

## Developing OSCE Field Activities CORE and German Federal Foreign Office Organize Workshop, Vienna Hofburg

To contribute to discussions on direct activities of the OSCE in its participating States, the Centre for OSCE Research (CORE) and the German Federal Foreign Office jointly organized a workshop on "Developing OSCE Field Activities" at Vienna Hofburg, 26 and 27 May 2011.



Discussing OSCE field activities  
(f.l.t.r.) Amb. Heiner Horsten (Germany), Amb. ret. Dr Wilhelm Höynck (first OSCE Secretary General), Amb. Renatas Norkus (Lithuania), Mr. Yerkin Akhinzhanov (Kazakhstan), Amb. Eoin O'Leary (Ireland), Adam Kobieracki (Director of the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre)

The aim of the workshop was both to signal the special interest of Germany in these formats for international security cooperation, as well as to address specific issues such as the thematic orientations of OSCE field activities, the respective expectations of the host governments affected and matters of internal interaction within the OSCE.

Representatives of governments, OSCE field operations and academic institutions from a

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Frank Evers, Appropriate Ways of Developing OSCE Field Activities

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total of seven participating States (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine and Tajikistan) were invited to the event. They talked about their views on conceptual and organizational issues of OSCE field work with representatives of the current Lithuanian OSCE Chairmanship and the two other members of the 2011 OSCE Troika (Kazakhstan and Ireland), with experts from the OSCE, the European Union and the Council of Europe. Many representatives of the Delegations to the OSCE also attended the event.

The workshop met with great interest in Vienna. At the heart of the lively exchange of views among the approximately 60 participants and guests were the shared responsibility for internal developments in the participating States and the generation of ideas for implementing this responsibility in all three dimensions of the OSCE.

Germany supports the efforts of the OSCE to assist its participating States to implement their political commitments on the ground. "In many cases, only the continuous presence of field missions allows the OSCE to help the host country effectively. The forms of assistance

require constant flexible adaptation to changing political, organizational and personnel challenges", said the first Secretary General of the OSCE, Ambassador ret. Dr. Wilhelm Höynck in his speech at the workshop.

For about two decades, the direct involvement of the OSCE in its participating States has played an important role in the European security dialogue. During the well-publicized OSCE reform discussions in 2005 and as part of the so-called Corfu Process – an OSCE dialogue format in 2009 and 2010 – this was the subject of a sometimes energetic dispute. Just recently, the leaders of the 56 OSCE participating States emphasized the importance of the OSCE field missions at the OSCE Summit in Astana in December 2010.

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### Preparing for the 2012 Irish OSCE Chairmanship CORE Conducts Training for the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs, Dublin

CORE conducted its fourth OSCE-related training course in Dublin in May 2011. The course was designed to prepare officials of the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs for the forthcoming Irish OSCE Chairmanship in 2012. The previous three training courses had been conducted for groups of diplomats from Kazakhstan and Lithuania – the OSCE Chairmanships-in-Office 2010 and 2011 respectively.

The general intention of these training courses is to broaden the respective country's MFA personnel pool qualified to deal with political and managerial issues of the OSCE. They aim at a better understanding of how an OSCE Chairmanship can utilize the Organization to build consensus among participating States on particular steps to advance pan-European security co-operation. They are meant to communicate know-how on formal and informal OSCE decision-making and procedures of decision-implementation. They focus on explaining the genesis of the Organization's structure and matters of the OSCE's strategic and daily management. The courses give detailed intro-

ductions to specific security issues of various OSCE sub-regions.



The participants of the Dublin CIO Training

This year's training course in May 2011 addressed diplomats of the OSCE Taskforce at the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) in Dublin, headed by Ambassador Frank Cogan, as well as representatives of the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the OSCE in Vienna. A permanent video link to Irish governmental representatives in Vienna and Brussels enlarged the geographic span of the group of trainees directly involved in the course. The training course was conducted by CORE staff along with senior staff members of the OSCE Secretariat and ODIHR. CORE is grateful to the OSCE Secretary General, Ambassador Marc Perrin de Brichambaut, and to the Director of the ODIHR, Ambassador Janez Lenarčič, for providing active personnel support to help make the course successful.

"I found the course very valuable in assisting us with our preparations for the Chairmanship-in-Office of the OSCE in 2012", commented Brian Glynn, Deputy Head of the Irish OSCE Taskforce. "It covered a broad range of issues, and gave us a good insight into the background of many of the challenges facing the OSCE today."

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## Active in Research on Russia

### Annual Conference of the British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies

Elena Kropatcheva attended the Annual Conference of the British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies (BASEES) on 2-4 April 2011 in Cambridge. This is the largest conference of its kind in the UK, where researchers from the UK, Russia, Germany and other countries present their research on culture, literature, history and domestic and foreign policies. She also became a BASEES member. Kropatcheva presented her paper, "Russian Foreign Policy Held Captive by Its Psychological Complexes", as part of a panel on "Russia and the World: Foreign and Security Policies," chaired by Prof. Stephen White (Glasgow University). Dr. Peter Duncan (SSEES-UCL, London) acted as discussant. As the subject of Russian foreign policy is of great interest, the panel was very well attended.

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### European Security Governance Institutions International Conference at MGIMO, Moscow

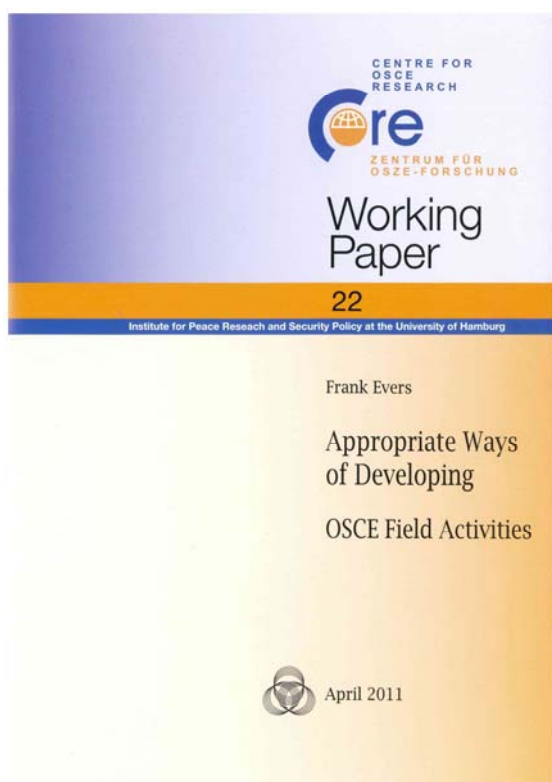
On 11/12 April 2011, the European Studies Institute of the MGIMO-University, the Institute of European Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences, the NATO Information Office in Russia and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation organized a conference on "European Security Governance Institutions: Prospects for Improvement". About 70 scholars, representatives of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, of NATO, of the EU and of a number of embassies in Moscow convened for the conference.



Dr. Wolfgang Zellner and Ulrich Kühn at MGIMO, Moscow

Discussions focused on the question of why there has been nearly no progress in European security politics, either in disarmament, or in regional conflicts or in the institutional setting despite the halfway successful new start in US-Russian relations. This question was also addressed by Wolfgang Zellner, Deputy Director of the IFSH, who mentioned a number of reasons in his talk: a values gap between Russia and the West, asymmetrical interests, a mindset still coloured by issues of the East-West confrontation, and - perhaps most important - the lack of a joint positive vision. The conference made it its task to collect and assess practical steps in the areas of conventional arms control, tactical nuclear weapons, missile defence, regulation of the unresolved regional conflicts and co-operation between Russia and NATO as well as between Russia and the EU.

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## Recent OSCE Relevant Publications

**Hopmann, P. Terrence**, Intergovernmental Organisations and Non-State Actors, Russia and Eurasia - The OSCE, in: Maria Raquel Freire/Roger E. Kanet (eds), Key Players and Regional Dynamics in Eurasia, Basingstoke 2010, pp. 238-270.

**Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg** (ed.), OSCE Yearbook 2010, Yearbook on the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Vol. 16, Baden-Baden 2011.

**International Crisis Group**, Armenia and Azerbaijan: Preventing War, ICG Europe Briefing No. 60, Tbilisi/Baku/Yerevan/Istanbul/Brussels 2011.

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/~media/Files/europe/caucasus/B60%20Armenia%20and%20Azerbaijan%20---%20Preventing%20War.ashx>

**Jarbussynova, Madina**, Kazakhstan's Chairmanship of the OSCE and Prospects for Democracy and Human Rights - REP Seminar Summary, London 2010.

[http://www.chathamhouse.org.uk/files/18340\\_171210mtgsummary.pdf](http://www.chathamhouse.org.uk/files/18340_171210mtgsummary.pdf)

**Palermo, Francesco/Natalie Sabanadze** (eds), National Minorities in Inter-State Relations, Leiden/Boston 2011.

**Schmitz, Andrea/Esther Somfalvy**, Falsche Erwartungen - die innenpolitische Dimension des kasachischen OSZE-Vorsitzes, SWP Aktuell 9, Berlin 2011.

[http://www.swp-berlin.org/fileadmin/contents/products/aktuell/2011A09\\_smz\\_som\\_ks.pdf](http://www.swp-berlin.org/fileadmin/contents/products/aktuell/2011A09_smz_som_ks.pdf)

**Warner, Daniel/Nicolas Perin** (eds), The European Security Dialogue in Preparation of the OSCE Summit, Centre for International Governance: CIG Occasional Paper, Geneva 2010.

**Zellner, Wolfgang**, The Management of Transnational Risks by the OSCE, in: Martin Kahl (ed.), The Transnationalisation of Risks of Violence, Baden-Baden 2011.

### Imprint

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