

Autumn 2014

Second Brainstorming Meeting of the OSCE Network on OSCE Field Operations

The OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions conducted a second brainstorming meeting on the subject of OSCE field operations in Vienna, 4 November 2014. As with the first meeting in June this year, it was arranged within the framework of the Helsinki +40 process and convened by the special coordinator under Helsinki +40 to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the OSCE Ambassador, Philip McDonagh. It was attended by twenty researchers from OSCE Network institutions together with representatives of the national delegations to the OSCE, OSCE officials and field-mission representatives. The meeting was sponsored by the German Federal Foreign Office and is part of a larger project that has the aim of collectively elaborating an OSCE Network report on "The Future of OSCE Field Operations (Options)". CORE is the lead institution in this project.

The report is intended to present conclusions that can be drawn from recent OSCE activities in the field in different States. It will discuss the advantages of OSCE field operations vis-à-vis instruments of other international actors. It will also deal with the political and normative background conditions that have changed substantially, both globally and at a regional level, in the two and a half decades since the launch of the first OSCE field operations in the early 1990s. These changes go well beyond the common experience of the current generation of politicians, scholars and the broader public. The report starts from the finding that one clear consequence of a multitude of partially contradictory trends in and around Europe – see p.2, left

Conventional Arms Control and CSBMs in Times of Crisis



Ulrich Kühn (middle) at the panel on "The Evolution of the European Security Architecture" together with William Alberque of NATO (left) and Robert Gerschner of the Austrian MFA (right). Photo credits: Micky Kröll/OSCE

On 10 November 2014, Ulrich Kühn and Wolfgang Zellner of CORE took part in a roundtable discussion at the annual OSCE Security Days in the Vienna Hofburg. The roundtable, entitled "Conventional Arms Control and Confidence- and Security-Building Measures in Europe", comprised various international experts, academics, and officials from OSCE participating States.

In his opening statement, OSCE Secretary General, Lamberto Zannier, highlighted the importance of conventional arms control (CAC) and confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs) for the European security architecture from the early days of the Helsinki accords to the current crisis in Ukraine. Zannier underscored the need to revive these instruments of cooperative security.

At the panel on "The Evolution of the European Security Architecture", Ulrich Kühn elaborated on the regime complex of coope-... see p. 2, right

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is that running OSCE field operations must become a more co-operative venture than it has been in the past. Any notion of imposing a field mission on a participating State has become completely impossible. There should be a fundamental perception of OSCE field operations as service providers in whatever situation – crisis, transition or state-building. Finally, the report will outline practical recommendations on new forms and mandates of OSCE field operations as well as structural and managerial matters.

The current process of collectively elaborating and discussing the report on “The Future of OSCE Field Operations (Options)” is another example of the mutually enriching co-operation between the OSCE’s diplomatic community and academia. On the afternoon of 4 November, the members of the network accepted an invitation to a subsequent meeting of the Informal High-Level Working Group on Helsinki +40 (IHWG). This event was organized by the Swiss OSCE Chairmanship and special coordinator, Ambassador Philip McDonagh. It was attended by OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier. As representatives of the OSCE Network, Prof. Kari Möttölä (Network for European Studies (NES) of the University of Helsinki), Ambassador Philip Remler (Carnegie Endowment for International Peace) and Wolfgang Zellner (CORE) presented the preliminary outcome of the network discussions.

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rative arms control in Europe. He pointed out that security institutions in the realm of cooperative arms control in Europe are much more closely interwoven than we might expect. Further, almost all security institutions are, to different degrees, experiencing decay. Ideally, cooperative security would build on a balanced mix of power and morality. According to Kühn, norm-challenging behavior has become a serious ‘disease’ negatively affecting the institutions of cooperative security.



Wolfgang Zellner (right) at the panel on “Outlook and Prospects” together with Ambassador Rüdiger Lüdeking (middle). Photo credits: Micky Kröll/OSCE

In his presentation on “The Future of Transparency Measures and Verification”, Wolfgang Zellner assessed the current design of CSBMs and stressed the need to address future scenarios in the OSCE area. Particularly with respect to protracted conflicts and “hybrid” warfare, the instruments of cooperative security are in need of a timely update, Zellner concluded. He underscored once more that the absence of more intrusive transparency rules, as provided for by CFE, is to the detriment of all states concerned, particularly as the future-oriented concept of verified transparency of military potentials and complex capabilities is still far away from being a reality.

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Participants of the EURAS conference, Istanbul

CORE Participates in EURAS Conference on Turkey's Role in International Security

At the invitation of the Euro-Asian University Association (EURAS) and the Istanbul Aydin University, CORE researcher Frank Evers participated in a EURAS conference titled "Turkey: A Leading Factor for the Security of Europe" in Istanbul, 8 November 2014. 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.

At the conference, Frank Evers gave a presentation during a session on the OSCE in which he spoke about the changed environment for the efforts of OSCE field operations and options for developing them in future. He acquainted the conference participants with conclusions drawn in this regard within the OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions. (See also: *Second Brainstorming Meeting of the OSCE Network on OSCE Field Operations*, p. 1-2) The conference in Istanbul was attended by representatives of about twenty universities, by journalists and more than a hundred students of the Istanbul Aydin University.

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Fact Finding Mission to the Kyrgyz Fergana Valley

From 4-12 October 2014, Anna Kreikemeyer undertook a fact-finding mission to Kyrgyzstan together with Irina Chernykh, Senior Research Fellow at the Kazakhstan Institute for Strategic Studies under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan (KISI), Astana and with Azamat Temirkulov, Assistant Professor at the Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Kyrgyz Republic, Bishkek. The aim of the trip was to collect data on the ground to prepare a project proposal on peace building in the Kyrgyz Fergana Valley. The planned project will address the general crisis of external intervention for liberal peace building against the background of the effects of globalization, the power shift in international relations and local resistance. Two colleagues from Uzbekistan and Tajikistan will join the research team.

In Kyrgyzstan, the team interviewed representatives of major (inter)national organizations and NGOs active in the field of peace building and reconciliation in the South of Kyrgyzstan. Among others, they visited the staff members of the UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy (UNRCCA) and the UNDP Crisis Prevention and Recovery Program, the Head of Unifem/UN Women Bishkek, officers in the OSCE Centre in Bishkek and the Field Office in Osh, a local teacher who had worked with the OSCE Community Security Initiative in Kyzyl-Kiya, a consultant of the EU Delegation in Kyrgyzstan, leading staff of GIZ and ACTED, as

well as the Director of the Fund “Peaceful Development in the Fergana Valley” at the University in Osh and a member of a youth organization in Uzgen. The results of these interviews and the concept for the research proposal were discussed in several team meetings, one of them with the director of the OSCE Academy in Bishkek, Pál Dunay, who agreed to evaluate the future project.

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The course comprised a class of 43 participants and included the leading staff of both the Serbian MFA’s OSCE Task Force in Belgrade and the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Serbia to the OSCE in Vienna. It was, therefore, also attended by experts from various other MFA departments and representatives from about twenty ministries, governmental agencies and offices. The multi-faceted exercise combined academic know-how with practical OSCE insight. The methodology of the training was based on preparatory reading of literature that had been specifically compiled by CORE for this course in an electronic training reader.



Participants of the training course in Belgrade

OSCE-Related Training Course for Officials from the Serbian Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Between 8 and 12 September 2014, CORE conducted an OSCE-Related training course for officials from the Serbian Ministry for Foreign Affairs on the premises of the Diplomatic Academy in Belgrade. In addition to CORE staff, lecturers from 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) contributed to the training. The Serbian organizers arranged the training as an inter-ministerial and inter-agency endeavor.

The training was commissioned by the Serbian MFA and kindly sponsored by the German Federal Foreign Office. The atmosphere during the compact five-day course was open-minded and mutually enriching and the feedback from the Serbian participants was very positive. Officials of the Serbian MFA suggested continuous co-operation between CORE and the Serbian OSCE Chairmanship Task Force in 2015.

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FSC Training for Mongolian Officials

In the first four months of 2015, Mongolia will chair the OSCE's Forum for Security Cooperation (FSC). As Mongolia is quite new in the OSCE – it became a participating State in 2012 – it could need some support to carry out this task. To this purpose, CORE organized an FSC training course for Mongolian officials with the kind support of the German Federal Foreign Office.

The training took place from 15 to 18 September in Vienna and was attended by Mongolian officials from both the capital and the Vienna delegation as well as by some 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 (for example, the Vienna Document 2011, the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Affairs or non-proliferation issues) as well as specific chairmanship expertise. Tuition was provided by CORE staff, a number of FSC co-ordinators – mission members who coordinate 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.

As a result, almost all substantial as well as organizational aspects of an FSC Chairmanship could be addressed in an atmosphere of surprising solidarity among all actors concerned.

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DAAD Summer School: Modernization and Conflict in Central Asia

This year's IFSH-organized summer school, which took place from September 4th to 9th in Almaty, Kazakhstan focused on the topic of "Modernization and Conflict in Central Asia". The summer school - mostly funded by the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) - 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 –



Participants of the DAAD summer school in Almaty

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.

In an introductory seminar, Sebastian Schiek (IFSH) presented an overview of recent developments in sociological modernization debates as well as the concept of "multiple modernities". Choosing a stronger focus on economy, Christian Timm (PH Göttingen) elaborated on the role of institutions for development using the example of Georgia. Other topics were the environmental as well as the growth economy, on which Miriam Frey (University of Regensburg) held two seminars. Prof. Rustam Burnashev (German-Kazakh University in Almaty) discussed statehood in Central Asia and drew a rather sceptical picture of the possibilities for partial modernization under the conditions of authoritarian statehood. Chinara Esengul (Kyrgyz National University) held a seminar in which she analyzed the special path of Kyrgyzstan, which is the only Central Asian state to have introduced formal democratization, and Prof. Nazokat Kasymova (Tashkent State Institute for Oriental Studies) gave a talk on the economic hindrances that Uzbekistan is facing during the times of globalization.

The summer school also stood out due to a variety of very interesting contributions by the participants on, for example, the symbolic and historical dimensions of modernization or the role of international organizations. As a result of the summer school, participants were able to agree on the fact that at least partial modernization is taking place in Central Asia, even if structures, conditions and motivations differ from those of the West. How to research these processes scientifically remains a question to be discussed. The summer school was intended to represent one starting point for this discussion.

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Recent OSCE-relevant Publications

Ekéus, Rolf, From CSCE to OSCE: a Pan-European Organization for Conflict Prevention and its Relations to the United Nations, in: Regional Organizations and Peacemaking: Challengers to the UN? Peter Wallensteen/Anders Björner (Eds), London 2014, pp. 118-133.

Fouéré, Erwan, Ukraine and Security Disorder in Europe – a Defining Moment for the OSCE ?, Centre for European Policy Studies, Brussels 2014.
<<http://www.ceps.be/system/files/EF%20OSCE%20and%20Ukraine.pdf>>

Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)/Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (Eds), OSCE Focus: Creating a Security Community to the Benefit of Everyone, OSCE Focus Conference Proceedings, 11 October 2013, Villa Moynier, Geneva, 2014.
<<http://www.dcaf.ch/content/download/194712/3044355/file/OSCE-focus-2014.pdf>>

Ghébali, Victor-Yves [1942-2009], Le rôle de l'OSCE en Eurasie, du sommet de Lisbonne au Conseil ministériel de Maastricht (1996-2003), Bruxelles 2014.

Kirchner, Emil J./ Dominguez, Roberto, Security Governance in a Comparative Regional Perspective, in: European Security, No. 2, 2014, pp. 163-178.

Peyrouse, Sébastien (Ed.), How does Central Asia View the EU ?, EUCAM Working Paper No. 18, June 2014, Madrid 2014.
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