

CORE Annual Report 2014

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Foreword

The activities of CORE in 2014 largely took place under the shadow of the intensive security discussions, which we have observed throughout Europe since the outbreak of the crisis in Ukraine. This also applies to the three topics that figured most prominently on CORE's agenda in 2014: research projects and other activities related to Central Asia, two major projects of the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions, and two OSCE-related training courses.

CORE's 2014 research activities clearly focused on Central Asia. Two project proposals were submitted to the Volkswagen Foundation on: "The Local Social Order and Prospects for a Local Turn in Peace Building in the Kyrgyz Fergana Valley" by Anna Kreikemeyer and "Reconstructing Political Legitimacy in Central Asia" by Sebastian Schiek. These were complemented by two PhD projects on the secular-Islamic dialogue in Tajikistan (Nodira Aminova) and on the implications of NATO's withdrawal from Afghanistan on Central Asia (Azamjon Isabaev). Additional activities included a DAAD summer school in August on modernization and conflict in Central Asia, held in Almaty, and the 2nd Hamburg Central Asia Day in December 2014.

The OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions, which was founded in 2013 and is currently co-ordinated by Wolfgang Zellner, started its first major activities. Thanks to the generous contributions of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, the Foreign Ministry of Finland, the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the German Federal Foreign Office, the Network was able to implement two projects: one on "Threat Perceptions in the OSCE Area", and another one on "The Future of OSCE Field Operations (Options)". Each project was supported by about 20 Network member institutes, organized two workshops, and produced a report that was presented to the OSCE community in Vienna or Basel.

Training on OSCE-related issues was the third highlight in 2014. In September, CORE conducted a training course in Belgrade for members of the Serbian Chairmanship team from several ministries. Also in September, CORE organized its first training to prepare Mongolian diplomats from the capital and from Vienna for the chairmanship of the OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation.

A good part of what was done in 2014 would not have been possible without the generous support of the German Federal Foreign Office. CORE has profited greatly from this extremely productive relationship. We are very grateful for the financial assistance CORE has received, as well as for the fruitful exchanges we have had with the Foreign Office staff, especially with the OSCE unit and with the Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the OSCE. CORE is also very grateful to all of the other institutions that have supported and co-operated with us, particularly the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, the Foreign Ministry of Finland, the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and the German Academic Exchange Service. We look forward to another productive year in 2015 – a year devoted to co-operation with the 2015 Serbian Chairmanship and preparation for the 2016 German Chairmanship.

Wolfgang Zellner

1. CORE Profile

The Centre for OSCE Research (CORE), which is part of the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg (IFSH), is the only institution specifically dedicated to research on the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). It was founded in January 2000 in the presence of German Federal President Johannes Rau and OSCE Secretary General Jan Kubis. CORE is headed by Dr Wolfgang Zellner.

The IFSH, established in 1971 as a civil-law foundation, analyzes threats to peace and international security, following a policy-oriented approach. Currently, the IFSH has about 50 employees. Its Director is Prof. Michael Brzoska.

The IFSH's research agenda ranges across questions of European security, arms control, transition processes in Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy, transnational risks and threats as well as aspects of global governance. From its inception, the IFSH has made regular contributions to research on the CSCE/OSCE process. This, in turn, paved the way for the creation of CORE.

CORE operates as a politically independent think tank, combining basic research on the evolution of the OSCE with demand-driven capacity-building projects and teaching. Addressing political actors, the academic community and the interested general public in Germany and abroad, CORE strives to contribute to the OSCE's development with analysis and critique that provide insight into the problems faced by and the opportunities open to the Organization. In support of the OSCE's goals of co-operative security, effective conflict prevention and settlement, democracy and good governance, CORE seeks to contribute to a realistic assessment of the capacities and limitations of the Organization. CORE focuses on the following:

- OSCE activities related to crisis prevention, conflict resolution, and peace building.
- OSCE contributions to a co-operative security regime in Europe with the ultimate goal of a Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian Security Community through, among other strategies, arms control and security dialogue.
- OSCE approaches to addressing transnational risks and threats.
- OSCE efforts to build peace and stability through democratization and good governance.
- The OSCE's institutional evolution and effectiveness.

In line with the OSCE's own priorities, much of CORE's work is concerned with the transition processes and security issues in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. CORE was among the founders of the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions in 2013 and has taken on a co-ordinating role there.

CORE strives to maintain an international outlook. Several CORE staff members are not only qualified academics, but have also acquired practical experience in OSCE field missions and/or field research. In addition, CORE projects frequently involve collaboration with local scholars in the countries and regions being studied. Regular contact with OSCE institutions and field operations keeps CORE's research programme oriented towards politically relevant questions.

2. Research Projects

2.1. Completed Research Projects

CORE's research activities included two projects that were completed in 2014 – a smaller study on the prerequisites and surrounding conditions of the phenomenon of democratization in Mongolia and a project on the diversification of Kazakhstan's international security policy co-operation.

a) Mongolia's Democratic Puzzle

Mongolia has an exceptional status as Asia's only post-Communist democracy. The country managed to establish a vibrant democracy and to open its national economy to world markets despite fairly complicated starting conditions such as its own cultural and political traditions and its difficult geopolitical position between two quite authoritarian neighbours, China and Russia.

Mongolia's democratisation is a phenomenon. This pilot project included initial research on the prerequisites and surrounding conditions for Mongolia's democratisation. It was based on a comprehensive literature review. Its key outcome is that little has been written thus far on the subject in question and that more research will be needed to draw consistent conclusions. Even so, initial findings point to Mongolia's foreign and security interests and its efforts to develop fruitful relations with the so-called "third neighbours" as important factors. Very possibly, they have had important effects on internal developments.

Moreover and surprisingly, the long-delayed opening up of the country's key economic assets (i.e., natural resources) to foreign investors may also have played an unintended, but supportive role. Along this line, the democratisation of Mongolia's society has perhaps pre-empted a possible autocratic monopolisation of the national economy and any negative repercussions on the political system derived from that. There are fewer studies on the timing of successful democratisation processes.

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b) The Diversification of the International Security Policy Co-operation of Kazakhstan from the Declaration of Independence to the Current Stage

Funded by the Kazakh Bolashak International Scholarship program, Dauren Akberdiyev concluded his work on a PhD thesis in 2014 on the question of the diversification of Kazakh international security co-operation. *Prima facie*, Kazakhstan has diversified its international security co-operation more than any other Central Asian state. Nevertheless, there remain the key questions of whether and to what degree such diversification has really happened throughout the whole period since the declaration of independence. On the one hand, this concerns Kazakhstan's most important partners and partner organizations – Russia, China, the USA, NATO, the CSTO and the SCO and, on the other hand, different areas of co-operation, such as military training, joint exercises or military-technological co-operation.

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2.2. Current Research Projects

Ongoing research at CORE focuses on a broad variety of subjects. Subjects of research include Russia's engagement within multilateral governmental security frameworks, peace-building in the Kyrgyz Fergana Valley, Central Asian and Russian peace-building efforts (in co-operation with the Centre for Peace Studies at the University of Tromsø), power strategies and security co-operation of Eurasian regional organizations, the reconstruction of political legitimacy in the Central Asian countries of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, matters of coexistence between secular values and Islamic traditions in Tajikistan, implications for security arrangements in Central Asia of NATO's withdrawal from Afghanistan and the partial decay of and prospects for a revival of co-operative arms control in Europe.

a) Multilateralism Russian Style – Why and How Russia Engages with Multilateral Governmental Frameworks in the Area of European and Eurasian Security

The question which lies at the heart of this project is what Russia is doing in security-related multilateral international governmental organizations (IGO) (CSCE/OSCE, CSTO, NRC, SCO and UNSC). Whereas the relationship between the US and multilateral institutions has been thoroughly examined and, in recent years, comprehensive theory-based studies have been conducted on the EU's participation in multilateral institutions, and even China's engagement with multilateral IGOs has been researched, there is considerably less known about Russia's "multilateralism." This project is built upon the knowledge of state-IGO relations, multilateralism and Russian foreign policy studies. It will analyze why Russia chooses certain IGOs to engage with, how it engages with them and what goals it wants to achieve through this engagement. Perception-based neoclassical realism will be used to explain variations in Russian foreign policy. The project is to start in 2015, depending upon funding. Application for funding will be submitted to the German Research Foundation (DFG) in 2015.

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Publications:

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Kropatcheva, Elena, Russian Foreign Policy in the Realm of European Security through the Lens of Neoclassical Realism, in: *Journal of Eurasian Studies*, 3: 1, 2012, pp. 30-40.

b) *The Local Social Order and Prospects for a Local Turn in Peace-building in the Kyrgyz Fergana Valley*

Peace-building by external actors in the Kyrgyz Fergana Valley is increasingly criticized both by Central Asia experts and officials of donor organizations for the inadequacy of universalistic liberal concepts and self-referential procedures detached from the realities on the ground. Against the background of a crisis of external peace-building, the new paradigm of a *Local Turn* in peace-building raises hope of bridging the often-deplored gap between external concepts and local social orders in non-Western societies.

This project will examine prospects for a Local Turn in peace-building in the Kyrgyz Fergana Valley. The *first* objective is to better understand the local social order and the local population. *Second*, the indicators of the Local Turn will be applied in a micro-level analysis of this social order. Here the main questions are: How do local actors and institutions contribute to “everyday peace” at the local level? Which social practices have proven to be legitimate, effective and sustainable in the eyes of the local population? *Third*, we want to find out how multiple disturbances outside the local level influence these social practices. A project proposal has been submitted to the Volkswagen Foundation for the co-operative research of five researchers and three PhD students from different Central Asian states and Germany for 2015-2018. For the preparation of this project, Anna Kreikemeyer conducted a Fact Finding Mission to Bishkek and the Kyrgyz Fergana Valley (Osh, Uzgen, Kyzyl Kiya) in October 2014.

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c) *Norwegian-German Research Collaboration on Central Asian and Russian Peace-Building Issues*

CORE is developing close research ties with the Centre for Peace Studies (CPS) at the University of Tromsø (Norway). From 17-21 February 2014, Anna Kreikemeyer visited CPS colleagues in Tromsø. CORE and CPS share an interest in peace research in general and, more specifically, in Central Asian and Russian peace-building issues. As part of the Arctic University of Norway, the University of Tromsø has a strategic focus on the High North, particularly on issues around resource management, climate changes and ethnic relations in relation to peace and social stability and very actively promotes east-west infrastructures and collaboration within the framework of the intergovernmental Barents Euro-Arctic Council (since 1993). CPS offers a two-year Master’s degree program in Peace and Conflict Transformation (MPCT) and coordinates the Barents Peace Education Network (BPEN), cooperating with four universities and several NGOs in Russia. In recent years, CPS has been developing a focus on Central Asia and has become a European member of the Euro-Asian Peace Research Network founded in 2013 by Kreikemeyer and her Kyrgyz colleagues.

During Kreikemeyer’s visit to Tromsø, the contacts to CPS were intensified and both sides agreed to prepare a project proposal for a grant under the DAAD PPP Mobility Program that supports project-based personnel exchange to establish and expand the contact between educational and research institutions. In November 2014, this proposal was accepted by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

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d) *Power Strategies and Security Co-operation in Eurasia: Contextualizing Regional Organizations*

Foreign policies of post-Soviet states, especially their co-operation in Eurasian regional organizations, show certain particularities rooted in domestic power strategies. The leaderships of neopatrimonial rentier or semi-rentier states are primarily interested in profits made from control over resources, which they use to, among other things, maintain a balance of power among competing domestic elites. Such domestic power strategies can be seen as key drivers of foreign policies of sovereignist leaderships. Against this background, foreign strategies are, first and foremost, functional for maintaining the domestic status quo and for opening up political room to manoeuvre, but they allow only a very limited range of co-operation. For example: The necessity for controlling access to resources automatically leads to the principle of non-interference in internal affairs and a low readiness to renounce this sovereignty. Balancing and “bandwagoning for profit” (Schweller 1994) strategies are important to ensure both resources and stability.

Regional organizations serve a regime-boosting purpose and fulfil important signal functions in this respect. Due to their dysfunctionality, these organizations have only very limited effectiveness in concrete security-political challenges. In 2015 an article and a proposal for an international expert workshop will be worked out.

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Publications:

Kreikemeyer, Anna, National Sovereignty and Eurasian Regionalism: Defensive Answers on Transnational Threats in Central Asia, in: Michael Brzoska (ed.), *Transnational Risks of Violence as a Challenge to European Peace and Security Policy*, Baden-Baden 2014, pp. 170-183.

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Kreikemeyer, Anna, Herrschaft statt Sicherheit, *Die Organisation des Vertrages für Kollektive Sicherheit*, in: *Osteuropa*, 62: 5, 2012, pp. 81-91.

e) *Reconstructing Political Legitimacy in Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan)*

While ‘Western’ theories and concepts capture crucial aspects of legitimacy in non-Western societies, they usually do not reveal local meanings of power, subjacent beliefs and, thus, the foundations of legitimacy. However, these foundations are crucial for a proper understanding of legitimacy. That is why we still lack empirical evidence on how legitimacy is constituted and carried out in non-Western societies, including Central Asia. As a result, we have difficulties in understanding authoritarian stability in the region and, thus, the trajectories of change or the lack thereof. Four of the five states in Central Asia are governed by stable, fully authoritarian regimes. We argue that neither ‘repression and money’ nor pre-defined Western accounts of legitimacy are enough to understand stability and instability in the region.

Therefore, the research question of this project reads as follows: “How is political legitimacy constituted in Central Asia?” The project focuses on three countries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Using text analysis and ethnographic methods, it aims to reveal the “culturally rooted templates against which people come to understand the political legitimacy of institutions, ideas, policies, and

procedures" (Schatzberg). Project partners are Dr Aigerim Shilibekova (Eurasian National University), Dr Chinara Esengul (Kyrgyz National University) and Dr Kholahmad Samiev (Tajik National University).

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f) *Coexistence between the Secular State and Islamic Actors in Tajikistan: Barriers to the Secular-Islamic Dialogue (1997-2014)*

Since October 2012, Nodira Aminova from Dushanbe, Tajikistan, has been working on a PhD thesis, funded by the DAAD. It aims at an in-depth analysis of the dialogue between secular and moderate Islamist forces in Tajikistan since the end of the Tajik civil war. The main question is: Why has the dialogue between secular and moderate Islamic actors failed? Using the congruence method, six theoretical concepts (clash of civilizations concept, neopatrimonialism and factionalism, authoritarianism, conflict transformation, and Islamist concepts of secularism) will be applied in analyses of the history of the secular-Islamist relationship. The aim of this method is to enrich the range of explanations for the failure of the dialogue since the end of the civil war in Tajikistan. The thesis can also profit from CORE's ten year experience in mediating and studying this dialogue in Tajikistan, in particular, and in Central Asia, in general.

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g) *NATO's Withdrawal from Afghanistan: Implications for Regional Security Arrangements in Central Asia*

In October 2013, Azamjon Isabaev from Tashkent, Uzbekistan, started working on a PhD thesis funded by the DAAD. His research interest is directed towards regional security in Central Asia with respect to Afghanistan. He is investigating the question of intraregional relations and stability in Central Asia after the withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan, which could incite another round of struggles for power among interested external actors (Russia, USA, and China). Balance-of-power considerations will be of great importance in better understanding the post-2014 security environment in the region. The research question relates to the impact of this "Afghanistan factor" on shaping the foreign and security policies in two case studies (Tajikistan, Uzbekistan). In order to explore the perceptions of the "Afghan threat" by these states, as well as the projections of these perceptions in their security agendas and regional interactions, the thesis will work with the theories of neo-classical realism and the security complex theory.

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h) *Co-operative Arms Control in Europe: A Case of Regime Complexity Decay*

Over the last 40 years, an unprecedented regime complex of co-operative arms control in Europe has emerged between the East and the West. The complex itself consists of a bundle of politically and legally binding regimes, including the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Treaty (CFE), CSBMs under the auspices of the OSCE, CSBM stipulations for the Balkans, and co-operative mechanisms between NATO and the successor states to the Soviet Union. Central parts of this complex are in decay and the prospects for a revival of the system are dim. The question of what

effects the unravelling of sub-systems, such as CFE, might have on the whole system remains. This PhD project, which has been supported financially by the *Evangelisches Studienwerk Villigst e.V.*, aims at a twofold approach. On the one hand, concrete options and forward-looking approaches to conventional arms control in Europe will be elaborated. On the other hand, the theoretical framework will try to prove the existence of a regime complex of co-operative arms control in Europe with CFE as the key element. By considering realist and neoliberal explanations for regime decay, in conjunction with applying a co-operation model for the U.S.-Russian relationship, this dissertation highlights the potentially negative effects of sub-systemic decay for the overall structure.

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3. Consultancy Projects

3.1. Completed Consultancy Projects

CORE consultancy activities that were completed in 2014 include the conceptual and organisational lead in elaborating two studies of the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions – one on “Threat Perceptions in the OSCE Area” and one on “The Future of OSCE Field Operations (Options)”. CORE continued its long-standing dialogue with representatives of the secular state and of political Islam in Tajikistan. CORE hosted a visit of the Tajik Islamic politician and dignitary, Khodji Akbar Turadjonzoda to Hamburg and Berlin. CORE staff conducted consultations in Dushanbe. In preparation for the Serbian OSCE Chairmanship in 2015, CORE organized a training course in Belgrade for officials of the Serbian MFA and other Serbian ministries and governmental offices. A training course on matters related to the OSCE’s Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) was conducted in Vienna in preparation for the Mongolian FSC Chairmanship in 2015. CORE elaborated a sketch study for the German Federal Foreign Office on the possible holding of an OSCE oral history meeting in 2016.

a) OSCE Network study on “Threat Perceptions in the OSCE Area”

CORE was the leading institution in a project to elaborate a study on “Threat Perceptions in the OSCE Area”. The project was launched in 2013 and was the very first activity of the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions. It was commissioned by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and the German Federal Foreign Office and co-sponsored by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland. The study was coordinated by Wolfgang Zellner. It analyses threat perceptions of 18 governments and related experts in the OSCE area. At the invitation of the 2014 Swiss OSCE Chairmanship, Wolfgang Zellner, along with other Network representatives, gave a presentation of the study at a Helsinki +40 meeting at the Vienna Hofburg on 29 April 2014.

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b) OSCE Network Study “The Future of OSCE Field Operations (Options)”

CORE was the leading institution in the second project of the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions – the elaboration of a study on “The Future of OSCE Field Operations (Options)”. The study was commissioned by the German Federal Foreign Office and the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. It was the joint production of a group of twenty-one researchers of OSCE Network member institutions and deliberately concerns itself with proposals that do not (yet) enjoy consensus within the OSCE. In this way, it aims to stimulate a necessary debate in the OSCE at a time when field operations are confronted with a new dimension of challenges, such as in Ukraine. In actual fact, the 2014 OSCE Swiss Chairmanship did, indeed, make use of the project for discussions within the Helsinki +40 process. The study builds on two workshops arranged by CORE at OSCE headquarters in Vienna on 27 June and 4 November 2014 at the invitation of Ambassador Philip McDonagh, the special co-ordinator under the Helsinki +40 process for reviewing the

effectiveness and efficiency of the OSCE. OSCE Network representatives, including Wolfgang Zellner and Frank Evers, launched the study at the “OSCE Parallel Civil Society Conference 2014” – a NGO event complementary to the OSCE Ministerial Council Meeting in Basel – that was also attended by OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier.

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c) Visit of Tajik Islamic Politician and Dignitary Khodji Akbar Turadjonzoda, Hamburg and Berlin, 5 – 10 April 2014

CORE arranged and hosted a visit of the Tajik Islamic politician and dignitary Khodji Akbar Turadjonzoda to Hamburg and Berlin, from 5 – 10 April 2014. The visit was conducted as a continuation of CORE’s long-standing consultancy co-operation with Tajik representatives of both the secular state power and political Islam, with German governmental offices, confessional institutions, religious parishes and academicians. The visit followed a visiting programme CORE had arranged for a high-level delegation from Tajikistan in 2013. It was sponsored by the Department for the “Dialogue with the Islamic World” of the German Federal Foreign Office.

The purpose of the visit was to inform German interlocutors about the increasingly threatening situation in Tajikistan and to warn them about the destabilizing impact of restrictions on religious freedom in the country. Mr Turadjonzoda’s intention was also to discuss the consequences of a possible ban of the Islamic Revival Party of Tajikistan (IRP) and the views of German partners on ways to proactively influence the situation in Tajikistan – bilaterally or through the OSCE and the EU. The agenda for Mr. Turadjonzoda’s visit included meetings with Gernot Erler, Coordinator for Intersocietal Cooperation with Russia, Central Asia and the Eastern Partnership Countries, Klaus D. Streicher and Stefan Buchwald, Head and Deputy Head respectively, of the MFA Department for the “Dialogue with the Islamic World” and other high-ranking MFA representatives including Ewald Böhlke, Director of the Berthold Beitz Center of the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP), Stephan Iro, Representative of the Council of the Evangelical Church in Germany (EKD) to the Federal Republic of Germany and the European Union, as well as Karl Jüsten, Prelate and Head of the Commissariat of German Bishops – the Catholic Office in Berlin. Mr. Turadjonzoda also had intensive discussions with scientists and researchers at the University of Hamburg and universities in Berlin.

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d) Consultations on “Continuing Dialogue with Representatives of the Secular State and Political Islam”, Dushanbe, 25 – 30 May 2014

CORE representative, Arne Seifert, conducted a series of meetings with high-ranking representatives of the secular state power and of political-Islam during a visiting programme in Dushanbe, 25 – 30 May 2014. The visit was sponsored by the Department for “Dialogue with the Islamic World” of the German Federal Foreign Office. The purpose of the visit was, on the one hand, to discuss requirements for developing inclusive co-operation between secular authorities and political-Islam representatives. On the other hand, the intention was to seek out possibilities for

future co-operation between German partners and democratic Islamic forces in Tajikistan. The visit was also used for continuing discussions with Tajik governmental officials about their interest in establishing a dialogue format on German experiences in the area of state and religion. During the visit, Arne Seifert attended a conference on “The Experience of Secularism in a Modern Islamic State” conducted by the Center for Islamic Studies under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan.

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e) OSCE-Related Training Course for Officials of the Serbian Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Belgrade, 8 – 12 September 2014

In preparation for the 2014 Serbian OSCE Chairmanship, CORE conducted an “OSCE-Related Training Course for Officials of the Serbian Ministry for Foreign Affairs (MFA)” in Belgrade between 8 and 12 September 2014. The training course was commissioned by the Serbian MFA and kindly sponsored by the German Federal Foreign Office. It was a collective effort of seven institutions and offices, jointly conducted by CORE, the Serbian MFA and the Diplomatic Academy in Belgrade and was supported by the Swiss OSCE Chairmanship, the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), the Office of the OSCE Secretary General (OSG) and the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC). The course was a multi-faceted exercise with a focus on practical issues. It combined academic know-how with practical OSCE insight.

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f) FSC Training Course for Representatives of the Mongolian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Defense, Vienna, 15 – 18 September 2014

CORE conducted a training course on matters related to the OSCE’s Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) for Mongolian officials in Vienna between 15 and 18 September 2014. This was the very first time that CORE had carried out a training event, which was exclusively devoted to the politico-military dimension of the OSCE. As an FSC induction course in such a compact and all-embracing form, it was an innovation for the OSCE as well. Conducting this course was suggested by the Mongolian MFA in view of Mongolia’s forthcoming FSC Chairmanship in the first four months of 2015. The course was kindly sponsored by the German Federal Foreign Office.

The course was attended by Mongolian officials from both the capital and the Vienna delegation, as well as by members of the Montenegrin and Norwegian delegations that will follow Mongolia in the FSC Chair. The training curriculum covered all major issue areas dealt with by the FSC as well as almost all substantial and organizational aspects of an FSC Chairmanship. Tuition was provided by CORE staff, a number of FSC co-ordinators – mission members who co-ordinate a certain topical issue –, representatives of former FSC chairs (Liechtenstein, Monaco, Moldova), the current Swiss OSCE Chair, the Serbian OSCE Chair for 2015, the FSC Support Section, and the OSCE Conference Services.

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g) *Elaboration of a Sketch Study on “Preparing and Conducting an OSCE Oral History Meeting in 2016 (Options)”*

Commissioned by the German Federal Foreign Office, CORE has elaborated a sketch study on options for conducting an OSCE Oral History Meeting during the German OSCE Chairmanship in 2016. The study elaborates various formats for such a meeting that should, on the one hand, help create a better understanding of the conditions under which the major steps in the CSCE/OSCE process (1975 Helsinki, Paris 1990 etc.) were taken. On the other hand, such a meeting should be seen as another event to apply this understanding to the current complicated political situation in the OSCE area and make better use of the OSCE.

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3.2. Current Consultancy Projects

CORE's ongoing consultancy efforts include the co-ordination of the activities, communications and fund-raising efforts of the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions, the maintenance of the OSCE Network website, of the OSCE depository library and the CORE website.

a) *Co-ordinating the Activities, Communications and Fund-Raising efforts of the “OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions”*

CORE has the conceptual and managerial lead in the activities of the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions. The network was launched by a group of 16 institutes in Vienna on 18 June 2013 within the framework of the OSCE Security Days in the presence of Secretary General, Ambassador Lamberto Zannier. The OSCE Network is an autonomous OSCE-related track II initiative. It is neither an OSCE structure nor is it subordinated to the OSCE or its participating States. It now has more than forty member institutions. Members of the Network's Steering Committee are Sonja Stojanovic (Belgrade Centre for Security Policy), Ambassador Jim Collins (Carnegie Endowment for International Peace), Andrei Zagorski (Institute for World Economy and International Relations, Russian Academy of Sciences (IMEMO)), and Wolfgang Zellner (CORE), with the latter being the Network Co-ordinator, elected for a two-year term. CORE volunteered to implement the Network's first two activities – the elaboration of a study on “Threat Perceptions in the OSCE Area” and a study on “The Future of OSCE Field Operations (Options)” (see 3.1 Completed Consultancy Projects). These activities were understood to be contributions to the current Helsinki + 40 process in the OSCE. They were sponsored by the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the German Federal Foreign Office, the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. The Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg (IFSH) has provided significant support to the Network with the services of its IT experts and other personnel. The IFSH currently hosts the OSCE Network website (www.osce-network.net) that is maintained frequently by CORE experts.

The Network's most vital task in 2015 will be to stay in close communication with the national delegations to the OSCE in Vienna to talk about their interests in Network contributions to their discussions. Furthermore, it will be necessary to identify Network institutes that will take the lead in future Network projects. Finally, the Network members need to successfully fund-raise from their governments.

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b) OSCE Depository Library and CORE Website

With the establishment of CORE, an OSCE Depository Library was set up within the IFSH Library with the support of the German Federal Foreign Office. Its current inventory includes CSCE/OSCE documents, both grey and published literature on the OSCE itself, and books with a focus on nation building, nationalism and majority-minority relationships in the OSCE countries. References to literature can be searched in the online catalogue of the Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Hamburg (Campus Katalog): <https://kataloge.uni-hamburg.de> and www.ifsh.de/en/core/services-ressources/depository-library/library-catalogue. The library and the documentation centre of IFSH/CORE compile three different bibliographies on OSCE-relevant publications:

- The bibliography of the OSCE Yearbook, which covers documents from the OSCE itself as well as articles and books on the OSCE.
- A quarterly bibliography with the latest OSCE-related publications: www.ifsh.de/en/core/services-ressources/ausgewaehlte-bibliographie.
- A comprehensive bibliography with references to CSCE and OSCE documents and relevant articles and books, established in 1995 and regularly updated since then: www.ifsh.de/en/core/services-ressources/bibliographie-zur-kszeosze.

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The CORE website (www.ifsh.de/en/core/profile) provides constantly updated information on the structure of CORE, its projects, staff, activities, and events. Not only can CORE Working Papers, CORE News (cf. 4.2), and OSCE bibliographies be downloaded, but the individual articles of all the OSCE Yearbooks from 1995 to 2011, of which there are more than 400, are also available to read online or be downloaded in full. A keyword search function is available to help readers find relevant articles. (www.ifsh.de/en/core/publications/osce-yearbook)

A special page of our website summarizes the extensive results of CORE's research on Central Asia (publications, seminars, and research projects) during the last 15 years. (www.ifsh.de/core/forschung/zentralasien)

Direct access to the WAO (World Affairs Online) database, which contains more than 4,000 references to OSCE/CSCE-related articles books (many of them with links to the full online text), assists readers in finding OSCE/CSCE-specific information. The website also contains information on vacancies and internships at CORE.

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4. Publications

CORE publications include the production of the OSCE Yearbook, of OSCE Working Papers and CORE News.

4.1. OSCE Yearbook

In a year of renewed interest in the OSCE, the 20th edition of the OSCE Yearbook has compiled a treasure trove of analyses, descriptions and reports on all facets of the life of the world's largest regional security organization. As always, these have been written by a mixture of experts, insiders and decision-makers. The OSCE Yearbook 2014 pays particular attention to two major developments and their repercussions: The Helsinki +40 process, which has been working to renew the Organization in time for the 40th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act in 2015, and the ongoing crisis in Ukraine.

The IFSH has published the OSCE Yearbook in English, German, and Russian since 1995. The international co-editors of this flagship CORE publication are retired Ambassador Jonathan Dean (Union of Concerned Scientists, Washington) (d. 2014), Dr Pál Dunay (Geneva Centre for Security Policy), Prof. Adam Daniel Rotfeld (Member of the Board of the European Leadership Network, Warsaw), and Dr Andrei Zagorski (Moscow State Institute of International Relations/MGIMO). The editorial staff members are based at the IFSH in Hamburg. Ursel Schlichting, editor-in-chief, is assisted in the tasks of editing and translating by Susanne Bund, Graeme Currie, Elena Kropatcheva, and Michael Weh. In 2014, additional translating and editing work was carried out by Roman Dobrokhотов, Anastasia Raevskaya, and Elena Refec.

The German and English editions are published by Nomos in Baden-Baden, while the Russian edition is printed by Izdatelstvo "Prava Cheloveka" in Moscow. The German Federal Foreign Office funds the printing of the Yearbook and some of the staff costs associated with its production. Additional funds are earmarked for the distribution of free copies to members of parliaments, foreign ministries, and OSCE institutions, including the Secretariat, and to universities, libraries, and other interested institutions. The OSCE Yearbook is used for teaching purposes at universities in CIS countries, at the OSCE Academy in Bishkek, at the MGIMO, and elsewhere. The 2014 OSCE Yearbook is currently in preparation and will be published in winter 2014/15, with the German edition following in summer 2015. The Russian edition of the OSCE Yearbook 2013 will also be published in winter 2014/15. The entire texts of all previous editions of the OSCE Yearbook in English and German up to 2012 are available to read or download at the CORE website: www.core-hamburg.de.

This year, the section on "The OSCE and European Security" includes a special focus section on the Helsinki +40 process. Didier Burkhalter, President of Switzerland and Chairperson-in-Office in 2014 reports on his country's work, while next year's Chairperson-in-Office, Ivica Dačić, lays out Serbia's intentions for 2015. Former Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov argues that the OSCE remains as vital for Europe now as it was 40 years ago. Fred Tanner brings together the Yearbook's two key topics for this year, considering the repercussions of the Ukraine crisis for the Helsinki +40 process. Lamberto Zannier, the OSCE's Secretary General discusses the

OSCE's role as a regional arrangement under Chapter VIII of the UN Charter. Hans-Jörg Renk and Marianne von Grünigen ask whether we should be celebrating forty years of the Helsinki Final Act. Rüdiger Lüdeking looks at military confidence-building and conventional arms control against the background of the Ukraine crisis. Finally, Jafar Usmanov undertakes a case study of Helsinki +40's approach to fieldwork with respect to the OSCE Presence in Tajikistan.

In the section on developments in specific participating States and the states' commitment to multilateralism, Steven Pifer reviews recent developments in US-Russia relations. Hendrik Meurs analyses how the government in Turkmenistan frames its legitimacy to maintain power, Graeme Currie discusses aspects of the referendum on Scottish independence and Adiyasuren Jamiyandagva outlines the desires and expectations of Mongolia, the OSCE's newest participating State.

The section on conflict prevention and dispute settlement is largely dedicated to the Ukraine crisis. Claus Neukirch considers the challenges and opportunities presented by the OSCE's Special Monitoring Mission, Graeme P. Herd analyses the strategic struggle between Russia and Ukraine, Tatyana Parkhalina considers Russia's motivations, Iryna Solonenko outlines the development of Ukrainian civil society since the Orange Revolution, while Pál Dunay asks what lessons can be learned from the Ukraine crisis for European and Euro-Atlantic Security.

Also focusing on the OSCE's practical activities, P. Terrance Hopmann considers the recent work of the Minsk Group on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, while Francesco Marchesano looks at the bone of contention between the Russian Federation and ODIHR over election observation.

In the section on organizational aspects of the OSCE, Shairbek Juraev discusses the contribution of the OSCE Academy in Bishkek to comprehensive security in Central Asia.

Finally, turning to the OSCE's relations with external organizations and the wider world, Sebastian Schiek asks whether the Afghanistan conflict can be considered a power resource for Central Asia while Loïc Simonet looks at the OSCE Mediterranean Partnership four years after the "Arab Spring", and Dimitar Paunov assesses the success of co-operation between the EU and the OSCE.

As always, the OSCE Yearbook includes extensive annexes comprising facts and figures on all 57 participating States, a list of recent conferences, meetings, and events, and a selected bibliography of current literature. The OSCE Yearbook is intended for politicians, policy- and decision-makers at all levels, OSCE staff, particularly in the OSCE missions, students and researchers, journalists, and the general public. The publisher's goal is to contribute to the political and academic discussion of European security in national, regional, and international contexts and to create links among academic circles, political practice, and the public. Although the Yearbook is not an official OSCE publication, it is strongly supported by the Organization, and particularly by the Secretariat in Vienna.

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4.2. Other Publications

CORE Working Papers and CORE News

CORE Working Papers comprise CORE research reports, policy papers and other texts. They are available in both printed and digital form (on the internet at: www.ifsh.de/en/core/publications/working-papers). Subscriptions to the e-mail version are available free of charge. In 2014, no working paper was published.

The electronic newsletter CORE News provides information on current CORE activities and events. It can be downloaded from the CORE website, at: www.ifsh.de/en/core/publications/core-news. Subscriptions, which are free of charge, may be taken out by sending an e-mail to core@ifsh.de.

5. Teaching

CORE teaching activities in 2014 embraced its staff members' contributions to the postgraduate master's programme on "Peace and Security Studies (M.A.)" and the work of PhD students on their dissertations.

5.1. Peace and Security Studies (M.A.)

Within the framework of the co-operation network, "Peace Research and Security Policy", and under the supervision of the IFSH, a postgraduate Master's programme on "Peace and Security Studies (M.A.)" was initiated at the University of Hamburg in 2002. This programme is both practical and interdisciplinary. It combines structured teaching with a learning-by-doing approach to help students acquire the skills needed to work in relevant fields. The course teaches the methods and findings of peace studies and prepares participants for careers in research or international organizations.

Members of the co-operation network are fifteen research and academic institutions: the Faculties of Law, of Business, Economics and Social Sciences, and of Humanities of the University of Hamburg, the Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict (IFHV) of the Ruhr University Bochum, the Bonn International Center for Conversion (BICC), the Berghof Research Center for Constructive Conflict Management, the Institute for Theology and Peace, Hamburg (IThF), the Bundeswehr Command and Staff College, Hamburg, the Protestant Institute for Interdisciplinary Research (FEST), the Carl Friedrich von Weizsäcker Centre for Science and Peace Research (ZNF), the German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA), the Institute for Development and Peace (INEF) of the University of Duisburg-Essen, the European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI), the Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF), the Institute for International Policy of the Helmut Schmidt University of the Federal Armed Forces, Hamburg (HSU), the Federal Academy for Security Policy, Berlin (BAKS), the MPS Alumni Association and the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg (IFSH) with the Centre for European Peace and Security Studies (ZEUS),

the Interdisciplinary Research Group on Disarmament, Arms Control and Risk Technologies (IFAR²) and CORE.

The programme is implemented in close co-operation with the institutions mentioned above. During the second semester, the students are divided among these institutes, where they participate in research and write their Master's theses. The 2014/2015 course has 25 participants from ten countries. Upon completion of the programme, the M.A. diploma is certified by the University of Hamburg.

CORE staff members are currently contributing to the 2014/2015 teaching programme: Anna Kreikemeyer offers a course in academic writing, Elena Kropatcheva lectures on "Russian Energy Policy", Sebastian Schiek on the "Conflict Region Central Asia? Political and Social Conflicts on the Former Silk Road", and Wolfgang Zellner is offering a seminar on "European Security Policy: OSCE".

5.2. PhD Dissertations

In 2014, four PhD students worked on their dissertations at or in co-operation with CORE. One of them finished his dissertation. CORE will continue to support the applications of individual PhD students to various sponsoring bodies.

6. Inter-Institutional Co-operation and Conferences

6.1. Co-operation and Guests

On 30 – 31 January 2014, Frank Evers and Wolfgang Zellner visited Vienna, where they met with OSCE officials and heads and representatives of delegations to the OSCE.

On 14 March 2014, Wolfgang Zellner and Frank Evers visited Berlin, where they took part in an international workshop on "Reforms of OSCE Field Operations – Views from the Field" conducted by the Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF) and the Public One GmbH & Co KG.

On 14 March 2014, Wolfgang Zellner and Frank Evers visited Berlin for a meeting with OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, Astrid Thors.

On 31 March 2014, Wolfgang Zellner participated in a panel discussion titled "Ukraine/Crimea: Crisis as Usual or New European Divide?", jointly conducted in Vienna by the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, the OSCE Secretariat, CORE and the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions.

On 1 April 2014, Wolfgang Zellner and Frank Evers met in Vienna with the members of an OSCE Network editing committee that had been established for the production of a study on "Threat Perceptions in the OSCE Area" – a project conducted within the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions.

On 1 April 2014, Wolfgang Zellner and Frank Evers met in Vienna with Ambassador Philip McDonagh, Head of the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the OSCE and special co-ordinator under the Helsinki +40 process for reviewing the effectiveness

and efficiency of the OSCE, to discuss future activities within the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions.

On 1 April 2014, Wolfgang Zellner and Frank Evers met in Vienna with Andrea Rauber Saxer, Deputy Head of the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the OSCE, to discuss future co-operation within the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions.

On 8 May 2014, Frank Evers participated in an expert meeting on the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's "Helsinki +40 Project" conducted at the Swedish Riksdag in Stockholm. The meeting was attended by OSCE PA Secretary General Spencer Oliver and hosted by parliamentarians of the Swedish Delegation to the OSCE PA. The Assembly's "Helsinki +40 Project" involves a series of seminars to evaluate the OSCE's past and inspire reforms ahead of the 40th anniversary of 1975 Helsinki Conference.

On 26-27 May 2014, Frank Evers and Wolfgang Zellner visited Vienna, where they met with OSCE officials, heads and representatives of delegations to the OSCE and representatives of the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions. Subjects of the meetings were matters of the ongoing OSCE business and the OSCE Network.

On 3 June and on 4 July 2014, Dr Meena Singroy, Head of the West Asia Centre of the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, in New Delhi India, visited Anna Kreikemeyer to discuss perspectives of co-operation on Central Asia, in particular with the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).

On 24 June 2014, Frank Evers gave a presentation at an expert discussion on "The Challenge of Ukraine: Problems and Perspectives from a Scientific Point of View" at the German Federal Ministry of Defense in Berlin. The discussion was jointly conducted by MOD officials and representatives of the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy (IFSH), the Institute for European Politics (IEP, Berlin) and the Ukrainian Ministry of Defense.

On 24 June 2014, Frank Evers and Wolfgang Zellner visited Vienna, where they met with heads and representatives of delegations to the OSCE to discuss matters of the OSCE.

On 2 September 2014, Dr Chiara Pierobon, Bielefeld University, visited Anna Kreikemeyer to discuss the results of her project on EU democratization policies in Kazakhstan.

On 16 September 2014, Wolfgang Zellner and Frank Evers responded to an invitation by Ambassador Maria-Pia Kothbauer, Head of the Permanent Mission of the Principality of Liechtenstein to the OSCE, who hosted a discussion on future activities of the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions. The meeting was attended by the heads of a number of delegations to the OSCE and leading OSCE officials.

On 14 – 16 October 2014, cand. phil Khushbakt Hojiev, Junior Researcher at the Centre for Development Research (ZEF), University of Bonn and cand. phil. Akmal Sokhibov, PhD student at the Otto von Guericke University, Magdeburg visited Anna Kreikemeyer to discuss a joint project proposal.

On 16 October 2014, Frank Evers took part in a meeting with OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier to discuss matters of the OSCE. The meeting was conducted at invitation of the Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF) as part of SG Zannier's official visit to Berlin.

On 8 November 2014, Frank Evers gave a presentation at a conference of the Euro-Asian University Association (EURAS) entitled "Turkey: A Leading Factor for the Security of Europe" at the Istanbul Aydin University. EURAS is a regional union for cooperation among universities and higher education institutions. It was established in 2008 at the initiative of the Istanbul Aydin University and now has about 70 member institutions.

On 10 November 2014, Wolfgang Zellner participated in an OSCE Security Day on "Conventional Arms Control and Security-Building Measures" and presented a paper on "The Future of Transparency Measures and Verification".

On 14 November 2014, Wolfgang Zellner and Frank Evers took part in a discussion on "Policy towards Eastern Europe Following the Ukraine Crisis: Analyses and Recommendations", conducted by the Research Group of Eastern Europe and Eurasia on the premises of the German Federal Foreign Office in Berlin. Members of the Research Group are the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP), the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP), the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) and the German Society for East-European Studies (DGO). Wolfgang Zellner gave a presentation at the meeting.

On 14 November 2014, Amb. Przemyslaw Grudzinski, Head of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Poland to the OSCE in Vienna, visited CORE to discuss the future role of the OSCE and future activities of CORE and the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions.

On 2 December 2014, Dr André Bank and cand. phil. Maria Josua, from the International Diffusion and Cooperation of Authoritarian Regimes Network (IDCAR Network) at the German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA), visited Anna Kreikemeyer, Elena Kropatcheva and Sebastian Schiek to discuss perspectives of co-operation.

On 3 December 2014, Wolfgang Zellner and Frank Evers, along with colleagues of the OSCE Network and OSCE representatives, launched the OSCE Network study "The Future of OSCE Field Operations (Options)". The launching event, moderated by OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier, was part of the "OSCE Parallel Civil Society Conference 2014" – a NGO event complementary to the 2014 OSCE Ministerial Council Meeting in Basel.

On 4 December 2014, Dr Patrick Köllner, Director, Institute of Asian Studies, German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA), Deputy Head of Department, Michael Schmunk, Federal Foreign Office Berlin, visited Michael Brzoska, Anna Kreikemeyer and Sebastian Schiek to discuss perspectives of co-operation in Central Asia Studies between IFSH and GIGA.

On 4 December 2014, Wolfgang Zellner participated in a side event of the Basel Ministerial Council meeting on the work of the future "High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons" established by the Swiss President Didier Burkhalter and chaired by Ambassador Wolfgang Ischinger (Germany).

6.2. Conferences Organized by CORE

During 2014, CORE staff members organized eight conferences, round tables, panel discussions, workshops and brainstorming meetings, a summer school and a Central Asian Day. These events were dedicated to the crisis in Ukraine and its implications for European security, threat perceptions in the OSCE Area, the future of OSCE field operations, the context between modernization and conflict in Central Asia, and contemporary forms of protests in the Euro-Asian space.

a) OSCE Network Panel Discussion on “Ukraine/Crimea: Crisis as usual or new European Divide?”, Vienna, 31 March 2014

On 31 March 2014, Wolfgang Zellner and Frank Evers organized a panel discussion on behalf of the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions at the Diplomatic Academy in Vienna on the subject of “Ukraine/Crimea: Crisis as usual or new European Divide?”. Discussants were the Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna, Swiss Ambassador Thomas Greminger, the Director of the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre, Ambassador Adam Kobieracki, Prof Kari Möttölä, Network for European Studies (NES) of the University of Helsinki, Ambassador Philip N. Remler, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Washington DC, and former Head of the OSCE Mission to Moldova, Ambassador Fred Tanner, the liaison officer of the Swiss OSCE Chair and the OSCE Secretary General, Oleksandr Tytarchuk, Foreign Policy Research Institute (FPRI) Kiev, and Andrei V. Zagorski of the Institute of World Economy and International Relations of the Russian Academy of Sciences (IMEMO), Moscow. The meeting was moderated by Wolfgang Zellner.

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b) International Workshop on “Threat Perceptions in the OSCE Area”, Vienna, 31 March / 1 April 2014

From 31 March to 1 April 2014, CORE arranged a workshop on the elaboration of a study on “Threat Perceptions in the OSCE Area” – a project conducted within the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions. CORE was the leading institution in this project. The workshop was specifically used to discuss terminological and methodological deliberations, the OSCE participating States’ particular perceptions of threats from within and outside of the OSCE and of transnational threats. It was also used to discuss conclusions to be drawn for the OSCE. The workshop was sponsored by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, the German Federal Foreign Office and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland (see 3.1 Completed Consultancy Projects).

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c) *Round Table and Panel Discussion on “Ukraine/Crimea: Just another European Crisis or the Start of a new Cold War?”, Hamburg, 23 April 2014*

On 23 April 2014, a panel discussion on “Ukraine/Crimea: Just another European Crisis or the Start of a New Cold War?” took place at the IFSH. Panellists were Anna Dyner, Polish Institute for International Affairs (PISM), Warsaw, Iryna Solonenko, Visiting Fellow of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the Open Society Foundation (OSI) at the European Viadrina University, Frankfurt/Oder, Tatyana Parkhalina, Deputy Director of the Institute for Scientific Information for Social Sciences (INION), Moscow; Andreas Umland, Associate Professor at the Department for European Studies at the Kiev-Mohyla Academy and Detlev Wolter, Consul General of Germany in Donezk, Ukraine. The very well attended discussion was moderated by Elena Kropatcheva, researcher at CORE/IFSH. The panellists addressed, *inter alia*, such questions as whether this is just another crisis in Russian-Western relations or the start of a new Cold War in Europe, what guides Russian foreign policy, how to solve the current crisis in the East and South of Ukraine, what role radical groups have played in the past and are playing now in the socio-political life of Ukraine and what consequences the current developments have for the situation in Eastern European countries.

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d) *First Brainstorming Meeting on “The Future of OSCE Field Operations (Options)”, Vienna, 27 June 2014*

On 27 June 2014, CORE arranged a workshop on the elaboration of a study on “The Future of OSCE Field Operations (Options)” – a project conducted within the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions. CORE was the leading institution in this project. The meeting brought together representatives of the OSCE Network, OSCE field operations and the national delegations to the OSCE. It was arranged by CORE at OSCE headquarters in Vienna at the invitation of the special co-ordinator under the Helsinki +40 process for reviewing the effectiveness and efficiency of the OSCE, Ambassador Philip McDonagh (see 3.1 Completed Consultancy Projects).

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e) *DAAD Summer School: Modernization and Conflict in Central Asia, Almaty, 4-9 August 2014*

The DAAD Summer School, organized by the IFSH this year from 4 to 9 August 2014 in Almaty, Kazakhstan, focused on the topic of “Modernization and Conflict in Central Asia”. This summer school, largely funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), aimed at providing an opportunity for scientific exchange on processes of modernization and their conflictive elements via a combination of expert seminars, participant-led panels and field trips. The organizers of the event were able to attract the support of participants and lecturers from eight different – mostly Central Asian – countries. Besides the IFSH, the Al-Farabi Kazakh National University and the Institute for East and Southeast European Studies at the University of Regensburg were also involved in the organization.

Contact: Dr Sebastian Schiek

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f) Workshop on “Contemporary Forms of Protests in the Euro-Asian Space: Challenges for Social Science, Psychology and Humanities Research”, Hamburg, 23-24 October 2014

Dr. Elena Kropatcheva, Dr. Daniela PISOIU and Dr. Sebastian Schiek (IFSH), together with Klaus Michael Reininger, M.Sc. (University of Hamburg, Institute of Psychology) and Dr. Anja Franke-Schwenk (Christian-Albrechts University of Kiel, Collegium Philosophicum) organized a workshop on “Contemporary Forms of Protests in the Euro-Asian Space: Challenges for Social Science, Psychology and Humanities Research” – a Young Science Forum Conference funded by the Academy of Sciences and Humanities, which took place at the IFSH on 23 – 24 October 2014. Young researchers from Hamburg, Germany and Europe, working on social movements, protest and political violence from different disciplinary perspectives, took part in this workshop. The papers circulated at the workshop looked at “old” and “new” protest movements from a comparative perspective, at the motivations of individual actors to get involved in protest movements, and on the impact of the socio-cultural and political context on the shape and manifestations of protest movements. A special publication on the results of the workshop is planned.

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g) Second Brainstorming Meeting on “The Future of OSCE Field Operations (Options)”, Vienna, 4 November 2014

On 4 November 2014, CORE arranged a second OSCE Network workshop on the elaboration of a study on “The Future of OSCE Field Operations (Options)” The meeting was conducted in Vienna at the invitation of Ambassador Philip McDonagh, the special co-ordinator under the Helsinki +40 process for reviewing the effectiveness and efficiency of the OSCE. It was attended by twenty researchers from OSCE Network institutions together with representatives of the national delegations to the OSCE, OSCE officials and field-operation representatives (see 3.1 Completed Consultancy Projects).

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Dr Wolfgang Zellner

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h) Hamburg Central Asia Day, 5 December 2014

On 5 December, CORE/IFSH, together with Dr Jeanne Feaux de la Croix from the University of Tübingen, Dr Aksana Ismailbekova from the Zentrum Moderner Orient in Berlin, and Dr Anja Frank-Schwenk from the University of Kiel, organized the interdisciplinary Hamburg Central Asia Day. The event brought together 30 junior and senior researchers for an interdisciplinary exchange. Keynote speaker was Prof Ingeborg Baldauf from the Humboldt University in Berlin, who gave a presentation on the intrusion of the state into Central Asian societies. The three panels that followed brought together researchers to discuss “multiple identities: concepts and competition”, “politics of history by states and competing actors”, and issues of regional integration, globalization and security. The last part of the workshop was devoted to a round table discussion with senior researchers, debating the future of Central Asia research.

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6.3. Conferences Attended and Lectures Given by CORE Staff

During 2014, CORE staff members attended about forty conferences and workshops (see also 6.1 Co-operation and Guests) where they acted as presenters and/or rapporteurs.

Frank Evers

- Gave a presentation at a public discussion on “Ukraine/Crimea: Just another European Crisis or the Start of a new Cold War?” at the IFSH in Hamburg on 23 April 2014.
- Gave a presentation at an expert discussion on “The Challenge of Ukraine: Problems and Perspectives from a Scientific Point of View” at the German Federal Ministry of Defense in Berlin. The discussion was conducted jointly by MOD officials and representatives of the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy (IFSH), the Institute for European Politics (IEP, Berlin) and the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine in Berlin, 24 June 2014.
- Gave a presentation on “OSCE Field Operations: Conditions, Expectations, Options” at a conference of the Euro-Asian University Association (EURAS) entitled “Turkey: A Leading Factor for the Security of Europe” at Istanbul Aydin University in Istanbul, 8 November 2014.

Anna Kreikemeyer

- Gave six lectures in the CORE OSCE Training Course for the Serbian Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the Diplomatic Academy in Belgrade from 8 – 12 September 2014.
- Participated in a panel discussion on perspectives of German Central Asia Research at the second Central Asia Day at CORE/IFSH in Hamburg, 2 December 2014.
- Participated, on a monthly basis, in the Research Group “Foreign Political Strategies” of the German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA) Research Programme 4 (Power, Norms and Governance in International Relations) until June 2014.

Elena Kropatcheva

- Gave a Seminar on Russian energy policy within the framework of the “Master of Peace and Security Policy Studies” (MPS) Program in the winter semester of 2014/15.
- Supervised an MA thesis “EU-Russia Energy Relations: A Discourse Analysis of the EU’s Approach towards Russia,” written by Magda Nemkyova as a part of the requirements for a Master of Arts degree in European Studies at the University of Hamburg.
- Supervised an M.P.S. thesis “The right-wing extremism in Ukraine: The Relationship between Right Sector and Euromaidan”, written by Julia Samus as a

part of the requirements for a “Master of Peace and Security Policy Studies” degree at the University of Hamburg.

- Gave a presentation on “Russia and NATO Relations: the Newport Summit 2014” at the 17th Strategic Planning and Analysis Seminar “Russia after Ukraine/Crimea – Last Afterglow of the Cold War Era or Rise of a Big Player in the New Bipolar World?”, Geneva Centre for Security Policy, 27 November 2014.
- Presented a paper on “Special Relations within the CSTO” during a workshop “Special Relations as Nexus between Foreign Policy and IR” within the framework of the German Association for Political Science in Heidelberg and in the context of the establishment of a working group on foreign and security policy on 17 – 18 February.
- Co-organized (together with Sebastian Schiek and Daniela Poisou) a workshop on “Contemporary Forms of Protests in the Euro-Asian Space: Challenges for Social Science, Psychology and Humanities Research”, Young Science Forum Conference, funded by the Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Hamburg, 23 – 24 October 2014.
- Co-organized and moderated a round table and a public discussion on “Ukraine/Crimea: Just another European Crisis or the Start of a new Cold War?” at the IFSH in Hamburg on 23 April 2014.
- Presented a paper on “Russia and the OSCE’s ordering of pan-European security space: amongst grand visions and grand crises” at the ISA Annual Convention in Toronto, 26 – 29 March. Its modified version was presented at the BISA Annual Conference in Dublin, 18 – 20 June 2014.
- Took part in a podium discussion “Peace Project Europe – Challenge Ukraine”, with Rebecca Harms, in Lübeck on 29 April 2014.
- Took part in expert workshop “After the End of History? The Ukrainian Crisis and its strategic Implications for Europe”, organized by the Genshagen Foundation, Genshagen, 16 – 17 October 2014.
- Took part in a Weimar Triangle Working Session on “The EU and Russia: Weimar Triangle Perspectives”, organized by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation and the Genshagen Foundation, Genshagen, 13 – 15 March 2014.

Nataliya Schapeler

- Participated as a speaker in a “Discussion on the Events in Ukraine”, organized by MitOst e.V. in Berlin, 21 February 2014.
- Participated as a speaker in the panel discussion “A Country between the EU and Russia: The Current Situation in Ukraine”, conducted by Umdenken Heinrich Böll Foundation Hamburg, 14 March 2014.
- Gave a presentation entitled “Peace Union Europe: Challenge Ukraine” at a meeting of the Europa-Union Steinburg district association in Itzehoe, 09 May 2014.
- Participated as a speaker in the workshop “History, Present and Future of Ukraine”, Hannover, 31 May 2014;

- Participated as a speaker in a “Breakfast Debate on the Current Situation in Ukraine”, conducted by the German-French Dialog for the Future, the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP) and the Bosch Foundation in Munich, 21 June 2014.
- Participated as a speaker in a panel discussion on “The Interrelation between Ukraine, NATO and Germany”, conducted during the Berlin Peace Festival, 17 August 2014.
- Participated as a speaker in a panel discussion on “The Relationship of the Czech Republic and Germany towards Ukraine and Russia” at Charles University in Prague, 25 October 2014.

Sebastian Schiek

- Gave two lectures for members of the German armed forces on the topics of “Impact of Afghanistan 2014 for Central Asia” and “Central Asia- a ‘crisis’ region?”, which took place 5 March 2014 in Köln and was organized by the Karl-Arnold-Stiftung.
- Gave a presentation on “Afghanistan as a power resource for Central Asian Strategies of Extraversion” at the workshop “Regional Dynamics and Afghanistan in 2014”, which took place 27 May 2014 in Hamburg, organized by the German Institute for Global Affairs (GIGA).
- Gave a presentation on “Afghanistan as a power resource for Central Asian Strategies of Extraversion” at the workshop “Regional Dynamics and Afghanistan in 2014”, which took place 27 May 2014 in Hamburg, organized by the German Institute for Global Affairs (GIGA).
- Chaired a panel on the Afghanistan conflict at the German-Russian Young Leaders Conference, which took place 10 to 12 July in Hamburg. Panellists were, amongst others, Dr Ekaterina Stepanova (MEMO Moscow) and Reiner Haunreiter, diplomat at the German Embassy in Moscow.
- Was a discussant at the panel “Socio-cultural and political context” at a conference on “Contemporary Forms of Protest in the Euro-Asian Space: Challenges for Social Science, Psychology and Humanities Research”, which took place 23 – 24 October 2014 at the IFSH in Hamburg, organized by Dr Elena Kropatcheva, Dr Daniela PISOIU, and Dr Sebastian Schiek (IFSH).
- Gave six lectures on Peace and Conflict Studies at the Kazakh National Al Farabi University in Almaty, Kazakhstan, in 8 – 10 December 2014.
- Gave a presentation on “Going beyond the ‘West’ in social sciences? Personal experiences of a ‘Western’ researcher in studying ‘Eastern’ societies” at the opening conference of the China-Russia Joint Institute at the School of Advanced International and Area Studies/East China Normal University/East China National University (ECNU), which took place 12 December 2014 in Shanghai.

Arne Seifert

- Delivered a speech at a conference on “The Experience of Secularism in a Modern Islamic State” conducted by the Center for Islamic Studies under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan in Dushanbe on 27 May 2014.

Wolfgang Zellner

- Delivered a keynote speech on “The Contribution of the EU to Strengthening Peace and Security in the Frame of Its Common Foreign and Security Policy” at a meeting organized by the Ministry for Interior and Sport of the federal state of Saxony-Anhalt to honour members of international peace missions, Magdeburg, 20 May 2014.
- Gave presentations on “The OSCE – An Overview” at the German Armed Forces’ General Staff Academy on 23 September and 10 December 2014.
- Chaired a panel on “European Security Architecture – Trade and Security” within the framework of the OSCE Focus conference, organized by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and DCAF, Geneva, 10/11 October 2014.
- Gave a presentation on “Is Russia Capable of Peace?” at the Forum International Politics of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, Hamburg, 27 November 2014.
- Presented on “Russia, Ukraine – What can the OSCE Achieve?” at a meeting of the Commission on “European Security and the Future of the German Armed Forces” of the IFSH, Hamburg, 9 December 2014.

7. Personnel and Budget

During 2014, the Head of CORE managed a staff, which includes five researchers and three PhD students (cf. Annex 1: CORE staff as of 1 December 2014). In addition, two staff members (one senior researcher/editor, one translator/editor) were responsible for publishing the OSCE Yearbook and another for documentation and information. The permanent staff is supported by further translators. Over the course of the year, four students completed their internships, which, on average, lasted for around six weeks (www.ifsh.de/en/teaching/internship).

Less than half of the CORE budget is financed through the IFSH budget. Project financing covers the greater part of the expenditures. In the year 2014, CORE projects – including PhD and OSCE Network projects – were funded by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, the Foreign Ministry of Finland, the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the German Federal Foreign Office, and the German Academic Exchange Service.

Annex 1: CORE Staff as of 1 December 2014

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|---|---|--|
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| Polley, Uwe, Dipl.-Pol. | Researcher/Archivist | polley@ifsh.de +49 40 866 077 52 |
| Schapeler, Nataliya, M.A. (ext.) | Project Manager | n.schapeler@yahoo.de +49 177 342 94 98 |
| Dr Schiek, Sebastian | Researcher | schiek@ifsh.de +49 40 866 077 42 |
| Schlichting, Ursel, M.A. | Senior Researcher/ Editor-in-Chief | schlichting@ifsh.de +49 40 866 077 32 |
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| Dr Zellner, Wolfgang | Head of CORE Deputy Director of IFSH | zellner@ifsh.de +49 40 866 077 63 |

Interns: Samuel Goda, Anna Korolkova, Nadeshda Matsakova, Yuliya Orazbayeva.

Annex 2: Publications by CORE Staff Members in 2014

Evers, Frank

- with Wolfgang Zellner et al., Threat Perceptions in the OSCE Area, Ankara, Athens, Bath, Belgrade, Bishkek, Bratislava, Frankfurt/Main, The Hague, Hamburg, Helsinki, Kyiv, Madrid, Moscow, Riga, Tbilisi, Tirana, Ulaanbaatar, Vienna, Warsaw, Washington DC 2014.
- with Wolfgang Zellner (principle authors) et al., The Future of OSCE Field Operations (Options), Ankara, Baku, Belgrade, Berlin, Bishkek, Bratislava, Hamburg, Helsinki, Klaipeda, Kyiv, Madrid, Maynooth, Moscow, Riga, Stockholm, Tbilisi, The Hague, Tirana, Warsaw, Washington DC, Yerevan 2014.

Kreikemeyer, Anna

- National Sovereignty and Eurasian Regionalism: Defensive Answers on Transnational Threats in Central Asia, in: Michael Brzoska (ed.), Transnational Risks of Violence as a Challenge to European Peace and Security Policy, Baden-Baden 2014, pp. 170-183.

Kropatcheva, Elena

- He who has the pipeline calls the tune? Russia's energy power against the background of the shale "revolutions", in: Energy policy 66 (March), pp. 1-10.
- Ukraine's EU Integration during the Presidency of Viktor Yanukovich. CEURUS EU-Russia Papers 16, Tartu.

Kühn, Ulrich

- with Götz Neuneck, Angebote statt Eskalation, in: Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, 23 September 2014, p. 8.
- Netzhysterie in der Ukraine-Krise. Viewpoint at www.politik-digital.de, 2014.
- The Relevance of Nuclear and Conventional Arms Control to European Security Today. Viewpoint at www.europeanleadershipnetwork.org, 2014.
- with Wolfgang Zellner, Sergei Rogov, Steven Pifer et al., Preparing for Deep Cuts: Options for Enhancing Euro-Atlantic and International Security. First Report of the Deep Cuts Commission. Hamburg, Moscow, Washington 2014.

Schiek, Sebastian

- Kazakhstan: Will Conservative Modernization Succeed?, in: OSCE Yearbook 2013. Baden-Baden. Nomos.
- The Civilisational Hexagon and Rule of Law Outside of Europe, in: IFSH (ed.), IFSH Annual Report 2013, Hamburg 2014, pp. 27-31.

Schlichting, Ursel

- with Hans-Georg Ehrhart, Organisation für Sicherheit und Zusammenarbeit in Europa, in: Werner Weidenfeld/Wolfgang Wessels (eds), Europa von A bis Z, Taschenbuch der europäischen Integration, Baden-Baden 2014, pp. 382-389 (update of 2011 version).

Zellner, Wolfgang

- Working without Sanctions: Factors Contributing to the (Relative) Effectiveness of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, in: Journal on Ethnopolitics and Minority Issues in Europe 12 (2014, 3), pp. 25-62.

- with Ulrich Kühn, Sergei Rogov, Steven Pifer et al., *Preparing for Deep Cuts: Options for Enhancing Euro-Atlantic and International Security*. First Report of the Deep Cuts Commission. Hamburg, Moscow, Washington 2014.
- *Ausweg aus der Krise. Anforderungen an eine westliche Russlandstrategie*. S+F, Sicherheit und Frieden - Security and Peace 32 (2014, 3), pp. 224-226.
- (Co-ordinator) et al., *Threat Perceptions in the OSCE Area*, Ankara, Athens, Bath, Belgrade, Bishkek, Bratislava, Frankfurt/Main, The Hague, Hamburg, Helsinki, Kyiv, Madrid, Moscow, Riga, Tbilisi, Tirana, Ulaanbaatar, Vienna, Warsaw, Washington DC 2014.
- *Theories of stable peace: The concept of a security community in light of the approaches to new powers*, in: IFSH (ed.), *IFSH Annual Report 2013*, Hamburg 2014, pp. 20-24.
- *Transnational Threats and Challenges – An Emerging Key Focus of the OSCE*, in: Michael Brzoska (ed.), *Transnational Risks of Violence as a Challenge to European Peace and Security Policy*, Baden-Baden 2014, pp. 153-169.
- *Die EU und die OSZE*, in: Werner Weidenfeld/Wolfgang Wessels (eds), *Jahrbuch der Europäischen Integration 2014*, Baden-Baden 2014, pp. 373-378.
- *The Future of Transparency Measures and Verification*, paper presented at an OSCE Security Day on “Conventional Arms Control and Security-Building Measures”, Vienna, 10 November 2014.
- with Frank Evers (principle authors) et al., *The Future of OSCE Field Operations (Options)*, Ankara, Baku, Belgrade, Berlin, Bishkek, Bratislava, Hamburg, Helsinki, Klaipeda, Kyiv, Madrid, Maynooth, Moscow, Riga, Stockholm, Tbilisi, The Hague, Tirana, Warsaw, Washington DC, Yerevan 2014.

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