



Exploring key concepts in International Politics through the medium of LEGO®

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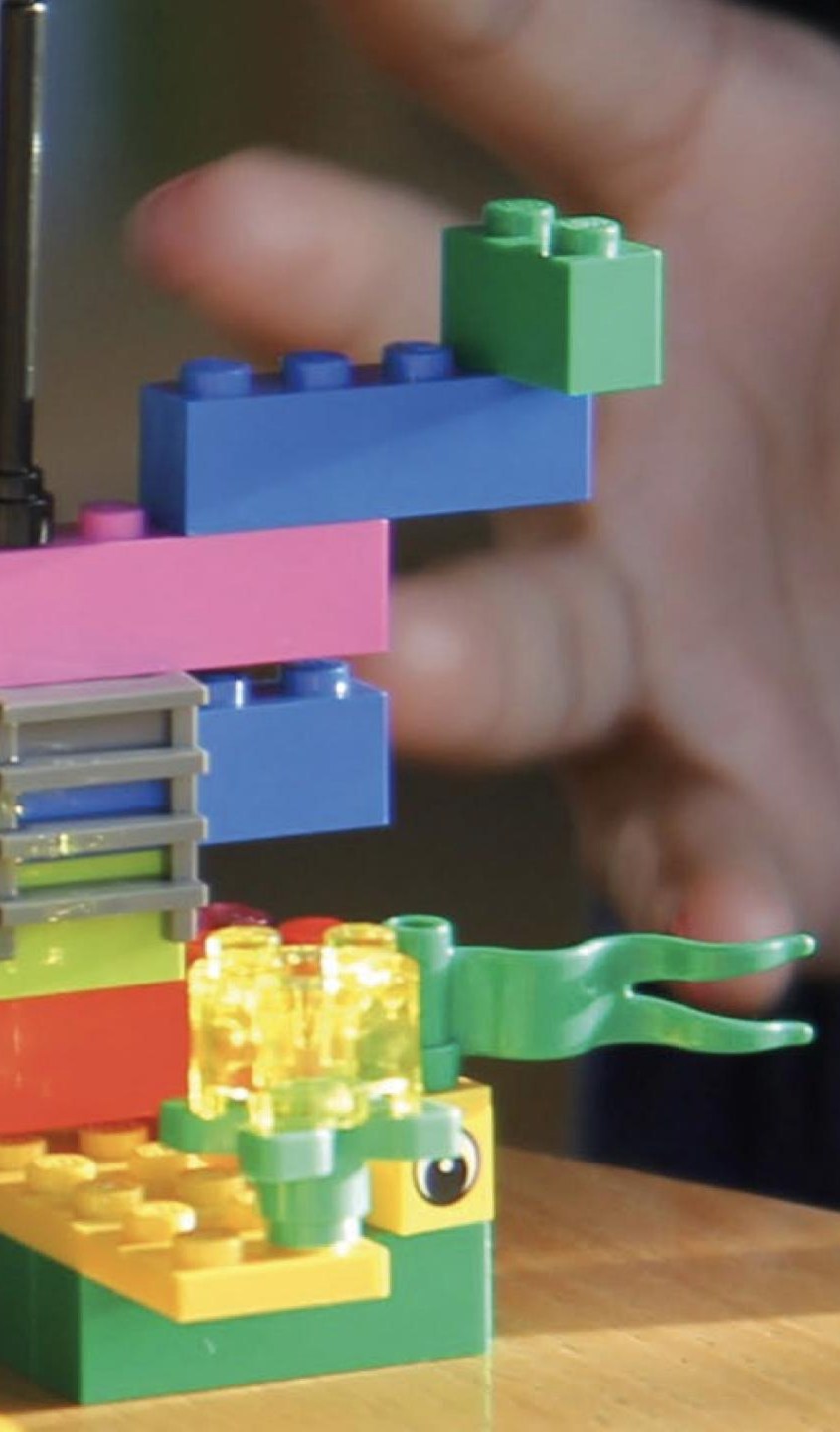
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What is LEGO® SERIOUS PLAY®?

- Developed in the 1990s – strategy in corporate settings
- A structured method for engaging people, getting them thinking differently, and having a different kind of conversation
- Use bricks to communicate thoughts and feelings – a 3D printer for your brain
- Enhanced form of communication to supercharge active engagement
- Workshops, meetings, in the classroom
- **In education:** learning through play (e.g. work by Prof. Alison Jones)



My journey to LEGO® SERIOUS PLAY®

- Interest in creative research methods
- LSP facilitator training in Sept 2024
- Sem 1, 2024 – Exploring the International: Key Concepts in International Politics
- Challenging – new material, complex theories and concepts
- Pilot use of LSP in 4 x 2hr seminars (Welsh medium)
- Learning through doing!

LSP Skills: Bricks as metaphors

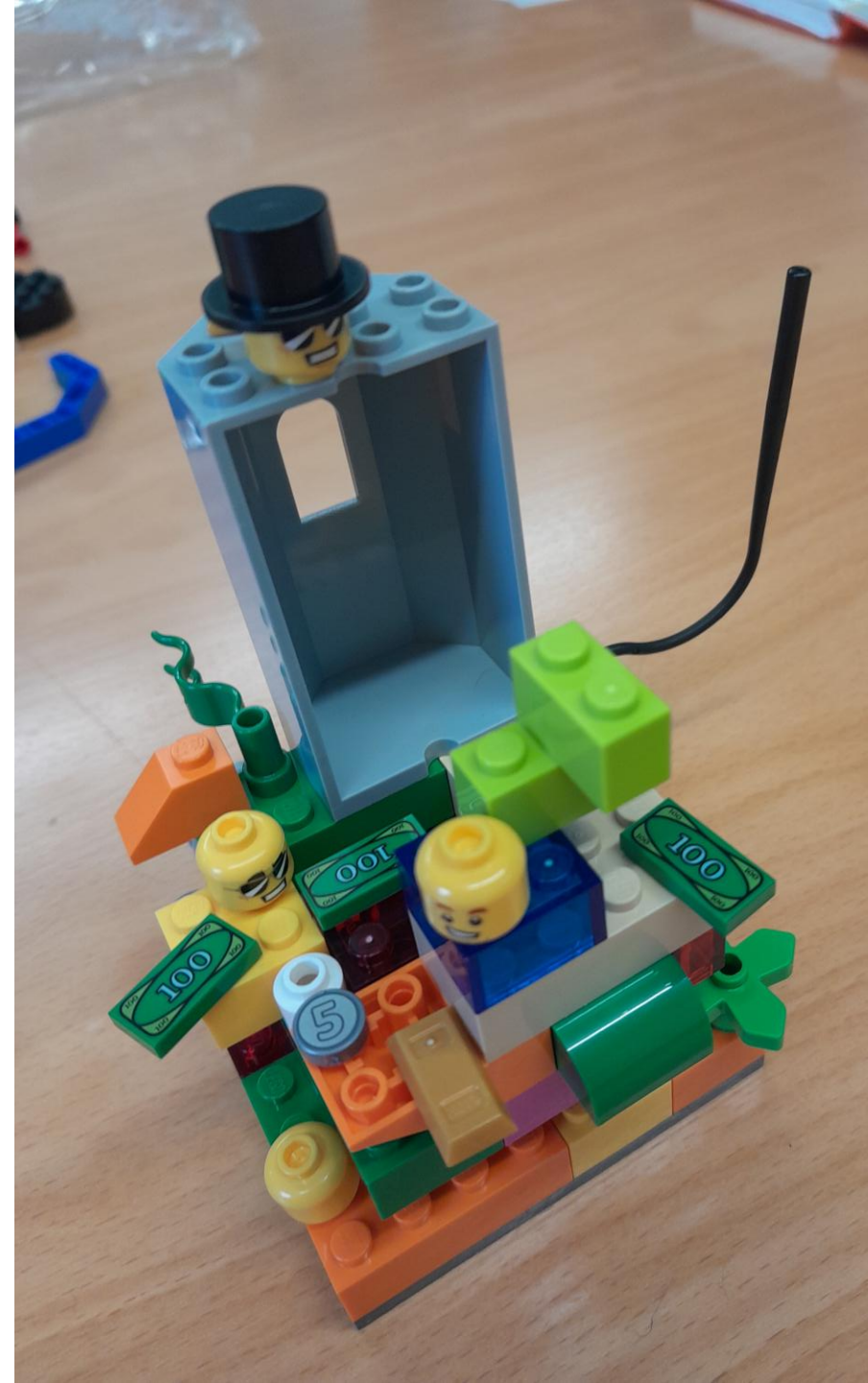
- Using metaphors is KEY in LSP
- You don't need sophisticated LEGO skills, because you can make a brick mean anything you like

LSP Skills: Bricks as metaphors



LSP Skills: Storytelling

- Building a model to answer a challenge/question
- Tell the story of the model, where each brick has meaning



LSP Process



Challenge

Build

Share

Reflect

Reflections 1

- Different kinds of build questions, all worked well
- **Build a model showing the key points that you took from the reading for this seminar**
(+ shared model; what's difficult)
- **Build a model showing what 'sovereign state' means to you**
(+ key themes, what's missing)
- **Build a model of yourself as a student at the end of Semester 1**
(+ self-reflection)



Reflections 2

- LSP takes time – implications for length of sessions
- Accessible method
- Everyone builds, everyone tells
- High engagement, and high quality discussion

→ Fewer builds to give more time for discussion

- REFLECTION IS KEY!

→ Worksheets for individual reflection

- Seminars were fun, students loved the LEGO

SEMINAR 2 – Anghydraddoldebau mewn Gwleidyddiaeth Ryngwladol

Taflen nodiadau a myfyrdo.

Sialens 1 – Beth yw'r pwyntiau mwyaf pwysig i chi o'r darlenniad ar gyfer y seminar?

Sialens 2 – O'r model ar y cyd, oes na unrhyw bwyntiau ychwanegol pwysig am y darlenniad? Oes unrhyw bwyntiau newydd?

Sialens 3 – Beth yw'r prif fathau o anghydraddoldebau sy'n ymddangos yn y model ar y cyd?

Sialens 4 – I ba raddau mae'r hanes o ymherodraeth a cholonoeddlo yn parhau i lunio gwleidyddiaeth ryngwladol heddiw?

What next?

- Same module in S1, 2025-26
- How to assess impact of LSP on student learning?
- Based on students' feedback:
 - Students' self-efficacy – belief in themselves?
- Alternative research questions/frameworks?

If you fancy having a go...

LEGO Serious Play Taster Session

Monday September 15th,
10.00-12.00, Ty Traford