Diplomacy: War and Peace Negotiations (1990-Today) Nicholas Burns Harvard University

This is a class about war and peace negotiations from the end of the Cold War in 1989-90 to the present day. We will focus on the importance of diplomacy as a central policy instrument for the United States, China, the European countries and other powers. Specifically, we will look at those instances—German Unification in NATO, the end of Apartheid in South Africa, the Peru-Ecuador border dispute, the first Gulf War, and Bosnia—when the international community deployed diplomacy successfully to prevent war, end an international crisis, or achieve a positive outcome. We will also study examples of when diplomacy fails and war, crisis or disagreement ensue—the 2003 Iraq War, the North Korea nuclear issue, and the South & East China Sea crises. We will pay close attention to the "how" of diplomacy and negotiations. How is diplomacy conducted at the highest levels? How can a country use negotiations and the combination of diplomacy and the threat of force effectively? How can the United Nations and other international organizations operate more effectively to prevent human rights violations, injustice and war?