

Gender, Conflict and Climate Change – a largely neglected nexus

On September 16-17, 2013, an international workshop on “Gendering a Sustainable Future: Conflict, Genocide and Climate Change” took place at the KlimaCampus in cooperation with the IFSH. In six sessions, a key note and a closing speech, approx. 35 participants dove deeply into the relationship between gender and conflict/mass violence on the one hand, as well as between climate change and conflict and climate change and gender on the other hand.



Jamal Khalil Sobeh presents his paper on sexualised violence in Syria, chaired by Christiane Fröhlich, IFSH.

In her keynote, Elisa von Joeden-Forgey, Visiting Assistant Professor in Holocaust and Genocide Studies at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, USA, outlined the relationship between gender roles and mass violence and made a strong pledge for including sexual violence and other attacks on what she calls the “reproductive arena” in the term “genocide”. Von Joeden-Forgey defines genocide as a concerted attack on this “reproductive arena”, i.e. on all areas of survival and existence of the targeted group, be it the physical ability to reproduce or cultural, socio-economic or political livelihoods. Von Joeden-Forgey also pleaded for a re-definition of the term “sustainability”, which through over-use and over-stretching has become largely devoid of meaning in recent years. In her opinion, it should focus on the question to what extent groups, relationships and individuals can be and stay sustainable, the answer to which should be treated as a basis on which

to decide whether a specific case of violence can be called genocide or not.

The first paper was presented by Jamal Khaled Sobeh, psychologist at Aachen University. It focused on sexual violence in the current conflict in Syria. First, Sobeh gave an overview of the conflict’s political background as well as of the common understanding and false interpretations of sexual violence. For instance, he underlined that sexual violence is not only committed by men, and that its victims are not only women. Sobeh went on to outline the growing number of rapes in Syria, which according to the available data is predominantly being committed by state forces in order to break and intimidate the insurgents. He also explained the way in which sexual violence can lead to post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and how untreated traumata can influence coming generations.

Bettina Engels of Berlin’s Free University then outlined a theoretic-conceptual framework for dealing with conflicts over natural resources from a social and conflict theoretical perspective. While doing so, she underlined the social constructedness of nature and its value as well as the potential of political ecology as a discipline to include gender aspects of such conflicts in academic analysis. Mary Michele Connellan from the Budapest Centre for the International Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities then described how gender indicators could be used in order to project genocidal tendencies in specific case studies. The final paper of the day was given by Francesca Greco of the UNESCO World Water

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Assessment Programme (UNWWAP), who stressed the crucial role of women both for providing quantitatively and qualitatively sufficient water for households as well as for solving conflicts about scarce water resources. She also underlined the on-going heavy discrimination against women with regard to ownership.

The workshop's second day started with a political roundtable, the participants of which came from different state, non-state and international organizations as well as from academia. The IFSH was represented by its director Michael Brzoska, and the research group "Climate Change and Security" (CliSec) of KlimaCampus was represented by its head, Prof. Jürgen Scheffran. Among others participants were Francesca Greco from the UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme (UNWWAP), Eckhard Volkmann from the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Henri Myrntinen from International Alert as well as Nishat Kazmi from the Heinrich-Böll-Foundation Pakistan.



The political roundtable was organised according to the fishbowl-principle. It was chaired by Elisabeth Hope Murray of the KlimaCampus.

In a lively discussion, the contributors exchanged their perspectives on and respective experience with the nexus between climate change, gender and conflict as well as with gender-specific approaches to conflict resolution in theory and practice. Among the topics discussed were the questions whether "ecocide" is a useful term, the role of context for the development of instruments for conflict resolution or mitigation, as well as the complexity of the proposed nexus, the analysis of which requires answers to questions of, among others, ethnicity, geography and statehood.

In the afternoon, two researchers from the global South presented their papers, both touching on theoretical and methodical issues of violence, gender and climate change as well as presenting detailed case studies.

Chidiebere James Onwutuebe of the Obafemi Awolowo University in Ile-Ife, Nigeria, presented a paper on gender discrimination, structural violence and climate change, and Amie Florette Tchikankou of Actions Vitales pour le Développement from Yaoundé, Cameroon, presented a case study on gender-based approaches to land conflicts in the region Bazou in Western Cameroon. Prof. Jürgen Zimmerer from Hamburg University finally outlined how threatened elites could be interpreted as the root of genocidal tendencies and delineated opportunities and methods of sustainable conflict prevention in his closing speech.



The participants of the workshop, l-r: Amie Florette Tchikankou, Jürgen Zimmerer, Mary Michele Connellan, Giovanna Gioli, Elisabeth Hope Murray, Elisa von Joeden-Forgey, Christiane Fröhlich, Jamal Khaled Sobeh, Tobias Ide, Nishat Kazmi

The workshop was the first in a series of such events which will focus on different aspects of the nexus gender-conflict-climate change. The next two workshops will centre on the resource water and the role of migration in this framework. Moreover, a special issue on the topic will appear in the international journal *Peace Review* in June 2015, edited by the workshop organizers.

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The 5th "Nacht des Wissens" at IFSH

This year again, all four institutes in our house "Beim Schlump 83" will be part of the "Nacht des Wissens". We are happy to welcome our guests from 5 p.m. till midnight. At 7 p.m. the directors will introduce their respective institutes.

The program of the IFSH will be inspired by current affairs. Presentation topics will include: „Mali: Auf dem Weg zu einem "Sahelistan"?" (06.00-06.45 p.m.), „Bürgerkrieg in Syrien – was tun?“ (11.00-11.45p.m.), „Von Drohnen und Killer Robots – die unbemannte Kriegführung“ (08.00-08.45 p.m.), „Piraterie heute“ (05.00-05.45 p.m.), „Afghanistan 2014 – welche Folgen für Zentralasien?“ (10.00-10.45 p.m.). A quiz on war and peace (09.00-10.00 p.m.) and a tour around the library and the documentation will round off the evening.

The whole schedule for the night can be seen here: http://nachtdeswissens.hamburg.de/index.php?article_id=135

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International Workshop

“The Future of Arms Control” in Berlin



The Workshop Panel "Limiting military competition under conditions of military asymmetry", l-r: Oliver Meier, Alyson Bailes, Michael Brzoska, Ralf Fücks, Nikolai Sokov und Steven Pifer.

On September 9-11 the conference “The future of arms control. Cooperative arms limitations and reductions in times of global change” took place at the Heinrich-Böll Foundation (HBS) in Berlin. The workshop was organized by IFSH in cooperation with the HBS and the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP).

Motivation for the conference was the observation that disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation in the conventional field and regarding nuclear, chemical and biological weapons require new momentum and approaches, as the existing regimes and instruments are in a crisis. Disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation efforts are thereby taking place under contradictory conditions. On the one hand, the end of the

Cold War has reduced military competition. On the other hand, East and West have not yet overcome thinking in terms of military balance. The dispute over missile defence in Europe is a case in point. Threats from transnational terrorist networks and the risks associated with the accelerating diffusion of dual-use technologies, and the emergence of novel military technologies such as cyber warfare and drones further complicate cooperative arms control approaches. Regional conflicts are fuelled by the unlimited supply of weapons, especially small arms and light weapons. Particularly in the later context, arms control nowadays appears less targeted towards regulating interstate conflicts but increasingly is expected to prevent conflicts within states or to limit their consequences. Such a broadening of the arms control concept makes it necessary to include new actors, such as the private sector and non-governmental actors.

The workshop discussed these issues from global as well as different regional perspectives. The goal was to debate what functions arms control can be expected to fulfil, to identify the interests of key actors, and develop ideas how modern arms control instruments can be made more effective.

Ralf Fücks and Michael Brzoska opened the workshop, some 50 experts participated in it. The six panels included around 20 speakers, amongst others Alyson Bailes, Mark Hibbs, Patricia Lewis, Nobuyasu Abe, Pervez Hoodbhoy, Nikolai Sokov and Li Hong. The IFSH was represented by Christian Alwardt, Anne Finger, Michael Brzoska and Götz Neuneck.

Anne Finger chaired a public panel discussion on German interests in disarmament, arms control and arms control which was opened by a speech of the Federal Government Commissioner for Disarmament and Arms Control Ambassador Rolf Nickel. Further panellists were the former British Secretary of Defence Lord Browne of Ladyton, Steven Pifer of the Brookings Institution in Washington and Katja Keul, member of the Bundestag (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen).

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DAAD summer school: The Afghanistan Conflict and Central Asia

What happens when the ISAF forces withdraw from Afghanistan, leaving behind a country that is still war-torn? This is an important question most of all for the Afghans themselves and of course also for the ISAF states. But also Afghanistan's neighbors, amongst them Central Asian states, are deeply concerned about the political situation in Afghanistan.



The participants of the Workshop

The second time already, the ISFH organized a summer school on the Afghanistan conflict and its impact on Central Asia. The summer school was financed by the German Academic Exchange Service with funds from the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The participants were 18 young academics from all five Central Asian states and Afghanistan. Half of the participants have already participated in the first summer school, which has taken place in Astana in 2012.

Michael Brzoska, Director of the IFSH, gave three lectures on current debates within the discipline of peace and conflict studies, on the issue of security sector reforms in developing countries against the background of such reforms in Central Asia and Afghanistan, and a third one on the European Foreign and Security Policy after 2014. Thomas Ruttig, Co-Director of the Afghanistan Analyst network offered two lectures on the developments in Afghanistan. The first one was devoted to the social and conflict history of Afghanistan. In a second lecture, he elaborated on political scenarios for 2014 and beyond, paying special attention to the North of Afghanistan. Rustam Burnashev, who is a professor of political science at the German-Kazakh University in Almaty, Kazakhstan, gave two lectures on security risks and security policy in Central Asia. Arne Seifert, Central Asia advisor at CORE/IFSH, organized a colloquium on the political Islam in the framework of the summer school. Among the participants of the colloquium were

representatives of the Islamic Revival Party of Tajikistan as well as of the secular government. Also part of the summer school's program were field trips to politically and historically important places in Tajikistan.

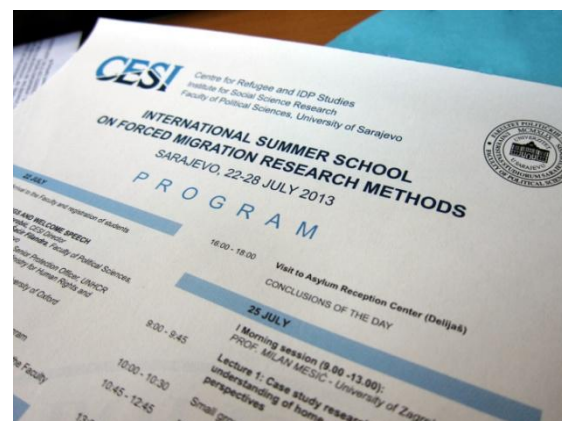
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International Summer School "Forced Migration Research Methods" in Sarajevo

From 22 to 28 July 2013 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the international summer school "Forced Migration Research Methods" took place. The course aimed to contribute to training of young social scientists in the field of forced migration studies, particularly targeting Master's and doctoral students. Drawing on variety of disciplinary approaches, the course predominantly addressed methodological and ethical considerations specific for this field. This multidisciplinary academic field focuses on understanding of the causes and effects of forced migration in order to improve the lives of some of the world's most vulnerable people, i.e. refugees and internally displaced persons.

The summer school was organized and carried out by the Centre for Refugee and IDP Studies (CESI) at the University of Sarajevo in cooperation with the IFSH and the UNHCR in Sarajevo. The DAAD financed the course, including 20 participants from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia and Serbia.



The program of the summer school

The course consisted of lectures, workshops and group work on ethical, psychological, legal and other questions in forced migration research. All lectures and workshops were led by prominent forced migration academics, including Prof. Barbara Harrell-Bond from the University of Oxford, Prof. Brad Blitz from the University of Middlesex, Prof. Milan Mesić from the University of

Zagreb and Prof. Hans-Joachim Heintze from the Ruhr-University Bochum. These were complemented by UN, governmental and NGO experts. A specific aim was to improve the methodological education of participants. Apart from lectures and workshops, participants watched documentary films related to the topic as well as took part in the plenary discussion on the subject of “(Dis)placing Srebrenica: From safe zone to crime against humanity, deportation, mass expulsion and the ensuing struggle for home”.

All participants of the summer school were encouraged to work on the development of their own research project proposal. CESI promised to take the best research proposal and pursue opportunities to finance and implement it. In this way the cooperation with scholars should be further developed and continue in the future period.

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Discussion about Maritime Security with representatives from Business and Politics

To mark the publication of the results of the PiraT project (*Piraterie und maritimer Terrorismus als Herausforderungen für die Seehandelssicherheit Deutschlands: Politik, Recht, Wirtschaft, Technologie*, edited by Ehrhart, Petretto, Schneider, Blecker, Engerer, König) the IFSH organized a podium discussion on the recommendations of the PiraT project with representatives from business and politics. The event was attended by almost 70 participants and was supported by the Hamburg Ministry of Science and Research (BWF). Participants included Daniel Hosseus (Association of German Ship-owners), Niels Annen (SPD), Burkhardt Müller-Sönksen (FDP) and Patricia Schneider (IFSH).

After welcoming the guests the director of the IFSH Prof. Michael Brzoska opened the discussion. He emphasized that piracy could only be approached by an effective collaboration of all actors concerned. Thereby he referred to the concept of security governance on which the PiraT project is based (see <www.maritimesicherheit.eu>). Patricia Schneider (IFSH) presented the results of the project and summarized previous shortcomings to introduce the recommendations for business and politics.

Daniel Hosseus from the Association of German Ship-owners (VDR) commented on the current situation of hostages and the extreme conditions they and their families are exposed to. In particular, he stressed not to underestimate the fact, that piracy would lead to consequences for German export and import industries. In that sense, he recommended Germany take a leading role in the development of maritime security strategies. He also emphasized that ship owners still prefer state forces to private ones.



On the podium (l-r): Michael Brzoska, Burkhardt Müller-Sönksen, Niels Annen, Patricia Schneider, Daniel Hosseus.

Burkhardt Müller-Sönksen (Member of Parliament, FDP), former Captain of the Reserve in the Fleet Commando, pointed to the difficulties in the fight against piracy and prosecution of backers and targeting cash flows. Moreover, he emphasized the importance of the protection of the UN's World Food Program and the successful protection of food supply by Operation Atlanta. Niels Annen (SPD) described piracy in Somalia as a phenomenon of organized crime. Influenced by poverty and collapsing governmental structures, it has enormous consequences on the global economy.

A lively discussion followed with many comments from the audience, which included representatives from the Association of German Captains and Officers (VDKS), captains, jurists, and representatives from the security industry. The new German admission procedures for Private Security Companies (PSC) at Sea were discussed, including how force could be used as situations escalate, the responsibilities of the ship master and their liability in the case of wrongdoings. Furthermore, the influence of illegal fishing and illegal waste dumping were discussed as well as the need to take conflict and social problems at land into account. The consensus of all participants was that maritime security should get more attention.

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Publications

Johann Schmid (2013): Kampfdrohnen, Krieg & Moral. In: *Denkwürdigkeiten, Journal der Politisch-Militärischen Gesellschaft e.V. (pmg) in Berlin, Nr. 84 Juni 2013, ISSN 1436-3070, S. 1-5*, <<http://www.pmg-ev.com/deutsch/dw/2013-84-Denkwaerdigkeiten.pdf>>.

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Denkwürdigkeiten

Currently, unmanned aerial vehicle systems, commonly called “drones”, are attracting considerable political and media attention and are constituting an issue that in most cases is negatively connoted. While the expensive failure in acquiring the strategic reconnaissance drone “Euro Hawk” for the German armed forces (Bundeswehr) moved the minds during the last weeks, the intelligence, i.e. the non-military “drone program” of the American CIA deployed for the targeted killing of terrorist suspects in outlying regions of the world has been criticized on ethical, moral, international juridical and political grounds.

This point dominates the debate about armed so-called “combat drones” in Germany to such an extent that their original, and for Germany only possible and legitimate purpose as a military instrument in the context of existing tasks and the respective mission-spectrum of the Bundeswehr is almost completely being neglected in the political discussion and thus discredited. In this context, options and chances as well as requirements that may arise from this new technology for the fulfillment of military missions in the service of security and peace, with regard to international crisis management and conflict prevention as well as for national or collective defense remain largely unnoted. To scrutinize which contributions “combat drones” can make both as a modern military instrument for the prevention, avoidance, mitigation, and demarcation of potential violent conflicts and to the termination of existing wars, is not only a relevant question for security and defense policy, but it also represents an ethical and moral claim.

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Regina Heller: Wenn Status zur fixen Idee wird. Russland – zur Großmacht verdammt?, in: OSTEUROPA 8/2013, S. 45-58.



When Status Becomes an *Idée Fixe* – Is Russia Condemned to Be a Great Power? Russia’s political elite invokes the country’s great power status as a mantra. Russia, it is said, still has a right to play such a role in global politics, just like the Soviet Union and the tsarist empire. However, Russia’s foreign policy shows that

Moscow is less concerned with an actual increase in power than with the recognition of the social status that comes with being a great power. Russia wants to be involved, consulted, accepted the way it sees itself, and respected. However, its policy is void of content and hardly constructive.

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Imprint

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