

CyberSecurity as Part of Foreign and Security Policy?



The Participants of the CyberSecurity Conference in Berlin

The IFSH organised together with the German Federal Foreign Office, the Freie Universität Berlin and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) an international conference on cybersecurity on December 13 and 14, 2011 in Berlin. Representatives of various governments (including the United States, Russia, the European Union and China), science, industry and civil society met to discuss different dimensions under the topic "Challenges in Cybersecurity – Risks, Strategies, and Confidence-Building" on these two days. The exchange of ideas and opinions on "cyberwar" as well as the discussion of possible consequences of future threats of state and non-state actors were the aim of the event. In addition, first confidence-building measures were intended to be developed at an international level.

Minister of State, Dr. Werner Hoyer, emphasised the growing importance of the Internet for international politics in his opening speech. The protection of the Internet and its infrastructure should therefore be "a core task for governments" in the 21st Century. About 220 participants attended the conference and were divided into three working groups ("Tracks") on each day to discuss challenges for security and peace in the cybersphere with focus on the preservation of the Internet as a forum for free communication, trade and personal development, identifying the risks and vulnerabilities of the cyber domain, the highlighting of possibilities to build principles, norms, and regimes for appropriate behaviour in (*continuation on page 2*)

Learning Peace Research: The IFSH Doctoral Programme

Are terrorists rational actors? Does the implementation of forest protection areas in Brazil further the occurrence of collective violence? How effective are EU police missions in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Congo? Why do external actors fail to promote regional cooperation in Central Asia? And which role do international bureaucracies play in the fight against terrorism?

These and other questions are addressed by the overall 23 PhD candidates currently affiliated with the IFSH. Their work not only reflects the thematic diversity of the institute but also draws on various theoretical and methodological approaches – from international relations theory over game theory to organizational sociology and from discourse analysis to Qualitative Comparative Analysis. Furthermore, the PhD candidates represent a wide array of countries including Austria, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, and Poland. Previous students came from countries such as Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, PR China and Russia.

So far, the PhD procedure at IFSH has usually followed the traditional German model. Some PhD candidates were funded through project grants and the majority received doctoral scholarships from external foundations. Michael Brzoska advised the political science dissertations and Götz Neuneck covered projects in the natural sciences. Participation in the biweekly doctoral colloquiums is mandatory, but there so far were no additional obligations to attain credit points by attending method courses or other seminars. This has changed with the establishment of the Graduate School at the University of Hamburg's Faculty of Social and Economic Sciences, with which the IFSH is affiliated. It remains to be seen whether the revised procedure will offer benefits to PhD students or will simply mean additional work. In any event, young researchers have been well integrated into the institute's work for a considerable time. The IFSH usually provides even non-employed PhD candidates with working space that can be used full time and most PhD candidates are involved in the work of the different IFSH research units. The permanent presence offers opportunities for informal but intensive exchange with colleagues at the institute. Moreover, the institute's regular research colloquiums host renowned external speakers and also allow PhD candidates to present results of their work.

cyberspace as well as the applicability of international humanitarian law during future cyber conflicts. An international readiness to overcome ideological and definitional differences, which form the foundation for developments on the international level – in the area of norm building as well as developing confidence- and security-building measures – could be observed at the conference. Furthermore, it was highlighted that one forum alone could not substantially deal with the multitude of security challenges facing the community of states in cyber. Therefore the responsibility and dimensions have to be divided and dealt with in different fora under cooperation of various stakeholders and while being complemented by bi- and multilateral consultations between governments, regional and international organisations. Within their project, IFAR is going to continue to work together with UNIDIR on this topic. Götz Neuneck was member of the programme committee and Kerstin Pertermann carried out the organisational work for the IFSH. Oliver Meier, Christian Alwardt and Thomas Reinhold from IFSH took part in the working groups.

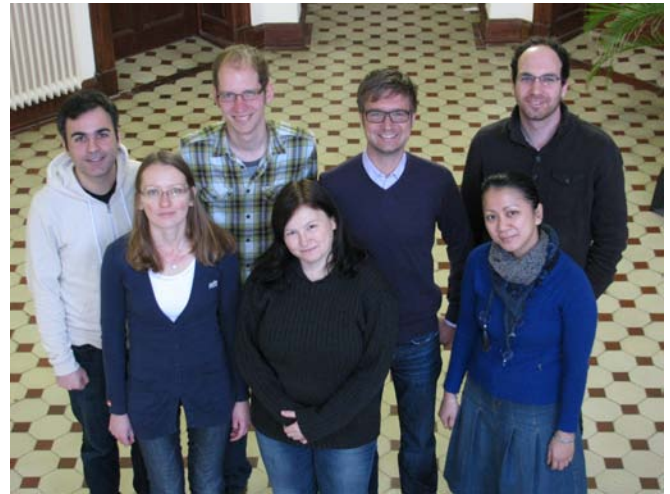
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In its doctoral programme, the IFSH cooperates closely with other institutions in Hamburg and throughout Germany. Michael Brzoska supervises doctoral students not only at the IFSH but also at the German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA) and the Helmut-Schmidt-University of the German Armed Forces. More recently, the IFSH has become involved in the University of Hamburg's „International Graduate School for the Study of Regional Powers“ and the graduate school of the cluster of excellence „Integrated Climate System Analysis and Prediction“ (CLISAP). PhD candidates are also supervised by distinguished external scholars such as Christopher Daase in Frankfurt and Klaus Schlichte in Bremen.

PhD candidates at the institute are confronted with some of the general problems inherent to the German educational system. The number of junior researchers is mushrooming while the share of tenured positions at universities and research institutes is declining. At the early stage of their dissertation, PhD students are routinely focused on getting their research proposal accepted and acquiring funding. They plunge into theoretical work and prepare exciting field research.

There is usually not much time to develop comprehensive plans for the future and realistically assess career opportunities.



PhD students at IFSH

As any other institute, the IFSH should assist PhD candidates in an early “fact-checking” exercise and encourage them to consider potential careers and then move resolutely into one direction or the other. Those striving for a career in academia should not just aim for high-ranking publications; they also have to come to terms with some of the numbers: 84 per cent of the few positions at universities and research institutes are fixed-term and many of them run for a year or less, according to recent statistics presented by the *Hochschulinformationssystem*. Young researchers seeking a sense of certainty due to family or other considerations should show a love for independent research rather than bad nerves. At the same time, PhD candidates searching for a gateway to jobs in consulting or politics do not necessarily require refereed publications and long lists of presentations at academic conferences. Rather, they need politically relevant dissertation topics and opportunities for early networking with potential employers. Due to its position at the intersection of research and policy the IFSH should be well-placed to remain an excellent point of departure for both options.

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The 'Dark' Side of Normative Argumentation in Counterterrorism. International Workshop at IFSH

After 9/11 state actors in different parts of the world and to various degrees decided to give security and counterterrorism measures priority over human rights and fundamental freedoms. In order to legitimize their policy choices, governmental actors argued that these „exceptional“ measures are necessary to ensure security.



The participants of the conference at IFSH

A team of 15 international researchers and experts from research institutions and universities in Europe and Northern America discussed the role of language and analysed the actors, issues and consequences of normative argumentation in counterterrorism at a 2-day workshop, which was held on 18 and 19 November 2011 at IFSH. Among these experts were Richard Jackson (University of Aberystwyth, UK), Andrea Liese (University of Potsdam) and Thierry Balzacq (University of Namur/University of Louvain, Belgium). The workshop was part of the DFG-funded research project 'Subjecting Freedom'.

In the first panel the group reflected on the theoretical and methodological aspects of research related to normative argumentation of state actors. Panel II concentrated on the analysis of two issue areas of counterterrorism where normative argumentation plays a role: the 'war on terror' and the 'torture debate'. The third panel highlighted specific actors, the United States, Great Britain and Russia in particular. The last panel discussed the broader international consequences of normative argumentation counterterrorism on the established normative order in the field of human rights. In a final wrap-up session, the participants of the workshop identified important results and discussed perspectives for further research and cooperation.

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CORE Conducts Meetings in Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan)

In November 2011, Frank Evers conducted a series of meetings with about 20 Kyrgyz governmental officials, OSCE representatives, diplomats and academicians in Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan). The subject of these meetings were experiences with OSCE conflict management during the two Kyrgyz crises in April and June 2010.



*The „White House“ of the Kyrgyzs government in Bishkek
(Foto: Ondřej Žváček)*

In its own view, the OSCE should be a primary instrument for managing conflict in Europe. It has, indeed, earned its stripes, especially during the 1990s. However, at the present time, the participating States appear to be unable or reluctant to exploit the Organization's potential in this respect. They are allowing the OSCE to lose its political reputation as a significant conflict manager and its structural and financial capacities and qualified personnel as well. The inter-ethnic violence in Kyrgyzstan in June 2010 has once again clearly shown the limited scope for action they are giving themselves and the OSCE. This is while the participating States had successfully applied instruments of short-term, small-scale diplomatic intervention during the Kyrgyz public uprising in April 2010. Then, again during the violence in June 2010, they exhibited the substantial limitations the Organization faces should none of them be willing to take significant large-scale action in a weak state with weak political players, competing elites and scarcely assessable potentials for conflict.

Frank Evers discussed these issues along with the specifics of the current Kyrgyz situation during his meetings in Bishkek and in the course of another series of meetings with OSCE officials and representatives of the national delegations to the OSCE in Vienna between September and December 2011. The outcome of these discussions and of an extensive analysis of OSCE documents and secondary literature will be published in the CORE Working Paper titled "OSCE Conflict Management and the Kyrgyz Experience in 2010. Advanced Potentials, Lack of Will, Limited Options".

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PUBLICATIONS

Volume 4/2011 of „Security and Peace“ published

Volume 4/2011 of the journal „S+F. Sicherheit und Frieden, Security and Peace“ focuses on the topic of “Security Apparatuses in Fragile and Authoritarian States”. Guest editors are Michael Ashkenazi and Andreas Heinemann-Grüder. The following articles are included: Paul Jackson: “What are we Talking about when we Talk about Fragile States?”; Conrad Schetter and Rainer Glassner: „Local Configurations of Violence: Warlords, Tribal Leaders and Insurgents in Afghanistan”; Stephan Hensell: “Privatizing the Police. The Political Economy of Law Enforcement in Eastern Europe”; Andreas Heinemann-Grüder: “Patterns of Civil-Military Relations: Patronage and Clientelism”; Denis M. Tull: “Post-Conflict Security Reconstruction versus Entrenched Elite Interests”; Claudia Hofmann and Ulrich Schneckener: “How to Engage Armed Groups? Reviewing Options and Strategies for Third Parties”.

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Margret Johannsen: **Designing Disarmament Strategies. The Case of Hamas**, in: Bernd W. Kubbig/Sven-Eric Fikenscher (eds), **Arms Control and Missile Proliferation in the Middle East**. London (Routledge), 2012, pp. 186-214 (with Ghassan Khatib and Anat Kurz).



This edited volume presents the work of the Multilateral Study Group on the Establishment of a Missile Free Zone in the Middle East. It provides a systematic analysis of the missile threat and proliferation issue in the region and explores the possibility of a reduction in weapon arsenals, based on a

cooperative security concept which includes confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs). In their contribution, Margret Johannsen (D), Ghassan Khatib (PA) and Anat Kurz (IL) focus on the Israeli-Palestinian

conflict. They explore the option of engaging Hamas as part of the Palestinian political system, thereby promoting deescalation of tensions in the Gaza sphere and contributing to the establishment of a future regional arms control regime that includes a Palestinian state alongside Israel.

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