Conflict, Power & Politics

A specialisation of the Master’s programme in Political Science offered by the Center for International Conflict Analysis and Management (CICAM) and the Department of Political Science Nijmegen School of Management

Introduction
This Master’s specialisation offers students insights into the origins, causes, and the processes of conflict and conflict resolution. Recognising that contemporary conflicts cannot be understood without taking both domestic and international politics into account, the programme draws on comparative politics, international relations and conflict studies. Students will critically explore themes such as the determinants of political violence and warfare; the links between ethnic violence, nationalism and war; how international regulations affect efforts to acquire peace; and which ethical dilemmas arise in such situations.

Why should you choose Conflict, Power & Politics in Nijmegen?
• The programme is unique for the Netherlands in being taught by both political scientists and conflict specialists
• You can focus on a theme of your interest
• Teaching takes place in a stimulating, collegial and interactive setting of small groups
• The international staff has a wide range of expertise, is approachable, has strong links to policy and practice, and involves students in their research projects
• Our Master’s programme is consistently ranked as the best Political Science programme in the Netherlands

The programme
This is a one-year Master’s programme (60 ECs), structured as follows:
• Six specialisation courses (36 ECs)
• One elective course (6 ECs)
• Master’s thesis (18 ECs)
Once you have graduated, you will be awarded a Master’s of Science degree (MSc) in Political Science.

Prof Bertjan Verbeek
Professor of International Relations

‘(Inter)national conflicts pose ethical dilemmas for citizens, soldiers, and politicians alike. In my course on Just War Theory we reason about justice in conflicts and examine choices people actually make under such difficult circumstances.’

Dr Willemijn Verkoren
Associate professor of Conflict Studies

‘Conflicts are understood from a variety of theoretical perspectives, leading to much academic debate. Since our analysis of a conflict strongly influences our preferred approach for dealing with it, in the course Conflicting Theories we take an in-depth look at some of the key debates and their implications for policy and practice.’
You are required to have the necessary skills in qualitative and quantitative research methodology. Applicants with insufficient course work in Social Science Research Methodology in their previous education may be admitted, provided they first complete an (oral) examination in research methodology. The oral exam can take place in person in Nijmegen or via Skype.

**Application deadlines**
The programme starts on September, 1st. The application deadline is April, 1st for students from non-EU/EEA countries and May, 1st for students from within the EU/EEA. Successful international applicants who apply before these dates will be guaranteed accommodation and support with the visa and residence permit application.

If you apply after these dates, we will still consider your application and provide assistance where possible, but accommodation cannot be guaranteed.

**How to apply?**
Dutch students can apply via: [www.studielink.nl](http://www.studielink.nl).
International students can apply via: [www.ru.nl/masters/application](http://www.ru.nl/masters/application).

**The best Political Science Master’s programme**
Radboud University offers the best Political Science Master’s programme in the Netherlands. For the last six years this has been the conclusion of the Dutch magazine ‘Elsevier’ and for the last four years of the Dutch information guide ‘Keuzegids Universiteiten’.

After reading all the information, are you interested and enthusiastic about the specialisation Conflict, Power & Politics at the Radboud University?
Then apply now! We hope to see you in Nijmegen, the Netherlands!

**Programme**

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**Changing perspective**
Conflict, Power & Politics at Radboud University teaches you to go beyond the surface of daily news items and to disentangle deeper causes of conflict, study its consequences, and assess possible solutions. We challenge you to view and assess conflicts from the perspective of different stakeholders, while understanding the social, economic and political structures and institutions enabling or hindering these stakeholders in pursuing their objectives.

**Career prospects**
Students in this Master-track prepare for a career as academic, (inter)national policy or decision maker, or journalist. Students acquire skills for positions as policy makers in NGOs, media, international organisations, political parties, national ministries, or supranational institutions. They may also work as consultants for profit and non-profit organisations and as researchers at think tanks or universities. Our graduates obtain the skills that employers covet, such as sound research and analytical skills, excellent writing and oral communication skills, and experience in working in teams and working independently.

**Admission requirements**
You are required to have a Bachelor’s degree in Political Science from a Dutch university, or an equivalent degree from a university outside the Netherlands (with sufficient coverage of research methods). A substantial part of the courses in the Bachelor’s degree must be in Conflict Studies, International Relations, or Political Science. You must also have sufficient proficiency in English. For details, please visit [www.ru.nl/masters/cpp](http://www.ru.nl/masters/cpp).

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*Conflict, Aid and Development; Politics of Reform: Welfare, Immigration and Inequality; Rise of the BRICs or another elective

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