GOVT2617: INTRODUCTION TO NON-TRADITIONAL SECURITY

The University of Sydney

I. Introduction to Non-Traditional Security:

The Concept of Security:

- Security = Free from care
  - Locking something away
  - Containing a threat
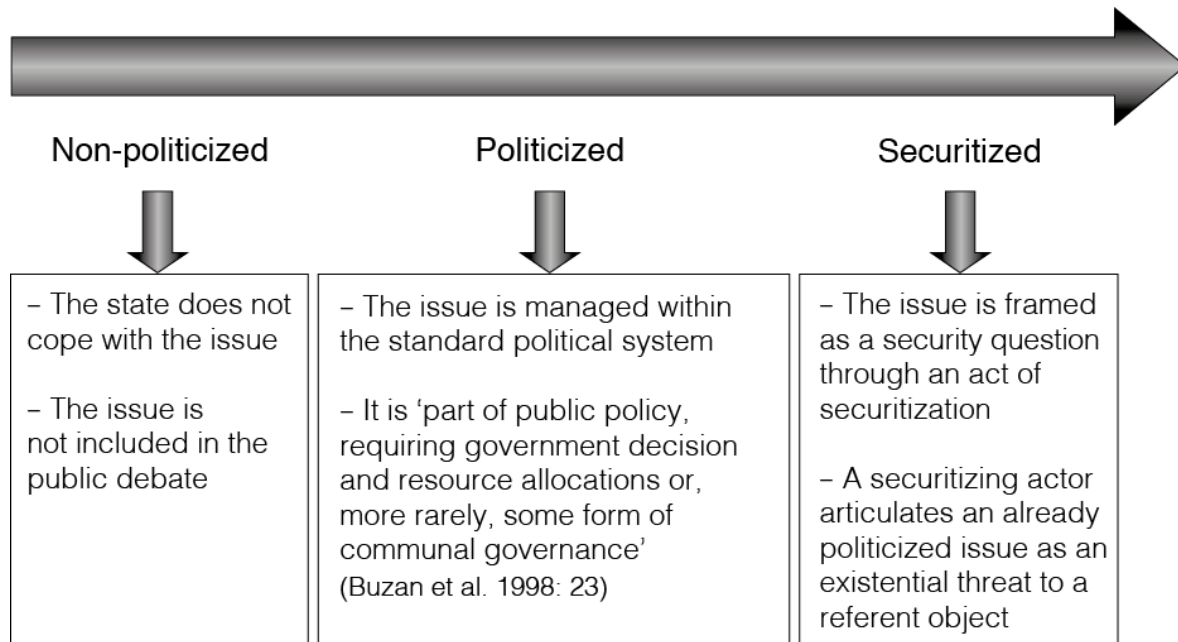 - Protecting something/someone

> *"Security studies may be defined as the study of the threat, use, and control of military force. It explores the conditions that make the use of force more likely, the ways that the use of force affects individuals, states, and societies, and the specific policies that states adopt in order to prepare for, prevent, or engage in war" (Walt, 1991, p. 212)*

- TYPES OF SECURITY:
  - Cultural security
  - Material security
  - Moral security

- Security Studies:
  - Arose out of 1900's conflicts + technological innovation (e.g. Cold War, Vietnam War etc.)

- NON-TRADITIONAL SECURITY:
  i. Natural disaster prevention
  ii. Biological warfare
  iii. Climate change
  iv. Environmental degradation
  v. People smuggling
  vi. Drug-trafficking
  vii. Irregular migration
  viii. Resource depletion

- TRADITIONAL SECURITY:
  i. Military force
  ii. Destruction of industries

- CRITICAL SECURITY STUDIES:

	Realism	Liberalism	Constructivism	Other
Core concepts & beliefs	power, conflict	cooperation, interdependence	ideals, ideology, language	
Key actors / organizations	states	states, institutions, IGOs	states, IGOs, NGOs	
Main tools	military power, diplomacy	int'l institutions & law, commerce	ideas, values	
Reality	largely objective	largely objective	largely subjective	
Bargaining context	zero-sum	non-zero-sum	non-zero-sum	
International system	anarchic	largely anarchic, growing order	anarchic insofar as assumed to be	
Main cause of conflict	state pursuit of self-interest	lack of processes to regulate competition	assumptions of conflict and hostility	
Main approach to peace	balance of power	interdependence, cooperation, int'l law	communication and cooperation	
Policy prescriptions	pursue self-interest	cooperate for mutual interests	shape ideas + norms to promote desired outcome	
Explanatory power	state aggression, weakness of institutions	globalization, democracy-promotion	transnational networks, cultural conflict, terrorism	

- Non-politicized
- Politicized
- Securitized

Non-politicized	Politicized	Securitized
– The state does not cope with the issue – The issue is not included in the public debate	– The issue is managed within the standard political system – It is 'part of public policy, requiring government decision and resource allocations or, more rarely, some form of communal governance' (Buzan et al. 1998: 23)	– The issue is framed as a security question through an act of securitization – A securitizing actor articulates an already politicized issue as an existential threat to a referent object

Speech Act: Consists of a discursive representation of a certain issue as an existential threat to security

Securitization:

- Synthesis of realist/constructivist view of security
- Successful securitization = provides securitizing actors with the right to use exceptional means (What is extraordinary)
- An act of 'security' can lead to abuses of power (i.e. authoritarian regimes)

   EXAMPLES - Securitization of…

I. *Undocumented Migration*

- Complex social phenomenon (Human rights abuses and lack of economic opportunity worldwide?)
- Howard Government: 2001 - Deterred 'boat people' in fight against terrorism post 9/11

II. *Drug Trafficking:*