

For the 8th Time: Ways out of Violence: Change, Networking and Awakening



Panel and Participants (Photo: Jochen Rasch, IFSH)

On 10 February 2017, the one-day workshop “Ways out of Violence” took place for the 8th time at the IFSH, in cooperation with the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Centre for Science and Peace Research (ZNF). The purpose of this interdisciplinary information exchange on research projects and research subjects is increased content-related networking between the peace-relevant institutes and working groups in the metropolitan Hamburg region. In light of the changes in global politics - visible to all - it makes sense for those institutions which deal with topics of peace and conflict to draw closer together. About 50 researchers in various disciplines, among others, those from the University of Hamburg, the ZNF, the Helmut-Schmidt University and the IFSH, came to give lectures on the newer developments in peace and conflict research and discuss the topics with colleagues.

The spectrum of topics ranged from arms control of drones and bio-weapons, through the transformative effects of war and the refugee crisis, up to the management of security in Africa and the consequences of military interventions. Also dealt with were questions of peace ethics and of international law. In the closing panel discussion, chaired by Götz Neuneck, with the participation of Anna Geis (HSU), Stefan Oeter (University of Hamburg), Gerald Kirchner (ZNF), Michael Brzoska and Martin Kahl (both from IFSH), concrete suggestions for enhanced collaboration among the interested institutions were discussed to lay the foundation for possible further cooperation

and research projects.

The ideas discussed ranged from the creation of a homepage and a short, structured self-portrayal to the organization of a joint “Hamburg Peace Day”. To maintain and strengthen Hamburg as the peace location, it is also necessary to create well-functioning and competitive working groups, which can achieve visibility in the metropolitan area of Hamburg. From the public came the ideas of a scientific café as well as the strengthening of scientific peace research and of a peace-building module. The dialogue between those groups interested in peace topics will be continued in a further round of discussions.

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Scientific Expertise in the Bundestag

On 15 February 2017, an expert symposium on the topic of “Scientific Peace Research in Germany” was held in the German Bundestag with strong participation of the IFSH. Michael Brzoska, Götz Neuneck and Christian Alwardt took part in this. The event was organized by the German Peace Research Foundation, together with the Research Consortium for Science, Disarmament and International Security (FONAS). In the course of the event, members of the Bundestag, as well as staff from various ministries and authorities, were “briefed” on the state of individual research projects.



Opening of the expert symposium at the Bundestag by Ute Finckh-Krämer, Member of Parliament and the head of the German Peace Research Foundation Prof. Ulrich Schneckener (f.l.t.r)

Within the framework of the expert symposium, the IFSH was represented with two keynote speeches. Götz Neuneck lectured on the topic of “Nuclear Disarmament and Stability: New Challenges for Nuclear Arms Control”. With the aid of selected examples, he showed that the current arms control architecture does not incorporate many strategic technologies and that an improved understanding of stability, predictability and transparency is not possible without basic scientific research. Christian Alwardt, in his short lecture, examined the field of “Unmanned Systems in Nanotechnology: New Technologies as a Challenge for Conventional Arms Control”. Here, new developments in the area of autonomic, unmanned systems, robotics, cyber technology and nanotechnology, which have not yet appeared on the radar screen of conventional arms control, are conceivable but must, however, be borne in mind. The participants, among them, four members of the Bundestag, high-level officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of the Federal Office for Geosciences and Raw Materials, were in agreement that the expertise of scientific peace research should not get lost in the coming years but, rather, must be strongly promoted.

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Three MPS-students awarded with “Deutschlandstipendium”

The “Deutschlandstipendium” is a scholarship to support high-achieving and committed students from all over the world. The University of Hamburg educates 42,000 students. 73 of them are awarded this specific scholarship and three of them are part of the MPS

program: Diana Alpysbayeva from Kazakhstan, Yasmina Najar and Laura Groß from Germany. On 24th of January, 2017 the university’s vice president Prof. Jetta Frost handed over the scholarship certificates in the presence of several sponsors at the ceremonial hall of the university hospital Eppendorf. As the “Deutschlandstipendium” wants to support the integration of migrants, a special emphasis was placed on students from migrant families. In addition, 12 scholarships were given to refugees. The high academic achievements, social and community engagement as well as experience in the field of sustainability of the students chosen were persuasive for the selection



At the awards ceremony: (f.l.t.r.) Yasmina Najar, Laura Groß, Diana Alpysbayeva

Committee. In addition to a monthly payment of 300€, the scholarships offer regular meetings to connect with other scholarship holders, as well as sponsors, and to improve their knowledge in diverse fields. During the winter semester 2016/17 the program included e.g. a historical tour through the university, a project management course at Ernst & Young as well as an introduction to founding a Start-Up at the Airbus BizLab. Those events are often made possible by industrial sponsors which, together with foundations and private sponsors, finance half of the scholarship, while the other half is paid by the Federal Government. Two of the here named scholarships were kindly sponsored by the “Verein zur Förderung des Instituts für Friedensforschung e.V.” (VFIF) as well as one by Prof. Brzoska and his wife Ms. von Hoffmann.

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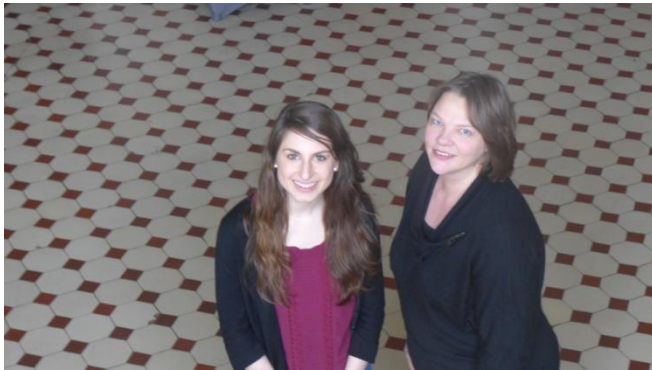
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IFSH at the ISA Annual Convention 2017 in Baltimore

Reem Ahmed and Regina Heller represented IFSH at this year’s International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Convention that took place from February 22-25,

in Baltimore/Maryland, USA. Under the theme “Understanding Change in World Politics” the convention dealt with different manifestations, actors, markers, sources, and implications of change in the international sphere.

Regina Heller presented a paper entitled “Changing Anger Patterns in Russian Foreign Policy towards the West: Perceived Status Deprivation and its Consequences”, which was part of a theory-focused panel on “Constructivist Approaches to the Study of Emotions in International Relations”.



Reem Ahmed and Regina Heller

Her contribution represented the first compilation of results taken from her DFG research project “Claiming respect. The socio-emotional dimensions of Russia’s relations with the West”.

Reem Ahmed and Daniela Pisoiu presented an exploratory study entitled “The (Extreme) Right Online”, which was based on a Twitter dataset of right-wing extremists compiled by VOX-Pol researchers. The authors analyzed hashtag co-occurrences and linked-to URLs in order to demonstrate the overlaps that exist within the right-wing scene online. This paper was part of a panel entitled, “Violent Extremism, Terrorism, and the Internet: Contemporary Issues and Cases” and included VOX-Pol colleagues from Dublin City University (DCU) as well as researchers from Georgia State University (GSU).

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Teacher Training Seminar at IFSH Peace Report 2016 Educational Put To Test

In cooperation with the Hamburg Institute for Teacher Training and School Development (LI), represented by Martin Brück, Head of the Department Global Learning in the State Institute, and the Berghof Foundation/Programme Peace Education and Global Learning in Tübingen, the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg (IFSH) on

February 20, 2017 hosted a training seminar for secondary school teachers, based on the newly launched brochure “Friedensgutachten 2016 didaktisch. Unterrichtshilfen und Materialien”.

The Peace Report, the joint yearbook of the German Institutes of Peace and Conflict Research, is widely appreciated in the education sector for providing use-



At the continuing education courses, (f.l.t.r.) Martin Brück, Julia Oschinski, Uli Jäger, Margret Johannsen

ful background information on the topics of war and peace, conflict and violence. The brochure is based on the 2016 Yearbook. Designed for use at the Secondary School Level II, it presents the main findings of the Peace Report 2016 and processes the material for classroom use.

With the chapters “Flight”, “Arms Exports”, “Responsibility to Protect (R2P)” and “Radicalization/’Islamic State’ (IS)”, the brochure takes up political issues which are not only controversially debated in society, but also provide multi-layered linkages to the educational practice and curricula. The brochure processes the very topical challenges using short texts, photos, caricatures and working instructions for classroom use. The brochure targets teachers in the professional field of global learning, in the school subject politics/society/economy and related subjects as well as in extra-curricular civic education.

The training seminar focused on conveying background information as well as practical guidance for handling the topics and use of the brochure in the classroom. Uli Jäger (Tübingen) gave an introduction to the program peace education and global learning and its interactive online offers, Julia Oschinski (Tübingen) presented the four chapters of the brochure and the working advices for each of the



chapters, and Margret Johannsen (Hamburg) provided information about the latest Friedensgutachten as a resource.

With a prospective continuation of the project “Friedensgutachten didaktisch” in mind, the organizers and participants of the seminar agreed on feedback concerning the use of the brochure at school.

„Friedensgutachten 2016 didaktisch“ was authored by Julia Oschinski und Nadine Ritzki (Tübingen). The editorial responsibility lay with Uli Jäger (Tübingen) and Margret Johannsen (Hamburg). The project was sponsored by the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg/Office for Science, Research and Gender Equality. The brochure is available free of charge, on request and as long as stocks permit also in class sets.

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Planned Activities of the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions in 2017

The OSCE Network plans two projects in 2017, which build on the activities of 2016. The first project has the working title “Divergent Narratives on the Evolution of the European Security Order: A Critical Oral History Project Focusing on 1989-90”. The project seeks to facilitate a more informed debate on the sources of the different threat and security narratives throughout Europe. At the heart of the project would be two critical oral history workshops, in which personal recollections of eyewitnesses and protagonists are confronted with empirical, archival evidence of crucial meetings and decisions. Zooming in exclusively on the events of 1989-90 will allow the project to benefit from a more comprehensive archival access to original documents which have recently been or are about to be declassified.

The aim of such a workshop would not be to put blame on one side or the other for decisions made in the past. Rather, the objective is to understand motives on all sides and to provide a more nuanced version of what really happened behind-the-scenes.

The second project’s working title is “Confidence-Building Measures in the OSCE Economic and Environmental Dimension”. The main context for this project is the current state of relations between Russia and the West. Though the deterioration of these relations was mostly caused by political and security issues, it has often been played out through economic or trade sanctions and embargoes. The overall intention of the project is to come to a systematic understanding of good experiences with CBMs and the structure and functioning of economic and environ-

mental CBMs and to develop recommendations on how to make use of them for the purpose of building security in the OSCE area.

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Australian Ambassador, Lynette Wood at IFSH



F.l.t.r.: Roy Macleod, Ambassador Lynette Wood, Götz Neuneck

Thanks to the good offices of the current Visiting Fellow from Sydney, Roy MacLeod, the Australian Ambassador Lynette Wood, visited the IFSH on 24 February 2017. More than 20 interested persons, among them representatives of the ZNF, the ITHF as well as Master’s students, gathered at the Institute on Friday afternoon to discuss the current political situation in Europe and the Indo-Pacific Region with Ambassador Wood. The guest emphasized her interest in free, academic discussions without bureaucratic restraints in Berlin and referred to the topics of the pending G20- Summit in Hamburg, which also require scientific analysis.

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Publications



Herausgeber:
Prof. Dr. Michael Brzoska
Dr. Walter S. Fischinger
Dr. Volker Franke
Prof. Dr. Hans J. Gissmann
Prof. Dr. Heiner Hanggi
Dr. Sabine Jabrig
Dr. Axel Krohn
Dr. Patricia Schneider

Themenschwerpunkt/Thematic Focus:
Digitale Technologien und Konflikt
Digital Technology and Conflict
Leveraging the Voice of Social Media for Peace and Security
Rebecca LeFebvre
Narratives of Risk: Assessing the Discourse of Online Extremism and Measures Proposed to Counter It
Matti Pohjonen and Reem Ahmed
Suggesting Resonance: Social Media and the Predictive Policing of Riots
Clemens Binder
Networked Authoritarianism is on the Rise
Tobias Burgers and David S. Robinson
Zur Verantwortung der Informatik in einer technologisierten Gesellschaft
Thomas Reinhold
The Future of UAVs: Lessons From the 'Great War'
Michael Ashkenazi
HerausgeberInnen:
Imène Ajala, Candino Francesco Candino und Linda Fouad

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Normos

S+F. Security and Peace, Issue 4/2016, Digital Technologies and Conflict

Digital technology is changing the world more rapidly and more profoundly than any other invention in history. The fundamental shift in the nature of state power and the emerging possibilities for mobilization and collective action at the

sub-national level that are facilitated by digital technologies are widely acknowledged. However, to date, there has not been a systematic analysis of the dynamics that shape and the effects that result from this shift or the impact of digital technologies on democratic governance, mobilization for collective action, political violence and conflict in general.

This issue of S+F, published by *Volker Franke*, seeks to close this gap and explore the rapidly changing dynamics underlying the relationship between citizens, the state and the private sector in the digital age, with specific focus on issues related to democratic governance, political stability, and national and global peace and security. *Rebecca LeFebvre* explores the latest techniques for mining social media data to discover trends in public discontent, terrorist messaging, and conflict prevention. Specifically, her article examines techniques used to explore social networking on the Dark Web, calls for a more systematic analysis of the diversity of voices in social media and for the identification of opportunities to use social media to reach more people, *Matti Pohjonen* and *Reem Ahmed* show that promises of digital technology as a harbinger of citizen participation and accountable governance are being accompanied by rising concern over possibilities for using new media as a platform for recruitment for or engagement in violent online political extremism.

Clemens Binder argues that the increasing reliance on Big Data for interior security has shifted law enforcement strategies from response to prevention. While such predictive policing allows for the early detection and possible prevention of (especially violent) protests, it may also curb the democratic expression of discontent.

Tobias Burgers and *David S. Robinson* warn that autocratic regimes may learn to shut down networked platforms and that the authoritarian (mis)use of social media platforms may severely undermine the influence of Western notions of digital democracy as a force for "good."

Thomas Reinhold discusses the emerging role and responsibility of computer sciences to shape technological advancements for a peaceful and non-military application of cyberspace.

Finally, *Michael Ashkenazi* examines the evolution of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) over the last century and argues that the historical trajectory of military aviation during World War I is currently being replicated in drone warfare.

Outside the special section *Imène Ajala*, *Francesco Candino* and *Linda Fouad* discuss the topic of foreign terrorist fighters with the examples of France and Great Britain.

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Reinke de Buitrago, Sybille. 2016. The Meaning of Borders for National Identity and State Authority. In: *Border Politics: Defining Spaces of Governance and Forms of Transgression*, eds. Cengiz Günay and Nina Witjes. ADD-On 15/16, Yearbook of the Austrian Institute for International Affairs – oiip, Springer International Publishing (2016 e-book, 2017), p. 143-158.

Discussed are the potentially changing meaning of national borders in the refugee crisis, and the implications for state authority and for national identity (debates). From a conceptual perspective and based on critical geopolitics and post-structuralism, the chapter focuses on the processes of bordering, ordering and othering. While national borders function to distinguish, demarcate and maintain a particular socio-political system, with specific norms, borders are also points of contact. In a globalized world, new processes of identification with and differentiation from an 'other' are, thus, likely to emerge.

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Staff News

Since January 2017 **Johanna Polle** has been a researcher for IFAR² at the IFSH, where she conducts research on (non-)proliferation of drone technology. She is interested in issues of arms proliferation and arms control, unmanned systems, and international security norms. Previously,



she received a Master of Philosophy in International Relations from the University of Oxford (St Antony's College), where she specialized in Strategic Studies. Her master's thesis on American and British UAV-discourses was supervised by Kalypso Nicolaidis and

Jonathan Leader-Maynard. During her undergraduate studies in Political Science, she studied in Göttingen, Milan, and at the University of Hamburg. Before joining the IFSH, she had internships in communication agencies, an NGO, and in the Berlin office of MP Niels Annen, Spokesman on Foreign Affairs of the SPD Parliamentary Group in the German Bundestag.

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Imprint

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