**A QR Lesson Plan for POL 240: International Politics**

**Topic***:* **A Comparative Analysis of Arms Expenditure and Spending on International Development for the Year 2011**

**International Politics Goals:** Students will reflect on the effectiveness of the major international relations theories in formulating their arguments for the relationship between arms expenditure and international development expenditure.

**QR Goals:**Students will learn to correctly interpret a time series graph. This includes being able to:

* Correctly identify the topic of the graph
* Correctly describe the data represented in the graph (what they are, find and report specific data points accurately
* Correctly draw conclusions from the graph without making inappropriate inferences.
* Propose possible explanations for the data displayed.
* Describe further information that might be needed to assess if an explanation might be correct.

**Required Tasks:**

**PART I**

This assignment is based on data from two sources**:**

* **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute [SIPRI] military expenditure database 1988-2012**
* **ODA [Overseas Development Assistance] Stats 2007 to 2011 compiled by the OECD [Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development**

Using the OECD ODA data provided, create a bar chart, plotting [in **BLUE**] the expenditures of the 23 nations listed in the database for the year 2011.

1. Using the SIPRI Military Expenditure Database provided, identify the military expenditure of the same nations listed in the ODA Database.
2. On the same graph, insert a bar graph of military expenditures [in RED] for the same nations whose ODA spending you have plotted for the same year [2011].
3. Let the y-axis represent expenditure.
4. Discuss the data based on the following criteria:
   1. Which nation had the highest expenditure on arms?
   2. Which nation had the greatest expenditure on development?
   3. Which nation had the largest difference between the two?
   4. Does the graph lend support or refutes Realist theory, Neoliberal Institutionalism or Dependency Theory?

 Resources Needed for Instruction:

* Stockholm International Peace Research Institute [SIPRI] military expenditure database 1988-2012
* ODA [Overseas Development Assistance] Stats 2007 to 2011 compiled by the OECD [Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development
* The graph

**PART II**

Each student will be assigned a nation which appeared on the graph.

1. Using the SIPRI Yearbook 2011 [http://www.sipri.org/yearbook/2011], determine which states were the recipient of arms produced by the nation you were assigned.
2. Using the ***Overseas Development Assistance Data and Guide*** provided, determine how overseas aid was distributed for the nation you were assigned.
3. Discuss any additional observations.