

**MPS 2007/2008 Graduation Ceremony -
Ways to a durable peace and farewell to Hans-Joachim Gießmann**

On 10 October 2008, during the graduation ceremony in the main building of the University of Hamburg, the students of the 6th academic year of the Master of Peace and Security Studies were conferred their degree. On the same occasion, the 27 students participating in the 7th edition were welcomed. The event also marked the formal farewell of Prof Hans-Joachim Gießmann, who directed the MPS programme in the past six editions. Since 1 October 2008 Prof Gießmann has been heading the Berghof Research Centre for Constructive Conflict Management in Berlin.

The president of the University of Hamburg, Prof Monika Auweter-Kurtz, confirmed in her speech the support of the University to the MPS programme. Dr Herlind Gundelach, senator for research of the City of Hamburg, referred to the need for top-level research and “a combination of fundamental principles and specialist knowledge” also in the field of peace and conflict studies, which can be effectively provided by the MPS programme. Like the other speakers, Senator Gundelach underlined the outstanding results achieved by Prof Gießmann.

Prof Volker Rittberger, director of the German Foundation for Peace Research, gave a lecture titled “Towards a durable peace? Peace research and its challenges at the beginning of the XXI century”. Hans-Joachim Gießmann took stock of the outgoing class and its results, and, together with Patricia Schneider, the academic coordinator, handed over the Master’s diploma. Prof Götz Neuneck, the new director of studies, wished the new students all the best for the coming year. To wish him good luck in his new role, Gießmann made him a symbolic gift: a magic wand. Denise Völker, held a speech on behalf of the new graduates, giving an account of the year in three different styles. The evening was accompanied by music played on guitar by Naida Mehmedbegovic.

Prof Michael Brzoska concluded the event expressing his thanks to Prof Gießmann for the excellent work at the IFSH as deputy director and, in particular, for the establishment of MPS as an accredited, well-demanded master’s programme. MPS was founded on the initiative of Dieter S. Lutz, former director of the IFSH, but planned, implemented and further developed by Prof Gießmann since 2002.

Gießmann’s merits were also made evident by the large number of participants, including many lecturers from partner institutes, as well as the numerous expressions of acknowledgement for his valuable work. As a leaving present he received a photo collage of all MPS graduates and a direction sign with the name of the IFSH, to show him the way back to Hamburg.

The text of Prof Rittberger’s lecture is available online at:
http://www.ifsh.de/pdf/aktuelles/2008-10-15_Rittberger_MPSVortrag.pdf

Contact
Prof Dr Götz Neuneck
neuneck@ifsh.de

Israel: a Country in Search of Itself

Lecture and discussion with Igal Avidan, Israeli journalist from Berlin

Introduction: Dieter Bednarz (Der Spiegel)

"Till 120" is a traditional Jewish birthday wish. But will Israel, which has celebrated the 60th anniversary of its independence this year, in 60 years still exist? In his book, published this year, Igal Avidan describes – unsentimentally but deeply involved – a torn society and a country at the crossroads.

The event on 13 November was jointly organised by the Society for Christian-Jewish Cooperation in Hamburg, the IFSH, the Institute for the History of the German Jewish (IGdJ) and the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Centre for Natural Science and Peace Research (ZNF).

Event at the IFSH on 26 November

Freedom? Civil Society and NGOs in Russia, Ukraine and Belarus

Civil society free participation has a crucial role in shaping a country's public sphere: the more independent participation, the more self-determination. While in Russia not only politics, but also the civil society seem to be controlled by a "strong hand", Ukraine's civil society has experienced a relatively free development since the 2004 Orange Revolution, although the initial spirit of optimism has been now replaced by political chaos and disenchantment. As for Belarus, a country which is still extremely isolated from the West, not much is known about the internal situation and its local NGOs.

The condition of civil society in these three countries will be the focus of the event on 26 November at the IFSH. The speakers will be Jürgen Hufeland (first chairman of the German-Russian Society in Hamburg), Juri Durkot (journalist and interpreter from Lemberg/Ukraine) and Sascha Tamm (director of the division for Central, South-eastern and Eastern Europe of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation in Potsdam). The discussion will be moderated by Elena Kropatcheva, researcher at the IFSH, and Petra Beckmann-Schulz, political scientist and editor who lives in Hamburg.

Date: 26 November 2008, 18:30 h,

Venue: IFSH, Beim Schlump 83, 2nd Floor, Room 2/023

This event is jointly organised by the Friedrich Naumann Foundation and the German-Russian Society in Hamburg, and sponsored by the Hamburg State Agency for Civic Education.

Gideon Levy and Catrin Ormestad Report from Occupied Palestine

The IFSH, in cooperation with the German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA) and the Hamburg Society for Promotion of Democracy and International Law, has invited two outstanding journalists from Israel to present "Israeli Reports from Occupied Palestine". The event is generously sponsored by the Hamburg Foundation for the Promotion of Science and Culture.

Gideon Levy is a well-known Israeli journalist and peace activist who works for "Ha'aretz", one of Israel's leading newspapers. Mr Levy is one of the few journalists in Israel to focus on the occupation and its on-the-ground effects in Palestine. His colleague Catrin Ormestad is a Swedish journalist who has been living in Israel since 1993. Her work in the Gaza Strip has become immensely important, particularly since Israeli citizens – since the 2006 summer war in

Lebanon – have no longer been able to enter Gaza. Levy and Ormestad will present their findings at the GIGA Forum, and are ready to engage in a discussion with the audience afterwards. The forum will be moderated by Margret Johannsen and Martin Beck, Senior Research Fellows at IFSH and GIGA, respectively, who have been researching and teaching on the Arab-Israeli conflict for many years.

Date: Wednesday, November 26, 2008, 18:00 h
Venue: Neuer Jungfernstieg 21, 20354 Hamburg, Room 519

Contact
Dr Margret Johannsen
johannsen@ifsh.de

Guests at the IFSH

Axel Krohn, expert on conflict resolution of the German Armed Forces Command and Staff College, held a lecture on Conflict Management in Africa during the IFSH's weekly Research Colloquium on 22 October 2008. The presentation was followed by a discussion with Michael Brzoska und Hans-Georg Ehrhart (IFSH/ZEUS).

On 21 October 2008, Jeffrey Rathke, counselor from the political department of the US Embassy in Berlin, visited the IFSH and met Michael Brzoska and his team to discuss questions concerning European Security, Russia's role, disarmament and the situation in Afghanistan.

On 1 Oktober 2008, a special session of the weekly Research Colloquium was dedicated to a panel discussion on strategic perspectives in Afghanistan. MP Norman Paech (Die Linke) and Hans-Georg Ehrhart considered the question of what political approach the international community should adopt in Afghanistan.

Contact
Dr Hans Georg Ehrhart
ehrhart@ifsh.de

Workshop: Teaching Ethics and Peace to Science and Engineering Students

From 15 to 17 October 2008, an international workshop titled “Teaching Ethics and Peace to Science and Engineering Students” took place at the University of Hamburg. The event was jointly organised by ZNF, IFSSH and INES. 30 participants discussed how ethical aspects of peace and disarmament, sustainability and technological impact assessment can be integrated into university curricula in the context of the reform of European universities. The event was opened by, among others, Holger Fischer, vice president of the University of Hamburg, and Prof Cord Jakobeit, vice president of the Academy of Sciences. Prof David Holloway held the introductory lecture, which was also a prelude to the 2nd Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Forum on the Responsibility of Science. The renowned professor of history of science at Stanford University (California) talked about “Scientists, Politics and Peace During the Cold War”. On 14 October 2008, Götz Neuneck and David Holloway were involved in the organisation of a conference titled “Science, Peace and Politics: Is the Vision of a World Free of Nuclear Weapons Realistic?”, which took place in the Magnus House in Berlin in the framework of a series of scientific events.

A documentation on the conference is available online at:
<http://www.znf.uni-hamburg.de/program.pdf>

Contact

Prof Dr Götz Neuneck
neuneck@ifsh.de

Tracing German Security Policy in Berlin

From 9 to 12 October, the 2008/2009 MPS class participated in an excursion to Berlin dedicated to the topic “German Foreign Policy: Between Global Involvement and National Interests”. The students completed a demanding programme of activities under the supervision of two junior officers of the Bundeswehr, as well as Patricia Schneider and Prof Götz Neuneck of the IFSSH. On the first day, Dr Vag from the Federal Chancellery explained how the Chancellery and other federal ministries contribute to shaping Germany’s foreign and security policy. The afternoon was spent in the Hamburg State Representative Office, where John Baumann, former director of the Political Department of the American Embassy in Germany, talked about the 2006 U.S. National Security Strategy, and gave an insider perspective on the difficulties of influencing a government’s political decisions by political expertise. Friday morning was dedicated to Germany’s security and defense policy. At the Bundeswehrverband, Ms Schattschneider presented the duties and political positions connected to the representation of soldiers. Afterwards, Ms Brüning, CDU member of the Bundestag, discussed the changing role of the Bundeswehr, and called for a new culture of honoring fallen German soldiers and the strengthening of foreign deployment of German forces. Friday afternoon, Stefan Bantle, consultant of the Foreign Ministry, gave an overview of his area of expertise, the Middle East conflict, and explained the importance of German diplomacy in the region. Saturday, after a visit to the Reichstag, the field trip ended with a guided bus tour of Berlin.

The several visits and discussions during the excursion made clear that the second pillar of Germany’s foreign policy, after diplomacy, is the multifaceted engagement of the Bundeswehr.

Contact

Dr Patricia Schneider
schneider@ifsh.de

Joint CORE/MGIMO Workshop in Moscow

On 30 September 2008, CORE and the Centre for War and Peace Studies of the Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO) organized a workshop on “Russia and the European Union: Disputes and Common Ground within the OSCE and Beyond”. The event, attended by academics as well as by representatives of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the EU Delegation and the German Embassy in Moscow, was part of a project aimed at improving the dialogue between the EU Member States and the Russian Federation within the framework of the OSCE. The most disputed question was in what way cooperation can be continued, political damage limited and a new framework for co-operative security in Europe created against the background of the recent events in Georgia.

Contact

Dr Wolfgang Zellner
zellner@ifsh.de

EU-Funded Reserach Project EUSECON

On 23 and 24 September 2008, the first partners meeting of “EUSECON - A New Agenda for European Security Economics”, the research project funded by the European Commission within the 7th Framework Programme, took place in the Berlin Representation in Brussels. The IFSH, EUSECON second largest consortium partner, was represented by Michael Brzoska, Regina Heller (ZEUS) and Martin Kahl (ZEUS). Regina Heller presented the preliminary findings of a sub-project which analyses terrorism and organised crime as causes of insecurity. Some of the contributions presented in this first meeting will be published in a special edition of the Journal for Defence and Peace Economics.

Contact

Dr Regina Heller
heller@ifsh.de
Dr Martin Kahl
kahl@ifsh.de

Workshop at Chatham House

On September 17th, Bernt Berger participated in a workshop titled “EU magnets for Chinese Companies: refuting the myth”, in Chatham House, London. The workshop was jointly organised with CASCC, Turin. Berger’s presentation, “Decision makers, strategies and procedures”, was based on the findings of a research trip made with Axel Berkofsky (University Milan/EPC Brussels) in July 2008. Both co-head a research unit at CASCC that is dealing with Chinese investments in Europe. The project is funded by the Italian Foundation Compagnia San Paolo and is part of a research cluster with Chatham House and the University of Bologna.

Contact

Bernt Berger, MPhil
berger.ifsh@web.de

IFAR² Lectures on Arms Control and Disarmament Visit to the former Semipalatinsk Test Site in Kazakhstan

On September 25, Oliver Meier spoke to the study group “Peace and Security” of the Federation of German Scientists on the US-India nuclear deal. The working group meeting was organized by its co-ordinator Götz Neuneck.

From 11 to 18 September, Oliver Meier participated as an observer in the on-site inspection exercise of the Provisional Technical Secretariat of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization at the former Soviet nuclear test site in Semipalatinsk, Kazakhstan.

At the FONAS Annual meeting, which took place at the German Foundation for Peace Research in Osnabrück from 29 September to 9 October 2008, Götz Neuneck spoke about the Iranian Nuclear Programme and Hans-Christian Gils about simulations of missile defense trajectories.

From 16 to 18 September, the Center for Transformation together with the Institute for Political Science of the University of the German Federal Armed Forces organized a conference on “Space and Proliferation”. The introductory session began with a lecture by Ambassador Peter Gottwaldt, High Commissioner for Disarmament, Nonproliferation and Arms Control of the Federal Government. This was followed by Götz Neuneck’s report on the possibilities of a weaponization of outer space. Prof Neuneck also participated in the working group “International law and arms control”.

On 13 September, Götz Neuneck participated in the well-attended IPPNW Congress “Culture of Peace” in the Urania in Berlin. He held a lecture on nuclear disarmament and missile defense, focussing on the connection between missile defense and nuclear deterrence.

Contact

Dr Oliver Meier
oliver@armscontrol.org
Prof Dr Götz Neuneck
neuneck@ifsh.de

CORE's Second International Central Asia Conference

From 15 to 17 September 2008, CORE's second International Central Asia Conference "Co-operation with Central Asia - The Potential of the EU's Central Asia Strategy" took place in the Protestant Academy in Loccum. The event was organized by Anna Kreikemeyer and Wolfgang Zellner in co-operation with Corinna Hauswedell from the Loccum Academy. The conference combined the analysis of Central Asia's regional cooperation problems with a critical review of the implementation of the 2007 EU Strategy for Central Asia. Top-level political and academic experts discussed the potential for cooperation currently coming to the fore in the areas of education and science, including, for example, environmentally-oriented water management and intercultural and interreligious dialogue. A lessons learnt forum provided the opportunity to share information and exchange views on existing or completed cooperation projects with Central Asian partners. The conference organizers succeeded in bringing together more than 100 participants, including 32 panelists, among them twelve from the five Central Asian states. A conference video is available under <http://www.core-hamburg.de/CORE/newsevents.htm>

Contact

Dr Anna Kreikemeyer / Dr Wolfgang Zellner
core-training@ifsh.de

PSIO Focus Conference "OSCE Future Operations and Leadership" in Geneva

On 12 and 13 September 2008, Wolfgang Zellner, Head of CORE, participated in the PSIO Focus Conference "OSCE Future Operations and Leadership", and held a presentation on "The Status of OSCE Field Operations". The conference, yearly organized by the Programme for the Study of International Organizations at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, brought together academics, diplomats and OSCE practitioners in order to discuss a broad range of questions, from the current situation of the OSCE to the programmatic approaches of the forthcoming chairmanships. Of course, the most debated issues were the recent events in Georgia and the possible consequences for the future of the OSCE.

Contact

Dr Wolfgang Zellner
zellner@ifsh.de

Workshop: Democratic Budget Policy

From 9 to 12 September, Michael Brzoska participated in a workshop on democratic budget policy in Stellenbosch, South Africa, organized by the Joint Conference Church and Development (GKKE). He gave a presentation on military budgets and military exports to the audience of parliamentarians, church representatives and NGOs.

Contact

Prof Dr Michael Brzoska
brzoska@ifsh.de

Conference: European Consortium for Political Research

At the 2nd Graduate Conference of the European Consortium for Political Research, held at the Universitat Autònoma in Barcelona from 25 to 27 August 2008, Sybille Reinke de Buitrago presented a paper entitled "The Impact of Psychological-Cultural Factors on Concepts of Fighting Terrorism: Learning Processes and Chances for Deescalation". The analysis of the American and the German approaches to the fight against terrorism focused on the psychological-cultural aspects underlying each country's strategy. The paper shows how the lessons learned in the past years and their peace potential are shaped and, at the same time, limited by those aspects. The conference offered a good overview of current research projects carried out by junior researchers in the area of political science in Europe, and thus reflected great diversity. The programme was completed by expert round tables and the opportunity for intensive exchange.

Contact

Sybille Reinke de Buitrago, M.A.
reinkedebuitrago@ifsh.de

Publications

German edition of the OSCE Yearbook 2007 published

The German edition of the OSCE Yearbook 2007 will be published this autumn. Issues analysed in depth include the effects of the Kosovo status negotiations on Russian-EU relations and the *de facto* states in the post-Soviet space and the consequences of Russia's suspension of the CFE treaty. The special focus section on tolerance and non-discrimination includes contributions by Ambassador Dieter Boden, the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office on Combating Intolerance and Discrimination against Muslims, Ömür Orhun, and the Secretary General of the OSCE, Marc Perrin de Brichambaut. All the texts included in that section have been made available by the OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights via its TANDIS portal (<http://tandis.odihr.pl>). Thanks to an agreement with the NOMOS publishing house, the full texts of all but the latest editions of the OSCE Yearbooks are also available for download in English and German on the CORE website.

Contact

Ursel Schlichting, M.A. / Graeme Currie
schlichting@ifsh.de / currie@ifsh.de

Oliver Meier, NATO Mulls Nuke Modernization, Security, in: Arms Control Today, Vol. 38, No.7, September 2008, pp. 37-39. The article summarizes NATO's reactions to accusations of security problems at US nuclear weapons bases in Europe.

Oliver Meier, Die Zukunft regionaler Rüstungskontrolle [The future of regional arms control], in: Die FriedensWarte 2-3/2008, pp. 155-176. The article analyses the functions of regional arms control regimes and summarizes the successes of regional arms control in Europe, the Middle East and South Asia. It argues that, in the future, regional arms control is likely to contribute to the solution of regional conflicts and the strengthening of global arms control norms.

Götz Neuneck, Möglichkeiten einer Rüstungskontrolle im Weltraum [Possibilities of arms control in outer space], Rüstungskontrolle im 21. Jahrhundert, in: Die Friedens-Warte, 2-3/2008, pp. 13-33. This article analyses current developments related to the weaponization of outer space, and discusses confidence-building measures and arms control concepts to prevent an arms race in space.

Götz Neuneck, China's ASAT Test – A Warning Shot or the Beginning of an Arms Race in Space?, Yearbook on Space Policy 2006/2007: New Impetus for Europe. European Space Policy. Institute. Wien, Springer-Verlag, 2008, pp. 211-224. This contribution in the first issue of the new Yearbook on Space Policy describes the 2007 Chinese anti-satellite missile test and analyses the reactions in China and the international community, as well as the implications for space security.

Götz Neuneck, The Revolution in Military Affairs. It's Driving Forces, Elements and Complexity, in: Complexity 1/2008, pp. 50-61. This peer-reviewed article describes the arguments, elements and implications of the so-called Revolution in Military Affairs.

Götz Neuneck, Unreif, provozierend, kontraproduktiv [Immature, provocative, counterproductive], in: Welttrends – Zeitschrift für Internationale Politik 62/2008, pp. 119-125. The article describes the technical problems as well as the status of the U.S. missile defence project in Europe.

Imprint

Responsible for this issue:

Michael Brzoska, Susanne Bund, Annelisa Cotone, Anna Kreikemeyer