with different meanings. “Power is always both that which explains and that which is explained”.
      * GCC: Morgenthau is one of classical realist. Father of security thinking. Key thinker of notion of power.
      * Power is explained ~ object of explanation, Power explains ~ What we use to explain something.
      * Multifaceted aspect to power. It is *mean* to fulfill national interest but it is also *end* as object of national interest like gain more power.
    - Guzzini argues there are three understanding of power under classical realist thought.
      * Political Theory or ontology – “a trait of human nature, constant throughout time, the *animus dominandi*, that is, the potentially insatiable will for power over others”
        + GCC: State behaviour in this case would be pursuance of more power. That would be the end.
      * Explanatory Theory (GCC: when applied to power)
        + Interest maximisation
        + Definition of national interest in terms of power. GCC: Or how can power enable fulfillment of national interest.
        + Power as a relation (the importance of reputation) but also as that which causally affects a relation. Power as cause and influence. GCC: Tangible like economic, military.
        + 3 forms of action: maintaining, expanding, demonstrating power.
      * Foreign Policy Strategy – behavioural ideal – still related to the national interest. (Guzzini 2018: 29-30)
        + GCC: Power is a capacity of a nation to shape the behaviour of others.
    - The purposes of his power threefold. Guzzini 2014: 5
      * First, power serves to define the specific logic of politics in the social world, hereby providing the ontological anchoring of Morgenthau’s approach.
      * Second, power is the second explanatory factor in a utillitarian theory where states seek either the preservation, expansion or demonstration of power.
        + GSS: States may try to preserve the status quo. Expansion, revision of current system to accumulate more power. Demonstration of power: stop others taking power away.
      * Finally, Morgenthau looks for an ethical usage of power in a foreign policy strategy, a praxeology of the lesser evil.
      * Although his own way of tying this package of ontological, explanatory and practical-normative purposes may be unique, those purposes are intrinsically connected to the reasons for which we use the concept of power – even though many of those purposes and meanings will be temporarily lost during the next decades of IR.
    - Power is the capability to produce effects. Rummel 1976: chapter 26, Social power is an intentionally directed capability to produce effects through another person. Rummel 1976: chapter 27. Social power has six forms: coercive, bargaining, intellectual, authoritative, altruistic, and manipulative. Rummel 1977: chapter 2
    - Conflict in Rummel’s conceptualization. Reality comprises potentialities, dispositions, and power. What aspect become manifest depends on confrontation between reality and perspective, which is a power, an outward directed vector. What we perceive is the result of the conflict between this vector and reality’s inward bearing vector of power. So conflict is a balancing of vectors of powers to produce effects. Rummel 1976: chapter 26
  + Sources
    - Power draws from the following:
      * Territory
      * Population
      * Political stability
      * Economy
      * Military
      * Anything else? GCC: Culture
    - Instruments of National Power: **DIME**
      * **D**IPLOMATIC – Persuasion, Reputation, Communication, Integrity, Ability to use force = ‘coercive diplomacy’.
        + Embasies&ambassadors, Recognition, Negotiations, Treaties, Policies, International forums.
      * **I**NFORMATIONAL/INTELLIGENCE – instrument in its own right (increasingly) but also informs, influences, underpins the application of other instruments of national power.
        + Military information, public diplomacy, public affairs, communication resources, international forums, spokepersons, timing, media and venues for announcements.
        + GCC: Some sees that as independent instrument, some other see as an instrument that feeds into the other. Need for information& intelligence for diplomatic, military or economic. So this may be seen as integrated into ability of using other instruments.
      * **M**ILITARY – Defence, Offense, Deter, Coerce
        + Military operations, engagement, security cooperation, deterrence, show of force, military technology, size, composition of force.
      * **E**CONOMIC – Influence decisions and affect behaviour
        + Trade policies, fiscal and monetary policies, embargoes, tariffs, assistance.
    - How do we measure ‘national power? Resources vs. Outcomes (Beckley 2018)
      * GCC: When instrument puts into practice how it measured?
      * Number of methods depend on how national power defined.
      * Much easier to measure in terms of resources (DIME) than realizing the outcome.
    - How these instruments of power put into practice?
      * GCC: One example is Fusion Doctrine, UK National Security Capability Review, 2018. This is how UK conceptualizes of its instruments of national power and where the sources of these instrumets are and how they can be brought together to reach national objectives.

Diagram

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* + - * Information power is embedded practically in influence.
      * Mention of soft power. It is not explicitly mentioned in DIME but increasinly playing role. It is basically cultural instruments that contributes to national power.
      * DIME should be expanded to include social&cultural power. Good example of it is 2021 Integrated review of UK. (UK Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy, 2021). In a way we talk about instruments of national power indirectly, we then engage in cultural factors. We need to be careful about this. We’re talking about values represented&upheld and behaviours that associated by state. And how states may be able to use those as new forms of influence others and therefore becomes power. That influence on the basis of prestige, reputation, and integrity so on and so forth. These are not perse the culture, I think we need to move away. It is very different use of the notion of culture. Here is more about values that adhere to and they practice it their behaviour at home and beyond. Integrated review is reflecting that.

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* + - * In this image there is diplomatic, military, economic, information – through cyber powers.
    - GCC: The way we define instruments of power needed to be expanded what is happening in real life especially sof power. That brings us to the notion of Hard&Soft Power
    - DIME is forms of what?
      * GCC: Peacekeeping operations. Use of military for peacekeeping operations fed its diplomatic efforts. It is also form of soft power. Behaviour and image that they convey on the populations is a form of soft power. More space needed to social dimension of values. This is another form of national power.
    - Hierarchy of action in instruments of power (DIME)
      * GCC: This is important for policy development. Reality is a little bit messy. It depends how you understand the threat or challenge. Based on that what is the right combination of instruments of power. A couple of instruments of power maybe exercised simultenaously to maximize the influence.
      * Implicit understanding of hierarchy of action. Threats are disturbing interational peace and security that require response. Chapter 6 of UN Charter, first solve the problem with negotiation, diplomatic means (article 33). Here informational &intelligence power important. If it doesnt work you move to chapter 7, increasing levels of coercion or hard power culminating on military (article 41, 42, 51).
* Interstate Competition
  + GCC: Depends on the level of analysis
    - From IR theories perspective: In realist understanding of security states by default compete. Being state is about accumulating power to better protect themselves. Where they cooperate is a form of attentuating and controlling the dynamics of competition.
    - Level of structure: States could be cooperating within a region but regions may be competing each other.
  + Rand corporation Understanding the Emerging Era of International Competition Report
    - GCC: Rand corporation report mainly deals with how USA should think about interest, interstate competition against the background of increasing allusion to how we enter new period of interstate competition, very much driven by power less so by rules. USA National Security Strategy reflects this.
    - What do we mean by the concept of ‘competition’ when applied to interstate relations?
    - To answer that we need to distiguish what is the difference in meaning between these concepts?
      * Competition
      * Conflict
      * Rivalry
      * Contestation
      * Cooperation
        + GCC: Not the same. There is nuanced differences. Different stages between states.
    - “Competition in the international realm involves the attempt to gain advantage, often relative to others believed to pose a challenge or threat, through the self-interested pursuit of contested goods such as power, security, wealth, influence, and status.” (Mazarr et. al. 2018: 5)
    - Assumption is, this is the nature of competition.
      * “First, there must be some degree of perceived or measurable contention involved. Two parties who are mutual partners and who share common goals and interests cannot be said to be competing. In this sense, competition always involves some degree of antagonism, but the specific degree - the intensity of antagonism and hostility in competition—can vary significantly.
      * Second, competition is generally viewed as a contest in which each party (or one of the two parties) aims to enhance its power and influence, typically relative to one another.
      * Third, while not all competitive situations are zero-sum or focused on relative gains, generally the term refers to a situation in which there is either (1) scarcity in the object of the competition or (2) significance to getting more of that object than someone else. If three or more countries are interested in something that is widely available - and possessing it conveys no special advantage - the resulting pursuit of gains might not rise to the level of a competition” (Mazarr et. al. 2018: 3-4)
    - Nature vs Character of competition:

1. What is the essential character or nature of the competing nations?

Type of regime, type of leadership, ambitions and grievances, national identity, etc.

1. What do the participants compete for (what are their goals)?

Security, status/standing/prestige, material economic prosperity/power, territorial/sovereignty claims, values and ideologies, rules/norms/institutions of the regional/international system, etc.)

If competing for power, how much power is enough power?

1. How do they compete (what strategies or capabilities do they employ)?

What instruments of national power they utilize to engage in competition.

1. What specific international systemic patterns or structures come to

characterize the competition?

1. To what degree does the competition reflect factors that theory and history suggest determine its intensity? (the material in this slide comes from Mazarr et. al. 2018: 13)

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They tried to map global competition.

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* Main conclusion: If definition lacks, working definition provides base for further discussion.

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* Introduction to policy development and analysis
  + GSS: Connection between policy - long term statement of objective - has to be aligned with overall objective of a state (interest). These objectives naturally constrained by power and competition. Explicit wording has implicit implications under.

Source: Fitz-Gerald, Ann.

* + Possible Definitions:

1. Policy is about providing the *strategic vision* for states and their governing institutions.
2. Policy is “the result of efforts made by governments to alter aspects of behaviour—both that of their own agents and of society at large—in order to carry out some end or purpose”. (Howlett & Murherjee, 2014, p. 57)
3. Policy is about “systematically match[ing] ends and means in the attainment of public policy goals” (Howlett & Murherjee, 2014, p. 65)
   * Policy and Strategy relationship
     + What **ends** (i.e. objectives) do we wish to achieve?~ Policy
     + What **constraints** should be applied to our actions? ~ Policy
     + What **means** (resources) do we have at our disposal to achieve our ends? ~ Strategy
     + The available **ways** (i.e. courses of action) to use our means to achieve our ends. ~Strategy
   * **Why do we need policy?**
     + A key purpose of all policy is **to give guidance** so that:
       - multiple actors behave in a **coherent way**;
       - domestic and international audiences are informed about a government’s intentions and plans – transmitting reassurance and determination.
       - A government may wish **support** for policy:

from service personnel

from taxpayers

from the widest public

Form regional and international allies

There may be legal requirements – e.g. Freedom of Information legislation, media policies, treaty obligations, etc.

* + - In addition to ‘guidance’, policy provides us with a base line against which to:
      * **Measure progress** (or lack of it), and
      * Hold those responsible for implementation **to account.**
      * The importance of determining how success and failure looks like.
    - Policy should therefore indicate the following:
      * Where are we now? The Strategic Context
      * Where do we want to go? The National Interest, Security Objectives
      * How do we get there? **The relationship between Policy and Strategy**
  + **Policy Development**
    - Stages heuristic model of public policy-making (Harold Lasswell, 1950s)
      * GCC: Advantages: Simple and methodological.
      * Disadvantages:
        + Policy is messy, doesn’t follow step by step. Back movements happen. You may do legitimation in agenda setting, policy manifestos of political parties in election, the way these political manifestos are developed, if they are already in, they are already catering to that aspect of legitimazation.
        + It doesn’t tell how long it takes from one step to another. Depending on state, structure it might take little or long time between steps.
    - **Norris, 2012:36 Model**

Diagram

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* + - **DCAF, 2015:5**

Diagram, timeline

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* + - Other model of public policy-making: **Multiple Streams Framework**, John Kingdon, 1970s-1980s
      * “Three categories of independent (and interdependent) variables that interact to produce ‘windows of opportunity’ for agenda setting” (cited in Bewland & Howlett 2016: 222)
        + Problem Stream
        + Policy Stream
        + Politics Stream
    - Other model of public policy-making- **Punctuated Equilibrium,** Frank Baumgartner & Bryan Jones
      * Reaction to Incremental Theory (Charles Lindblom)
      * “Linear and incremental changes over the long-term did not explain policy-making. (Amri & Drummond 2021: 35)
      * Periods of incrementalism in government action and decision-making are accompanied by “punctuated” periods of volatile, high-profile, dramatic change.
      * Policy sub-systems
      * Moments of punctuation caused by external or internal factors? GCC:Depends of nature of event. Ukraine war is external, 2008 economic crises is internal.
  + **Who has to be involved?**
    - “The government and its advisers creates and seeks to implement policy. The legislature may agree or decline to fund it, or to pass the laws necessary for its implementation, while the judiciary may, under some circumstances, place legal limits on what can be done. Other non-elected groups, with varying degrees of legitimacy, may try to influence or obstruct security policies” (Chuter 2011: 9)
      * GCC: It goes beyond to private sector, regional and international level influences. So list may include:
        + Those with professional involvement in the subject or whose
        + expertise is needed in particular areas.
        + Those who, by law or custom, are normally involved or have to be consulted (specialist departments of government concerned with legal issues, social problems, management of public services, etc.)
        + Those whose views, for one reason or another, cannot be ignored (allies, donors, international organisations)
        + Those affected by the policy

Diagram

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* + **How important is the context?**
    - The nature of policy formation is dependent upon the constitutional framework and the powers vested in certain institutions and individuals – the structure of government.
    - Policy should be nested within a supporting policy framework with a clear understanding not only of who makes policy but also who implements it and how.
    - The example of National Security Councils
  + **Top-down vs bottom-up approaches:**
    - A system that makes a clear division between policy decided by the minister and his advisors, and execution decided by officials
    - A system where officials assist with the formulation of policy and carry it out --->The role of civil service systems
  + **HOW DO WE IMPLEMENT POLICY?**
    - **Consistent objectives, achievable goals** – morale, motivation, credibility.
    - Policies should identify **factors that influence policy outcomes**
    - **Good structures** – supportive roles, procedures, resources.
    - Choosing **capable and appropriate actors**
    - **Information sharing and effective consultation**
    - The need to consider **how policy is reviewed**: Parliament, Auditor General, external bodies, international organisations, NGOs, media.
  + **HOW DO WE REVIEW POLICY?**
    - **“Monitoring** is the systematic process of collecting, analyzing and using information to track a programme’s progress toward reaching its objectives and to guide management decisions. Monitoring usually focuses on processes, such as when and where activities occur, who delivers them and how many people or entities they reach.” (UN Women)
    - “Monitoring is conducted after a programme has begun and continues throughout the programme implementation period. Monitoring is sometimes referred to as process, performance or formative evaluation”. (Gage and Dunn, 2009)
      * GCC: Heuristic model: policy evaluation is at the end. Monitoring would maximize its effect to ensure that the process is efficient and attains objectives for which it has been initiated.
    - **“Evaluation** is the systematic assessment of an activity, project, programme, strategy, policy, topic, theme, sector, operational area or institution’s performance. Evaluation focuses on expected and achieved accomplishments, examining the results chain (inputs, activities, outputs, outcomes and impacts), processes, contextual factors and causality, in order to understand achievements or the lack of achievements. **Evaluation aims at determining the relevance, impact, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of interventions and the contributions of the intervention to the results achieved”** (Gage and Dunn 2007)
    - “An evaluation should provide evidence-based information that is credible, reliable and useful. The findings, recommendations and lessons of an evaluation should be used **to inform the future decision-making processes.”** (UN Women)
  + **OECD DAC Evaluation Criteria**
  + Graphical user interface, text, application

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NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY

“The political direction of a nation’s security resources as a whole with a view to ensuring national security, protecting vital interests and furthering the international aims of the state”. (Chuter 2011)

“A national security policy is an official description of how a state aims to provide for its own security and that of its population […] It is intended to provide an overarching national vision as the basis for the development of other documents such as a national security strategy or subsector plans […] A national security policy is a guide to action for the government: it is not a law but its implementation may require changes in the legal framework that governs security provision, management and oversight” (DCAF, 2015: 2)

**Typical elements in national security policy, DCAF 2015:3**

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- Security policy addresses top level questions and issues:

• What do we want our security forces, ministries and agencies to do?

• How much do we want to spend?

• What are the parameters on how they can act/prepare?

- The role and purpose of top level security policy is to answer these (difficult) questions in a way that will give guidance to civilian officials and security officers who are charged with preparing relevant strategies.

The civilian officials and security officers who are charged with building the capability can then propose in subsequent stages :

• What are the tasks of different security actors?

• What kind of force structure is needed?

• What kind of equipment is needed?

• What other resources are needed?

• What kind of doctrine is to be written?

• What kind of people are to be recruited?

• What levels of preparedness and sustainability?

• In other words, all the elements needed to produce a coherent security capability

Example UK

2010

• A Strong Britain in an Age of Uncertainty - The National Security Strategy

• Securing Britain in an Uncertain World - The Strategic Defence and Security Review 2015

• National Security Strategy and Strategic Defence and Security Review – A Secure and Prosperous United Kingdom

2018

• National Security Capability Review

2021

• Global Britain in a Competitive Age - The Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Challenges to think about:

• When is policy needed?

• Balancing openness and secrecy in national security policymaking

• Costs and benefits of the review process

• Public debate vs expert inputs

• The relationship between formulation and implementation

• The role of political will and coordinated responses by/of stakeholders

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INTRODUCTION TO FOREIGN POLICY DECISION MAKING AND STRATEGIC DECISION MAKING MODELS, DR KRISTINE ZAIDI

Research area: Links between foreign policy and decision making.

* **DM as a sub-concept**
  + **Power of DM from classics to modern days**
  + Classical thought - the faculty and right to the decision associated with personalities/heroic leader (Centred on Agency)
    - KZ: Evidence from Aristotle’s ethics and DM and later Machiavelli. There were variations reflected political regimes of the time. Ex, Greek classical thinking was moderated to some extent in the classical Roman model, where democracy, aristocracy, and monarchy refused. Emphasis on the leader further manifested in absolute monarchies through the role of emperors. Chosen ones with some element of divine power. As such, they are centered in what we nowadays understand with the notion of agency. In philosophy agency is defined as a capacity of an act in a given environment. In this environment related to the social structures. So what extent a leader can act is defined by the social structures they operate in. They can work within the social structures. They can ignore or modify social structures. That’s a kind of balance between structures and agency. Ability to act is very personal to a particular individual based on their values. Notion of agency is directly related to the way individuals make their decisions. Classical thought and DM is very much focued on that individual and the ability to take decisions.
  + Hobbes’ power of a sovereign / Locke’s ideal of a limited government / Rousseau’s political leaders as agents of people / Weber’s elite administration (Transition to Structuralism)
    - KZ: In the 17 th century start to see the gradual evolution of the notion of individuals and sovereign. Hobbes attributes power to soveereign. He talks about diversity of opinions both political and religious. However he attributes the right to sensible to the sovereign. Sovereign right to decide across the realms, including notions such as just and unjust. Still very much focus on agencies but need to moderate because of different opinions.
    - Locke, several decades later provides different idea of sovereignty, putting sovereign power within mojority & civil society. He proposes limiting the role of government as in classical liberalism. Locke is often referred to father of liberalism. All members of society have equal right to participate and limit government and also possess negative freedom from expressive government. Freedom from interference by government.
    - Rousseau, 18th century, political leaders as agents of people rather than independent DMs. Aspirational model that suggest limited agency of DMs and ambiguity of structures. So moving away from that centrality of agents on DM into being the agent of people’s decision maker. Being agent of people. These ideas enable broader political participation and electoral representation underpinning the idea of direct democracy. Taking away that ability to act on its own right from agency and moving it closer to structures. Structures here are not just phsycal institutions, these are also rules, regulations, customs that underpin the process and relationships.
    - Max Weber, profound effect on bureaucracy, he took step forward and articulated the role of structures. so reflecting and public role in governance and decision making. He noted that an ideal participatory democracy is impractical in large and complex more than societies. So he proposed that governance must instead be in hands of an elite administration that cannot be directly accountable to the masses. I think we can see the impact of Weber's thinking on some of the structures of international organizations, like European Commission. Weber view the general public is irrational and ignorant and this perspective fueled his thinking on on the need for elite bureaucracy. He saw democracy as least rule of the people, but rather rule of an elite which combines exceptional leaders and bureaucratic experts. So while Weber emphasizes the role of elites, the agency is moderated by structures. So this elite centric approach contradicts the view taking by Kant who emphasizes the role individuals as rational and reasonable. Contradicts also concept of equal representation that developed in 19th century but fueled from earlier thinking of Locke and Russeau.
  + Shift of paradigm in 19/20th century – (More significant role of Structures emerges)
    - KZ: Shifting from individual agency towards a dominant role of formalized structures. This shift is most prominent in emergence of international organizations and the way western democracies operate from checks and balances through assigned and regulated roles of different branches in government. This evolution of domestic politics and international order occurred due to series of epochal events like WW1, WW2, and Cold War. In western democracies the overall impact was diminishing the role of agency. This evolution continues. We see the emergence of structural DM model such as rational actor and incrementalism.
  + Renewed emphasis on agency, evident in relatively recent literature. KZ: This comes from the critique of classical DM models. Classical DM models that do not pay due attention to human factor and look to DM as a sort of mechanical process, taking decisions through structures.
    - Decision making is an essential administrative process, but it is fundamentally a people process (Fred Lunenberg, 2010)
    - No crises or war can be understood without direct reference to the decision making of individual leaders (Renshon and Renshon, 2008) Kristine Zaidi (2021)
    - KZ: We need to understand what drives individual leaders, what motivates them. What informs the way they take certain decisions and certain contacts. A full circle is made started with center on agency, then went through evolution of structures, and again coming back to the emphasis on agency but operating within the structures.
* **Characteristics to Policy and DM**
  + Foreign policy is both product of, and input to decision making.
  + KZ: They are obviously closely related and supportive. They’re different yet inseperable. Policy, in its most refined form articulates objectives and decisions on how instruments of national power used to attain this. So, policy represents particular set of choices arrived through a specific political prism. And that in turn produces a framework within which future decisions are contained. Within this backdrop, I think foreign policy is input into and a product of DM and is in itself a decision or continuous series of decision.
  + DM in foreign policy is typically characterized by high stakes, ambiguity and uncertainty. And therefore then these decisions are not without substantial risks.
  + Decisions occurred in volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous (VUCA) environment (Barber, 1992; Bennis and Nanus, 1984).
  + KZ: Barber capitalize the term and applied to the policy environment. It was new either. He was inspired by early writings of Bennis and Nanus from business literature. It is an important concept because it defines the context in which decisions are made.
  + Clausewitzian analogy of the fog of war
  + Political and policy decisions are nearly always surrounded by cloud of uncertainty. It takes us back to Clausewitzian anology.
    - On War: Concept of the fog of war is introduced in intelligence section of On War as inaccuracy and inadequacy of intelligence. p.649. BERNARD BRODIE, A Guide to the Reading of On War.
    - On War: War is the realm of uncertainty; three quarters of the factors on which action in war is based are wrapped in a fog of greater or lesser uncertainty. A sensitive and discriminating judgment is called for; a skilled intelligence to scent out the truth.p.101, Book 1 Chapter 3: On Military Genius
  + So the ability to employ strategies that may help to improve the quality of decisions amid the uncertainties by choosing the best available alternatives becomes very important. Here we see the reference to rationality and DM. So there are alternatives, making choice based on the analysis of alternatives. This is the classical underpinning of the rational actor model.
  + Monopoly of government (small group within the government) in DM.
  + FP is expressed in its highest degree and perhaps only comparable with defence policy.
  + We can see it manifested very clearly in RAM.
  + Robert Putnam, 1988
  + He analyzes international negotiations through the prism of comparative politics and relations between domestic and international politics and says these can break down because of domestic frictions within the government.
  + Focusing on international objectives of the state is essentially misleading.
  + Participants attention primarily should focus on domestic objectives.
  + Knowing what are the domestic contacts, circumstances, battles, and the actors have to take on.
  + That impacts the decisions they make in international context.
  + Pressure of domestic groups at national level that government attemps to maximize at international level while minimising te adverse consequences of foreign developments. It is quite a balancing act that Putnam pays particular attention. Decision maker must be active on both side of the game and successfully mitigate both.
  + Suggest to look at the role of central executive, president or PM who has a unique role in mediating in domestic and international pressures. They are exposed to both.
  + KZ: But I think we can apply his concept much broader. Strengths of this model is domestic and international levels play the role of mutual enablers aiming to achieve a general equilibrium that accounts simultenaously for them. It is manifested when governments adopt policies they would not have pursuit in the absence of international engagements or negotiations due to the political constraints at the national level. It is manifested in how EU works. Some policies are adopted for example in environmental area that national government might not have adopted if there was no international pressure. National political structure is important to explain and predict FP actions.
  + DM is evolving field that includes multidisciplinary perspectives.
  + KZ: It needs to be seen through prisms of different disciplines (like classical thought and philosophy that shows how thought is evolved, or from the view of field of economics that RAM and Incremental Models derived of, or from the view of psychology and even neuroscience to understand the drivers behing individual leaders). It is inherently interdisciplinary field. It makes it more interesting.
  + Drawing from the existing literature on DM and public policy, most of which on domestic policy, much less on DM on FP. But we can deduct universal factors on which the science of DM hinges.
  + **Aims and Objectives:** What drives decisions. What decision makers trying to achieve and why? Objectives are short term or long term or combination of both?
  + **Context:** Plays paramout role. DM is always contextual with all complexities and uncertainties. FP DM operates in VUCA environment.
  + **Relationship between agency and structure**: Important for the analysis. Agency operates within the structures, amends & ignore or destroy the structures. Interplay between two is not static.
    - KZ: We saw it how it happened in Russia. We saw how structures were used to satisfy the ambitions of political leaders. For example in domestic politics we saw that how regional elections were abolished at some point. Then they were again introduced and then at and then again abolished, when President came to understand that some of the regional leaders gain more public support and more power with that. Elections were used for the domestic interest to reinforce the rule of President when it felt it could be undermined.
    - We could see it as swapping rows of the President and Prime Minister again İn Russian context when the Midwest of Cannon came into power as as a President Putin became Prime Minister and then and then they swapped again all through the elections of course all legitimized, but highly orchestrated as well.
    - Another example in terms of balance of role of agency and structures we saw during the Trump administration in the US. Under the Trump role of agency was evident and greater than the role of structures. Some structures particularly diminished like State Department. Decisions were very much around the leader. Although Biden has very strong opinions he operates within the structures. Structures are visible. Balance again shifted. Those things express themselves in democracy also.
  + **Choices, behaviours**
    - KZ:DM is people process and directly related to their position, abilities, interest, values, even their emotions. These are fueling their choices.
  + Cognitive abilities and constraints of individual decision makers
    - Human beings face these constraints by the virtue of human.
  + Possession and development of the **capability** to deliver on policy
    - It is good to have agency to have supporting structures, in some cases structures don’t interfere to pursue certain policies, but one needs to have capabilities to deliver so instruments of power that can drive the intent. Russia case, while there is long term objectives and aspirations, the ability to pursue those was not always present. Different reactions to events in Ukraine in 2004, in so-called Orange Revolution, change of regime, there is incremental decisions in Russia like increase the gas prices. But nothing near the decisions in 2014 the same protests but taking over Crimea. Capability to pursue was a long standing interest.
  + Analytical challenges on DM
  + KZ: Looking those are relevant for emprical analysis and theoretical framework, particularly when trying to develop our own framework for analysis. VUCA environment, vast amount of information&emprical data are examples of challenges. This complexitiy can be deducted to four major structural categories to help guide their analysis (just an example, conceptual framework may differ). Otherwise everything seems to be relevant. It enables to spot what is useful and what might not be applicable in any case. **Categories derived from theoretical models:**
  + **The Decision itself** — opens next three stages & indicators that can be systematically used in individual case study analysis. (**what?**)
  + Aim and objectives (**why** certain decisions are made?)
    - Setting aims and objectives
    - Anticipated changes
    - The role of context
  + Actors (**who**?)
    - Actors and decision ‘owner’. Including the level of delegation and devolution
    - The role of agency
  + Application of means (**how** they are implemented?)
    - What means are applied to achieve desired results, including time allocated to consider alternatives as part of decision-making process
  + DM Models: KZ: Decisions on foreign policy are analyzed according to these models.
  + **Structured Models**: Comes from western structuralist traditions. Structuralist approach is their main constraints. Some degree they ignore the role of agencies and context.
    - **Graham Allison and Philip Zelikow’s Rational Actor Model:** 
      * KZ: Salient feature: Explain the international events by recounting (sayıp dökmek) the aims and the calculations of national governments. Assumes that human behaviour is goal directed activity that becomes rational through;
        + Consistency in goals and objectives relative to particular action, and
        + Application of principles iot select an optimal alternative.
      * KZ: It emphasizes structure over agency. In other words, to choose rationally is to select option that maximazes the output for a given input. So it is very calculus approach to DM. Alison is economist and his emphasis is on payoff (karşılık). RAM premises on purposefulness in everyday decisions. Rationality imposes a consistent value maximizing choice within specified constraints. Assumes rigid methodology on DM that requires preset steps to be taken to arrive a rational choice. RAM also emphasizes role of a leader noting that power is highly concentrated. But leader operates within the structure and procedures. Alison come up with RAM in 70s. Simon came with critique of RAM. So he’s still operated within rationality that was proposed by Alison. But he recognized the limitation of person to consider all possible alternatives. That’s why it is bounded rationality. Classical RAM does not recognize this limitation of cognitive limitation of decision maker. Alison later came up with other two models as a response to these critiques. He did not refine RAM but he came up with different models one of which particularly adresses Simon’s critique. I would’t call Simon’s approach as a model itself, he still operated within the rationality with boundaries, but he called it bounded rationality. It is a kind of subset. Alison and Zelikov came up with rational DM process they call it concepts. 1999 edition of Essence of decision contains RAM and other two models.
      * **Goals and objectives:** The interests and values of a decision-maker are translated into a ‘payoff’ or ‘utility’ or ‘preference’ function, representing the desirability or utility of alternative sets of consequences. From the outset of the decision problem, the decision-maker has a payoff function, which ranks all possible sets of implications in terms of her or his values and objectives. He/she is expected to rank consequences that might result from a particular action in order of impact.
      * **Alternatives:** the rational actor (decision maker) chooses among a set of other options displayed before them in a particular situation. These courses of action provide distinct advantages and disadvantages, each indicating alternative policy choices with multiple layers of calculations translating interests into operational objectives
      * **Consequence:** To each alternative is attached a set of consequences or outcomes should that choice become policy. Consideration of potential consequences includes an assumption about how accurately the decision-maker estimates the chain of events that follow from each potential course of action.
      * **Choice:** Rational choice simply consists of selecting the alternative whose consequences rank highest in the decision maker’s payoff function.
      * KZ: Quite simple and linear model DM. Step by step to achieve objective. While simple it includes complex process that relies a lot on cognitive ability of decision maker which is the point of critique.
      * Visualization of RAM. But reality is not that linear. It necessitates VUCA environemnt hardly lidear. Critiques mainly come from incremental model. Lack of human factor, presents DM as mechanical process I would argue it does not exist in real in its ideal form.

Diagram

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* + - * NATO: because there are so many interests at stake and this interests and these interests are driven by people. So people become then their agency and their and also their within international organizations that some will have more agency than others. So balance has to be taken account. Useful tool as systematic and logical tool, but in political level it is much harder. It can be used as an input to political level discussions. Maybe rationality will continue because there are different interest at stake,
      * What are the alternative options for the Russia from the prism of RAM to maximize values and arrive to desired outcome?
        + Limited action, invade donbass, may deliver asp,
        + Diplomacy, cannot give its asp,
        + Project power, may deliver asp,
        + Sustaining foreign influence, cost&payoff analysis,
        + KZ: For its long term objectives Russia agrees to pay some short and middle term costs
      * **Critique of RAM:** 
        + Not feasible to consider all possible alternatives and their possible consequences in a fluid env. Time limitation and limited cognitive abilities of the leaders or decision makers.
        + Rigidity due to focus on end-goals of the decision maker
        + The model diminished the role of agency and human behaviour (model is an expression of Weatern structuralism thought that follows prescribed process of arriving to decision. This will limit the space for people involved. )

Bounded rationality (Herbert Simon, 1985), Most critiques comes from psychologists, Simon was,

People are ‘predictably irrational’ (Janice Stern, 2012) Janice was neuropsychologist ~ people are a priori irrational actors so going through all alternatives and concequences is not human nature, that’s why RAM is a kind of idealistic model in policy making context.

Agents have limits to their cognitive capacities (Robert Jarvis, 1976)

Perceptions and biases

* + - * + Lack of awareness of cultural context
        + KZ: Summary, structural model focuses on the process of arriving to decision making and largely ignores these two because it is very goal oriented activity. Anthony Dorn~if we know the end goal of decision makers we can predict their actions.

Agency,

Context

* + - * **Allison’s two other models comes from critiques**. KZ: Allison review the critiques but did not review RAM itself, he introduced two other models. These two models are generally overlooked. More pluralistic than RAM but inherently structural and procedural. RAM remains dominant model in analysing foreign policy decision making.
        + **Allison’s Organisational Process Model,** this particularly comes to Simon’s critique.

When the crises happen, governments (actor that holds everything in one hand) don’t look it as whole, but break it down and assign it according to preestablished organizational lines, so there is distinct roles and responsibilities within organisational lines.

Time and resource limitations force leaders to settle on satisfying solutions rather than looking for an optimal solution as in RAM. So it's more a sort of Simon’s satisfying alternative expresses itself here. (emphasis on short-term solutions)

Decision makers usually follow the same well-established patterns (due to complexities and limited timelines)

* + - * + **Allison’s Bureaucratic Politics Models:** This particularly speaks to interplay between domestic and international DM**.** This came to critique of Samuel Huntington.And it's takes into account the court politics and palace politics. So there is that negotiation and bargaining that happens between individual leaders and government positions. And the leader itself needs to be taken into account this different interests.

Actions understood as bargain between individual leaders in government positions

Leaders must achieve a consensus that satisfies those players, court or cabinet.

So that the nation's actions are best understood as the result of politicking and negotiation by top leaders within the government. Even they share goals, leaders differ in how to achieve it because of such factors as personal interest and background.

Recognition of different levels of power based on personality, charisma, personal ties to decision makers

Emphasises the role of domestic politics

* + - **Charles Lindblom’s Incremental Model** SCIENCE OF MUDDLING THROUGH (towards a better future) (1959) KZ: He is economist and this model is influenced by free competition model of economics. He rejected the notion of centralization in DM (like the case in RAM) looking for collective good. Model is based on numerious actors, decision is the product of the agreement among themselves. He indirectly discussed the distributed nature of incremental DM. Very much interested in process of DM. Flexible than RAM. That model may shape strategy rather than being shaped by strategy. This is what Mintzberg describes as emergent strategy, as opposed to deliberate strategy. As an analytical model according to Lindblum, it makes the most of our limited abilities to understand the processes, so policy is not made once and for all, but it is made and remade endlessly through a succession of incremental changes or marginal differences in policies.
      * KZ: Influential article where he identified as a set of specific steps in the DM process that he called succesive limited comparisons or incremental. It presupposes that small steps in DM. This approach takes very different view on how decisions are made. It premises on the disparity between the requirements of the rational actor and their capacities for DM. Due to the complex nature of problems the decision makers are not amenable to total rationality. Decision makers must start from existing policy, and take remedial steps to cope with problems as they arise.
      * SCIENCE OF MUDDLING THROUGH (towards a better future). Hovewer future is uncertain, hence, long term plannig maybe useful, put secures no practical purpose.
      * DM is based on sequenced trials, errors, and revised trials. Examples: Response to COVID. Not incremental approach. Unknown situation government didn’t deal before. And there were elements of trials and errors, unfortunately with grave consequences. And then again revised trials. Incrementalism, analysis of emprical situation, Covid is good example to analyze it. My hypothesis would be incrementalism is good model to explain it.
      * There is no distinction made between the process of selecting value goals and empirical analysis of the need action, instead the two are closely intertwined. It positions DM of small steps in the right direction where **means and ends are not distinct.** End goal is not preset. So it is very different from RAM.
      * **There is no comprehensive analysis of alternatives** included; instead, the decisionmaker focuses on policies that differ incrementally from existing policies (simple incremental analysis). Analysis is, therefore, limited to a few familiar policy alternatives (Lindblom’s later addition).
      * Means-end analysis is often inappropriate or limited. **Only a restricted number of ‘important’ consequences are evaluated**. The problem is constantly redefined allowing for means-ends and ends-means adjustments, making it more manageable. Because changes happen very quickly no time for comprehensive analysis.
      * **The decision-maker takes small steps in the ‘right’ direction deciding whether the decision was right or wrong and altered as required** in particular time. As such, there is ongoing monitoring of each small step. Lindblom: *“incrementalism in politics is not, in principle, slow-moving… A fast-moving sequence of small changes can more speedily accomplish a drastic alteration of the status quo than can an only infrequent major policy change… incremental change patterns are… the fastest method of change available.”* Large changes through the steps. Safe option because errors can be rectified.
      * **There is no ‘right’ solution but a ‘never-ending series of attacks’ on the issues** at hand through serial analysis and evaluation. **Decision-making is based on a sequence of trials, errors, and revised trials.**
      * The analysis is drastically limited, and **only a relatively small number of policy alternatives are considered**, hence simplifying the character of the investigation. Consequently, important possible outcomes, alternatives potential policies and important affected values may stay neglected. Policy comparisons are limited to those policies that differ in relatively small degree from policies presently in effect.
      * Incremental decision-making is described as remedial, geared more to the alleviation of the present, concrete social imperfections than to the promotion of future social goals.
      * Schema: Goals are not preset, aspirations are vague (cloud) decision maker is muddling through, and can be a drift, the focus is on the short and medium term operational gains, but it doesn’t exclude that these short and medium term operational gains help arrived into inspired destination through series of attacks. Opportunity driven model as oppsed to RAM which is need driven.

Diagram

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* + - * Vague points: The presence of multiple actors (as opposed to RAM where power concentreted on top to make decision) but who are these actors? How to reach consensus? Decisions are smaller that’s why it talks more about the nature of decisions.
      * Putin, does he action an opportunity? Is he an incrementalist? Can incremental model describe what we see today decisions made by Russia?
        + This model cannot explain the events of such significance. I think 2014 decision was more opportunity driven. There was a window of opportunity with uncertainty in Ukraine with political change and its consequences on Russia’s own position in Crimea. That was very crucial for core objectives to preserve the presence in the Black Sea. So that was that window of opportunity to act, and that that's was a bit more opportunistic, and using the context. While current situation I would say Russia shaped the context more. There was a a series of contextual factors that can help explain can

help explain why the decision was taken now to to launch an attack on Ukraine and not for example, last year the year after. But I think it was more shaping the context taking that decision and driving it and and and the and showing that I think it was mentioned

before about getting the attention. gets gets in their attention and, uh, it was last prominent in 2018. It was more contextual opportunism as I would call it. Now it's a different approach outside. It's because because of last presence

and visibility of fundamental changes that that that requires it to be escalated to A to the top.

Here it's it's a much much more

kind of distributed, distributed approach and we can see more active visible like again to.

Russia's foreign policy again and and

and then the number of incremental

steps that is taken and if we, particularly in of economic nature, like increases of of of prices and gas. So we can see the access like

gas from playing playing up. We can see the actors that are responsible for for putting restrictions more active visible like again to.

Russia's foreign policy again and and and then the number of incremental steps that is taken and if we, particularly in of economic nature,

like increases of of of prices and gas.

So we can see the access like gas from playing playing up. We can see the actors that are

responsible for for putting restrictions or on or bands or on on certain goods coming to Russia based on some. Health considerations,

uh or or or tariffs increase so that was all used. These are all kind of smaller incremental decisions and they're taking it at different organizational levels.

* + - Blended Models
      * Etzioni’s mixed scanning model
  + KZ Research Approach:
    - I think it's also shows again that there is no ideal model and and the models have continued to evolve and and it's useful to look at the variety of models available to try to understand what is the best conceptual framework that helps us take through that particular analysis.
      * First thing is looking existing DM models.
      * Then I identified two foundational models (RAM and incrementalism) I thought can help me to build my own theoretical framework, drawing the strength of these models but also very much on the critique.
      * What I saw were missing elements. After having built conceptual framework KZ used grounded theory approach, a little bit step aside methodology, testing conceptual framework via data. To gather data and apply it to the conceptual framework and see whether this conceptual framework works or it needs further refinement through data.
      * My starting point was not to build a new model. But I came to conclusion that they have limitations. That's why that theoretical framework continues to evolve. RAM, bounded rationality, incrementalism and so on, branches of RAM, so it's a constant refinement.
  + **Strategic incrementalism model:** Premised on five principles. Zaidi, 2021 This model has been developed with a particular focus on Russia’s FP. Case studies drives development of this concepts derived from example of how Russia takes decisions and implements its FP.
    - **Aim and Objectives**…Strategic Outlook: Long term objectives, implemented through both fundemental and incremental decisions.
    - **Agency & Structures**
    - **Strategy & Structure**
    - **Interplay between capability & Context** in nation’s pursuit of its strategic goals. Balancing between agency, structures and strategies … ‘Doability’
    - **Focus on Core Interests**: And above all, we see how crucial it is to understand and act as core interests which tend to remain consistent being long term and are unlikely to be moderated,

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