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Security Partnerships in Comparative Perspective

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States often pursue their security and strategic interests through partnerships with other state or non-state actors. The variation of security partnerships is tremendous: building the military capacity of partner forces such as US efforts from the Middle East to Latin America, and beyond; state use of non-state security assistance actors such as private military companies like the Wagner Group; providing external support (often military assistance) to rebel groups. Working through third parties to accomplish security objectives is a risky trade off and often balances opportunities and risks for the sponsor state. This panel will explore various security partnerships, the dynamics that characterize these relationships, and the dilemmas that sponsors and agents face when pursuing their security objectives through the effort of others.

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