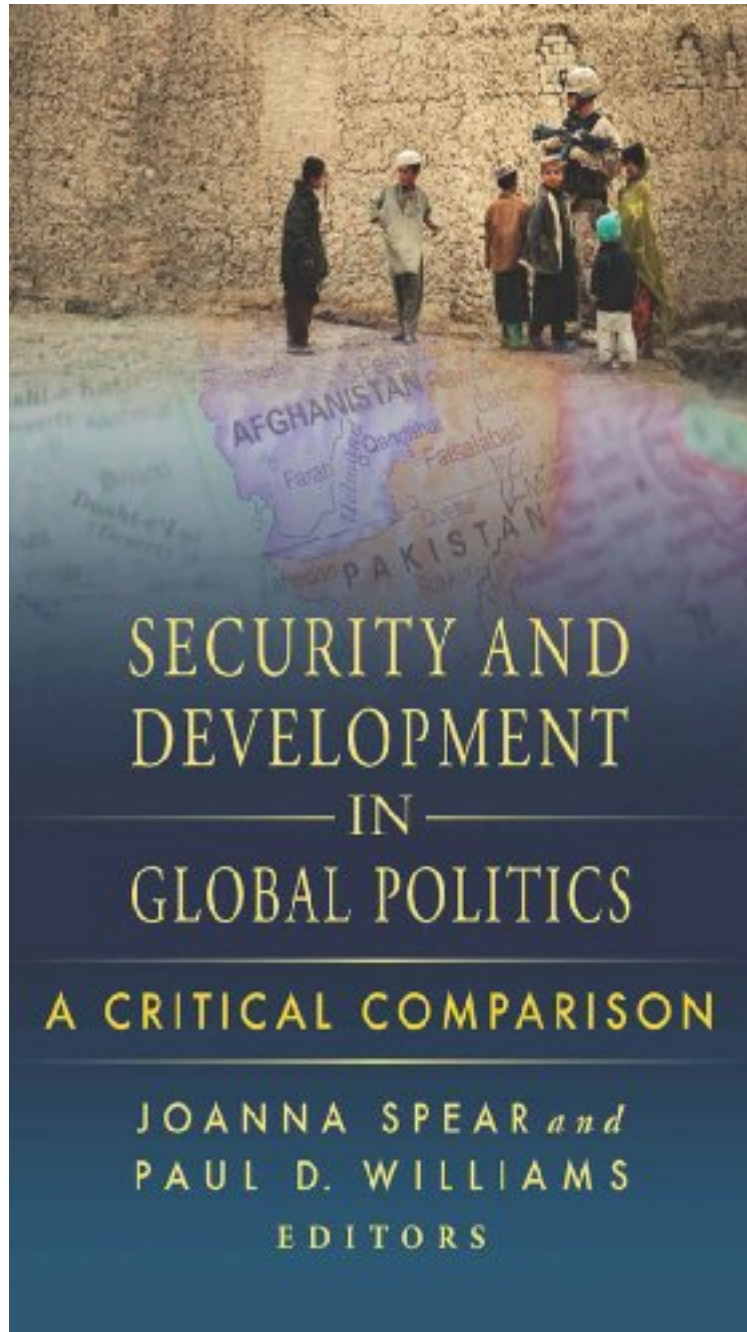


# Security and Development in Global Politics: A Critical Comparison

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## Development in Global Politics: A Critical Comparison:

Security and development matter: they often involve issues of life and death and they determine the allocation of truly staggering amounts of the world's resources. Particularly since the start of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, there has been momentum in policy circles to merge the issues of security and development to attempt to end conflicts, create durable peace, strengthen failing states, and promote the conditions necessary for people to lead healthier and more prosperous lives. In many ways this blending of security and development agendas seems admirable and designed to produce positive outcomes all around. However, it is often the case that the two concepts in combination do not receive equal weight, with security issues getting priority over development concerns. This is not desirable and actually undermines security in the longer term. Moreover, there are major challenges in practice when security practitioners and development practitioners are asked to agree on priorities and work together. *Security and Development in Global Politics* illuminates the common points of interest but also the significant differences between security and development agendas and approaches to problem solving. With insightful chapter pairings—each written by a development expert and a security analyst—the book explores seven core international issues: aid, humanitarian assistance, governance, health, poverty, trade and resources, and demography. Using this comparative structure, the book effectively assesses the extent to which there really is a nexus between security and development and, most importantly, whether the link should be encouraged or resisted.

"This is a very interesting book. Joanna Spear and Paul Williams have taken a very current and relevant area and taken a different approach in analyzing it . . . Overall, I would definitely recommend this book and it is the one that I will certainly use in the classroom. I think the arguments are presented in a very accessible and engaging style, I particularly liked the summary sections within each chapter by the editors and I feel that the innovative structure really provides an excellent way into a set of complex dilemmas."—*Journal of International Development*

"This thought-provoking volume does not merely promote multifaceted dialogues among academics, practitioners, and policy makers, but also offers us a better conceptualized understanding of the security—development relationship."—Kai Chen, Zhejiang University, China, *African Affairs*

"Joanna Spear and Paul Williams have produced an excellent book: comprehensive, wise, and sophisticated. It deserves to be widely read, not only by students but by all those with an interest in the vital issues it raises."—Mats Berdal, professor, Department of War Studies, King's College London

About the Author Joanna Spear is director of the Security Policy Studies Program and an associate professor at the Elliott School of International Affairs at The George Washington University. She is also an associate fellow at Chatham House in London. Paul D. Williams is an associate professor at the Elliott School of International Affairs at The George Washington University.