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Permanent change? the paths of change of the European security organizations

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Acknowledgements

War, and its opposite, peace, have always been interesting subjects to me as they reflect, among other things, certain aspects of human nature, namely conflict, despair, cooperation and the need for solidarity. Inspired by books and movies, such as *Narziss and Goldmund*, *The Metamorphosis*, *The Deer Hunter*, and even *Jaws*, I tried to establish a clear line between, to use that hackneyed phrase, the good, the bad and the ugly. Other titles such as *Sophie's Choice*, *Camille Claudel* or *Rituals* made me aware of the impossible choices in life resulting from injustice or an artificial setting of rules. Others still, such as *Plenty*, *The Unbearable Lightness of Being* and *The Sun also Rises*, pointed at the imperfection of human nature. Already at an early age these titles led me to decide to study political science, with systems of national and international governance, war and peace and political powerplay as its central focus.

Though conflict is an inevitable aspect of the human condition, and sometimes necessary, survival can only be accomplished by cooperation. The intention of my attempt to compare three different security organizations was impossible in the eyes of many. For me, however, it has been a logical consequence of organizations founded on the very devastations caused by crisis and war, a natural linkage. As a response to war, cooperation has surely found its way in the European integration project. Its many forms of cooperation in one organization and its ditto theories developed over the last few decades have always intrigued me. And, as I found during my research, this does not only concern the EU, as it was not intended by Ernst B. Haas either. Hence, at my favourite chateau *Neercanne* (Maastricht, the Netherlands), the cradle of EU's Treaty of Maastricht (1992), EU's security and defence policy was founded, which eventually would change the whole European security architecture permanently and link together the EU, NATO and the OSCE.

Coming from the University of Amsterdam, I was quite unfamiliar with concepts such as war, the military and NATO. However, supervised by (then) Colonel Jan Kruidenier and Lieutenant General Jan Broeks, I was gently initiated into the military world, knowing in hindsight this experience could have been worse. Many pleasant colleagues, whose loyal support and enthusiasm I have always appreciated, followed their example.

Writing this dissertation, next to a fulltime job as well as a busy young family, was not always an easy road to travel. Therefore, I am grateful to the Netherlands Defence Academy for facilitating this research project and the PhD courses at the Netherlands School of Governance. At the same time I would like to thank my colleagues at the Netherlands Defence Academy, specially my colleagues at the War Studies Department, the Higher Staff and Command Course, fellow PhD-candidates and the international security studies section for whatever assistance they gave. In this respect, I would like to single out Jorg Noll, Maarten Rothman, Miriam Grandia and Trineke Palm for their theoretical and methodological support. Finally, I would like to thank the library staff and, in the final phase of materialising my dissertation, Merel de Hart of the multi-media section, together with the reproduction section of the Netherlands Defence Academy.

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And finally, I thank my menfolk Harm, Ruud and Mark, and their dearest, for being there and being the big brothers to my younger offspring Floris and Philip. Their sense of adventure, boldness and humour, without a doubt, inspires me every day and constitutes my joy of life. No question about it, I thank my buddy and opposite number, in many ways, Herman. Without his support I could not have completed this mission...

Sabine Mengelberg
Breda/Amsterdam 2021

Curriculum Vitae

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Sabine Mengelberg (The Hague, September 15, 1968) studied political science at the University of Amsterdam, including an apprenticeship at the European Institute of Public Administration, and obtained her master's degree in 1995.

After the completion of her study, she worked at the Netherlands Defence College, followed by TNO Defence and Security and the Institute for Government Education for foreign affairs and defence. Then she took up the position of assistant professor at the War Studies Department of the Netherlands Defence Academy.

Her teaching includes bachelor, master and the middle and higher staff officers' courses on political science, public administration, international security issues and security cooperation with a specific focus on the European security architecture and she published books, book chapters, papers and articles in these domains. Next to her position at the Netherlands Defence Academy, she has been a PhD-candidate at the Department of Governance and Global Affairs at the University of Leiden.

She has given guest lectures for a variety of national and international organizations, including the Netherlands Institute of International Relations Clingendael, the Dutch Atlantic Council, the *Rijkstraineeprogramma*, The European Security and Defence College (EU) and courses in the framework of bi- and multilateral NATO's Partnership for Peace (PfP) program.

Next to her academic career she has been a political advisor in several NATO exercises, a Dutch representative to the Academic Board of the European Security and Defence College (EU) and a member of the Advisory Council of the Dutch Atlantic Council.

