

International Institute for Peace

The International Institute for Peace (IIP) is a non-governmental organization with consultative status to the ECOSOC and UNESCO

The IIP functions as a platform to promote peace and non-violent conflict resolution across the world to a wide range of stakeholders – scholars, diplomats, practitioners, military personnel, and civil society as well as students and private citizens. The Institute strives to address the most topical issues of the day and promote dialogue, public engagement, and a common understanding to ensure a holistic approach to conflict resolution and a durable peace.



INTERNATIONAL
INSTITUTE FOR
PEACE

Annual Report 2022

International Institute for Peace

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Preface

Stephanie Fenkart & Hannes Swoboda

Russia's unprovoked and illegal attack on Ukraine on February 24th, 2022 brought back to European soil what most thought to be a relic of the past: full-scale war, with everything that entails. This has included unbelievable human suffering, millions of refugees and displaced persons, attacks on civilian infrastructure, environmental devastation, and the constant threat of escalation, including via nuclear arms – to name but a few consequences. While the so-called collective West has showed strong unity in support of Ukraine through sanctions and the supply of weapons, it has become more and more difficult to talk about possible ways out of the conflict and work towards a sustainable peace.

While the European focus has remained on the war in Ukraine, violence erupted once again between Azerbaijan and Armenia in September 2022 when Azerbaijan attacked Armenia on territory outside of Nagorno-Karabakh. A key enabling factor was Russia's absence in the region, given that it is concentrating its attention and forces in Ukraine. Similarly, border disputes between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan in September 2022 also turned violent. Western-oriented Georgia and Moldova in particular have grown more concerned about their future security in light of the war in Ukraine.

In Syria and Libya, fighting continues to this day. Different actors maintain conflicting interests in both of these conflicts, which have already lasted for over 12 years. In Afghanistan, the Taliban has denied women and girls their right to education, and basic needs such as food have gone unmet. In Iran, citizens – and women in particular – have protested for months against the authoritarian regime, while negotiations over the so-called Iran nuclear deal (JCPOA) remain in a stalemate. At the very least, the risk that Iran becomes a new nuclear power is growing.

In Ethiopia, the partially ethnic wars have led to the death of more than 500,000 civilians, while violence has continued in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for over 20 years with no end in sight, millions dead, and millions displaced.

Meanwhile, the Western Balkans remains a fragile region, with ethnic tensions, nationalism, corruption, impunity, and foreign actors hindering not only the countries' paths towards EU integration but also towards prosperity and democratization more generally.

At the same time, the climate crisis looms above everything else, impacting all aspects of our lives – although, unfortunately, not always with the same visibility. Famines, natural disasters, heatwaves, storms, and air pollution have all led to increased migration, conflict over resources, health problems, and other challenges.

In the face of a dangerous future arms race, the abandonment of disarmament agreements, decreasing trust in international relations, and non-compliance with international law, the world has become an increasingly risky place.

In response to all these challenges, the IIP sought to tackle the main issues by providing a platform for dialogue and exchange, engaging in critical discussions about the future of Europe, providing information to the public, and discussing possible scenarios to contribute to conflict-prevention, peace-building, and common understanding – the basis for reaching any compromise.

In 2022, we organized 37 public discussions with 161 speakers from all over the world, with a gender balance of 57% male-43% female. This included five conferences: “The 4th Vienna Peace and Security Talks: The Shifting Grounds of European Security”; “The New Black Sea: How the War in Ukraine is Reshaping the Region”; “War in Ukraine: Scenarios for Peace”; “How to Deal with the Threat of Authoritarianism”; and “Der West-Östliche Divan: Globalisierung Neu Denken.” Additionally, we conducted 33 interviews with experts, diplomats, scientists, researchers, politicians, and civil society activists on a wide range of topics. Finally, the IIP Peace Blog published 54 commentaries on international politics and conflict prevention.

All these activities would not have been possible without the support of many national and international partners and, most importantly, the IIP’s very engaged team. We would like to convey our special appreciation to IIP Vice President Angela Kane, Chair of the IIP Advisory Board Heinz Gärtner, and all our board members and advisory board members. Our special thanks to the IIP’s researcher Marylia Hushcha, project assistant Luka Cekic, interns Moges Teshome and Elene Gagnidze, and technical expert Michel Andriessen, without whom the manifold activities we have conducted throughout 2022 would not have been possible.

In 2023, we will continue our efforts to support dialogue and offer safe spaces for discussion, information, and exchange – which includes bringing together non-like-minded individuals and institutions in order to create the basis for future understanding.

It is our conviction that peace is possible, while we acknowledge that it can be a difficult and long-term process – more of a marathon than a sprint. There is no shortcut to achieving a sustainable peace, but it is well worth working towards.



About the IIP

The International Institute for Peace (IIP) is an international, non-governmental organization with its headquarters in Vienna, Austria. The IIP has consultative status to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) and the United Nations Organization for Education, Science, Culture and Communication (UNESCO). It operates on the basis of Austrian law as a non-profit association. Established in 1956, the Institute was re-founded by its former president Erwin Lanc in 1989, and its current president is Dr. Hannes Swoboda.

The IIP functions as a platform to promote peace and non-violent conflict resolution across the world to a wide range of stakeholders – scholars, diplomats, practitioners, military personnel, and civil society as well as students and private citizens. The Institute strives to address the most topical issues of the day and promote dialogue, public engagement, and a common understanding to ensure a holistic approach to conflict resolution and a durable peace.

In order to address the diverse and multifaceted approaches to peaceful conflict resolution, the IIP collaborates with various national and international institutions and organisations (see our [partners](#)). The IIP, both alone and through collaborations, organizes lectures, conferences, seminars, background talks, workshops, and symposia on a wide range of issues.

In recent years, the IIP has focused in particular on the areas of international security, disarmament, arms control, migration, and non-proliferation. On a regional level, the IIP emphasizes the EU's neighborhood, including the Western Balkans, the Eastern Partnership countries, Russia, the Middle East, and Africa. However, the IIP has also featured events on topics ranging from the arts and EU foreign policy to the Korean peninsula and Latin America.

The IIP's values:

- **Diversity and dialogue:** The IIP seeks to include and represent voices and perspectives from a variety of backgrounds and identities.
- **Peace and human rights:** The IIP emphasizes the need to support and protect human rights and peace at all times and in all circumstances, both in our events and discussions as well as through our actions.
- **Cooperation and partnership:** The IIP strives to actively collaborate with partner organizations to utilize our relative strengths and foster teamwork.
- **Gender:** The IIP aims to promote gender equality and mainstream gender perspectives, from ensuring equal representation on panels to highlighting gender as a topic. The IIP is a proud member of International Gender Champions, a leadership network that brings together female and male decision-makers to break down gender barriers.
- **Nonpartisanship:** The IIP avoids all partisan affiliations and works to engage with voices from all political parties and outlooks.
- **Public engagement:** The IIP welcomes all interested members of the public to our panel events and discussions and publishes information and recaps of all events to improve accessibility.
- **Support for our interns:** The IIP is committed to paying its interns in order to allow students and young professionals to gain practical experience in the field.

IIP Team and Board



Hannes Swoboda, President



Angela Kane, Vice President



Stephanie Fenkart, Director



Erwin Lanc, Honorary President



Heinz Gärtner, President of the Advisory Board



Marylia Hushcha, Researcher





Luka Cekic, Project Assistant



Moges Teshome, Project Assistant



Elene Gagnidze, Project Assistant



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Dr. Cengiz Günay, Director of the Austrian Institute for International Affairs ÖIIP and Lecturer at the University of Vienna

Amb. (ret.) Dr. Thomas Hajnoczi, former Ambassador at the Austrian Federal Ministry for Europe and International Affairs

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Dr. Ralph Janik, Lecturer at Sigmund Freud Private University Vienna, the University of Vienna, Andrassy University Budapest, and Universität der Bundeswehr München

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Mag. Gudrun Kramer, Austrian Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution

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Prof. Ursula Werther Pietsch, Lecturer of International Law and International Relations; University of Graz, Austria, and University of German Armed Forces, Munich

Yauheni Preiherman, Minsk Dialogue Council on International Relations

Prof. Herbert Reginbogin, Fellow/Professor at the Catholic University of America Institute for Public Policy

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Dr. Mher Sahakyan, China-Eurasia Council for Political and Strategic Research, Armenia

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Prof. Annita Sciacovelli, University of Bari

Dr. Goran Svilanovic, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia/State Union of Serbia and Montenegro & former Secretary General of the Regional Cooperation Council

Mag. Lukas Wank, Deputy Director of the Austrian Center for Peace (ACP Schlaining)

Amb. (ret.) Dr. Fred Tanner, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva

Dr. Dimitrios Triantaphyllou, Kadir Has University, Istanbul

Mag. Waltraut Urban, The Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies



IIP in Numbers





Projects and Activities



International Security and Disarmament

Angela Kane

The year 2022 brought unprecedented developments in the field of security and disarmament. Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February led to a war that continued throughout the entire year. It is still ongoing. The EU had not imagined that a war could be fought on its doorstep – and with its help.

At the outset of the war, Russian President Vladimir Putin issued veiled but unmistakable threats that he might use nuclear weapons. This happened only weeks after the five nuclear powers in the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) affirmed that “a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought.” While Putin eventually backed back down from his nuclear threats in October, the danger of the war turning into a nuclear armageddon remained with us for most of the year. The peaceful continent we knew no longer exists.

The nuclear threats issued by Putin were the first time that millions of people, including world leaders, were confronted with the very real possibility that a nuclear weapons explosion could become a reality and that this could trigger nuclear retaliation with global consequences. It was also the first time that a nuclear power plant, Zaporizhzhia, was used as a military hostage to instill fear after Russia took over control of the plant.

The Russia-Ukraine war has been the prevailing narrative throughout discussions this year, and the IIP activities reflected significantly on events in Ukraine, geopolitics, the doctrine of nuclear deterrence, and an accelerating military arms spiral.

Europe has entered into an unstable situation. With Finland and Sweden wanting to join NATO, the transatlantic alliance will become more muscular and assertive and more robustly funded. Neutrality, a long-cherished ideal in Europe, has receded into the background as military threats have increased and is now being questioned.

Collective security mechanisms are also under strain: many of the agreements and crisis management tools that were developed during the post-World War II period are no longer fit for the task. We are dealing now with a much more complex geopolitical environment. The US and China were superpowers in the bipolar world before the war broke out, and I would wager that they will remain in these positions after the war ends. Russia was a strong middle power with an overrated military before the invasion of Ukraine, but it still wields its veto power in the United Nations Security Council to great political effect, projecting the message that Russia counts on the world stage, no matter what.

Russia – which I believe has always considered itself part of Europe and its history – has moved fast to align itself away from the West and towards China. The two countries have established strong military and economic ties, and while China has claimed to be neutral in the war against Ukraine, analysts' reports suggest otherwise. It is clear that having Russia as a junior partner further strengthens China's global role and influence, balancing the US and confirming the current China-US bipolarity. It also signifies that China now sees itself as a global – not just a regional – security actor.

This was the security climate in which the Tenth NPT Review Conference took place in August, after several postponements due to the pandemic. It ended without a Final Document after Russia blocked the consensus.

At present, the future of arms control is bleak. The strategic stability talks between Russia and the US are on hold, the New START treaty – extended by US President Joe Biden just after taking office in 2021 – is hobbled by disagreements, and no discussions or negotiations are on the horizon. Compounding this are the instability in the Middle East, the attempts to revive the JCPOA, and the continuing threat coming from North Korea and its nuclear weapons program.

It is clear that there will be plenty of material for interesting and insightful discussions and events at the IIP over the coming year, although we all hope that 2023 will usher in a more peaceful world.



Selected projects

Vienna Peace and Security Talks 2022

The Shifting Grounds of European Security

The European security architecture is in a deep crisis. Russia's unprovoked attack on a sovereign state in Europe has reshaped the perceived Western-led international order. The conviction that large-scale wars between European states belong to the past has faded away.

NATO, which a few years ago was declared obsolete (Trump) or braindead (Macron), seems more attractive than ever before. With the future NATO accession of Finland and Sweden, Austria, Malta, Cyprus, and Ireland are the only EU member states that are not NATO members. The revitalization of NATO has also made clear – yet again – that the EU still depends on US capabilities and leadership. In this context, concepts like strategic autonomy appear outdated. Additionally, the EU often lacks the will or means to pursue its own foreign and security policy and leaves key decisions to individual member states.

An era of realpolitik has emerged, and the meaning and potential for multilateral action – for example, through the UN or the OSCE – must be reassessed. Many non-Western global players, including China and India, have refrained from taking a clear stance on the war in Ukraine so far. The outcome of the conflict will largely determine their behaviour and the future balance of power in the coming world order. The downward spiral in the European security architecture is also reflected in the crisis of the OSCE. What remains from the vision of a common security architecture from Lisbon to Vladivostok?

This conference aimed to gather insights into the interests and motivations of the actors central to European security. It also sought to analyze the necessary conditions for the development of a serious critical dialogue. For its part, such a dialogue is one of the basic prerequisites for the constructive solution processes of numerous regional and global conflicts and crises.

Date	9-10 October 2022
Venue	Urania Dachsaal, Uraniastraße 1, 1010 Vienna
Format	Conference
Partners	Friedrich Ebert Foundation Regional Office in Vienna; Karl-Renner Institut; Society for Eurasian Studies
Workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New (Dis-)Order in the European Security Architecture? - Geopolitical EU – an Illusion? - Thinking Beyond the New Cold War – from Helsinki to a New OSCE?
Public panel	Militarization for Peace? How the West deals with the crisis in wartime Europe.
Conference paper	Available at: iipvienna.com/ps-talks-2022



Ambassador Robert Hunter on NATO and Russia

Heinz Gärtner interviews Robert Hunter, former US Ambassador to NATO and member of the National Security Council throughout the Carter Administration, first as Director of West European Affairs and then as Director of Middle East Affairs.

Date	22 February 2022
Format	Expert interview
Moderation	Prof. HEINZ GÄRTNER, Chair of IIP's Advisory Board; Lecturer at the University of Vienna
Speaker	ROBERT HUNTER, former US Ambassador to NATO



2022: Das Jahr der Drei Kriege

Date	5 January 2022
Format	Blog article
Author	HANNES SWOBODA, President of the IIP, former MEP

Auch dieses Jahr wird kein friedliches sein. Einige internationale Medien spekulieren über drei mögliche – neue – Kriege. 2022 wird ohnedies die Fortsetzung des Krieges im Jemen sowie der Kämpfe im Osten der Ukraine, in mehreren Ländern Afrikas wie vor allem in Äthiopien bedeuten. Dennoch befürchten manche Kommentatoren drei weitere kriegerische Auseinandersetzungen, und leider sind sie nicht völlig unwahrscheinlich.

Ausweitung des Ukraine-Konflikts

Gerade in den letzten Wochen hat sich der Konflikt um die Ukraine zugespitzt. Der massive Truppenaufmarsch in Russland nahe der ukrainischen Grenze ist sicher besorgniserregend. Man sollte ihn weder in der Ukraine noch im Westen herunterspielen. Jedoch verspüren einige Hardliner gerade Lust, ihn als Vorbereitung einer unmittelbar bevorstehenden Invasion darzustellen. Andererseits sehen selbst gegenüber Russland kritisch eingestellte Ukrainer mehr als eine Drohgebärde des russischen Präsidenten Putin, um ein lang gehegtes Ziel zu erreichen. Putin möchte jeder weiteren Ausweitung der Nato zuvorkommen. Und vor allem eine Mitgliedschaft der Ukraine in der Nato ist ein rotes Tuch für ihn. Was er nicht zur Kenntnis nimmt, ist, dass das Verlangen, der Nato beizutreten, gerade durch die russische Intervention im Osten der Ukraine und durch die Annexion der Krim erst gestiegen ist.

Aber der russische Präsident denkt, wie viele russische Herrscher vor ihm, in simplen Machtkategorien. Dabei kongruieren die Ausübung und Erweiterung der inneren und äußeren Macht miteinander. Der Zusammenbruch der Sowjetunion hat keine radikale Veränderung gebracht. Schon unter Präsident Jelzin ist – mit tatkräftiger und vor allem auch finanzieller Unterstützung durch den Westen – ein System der Machtteilung zwischen Oligarchen und autoritärer politischer Macht entstanden. Putin als von Jelzin autoritär eingesetzter Nachfolger hat das Gewicht zugunsten der Politik verschoben, aber im Prinzip das System einer Machtteilung zwischen Politik und Oligarchie gleich gelassen.

Ein solches politisches System ist immer versucht, auch außenpolitisch "machthungrig" aufzutreten. Dabei geht es nicht so sehr um die Eroberung neuer Gebiete. Von allen Gebieten, die Russland "eroberte", hat es keinen direkten Nutzen – außer vielleicht der Krim. Das System Putin verträgt jedoch nicht die Expansion eines strukturell anders orientierten Systems in seiner unmittelbaren Nachbarschaft. Nato und EU stellen zwar keine unmittelbare militärische, aber doch eine politische und vor allem gesellschaftspolitische Herausforderung dar. Was bleibt also zu tun, um den Frieden zu wahren?

Das System Putin kann weder militärisch noch durch Sanktionen zu Fall gebracht werden. Sanktionen sind schmerzlich, aber es gibt immer Umgehungsmöglichkeiten. Und manche Sanktionen sind für Europa – denken wir an Öl- und Gaslieferungen von Russland – selbst schmerzhaft. Veränderungen können nur interne russische Kräfte erreichen. Deshalb gilt es jetzt, mit Vernunft und nicht als Überlegene zu handeln. Es ist zu hoffen, dass vor allem Präsident Biden ernsthafte Gespräche zwischen Nato und Russland und soweit möglich auch zwischen Russland und der Ukraine herbeiführt, um eine Entspannung zwischen dem Westen und Russland zu erwirken. Dann könnte sogar die jetzige Krise zu einer neuen friedlichen Koexistenz in Europa führen. Und von der Koexistenz ausgehend könnten dann weitere Schritte

zu einer gemeinsamen europäischen Sicherheitsarchitektur gesetzt werden. Vor allem sollte dabei die in Wien angesiedelte OSZE wieder funktionsfähig gemacht werden.

Taiwans Selbstständigkeit in Gefahr?

Taiwan ist seit langem in einer besonders prekären Lage. Es wird von wenigen Staaten als eigener Staat anerkannt, aber auch nicht als Teil der chinesischen Volksrepublik. Diese lässt aber keinen Zweifel daran, dass Taiwan zu China gehört, und pocht auf die Wiedervereinigung mit dem Festland. Ganz unähnlich sind sich die jeweils politischen chinesischen Ansprüche an Taiwan und die russischen an die Krim nicht. Aber abgesehen davon, dass die Krim zum Zeitpunkt der Annexion durch Russland ein Teil eines allgemein anerkannten Staates war, gibt es keine Anzeichen, dass die Bevölkerung Taiwans diese Wiedervereinigung mit der Volksrepublik anstrebt. Und die Art und Weise, wie China mit den Grund- und Freiheitsrechten in Hongkong nach der Wiedervereinigung umgeht, ist nicht gerade eine Einladung an die Taiwanesen.

Für China gilt dasselbe wie für Russland. Die autoritäre Führung, die sich unter Präsident Xi Jinping noch verstärkt hat, verträgt selbst in der Nachbarschaft keine Herausforderungen durch erfolgreiche Alternativen. Vor allem ist das Muskelspielen nach außen eine gute Ablenkung von inneren Problemen. Und die Transformation der chinesischen Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft in Richtung eines Sozialstaats und der ökologischen Nachhaltigkeit sind in diesem Land eine große Herausforderung. Die wird zwar nicht durch die massive Aufrüstung gelöst, aber diese scheint der chinesischen Führung notwendig, um glaubwürdig mit der Annexion Taiwans zu drohen. Auch diesbezüglich dürfte es mehr um Drohgebärden gehen als um direkte Vorbereitungen eines Angriffs. Für eine Besetzung und Annexion würde China sicherlich einen hohen Preis zahlen müssen. Allerdings wäre Taiwan eine sehr wertvolle Eroberung. Denn diese Insel ist der bedeutendste Chiphersteller der Welt und auch in anderen technologischen Sektoren führend. China würde sich durch die Verfügung über Taiwans technologische Kapazitäten einen großen Wettbewerbsvorteil verschaffen.

Für den Westen bedeutet das einerseits große Wachsamkeit und andererseits verstärkte – militärische, politische und wirtschaftliche – Allianzen in der Umgebung Chinas zu schmieden. Aber auch hier ist eine primitive Anti-China-Politik wenig sinnvoll. Inhaltsleere Gesten, die trotzdem China ärgern, wie der "diplomatische" Boykott der Olympischen Spiele, sollten besser unterbleiben. Europa sollte sich klar gegen chinesische Einflussnahme auf europäische Entscheidungen und kritische Unternehmen wehren, aber die Zusammenarbeit in wichtigen globalen Fragen suchen. Und trotz der negativen Erfahrungen mit Hongkong sollte weiter auf eine friedliche Lösung der Taiwan-Frage hingewirkt werden.

Atommacht Iran?

Die Kündigung des Atomabkommens JCPOA mit dem Iran durch Präsident Trump war eine der vielen politischen Dummheiten des letzten US-Präsidenten. Aber sie war nicht nur dumm, sondern auch gefährlich. Der Iran nahm diese Aufkündigung zum Anlass, weitere Schritte in Richtung der technischen Vorbereitung zur Produktion einer Atombombe zu setzen. Inzwischen sehen auch einige Anhänger der Trump'schen Politik ein, dass die einseitige Aufkündigung des Abkommens die Gefahr einer atomaren Rüstung des Iran nicht geschmälert, sondern erhöht hat. Nun ist es schwierig, das Rad der Geschichte zurückzudrehen.

In diesem Fall sind es die Verknüpfung der inneren autoritären Strukturen im Iran mit äußeren Machtbestrebungen, die es schwierig machen, zu einem konstruktiven Verhandlungsergebnis

zu kommen. Nicht zuletzt in Folge der militärischen Interventionen der USA in Afghanistan und vor allem im Irak sah und sieht sich der Iran gestärkt. Hinzu kommt das Scheitern der Versuche, den syrischen Präsidenten Assad zu stürzen, was mithilfe Russlands und des Irans verhindert wurde.

Wie immer die Verhandlungen mit dem Iran verlaufen, sind es vor allem israelische Entscheidungsträger, die – wieder einmal – mit einem militärischen Angriff auf den Iran spekulieren. Auch der jetzigen Regierung scheinen die Cyberangriffe und die gezielten Tötungen von Nuklearwissenschaftlern zu wenig, um den Iran vom Bau einer Atombombe abzuhalten. Wahrscheinlich sind es jetzt die neuen arabischen Freunde, zum Beispiel aus den Vereinigten Emiraten, die die Israeli von solchen Angriffen abhalten. So haben die Abraham-Vereinbarungen zu besseren Beziehungen mit einigen arabischen Ländern geführt, aber keinen Freibrief für militärische Interventionen ausgestellt. Auch die betroffenen arabischen Staaten sind dem Iran nicht wohl gewogen, aber sie wollen keinen neuen regionalen Brandherd. Wichtig wäre vielmehr, dass alle Staaten, auch der Iran und die Atommacht Israel daran arbeiten, aus dem gesamten Nahen Osten eine atomwaffenfreie Zone zu machen!

Ist der Frieden noch zu retten?

2022 beginnt nicht gut. Die drei hier erwähnten Krisenherde kommen zu anderen noch dazu. Und neue können rasch entstehen, vor allem können sich eingefrorene Konflikte jederzeit entzünden! Wie wir zuletzt gesehen haben, gebärden sich sogar Friedensnobelpreisträger wie der äthiopische Präsident martialisch. Und auch relativ demokratische Länder wie die USA haben in der Vergangenheit internationales Recht verletzt und einen Krieg begonnen. Und Israel ist nach wie vor nicht bereit, auf die Palästinenser zuzugehen und einen Frieden zu schließen.

Aber derzeit bauen vor allem autoritär regierte Länder Drohkulissen auf beziehungsweise sind schwer auf eine friedliche Konfliktlösung einzuschwören. Und dennoch ist der Frieden zu retten, wenn der Westen – also die USA und die Europäische Union – eine aktive Friedenspolitik betreiben. Die militärische Wachsamkeit muss dabei in allen Fällen durch eine Dialogbereitschaft begleitet werden. Der Westen sollte sich nicht am Aufbau von Drohgebärden beteiligen. Und er sollte unermüdlich daran arbeiten, wirtschaftlich, sozial und politisch beispielgebende Lösungen zu erreichen. Nur die eigene Stärke – und zwar nicht ausschließlich militärisch – kann den Frieden bewahren! Dabei sollten wir auch andere Staaten davon überzeugen, dass man mehr erreichen kann, wenn man an die Nachbarn Angebote macht, als wenn man mit militärischen Interventionen droht.

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All Activities: International Security and Disarmament

(click on the activity for more details or use the QR code below)


December 13 | Neutralität und Krieg 

November 14 | Milliarden für das Militär: Lässt sich ein erneutes Wettrüsten in Österreich, Europa und der Welt vermeiden? 

October 17 | Militarization for peace? How the West deals with the crisis in wartime Europe 

October 9/10 | Conference: Vienna Peace & Security Talks 2022

September 28 | Former UN disarmament expert voices regret over Sweden, Finland joining NATO 

September 13 | Winning and Losing the Nuclear Peace: Looking Back on Arms Control and Non-Proliferation 

September 13 | Deliberating Autonomous Weapons 

September 7 | Interview: The doctrine of nuclear deterrence is the main obstacle for nuclear disarmament 

August 1 | Heinz Gärtner - Ursachen und Folgen des Ukrainekrieges, NATOs neue Sicherheitsstrategie, Neutralität 

July 7 | IIP TALK with Robert Hunter on 2022 NATO Summit 

May 9 | Europe Day 2022 

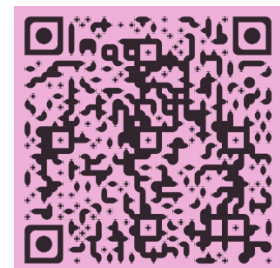
April 21 | Thomas Nowotny & Thomas Hajnoczi über Atomwaffen 

March 24 | Robert Hunter on NATO and Russia 

February 15 | Vision quest: How Europe should safeguard its security 

January 25 | Diplomacy is the only way to avoid a war with Russia 

January 5 | 2022: Das Jahr der drei Kriege? 





Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Russia

Marylia Hushcha

The war in Ukraine and its manifold implications have been a throughline for the IIP's activities and projects on Eastern Europe, the South Caucasus, and Russia in 2022. Apart from numerous public discussions, entries on our peace blog, and expert interviews, the IIP held two expert conferences on the subject. One dealt specifically with the realities on the ground in Ukraine, the prospects for reconstruction, and Ukraine's European integration. The other looked at the security and economic implications of the war for the Black Sea region – the immediate neighborhood of Ukraine (and Russia) that links many diverse actors, including the EU, the countries of the South Caucasus, and Turkey. By the end of 2022, every country in the EU's eastern neighborhood – Ukraine above all – was set to face unprecedented challenges in the coming year and beyond – many of which will be decisive for the future of Europe. Some of these challenges are summarized below, although this overview is far from exhaustive.

Ukraine

Less than twelve months into the war, the estimated casualties exceeded hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian and Russian troops and thousands (to tens of thousands) of Ukrainian civilians. Russian attacks on Ukraine's critical infrastructure have left millions without heat, water, or electricity over the winter. With no end to the fighting in sight, millions of displaced persons – especially women and children, both internally and abroad – will not have a home to return to even when the fighting stops. Depopulation is a significant threat that Ukraine will face in the future. The EU's granting of candidate status to Ukraine (and Moldova) in June raised expectations and hopes for a silver lining to the war, but there is little clarity on any timeline. Ukrainians continue to show their resolve to fight, which, while admirable, will signify further suffering and loss of life, with little willingness to pursue a ceasefire or diplomatic solution.

Russia

Nor is there any willingness to end the conflict on the Russian side. Russia's envisioned blitzkrieg in Ukraine rapidly turned into a war of attrition, with Russia formally annexing four of Ukraine's regions in September, even while it did not fully control them. At the same time, the war is changing Russia from the inside. There is widespread repression and persecution of public figures and ordinary citizens who criticize the war, and virtually all independent media have been forced to shut down or leave the country. Harsh economic sanctions by the West followed immediately after the invasion, although Russia has adapted better than expected. The most tangible social impact of the war came with the military mobilization announced in September. However, this did not ignite popular resistance to the regime. A question remains over how much of the Russian public supports the invasion of Ukraine. While one cannot fully rely on surveys in Russia due to self-censorship and high non-response rates, available polls conducted regularly since the start of the invasion indicate that a stable and significant share of respondents support the 'special military operation.'¹ Those who oppose the war and the current regime – often some of the most educated – have fled the country in large numbers. The degradation and loss of human capital will have a detrimental impact on Russia's future.

¹ <https://russianfield.com/statisticasvo>

Belarus and Moldova

Belarus continues to succumb to Russian control. By providing its territory for Russian troops to attack Ukraine, the regime in Belarus has become complicit in the war, even if thus far it has not engaged in the conflict militarily and there is no willingness to do so – either among the population or among political elites. The constitutional referendum conducted in February upended the country’s non-nuclear status. The persecution and repression of citizens involved in anti-regime protests or in the anti-war resistance continues. Belarus’ opposition forces in exile have little leverage over the situation inside the country, although they have sought to convey their support and solidarity with Ukraine through their activities abroad.

Moldova has faced serious security and economic challenges as a result of the war in Ukraine. Many fear the spread of fighting from Ukraine to Moldova through an escalation in the breakaway region of Transnistria. While this has not happened so far, the economic and humanitarian challenges have kept the Moldovan government sufficiently busy. Moldova has hosted over one hundred thousand Ukrainian refugees – a remarkable number given its total population of 2 million. At the same time, it has sought to reduce its total energy dependence on Russia, which has cut gas supplies, triggering soaring inflation. With all these challenges in mind, compounded by public unrest, the Moldovan government elected in 2021 has struggled to deliver on the reforms crucial for its EU integration.

South Caucasus

The war in Ukraine has put Georgia in a precarious position. On one hand, Georgians have expressed their solidarity with and support for Ukraine, recalling their own war with Russia in 2008. That past experience has made many fearful that the war might spread to Georgia if Russia is not stopped in Ukraine. At the same time, Georgia has been far more subdued in its support for Ukraine. While supporting Ukrainian refugees, the Georgian government has not joined Western sanctions against Russia out of fear for the consequences that this might have on its economy, which remains heavily dependent on Russia. Domestically, a democratic backlash has been noticeable in the country. As a result, Georgia received only a ‘European perspective,’ in contrast to the EU candidate status granted to Ukraine and Moldova in June. The twelve conditions set by the EU for Georgia to qualify as a candidate country (concerning rule of law, deoligarchisation, and other reforms) were not met by the end of the year.

The conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan remained in a hot phase throughout 2022, although it was overshadowed by the war in Ukraine. The conflict escalated in September when Azerbaijan attacked internationally-recognized Armenian territory, with over a hundred Armenian soldiers losing their lives. At the end of the year, Azerbaijani activists backed by the government staged a blockade of the Lachin corridor connecting Nagorno-Karabakh to Armenia, causing a humanitarian crisis in the Armenian-populated enclave. Russian peacekeepers stationed in the area were unable to counter those actions, not least because of Russia’s diminishing influence in the region. The EU Monitoring Capacity deployed in Armenia in October for the duration of two months has strengthened Armenia, whose reliance on Russia in security matters brought no support in the second Karabakh war in 2020. With Russia focused on the war in Ukraine, there is hope that the EU’s presence in the region – along with Charles Michel’s mediation efforts – will move the peace process forward.

Looking to 2023, the IIP will continue to cover the EU’s eastern neighborhood and Russia, closely follow the developments in Ukraine, and look in more detail into the geopolitical dynamics of the South Caucasus.

Selected projects

The New Black Sea: How the War in Ukraine is Reshaping the Region

The war in Ukraine has led to a profound transformation of both the European security system as well as the entire global order. One of the places that has felt the impacts of the war most directly is the Black Sea region.

The Black Sea spans countries with deep historical and cultural ties that have nevertheless failed to form a fully-fledged region, in part due to the diversity of its countries. The region includes members of both the EU (Bulgaria, Romania) and NATO (Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey) as well as the post-Soviet, Western-oriented states of Moldova, Ukraine, and Georgia – all of which have had military conflicts with Russia. In addition, Armenia and Azerbaijan are deeply connected to the Black Sea region through their close economic and security relations with Russia and Turkey, respectively. Finally, Russia remains an important player in the area, although its presence in the Black Sea has decreased significantly after the collapse of the USSR – a reality that the Kremlin has been trying to alter by force in Ukraine since 2014.

This expert conference gathered academics and practitioners from the countries of the Black Sea region to discuss issues including ongoing military developments in Ukraine, the role of Turkey in the Black Sea region, developments in the South Caucasus, as well as the economic implications of the war, including for energy security.

Date	29 November 2022
Venue	University of Vienna - Skylounge, Oskar-Morgenstern Platz 1, 1090 Vienna Diplomatic Academy of Vienna – Favoritenstraße 15A, 1040 Vienna
Format	Conference
Partners	Konrad Adenauer Foundation for Multilateral Dialogue, the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies, the City of Vienna, the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna
Workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assessment of Military Developments in Ukraine - Turkey – The Gatekeeper of the Black Sea - The South Caucasus and the Greater Black Sea Region - Black Sea Economics: Impacts of the War in Ukraine
Public panel	<p>The New Black Sea: How the War in Ukraine is Reshaping the Region</p> <p>Introduction: Stephan Malerius, Konrad Adenauer Foundation in Tbilisi; Marylia Hushcha, International Institute for Peace</p> <p>Speakers: Vasyl Filipchuk (International Center for Policy Studies, Kyiv); Leila Alieva (Oxford University); Richard Grieveson (Deputy Director, Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies); Daria Isachenko (Associate Researcher at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Berlin)</p> <p>Moderator: Hannes Swoboda, President at the IIP, former MEP</p>
Conference outputs	Available at: iipvienna.com/newblacksea



The Odesa Talks 2022

Odesa Talks 2022 is an online version of the International Neighborhood Symposium – a summer school for young people that was held in Odesa for three successive summers (2017-2019) before the Covid-19 pandemic and the Russian invasion forced us to move to online formats of the event. This year’s version aims to honor both the struggle of the Ukraine people and their resilience as well as the city of Odesa. Five thematic discussions were held over the course of one month with expert speakers from Ukraine, the rest of Europe, and the United States discussing regional and global implications of the war in Ukraine.

Date 31 May-28 June March 2021

Format Series of online panel discussions

Partners Center for International and European Studies at Kadir Haas University, Istanbul; UA: Ukraine Analytica, Odesa; the Foreign Policy Council “Ukrainian Prism”, Kyiv; and NGO “Quadrivium”, Chernivtsi

Speakers HANNA SHELEST, Odesa; HANNES SWOBODA, Vienna; JAMES ROGERS, London; DIMITRIOS TRIANTAPHYLLOU, Istanbul; LOUISA SLAVKOVA, Sofia; MARYLIA HUSHCHA, Vienna; ALYONA LUNOVA, Kyiv; ANGELA KANE, Vienna; MITAT CELIKPALA, Istanbul; YEVGENYA GABER, Ottawa; RICHARD GIRAGOSIAN, Yerevan; ALINA ACHIM-INAYEH, Bucharest; TENGIZ PKHALADZE, Tbilisi; ELENA LAZAROU, Brussels; SERGYI GERASYMCHUK, Kyiv; STEPHANIE FENKART, Vienna; DARIA ISACHENKO, Berlin; SERHAT GUVENC, Istanbul; MYKOLA KAPITONENKO, Kyiv; PAVEL K. BAEV, Oslo.

Project outputs Available at: iipvienna.com/odesatalks#



Peaceful Solution for Ukraine

In a recent *Krasno Analysis* article (December 14, 2021), the last US Ambassador to the Soviet Union, Jack Matlock, wrote an insightful and much discussed essay about “Ukraine: A Tragedy of a Nation Divided,” portraying the internal and external hurdles for Ukraine, Russia, the US and NATO to find lasting solutions to the simmering conflicts in Ukraine. Only a few days later, on December 17, Russia surprised the World by publishing two draft treaties addressed to the US and NATO for a new security structure in Eastern Europe. At the same time, reports about Russian troop movements inside its territory and articles about NATO’s strongly worded warnings toward Russia are raising the specter of a new international conflict in Europe.

In collaboration with NeutralityStudies and the Vienna based International Institute for Peace, we present a roundtable that will discuss the situation in and around Ukraine, give diplomats and security analyst perspectives, and sketch out potential ways forward to resolve the hot and cold conflicts in Eastern Europe. Join us for this discussion with Ambassador Matlock, Dr. Nicolai N. Petro, Dr. Anatol Lieven, Dr. Heinz Gärtner, Dr. Olga Oliker and Dr. Luiza Bialasiewicz.

Date	21 January 2022
Format	Online panel discussion
Partner	Neutrality studies
Speakers	JACK MATLOCK, Ambassador (ret.); NICOLAI N. PETRO, Professor University of Rhode Island; ANATOL LIEVEN, Professor Georgetown University; LUIZA BIALASIEWICZ, Professor University of Amsterdam; OLGA OLIKER, Program Director, International Crisis Group; HEINZ GÄRTNER, Professor University of Vienna and Chair of IIP Advisory Board
Moderation	STEPHANIE FENKART, Director of the IIP; PASCAL LOTTAZ, Neutrality Studies



All Activities: Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Russia

(click on the activity for more details or use the QR code below)

December 12 | Ukraine's critical infrastructure vs. Russia's energy positioning - the "war of nerves". Analysis by Dionis Cenuşa 

December 1 | Komplizierter Weg zum Frieden 

November 11 | Where do the War in Ukraine and Sanctions against Russia lead? 

November 29 | Conference: The New Black Sea - How the War in Ukraine is Reshaping the Region

October 31 | The Situation of Russian Civil Society in Times of War 

September 28 | Ukraine Krieg: Kein Ende in Sicht? 

September 2 | Russia's Path to War 

August 31 | James Joyce, Nationalismus und die Ukraine 

August 8 | Ukraine War: A boost for European Transformation? 

July 13 | Europa und der Krieg 

July 13 | Stadtpunkt: Neutralität als Option 

July | Odesa Talks – Series of Discussions on the War in Ukraine 

June 22 | Ukraine on its Way to the European Union: A Necessary but Risky Path 

June 22 | IIP Talk with Olena Halushka - EU Integration and Anti-corruption Measures in Ukraine 

June 9 | Präsentation des Buches "Die Ukraine im Krieg – ist Frieden möglich?" 

May 31 | From Srebrenica to Bucha 

May 31 | Back to the Cold War Era: the War in Ukraine and an Appraisal of the Strategy of Containment 

May 24 | Ukraine: A centuries-long struggle for independence and sovereignty 

May 19 | Der Russland-Ukraine Krieg und ein neuer Kulturkampf 



May 11 | Russia's war in Ukraine is about the West 

April 26 | Waffenstillstand in der Ukraine! 

April 25 | Greg Yudin on Russia's war and political regime: ongoing developments 

April 6 | Mit Russen Reden? 

March 18 | Russia's War on Ukraine: Is There a Way to Peace? 


March 16 | The war against Ukraine: Implications for Moldova 

March 15 | The war against Ukraine: Implications for Georgia 


March 14 | The war against Ukraine: An expert assessment from on the ground 

February 28 | An attack on Ukraine – An attack on the Western worldview 

February 28 | IIP Statement about the current war in Ukraine 

February 11 | Putin's reactive escalation: How regime architecture affects Russian foreign policy 

February 8 | Die Ukraine und ihre vielen Fronten 

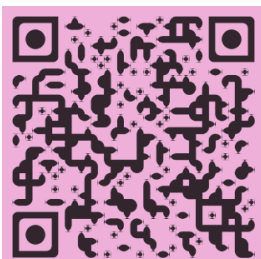
February 2 | The role of Georgia in the post-communist space and challenges small countries like Georgia are facing on a daily basis, being alone in a war against Russia 

January 21 | Peaceful Solution for Ukraine 

January 18 | Escalation in Eastern Ukraine and Zelensky's domestic challenges 

January 10 | Why the notion 'post-Soviet' is obsolete, and not only for the Baltic states 

January 10 | Ukraine – Are We Allowed to Dream? 



The Western Balkans Initiative

Luka Cekic

The “Young Generation for the New Western Balkans 2030” initiative, which the IIP launched with the Karl-Renner-Institut and the Austrian Institute for International Affairs in 2018, represents the focal point of our activities concerning the Western Balkan region. Issues including the rule of law, media freedom, EU integration, democratization, growing authoritarianism, and reconciliation have guided our activities for the region. However, Russia’s aggression in Ukraine, which started in late February 2022, completely changed the political narrative in both the EU and the Western Balkans, and the region’s EU integration and security issues have risen to the top of the political agenda.

The IIP kickstarted its Western Balkan activities in 2022 with a study visit to Serbia in March in order to gain insight into the situation in the country before the general elections in April. President Aleksandar Vucic and his SNS party won both the presidential and the parliamentary elections, once again securing their hold on power. Nevertheless, the opposition managed to reenter parliament, although they did not achieve the results they were hoping for. Media freedom and the rule of law continue to face backsliding, while authoritarianism and Russian propaganda are at record highs. Furthermore, no evidence of advancement in EU integration is noticeable, but the pressure on Serbia from both the West (the US & the EU) and the East (Russia & China) is rising, which puts the current government and President Vucic in a tricky situation – sitting on two chairs is no longer an option.

Bosnia and Herzegovina also held general elections, and some positive changes were noticeable, even though the process was overshadowed by corruption, nationalism, and several crises – including the decision of High Representative Christian Schmidt to forcefully implement a controversial election law on election night. The new face in the Bosnian political arena is Denis Becirovic, a social democrat who was elected as the Bosniak member of the Presidency. However, it is too soon to determine how the new government and politicians will shape the country's future. One thing, however, is certain: the EU membership path remains BiH’s main objective. The country was granted official candidate status by the EU in December 2022, which sent a positive and much-needed signal to the citizens of BiH for a better and more prosperous future. This year, the IIP also paid a visit to the Srebrenica Memorial Center to commemorate the victims of the Srebrenica genocide and promote reconciliation.

As previously mentioned, the war in Ukraine has created a “new momentum” for the EU integration processes in the Western Balkans. It seems that members of the European Parliament and other EU officials recognized the importance of the region for the EU and the overall security of the continent. The EU also led efforts to resolve the long-lasting conflict between Kosovo and Serbia. The Franco-German proposal pushes for mutual “recognition” in order to normalize the volatile relationship between the two states, but it is still up to the states themselves to sign and implement the agreement. The overall presence of the West – and especially the EU – has increased drastically over the past year and contributed to the region's EU path.

The time has come for the region to strengthen its democracy, promote reconciliation, restore damaged state institutions, and pursue full EU membership. Over the last three decades, the transition process of the Western Balkan countries was shaped by uncertainty and failed state-building attempts. The EU should now, more than ever, provide necessary economic support,

and regional politicians should restore the trust of citizens in order to complete the region's never-ending transition. An honest and long-lasting partnership between the EU and the Western Balkans is essential to strengthen democratic values, motivate the public, and introduce much-needed energy for reform – key elements for a better Western Balkan region. The overall narrative must shift from pessimism and authoritarianism to optimism and democracy.



Selected projects

Serbia: At a Geopolitical Crossroads

Serbia is bracing itself for the presidential and parliamentary elections which will be held in April 2022. With rising authoritarianism and corruption, Serbia is more and more drifting away from its European course. The current President, Aleksandar Vucic, continues to lead the country with his authoritarian and anti-democratic policies which effectively strengthens his position and autocratic rule. The opposition, on the other hand, must deal with low media coverage, unstable cooperation between opposition parties and difficulties in monitoring the election process. Yet, after 10 years of Vucic's rule in Serbia, it seems that the elections 2022 could bring some change in the political spectrum of Serbia.

The ongoing Russian aggression in Ukraine put Serbia in a difficult and rather unwilling geopolitical position – it finds itself sitting on two chairs, the one being the EU-integration process and the other one representing the close historical and in some way political ties with Russia. While the West is condemning and sanctioning Russia, Serbia remained for several days silent. On the 2nd of March it voted in favor of the Ukraine Resolution in the United Nations. Nevertheless, the President Vucic and the government are still refusing to join the EU in their sanctions against Russia. The calculation of Serbian leading politicians is clear: Do not damage the relations with Russia because of the Kosovo issue but try to remain on the road of the EU integration process. This newly emerged crisis puts Serbia in a challenging and dreadful geopolitical position. It seems, that a clear path should be chosen and that the political neutrality is not anymore an option. How will Serbia position itself?

With all the difficulties and challenges Serbia is facing it is important not to give up hope and to look for alternatives.

Date	15-16 March
Format	Study trip to Belgrade, Serbia
Partner	Karl-Renner Institut, the Austrian Institute for International Affairs (ÖIIP), Belgrade Center for Security Policy
Participants	Hannes Swoboda (President IIP former MEP, former chair of the S&D group in the EP); Stephanie Fenkart (Director IIP, Vienna); Luka Čekić (Project Assistant, IIP); Vuk Velebit, (Independent political analyst, Belgrade); Laura Crnić (Student, Faculty of Political Sciences, Zagreb); Agim Selami (Executive Director at ZIP Institute, Skopje); Dafina Peci (Secretary General for the National Youth Congress (NYC) of Albania); Vilson Blloshmi (Student, Albania)
Project outputs	Available at iipvienna.com/serbia2022



How to Deal with the Threat of Authoritarianism?

Recent developments and actions in the Western Balkans, especially those by Milorad Dodik, demonstrate the need to counter authoritarian tendencies and backward-oriented policies that threaten the advances achieved in region since the end of the bloody Yugoslav Wars. Worse still, some politicians within the EU, such as Viktor Orbaán, seek to form alliances with authoritarian leaders in the region and prevent a united front by the EU. At the same time, other member states that do not support reactionary forces in the region continue to pose obstacles to the Western Balkan countries' accession and integration process. Additionally, many citizens of the Western Balkans – especially, Kosovar citizens – face obstacles to the freedom of movement within the region and throughout the Schengen Area. Even more alarmingly, we have witnessed democratic backsliding within EU countries, such as Hungary and Poland, as well as aspiring EU members states, such as Turkey. The results of the recent elections in Serbia and Hungary clearly indicate that the era of electoral authoritarianism is on the rise in Europe.

The motivation of this workshop was to discuss how to deal with the threat of authoritarian tendencies in Europe and how we, the participants of the conference in collaboration with other partners, can develop a values-based strategy in the face of the increasingly authoritarian regimes across Europe. More specifically, it aimed to explore how the EU can craft common policies and strategies to address democratic backsliding and the formidable threat of authoritarianism in Europe, particularly in light of the dynamics observed during the recent elections in Serbia and Hungary.

As a result of this event a Vienna Declaration on Dealing with Authoritarianism was drafted. It was presented at the European Parliament later in November during a visit by the members of the initiative 'Young Generation for the New Western Balkans 2030'.

Date	20 September 202
Format	Conference and study trip
Speakers	VUK VELEBIT (Polytical Analyst, Serbia); ZSUZSANNA VÉGH (Research Fellow, European University Viadrina in Frankfurt); LUKAS MANDL (MEP, EPP Group, Delegation for relations with Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo); MACIEJ KISIŁOWSKI (Associate Professor of Law and Strategy, CEU); CENGİZ GÜNAY (Director of the Austrian Institute for International Affairs, ÖIIP); VEDRAN DZIHIC, Senior Researcher at the ÖIIP); MARYLIA HUSHCHA, Researcher at the IIP
Outputs	Vienna Declaration on Dealing with Authoritarianism; Available at: http://bit.ly/3yDXvKA Conference report. Available at: bit.ly/40oOSQQ

United for democracy, human rights, and the rule of law. Vienna declaration on dealing with authoritarianism

We, the undersigned researchers, activists and civil society representatives:

Reaffirm our commitment to defend European values and build a robust framework for a more resilient democratic societies based on rule of law in the Western Balkans, the EU, and the wider Europe.

Reaffirm our commitment to Article 49 of the Treaty on European Union and the EU enlargement policy that opens full EU membership to all European states which respect the EU values and are committed to promoting them.

Recall and support the Open Letter issued by several of the involved institutions on Putin's invasion of Ukraine and the implications for the Western Balkans from 16 March 2022.

Conclude that a growing trend of electoral authoritarianism poses a common threat to Europe. The impact of subversion of democracy and encroachment up on rule of law is not limited to national or regional level but it is a common threat for the future of Europe. Thus, Europe must prepare to deal with the formidable challenge and work together united.

Warn that the recent election victory for Hungary's Viktor Orbán and Serbia's Aleksandar Vučić was a clear sign that the European democracy as we know it continues to be under attack. Both leaders have undermined democracy in their respective states by capturing state institutions, shrinking independent media, muzzling the opposition voices and repress rule of law and fundamental rights.

Remind about similar alarming trends that may be observed in Poland, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and – albeit to a lesser extent – in other European countries. Russia and Belarus must already be regarded as oppressive dictatorships.

Warn that with partly strong pro-Russian sentiments and prominent pro-Russian political forces in some of the prospective EU member states the danger for Western Balkans and EU neighbors in the East of being exposed to further malign Russian influence grows.

Note with concern that the citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina mark the 30th anniversary since the start of the war by following the Russian invasion of Ukraine with great sense of fear. The Bosnian Serb separatist Milorad Dodik has been deepening ethnic rifts, threatening secession, and risking a new conflict in the country, thereby making Bosnia and Herzegovina a threat to peace and security for the whole of the Western Balkan region and beyond. Exemplifying the fact that though it stopped the war in 1995, the Dayton Peace Agreement had failed to bring about a stable, functioning, liberal, rule of law based and prosperous multi-ethnic state that ensures equal representation for all the citizens.

Remind that the European Union was founded, primarily, to overcome xenophobia, nationalism, and authoritarianism. Economic integration was envisioned as one of the means to enhance cooperation among democratic states. The EU Charter of Fundamental Rights reaffirmed the European support for the universal rights, such as human dignity, freedom, security, and solidarity.

Recommit ourselves to defending democracy and rule of law from the autocratic threats looming over Europe for far too long, among other by understanding that the strengthening of autocrats has been partly the consequence of widespread underestimation of the power of alliance among them.

Commit ourselves to seek and build alliances with like-minded activists, organisations, and institutions and provide support to other civil society organisations committed to high democratic and rule of law standards based on the EU values as defined in the Article 2 of EU Treaties.

Commit ourselves to redouble our efforts in defending European values, among other by closely monitoring and exposing governments and leaders who pose threats to democracy.

Commend the European Commission and the European Parliament for taking the initiative and showing its commitment to find ways for safeguarding the non-violation of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights by member states. The overwhelming support in the Council and the jurisprudence of the European Court give reasons to be hopeful.

Call for EU institutions and its member states to act decisively in enforcing the fundamental rights in its own member countries as well as in candidate countries. Early warning mechanisms need to be put in place so that concerned stakeholders would react at early stage and with appropriate policies as soon as subversive regimes start to consolidate power in a systematic manner.

Reaffirm that free and independent media is a core element of a functioning democracy and one of the pillars of the EU Charter on Fundamental rights.

Warn that in the case of Russia a path to totalitarian system and war of invasion went through full control of media and messages. Therefore, in fighting authoritarian regimes, efforts to dismantle their total control of the media landscape play a crucial role.

Call on EU to take competition in the media sector more seriously even if much of the latter is out of reach for the EU due to legal restrictions and the fact that media operations are very much organized at national or regional levels. For example, the EU should consider competition in the media sector as an important sign of a functioning free market economy and develop mechanisms whereby violation of freedom of media is duly recognized and responded to. Furthermore, an awareness-rising campaign about the importance of these freedoms in fighting authoritarianism is quintessential.

Call on the EU to devise a dual strategy to fight authoritarian regimes in Western Balkans. Such strategy should involve an offer of concrete, tangible, and achievable steps in integration of the region with the EU while at the same time making it contingent upon an unequivocal commitment by the candidate countries to EU values, including rule of law and democracy. Particular attention should be given to fair and free elections, political pluralism, rule of law, separation of powers, independent and free media and a vibrant civil society.

Call on the EU member states to consider seriously the ideas and proposal for EU integration steps for the region, which are discussed in the expert community and among politicians in the region. These proposals in combination with fulfillment of strict conditions related to EU values, would lead to rewarding countries in the region with politicians and governments that in the region have shown clear commitment to EU values.

Demand that EU member states immediately start negotiations with North Macedonia and Albania and allow a visa free travel opportunity for citizens of Kosovo. With such dual strategy and long overdue immediate steps regarding North Macedonia, Albania and Kosovo, EU would be able to regain credibility, end the current ambivalence in some of the countries where commitment to EU values is not present and move the region forward.

Underline that with the economic and social challenges for the entire continent coming as a consequence of the global pandemic and invasion of Ukraine, democracies and rule of law-based societies will be under an even stronger pressure to show that they can offer their societies better living standards, economic possibilities and functioning services. Already now, the populist leaders are aggressively disseminating a propaganda that Europe is based on hypocrisy, and nobody cares for the people except the strong leaders. This makes EU approach to the Western Balkans and its own members who violate EU values ever more urgent.

Underline the importance of close cooperation between EU and the Council of Europe to protect human rights, democracy, and rule of law in Europe. Kosovo should become full member of the Council of Europe, and thus enable its citizens, including minorities, access to the European Court of Human Rights, as well as all the human rights mechanisms that are part of the Council of Europe system.

Commit ourselves to advocate and defend multilateralism and multilateral institutions, as well as regional cooperation. The liberal world order and by extension, European values, has endured because of its entrenchment in multilateral system and global cooperation. As it has been observed time and again, authoritarian leaders do not demolish the democratic institutions but use them to their advantage by through pervasive control and crippling alternatives. Therefore, the liberal democracy can be preserved by strengthening existing multilateral institutions and revamping cooperation.

Remind that in dealing with the threat of authoritarianism and engaging in conflict resolution in divided societies based on factors such as rural-urban, east-west, nationalities, and religion, it is important to work with local actors and support forces of change on the ground by applying a bottom-up approach and establishing formal and informal networks. In that sense, priority is to support human rights defenders and activists fighting for their rights and facilitate a path for those in immediate need of protection.

Call on the EU to enhance the value-based foreign and enlargement policy. As such, blatant breach of international law and norms should be always condemned, and European values should be defended from being infringed by authoritarian regimes. The EU, as a normative power, ought to lead by the power of example by supporting democracy, promotion of human rights and civil society in building a robust and resilient system.

Welcome the workshop on “How to deal with the threat of authoritarianism? Europe after the elections in Serbia and Hungary – and beyond” which was held in Vienna from 6 to 8 April 2022 and commit to follow-up with more and intensified activities within the EU and the Western Balkans.

Open this Declaration to signatories coming from the civil society in the Western Balkans, the EU and the wider Europe.

In Vienna, on 8 April 2022



Signatories

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR PEACE

KARL-RENNER-INSTITUT

ÖSTERREICHISCHES INSTITUT FÜR INTERNATIONALE POLITIK – OIIP

THE BALKAN FORUM

MAJA BJELOS	<i>Public Policy Analyst, Belgrade Center for Security Policy, Serbia</i>
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LAURA CRNIC	<i>Student, Faculty of Political Sciences, Croatia</i>
ALEXANDER DUBOWY	<i>Policy Analyst, Eastern Europe, Russia and the CIS</i>
VEDRAN DZIHIC	<i>Senior Researcher at the OIIP and Lecturer at the University of Vienna, Austria</i>
STEPHANIE FENKART	<i>Director of the International Institute for Peace, Austria</i>
ASTRIT ISTREFI	<i>Executive Director, The Balkan Forum, Kosovo</i>
GERHARD MARCHL	<i>Head of the Department of European Politics, Karl-Renner-Institut, Austria</i>
DAFINA PECI	<i>Secretary General for the National Youth Congress (NYC), Albania</i>
AGIM SELAMI	<i>Executive Director at ZIP Institute, North Macedonia</i>
HANNES SWOBODA	<i>President of the International Institute for Peace and former MEP, Austria</i>
TARA TEPAVAC	<i>Researcher, Policy Analyst, Consultant, Serbia</i>
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VUK VELEBIT	<i>Independent Political Analyst, Serbia</i>






All Activities: The Western Balkans Initiative

(click on the activity for more details or use the QR code below)

December 13 | A new start for the Western Balkans? 


September 29 | Upcoming Elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina - Results, Prospects, and EU Integration 

September 20 | Kosovo's visa liberalization: Can we hope for progress soon? 

August 3 | Ongoing Crises in the Western Balkans 

August 25 | How does the Srebrenica Memorial Center work? 

August 11 | IIP TALK with Glauk Konjufca, President of the Parliament of Kosovo and Hannes Swoboda 

August 10 | Recognition of the Genocide is the Precondition for the Reconciliation 

August 3 | Austrian Peace Servant at the Srebrenica Memorial Center 

August 2 | Bosniens Zukunft auf dünnem Eis 

July 11 | Women in the Fight for Truth and Justice 

July 11 | Srebrenica - A Story That Must Be Told 

June 29 | Enlargement - Is the EU moving forward? 

June 21 | IIP Talk with Adnan Cerimagic - Revitalizing the EU Perspective for the Western Balkans 

June 16 | United for Democracy, Human Rights, and the Rule of Law - Vienna Declaration on Dealing with Authoritarianism 

May 31 | Western Balkans - The EU must act now 

March 21 | Open Letter on Putin's Invasion of Ukraine and the Implications for the Western Balkans 

May 11 | Slovenia's Elections 2022: The Tide Has Turned 

May 9 | How to Deal with the Threat of Authoritarianism? - Conference Paper 

May 4 | Die Westbalkan-Diaspora: Verantwortung – Rolle – Zugehörigkeit 📺

April 29 | Serbian General Elections and its Impact on Serbia's Geopolitical Positioning 📺

April | Study Visit: Serbia at a Geopolitical Crossroads

March 22 | Belgrade - March 2022 📺

March 8 | The Danger of a Single Story: From Ukraine to Western Balkans 📺

February 24 | Bosnia and Herzegovina's Political Crisis: Are Words Going to Stay the Only Weapon? 📺





Middle East, Africa and Asia

Hannes Swoboda

Over the past year, much of the European public's attention was directed to the war in Ukraine. But elsewhere in the world, another bloody war led to devastating consequences. During the war in Ethiopia, hundreds of thousands were killed or wounded, millions were displaced, and famine spread throughout the conflict zone – exacerbated by the blocking of humanitarian organizations from delivering basic aid to civilians. While the conflict was a civil war, a foreign country – namely, Eritrea - was also involved in the fighting. The war thus contributed to the pre-existing dire economic, security, and humanitarian situation in the Horn of Africa.

Efforts by the African Union, the EU, and other international actors to broker a peace agreement took far too long, although they seem to have at last succeeded. Hopefully peace will prevail and a new consensus can be negotiated between the conflict parties and the many other ethnic and cultural communities in Ethiopia. One can only hope that this readiness for peace and cooperation will also spread to Eritrea. Regardless, significant time and financial resources will be required for Ethiopia's reconstruction and, eventually, reconciliation. Even with the war over, the international community should continue to focus its attention on the situation in Ethiopia and its surroundings.

Meanwhile in the Middle East, there were no new wars, but this does not mean that peace prevailed. Again and again, continued fighting in Syria highlighted the unstable situation in that country – if one can even call it a unitary country. The occupation of Palestinian land by Israel continued, and there was no hope for progress in talks between Israel and the Palestinian leadership. In fact, there are no ongoing negotiations that might lead to an understanding on how to coexist and refrain from violence. Moreover, Israel's latest elections made things worse both for the Palestinians and for Israeli democracy.

This year, the IIP focused – once again - on Iran. Our attention was first directed to the renegotiation of the nuclear deal - the JCPOA. After Donald Trump withdrew from the JCPOA as part of his strange policy to “make America great again,” the election of Joe Biden raised hopes for a renewal of the agreement. Heinz Gärtner, one of the top experts on the JCPOA, closely followed the talks in Vienna and reported regularly.

However, another issue of great concern brought our attention to Iran - this time to the domestic situation. The death in police custody of a young Kurdish Iranian woman named Mahsa Amini triggered an unexpected wave of domestic unrest. The degree of public outrage was in part due to the fact that Amini was in custody for violating Iran's repressive dress code, which seeks to control and subjugate women and girls. While women led many of the nation-wide protests, men also participated. The protests were an expression of general dissatisfaction with a clerical and dictatorial regime characterized by kleptocracy and neglect for the basic interests of the public.

For the West - and the EU in particular - it was difficult to balance the renegotiations on the JCPOA with support for demonstrations calling for a drastic change in Iran's political system. This is a prime example of the difficulty of conducting a consistent foreign policy on a human rights basis. Geopolitical considerations often prevent such a clear orientation.

Only sporadic attention was given by the IIP to East Asia. However, it must be recognized that what happens within and around China will have an increasing influence on the situation in the Middle East, Southeastern Europe, and Europe more generally. Conflict over Taiwan may at any time inflame the ongoing tensions between China and the US, and this would have significant consequences for Europe as well. Security is indivisible, and the IIP will in the future look more carefully to such global connections.



Selected projects

The Ethiopian Civil War: The Challenges and Prospects for Peace

The civil war in the northern part of Ethiopia has resulted in an unprecedented humanitarian crisis and deteriorated security in the country and beyond. It has claimed hundreds of thousands of lives and displaced much more, torn the social fabric of the people, exacerbated political polarization, compromised the territorial integrity of the country, and poses a direct threat to the peace and security of Horn of Africa, among others. Despite some efforts to halt the war through the AU-led mediation as reinforced by the support of international actors, the fighting had spread to the entire northern part of the country, with sporadic armed hostility still ongoing.

On 24th of March 2022, a unilateral humanitarian truce was declared by the government, with a view to facilitating the desperately needed aids reach the Tigray region. Besides alleviating the pressing needs of the civilian population and victims of war, the humanitarian truce might be used as part of confidence building measures and paving the way for a comprehensive ceasefire. Nonetheless, as things stand now, the situation is very delicate, a rhetoric of renewed fighting is looming large, and the attention of the international community seems to have been deflected mainly owing to the war in Ukraine.

It is in this context and with the aim of shedding some light on the recent developments of the war as well as bringing the humanitarian crisis to light that this webinar was organized.

Date	8 June 2022
Format	Hybrid panel discussion
Moderation	STEPHANIE FENKART, Director of the IIP
Participants	MOGES TESHOME (Project Assistant the IIP); ADEM KASSIE ABEBE (Programme Officer at Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA), The Hague); LIDET TADESSE SHIFERAW (Associate Director, Peaceful Societies and Accountable Governance, Maastricht); ABDULLAH YOUSEF (Lecturer of Political Science, and International Relations at University of Dundee, UK)



Die Iranischen Frauen und die Unvollendete Revolution

Date	12 December 2022
Format	Blog article
Authors	HEINZ GÄRTNER, Chair of the IIP Advisory Board MITRA SHAHMORADI, artist and poet

Die Zivilgesellschaft kann durch ein Aufheben von Sanktionen gestärkt werden.

Die Bewegung im Iran macht deutlich, dass die Moderne in der iranischen Gesellschaft bereits viel weiter fortgeschritten ist, als es das bestehende System akzeptieren will. Die Proteste im Iran, die sich zu Beginn äußerlich gegen die Kopftuchpflicht der Frauen richteten, haben sich ausgeweitet. Die Protestierenden wollen die herrschende Bevormundung nicht mehr dulden, ebenso wenig den Umstand, dass die Religion ihr gesamtes Leben bestimmt.

Der Ruf des Protestes nach Ende der Diktatur und nach Freiheit ist aber iranisch und nicht notwendigerweise westlich. Zu Beginn hieß der Slogan "Frau, Leben, Freiheit", er wurde erweitert durch "Mann, Heimat, Wohlstand". Bei genauerem Hinsehen geht es darum, dass die Jugend ihren Iran zurückerobert will. Das Land soll vor allem einheitlich bleiben. Es soll alle sozialen, regionalen, ethnischen und religiösen Schichten und Gruppierungen beiderlei Geschlechts umfassen. Das steht im direkten Gegensatz zu den Wünschen einiger politischer Entscheidungsträger im Westen und auch in der Region, die die Schwächung und den Zerfall des Iran entlang religiöser und ethnischer Nationalitäten kommen sehen.

Viele Forderungen der Bewegung sind nicht neu; sie waren schon Triebkräfte der iranischen Revolution von 1979, die sich gegen das prowestliche Regime des Schahs richtete. Ein Großteil von ihnen blieb allerdings nicht nur unerfüllt, sondern das darauffolgende religiöse System war gewissermaßen eine Fortsetzung der vorherigen politischen Diktatur. Nicht zufällig ähneln sich daher auch die Slogans. Die Forderungen nach Abschaffung der Folter, der Todesstrafe und der Zensur, Freilassung der politischen Gefangenen, soziale Gleichheit und internationale Unabhängigkeit (damals von den USA, heute von Russland und China) sind verbunden mit derjenigen nach dem Ende der autoritären Herrschaft, damals der prowestlichen, diesmal der religiösen. Die Sehnsucht nach politischer Freiheit hat schon ihre Basis in der Verfassungsrevolution von 1906.

Rolle der Frauen

Die Frauen haben bei den aktuellen Demonstrationen eine sichtbare Rolle übernommen. Sie sind auch stolz darauf, dass sie in der Welt nicht mehr als schwache, unterdrückte und identitätslose Wesen wahrgenommen werden. Sie waren schon bei der Verfassungsrevolution aktiv und haben selbst beim bewaffneten Widerstand mitgewirkt. Ihnen wurde das Wahlrecht aber danach nicht gewährt; sie konnten es 1963 erkämpfen. Die Frauen waren auch bei vielen Aktionen vor und während der iranischen Revolution von 1979 im Einsatz. Sie wurden aber von der Islamischen Republik stark enttäuscht. Es wurden frauenfeindliche Gesetze erlassen und der Kopftuchzwang eingeführt. In der iranischen Zivilgesellschaft hatten die Frauen seit vielen Jahrzehnten eine zentrale Bedeutung. Diese Bewegung hat das Ziel, was die jungen Menschen im Iran in Gesprächen mit uns betont haben, dass sie ohne Führer oder Führerin zurechtkommen wollen.

Die Zivilgesellschaft im Iran ist dynamisch. Sie wurde aber nicht nur durch das Regime, sondern auch durch die westlichen Sanktionen stark eingeschränkt. Eine Aufhebung der

Sanktionen im Rahmen des Nuklearabkommens würde ihre Kommunikations- und Handlungsmöglichkeiten, eventuell auch ohne Aufstände, erhöhen. Eine Änderung der Normen und Öffnung der iranischen Gesellschaft sind wichtiger und nachhaltiger als ein unmittelbarer Sturz des Systems. Nach 1979 gab es zwar einen Regimewechsel, viele autoritäre Regeln sind aber geblieben, neue Vorschriften wurden zusätzlich erlassen. Das jetzige Regime oder eine andere Regierungsform wird gezwungen sein, eine Anpassung an diese neue Entwicklung anzuerkennen und umzusetzen.

Veröffentlicht im DERSTANDARD, am 12.12.2022.

Geopolitical Implications of the Sino-African Love Affair: A New Horizon or a New Imperialism in the Making?

Date	31 August 2022
Format	Policy brief
Author	Moges Teshome, Project Assistant at the IIP, PhD student at the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna
Full article	Available at bit.ly/3HNF7E1


Executive Summary

- China's engagement with Africa is growing fast and deepening, and its soft power is expanding. This move undoubtedly has significant geopolitical implications for competitors in the region, such as the US and the EU. Indeed, China has displaced the US since 2009 as Africa's major trading partner, and the EU's trade volume has been declining steadily.
- It should be noted that at the heart of China's engagement with Africa lies a long-term political goal, which goes well beyond the dominant narrative of economic partnership.
- By now it has become evident that China is a great power by all measures and a real competitor to the established great powers in Africa and elsewhere. However, it is not helpful to engage in the old debate about whether China is a status quo power or a revisionist state, as any rising power, by default, challenges the existing distribution of power and/or political order. Clearly, as things stand now, China has engaged in neither the quest for territorial expansion nor a civilizing mission, apart from building a modern-day economic empire, as witnessed by the case study of the Sino-Ethiopian love affair.
- China is mostly filling the gaps left by the great powers in Africa. Among other things, the strength of the Sino-African relationship can be attributed to China's 'no strings attached' policy, massive infrastructure loans, lack of colonial legacy, disentanglement of interests and values, its discourse and framing of 'the poor help the poor,' and its pragmatic foreign policy.
- At a strategic level, China has employed aggressive cultural diplomacy, mainly through its Confucius Institutes, multifaceted economic engagements, and effectively-utilized vaccine diplomacy, and it has garnered significant political solidarity from African states at the regional and international levels.
- Foreign aid has always been used as a pillar of foreign policy by great powers in order to maintain a sphere of influence and project soft power. In this regard, China's recent foreign aid policy should be understood within this broader context, and the EU's countermeasures, if any, will reflect this reality.
- Even though a trilateral forum for Africa, China, and the EU is commendable, a strategy founded on the unilateral socialization of China, especially when it comes to values and human rights norms, is flawed and will be counterproductive.
- Direct confrontation with China appears to be costly because of the complex nature of the current world order, with multiple regional actors, the relative receptiveness of China's actions in Africa, declining US hegemony, and the lack of a comprehensive EU policy towards Africa.

All Activities: Middle East, Africa and Asia

(click on the activity for more details or use the QR code)


December 15 | Die iranischen Frauen und die unvollendete Revolution 

November 6 | The Ukraine War, European Peace, and Implications for the Korean Peninsula 

October 20 | Conflict in Ethiopia: A Plea for a Comprehensive Peace Plan 

October 5 | Iran's protest movement: an intensifying potential for change 

August 31 | Geopolitical Implications of the Sino-African Love Affair: A New Horizon or A New Imperialism in the Making? 

August 2 | IIP Talk - Geopolitics dominates the Middle East: Heinz Gärtner in conversation with Shireen Hunter 

June 8 | The Ethiopian Civil War: The Challenges and Prospects for Peace 

May 12 | Afghanistan - Teaching Peace with an Empire 

April 26 | Sebnem Udum on Turkey's foreign and security policy 

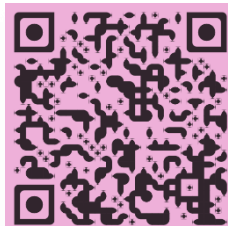
April 6 | A Tortuous Road to Peace in Ethiopia: A Humanitarian Truce and Beyond 

March 24 | Is Peace Possible in Ethiopia? 

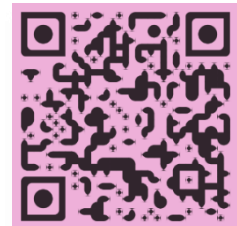
January 4 | Is there a future for cooperation between the OSCE and China? 



Middle East



Africa



Asia

Climate, Resources and Health

Hannes Swoboda

In order to promote peace and prevent future conflicts and wars, it is necessary to direct more attention to the growing impact of climate change around the world and the role of climate policies. Climate change has always had significant impacts on how people earn their living and where they are able to live. However, it has become increasingly clear that rising temperatures are closely linked with extreme weather conditions that have consequences for living conditions - especially in the hottest and poorest regions of the world.

In extreme cases – which occur increasingly often - living conditions deteriorate to the point that migration is the only way to survive. Despite complaints by many EU governments, 90% percent of emigration from the regions most affected by climate change or conflict is directed to neighboring countries, rather than the EU. With temperatures continuing to rise, migration flows will increase and migrants will turn to ever-more distant regions. This is especially true for the cooler, northern regions of Europe. Instead of responding to migration with xenophobia, the EU must develop a consistent policy that combines domestic economic needs, humanitarian considerations, and support for the regions most impacted by climate change.

COP27 in Sharm El-Sheikh recognized - at least at a minimum - the losses and damages caused by climate change in the countries of the Global South. Given that rich countries are themselves most responsible for damaging emissions and poor countries are left to suffer the consequences, an agreement was reached to create a fund for redistribution. Now efforts must turn to implementing this agreement. However, one should not lose sight of the fact that several international climate agreements in the past were not implemented or were only partially implemented.

Of course, most attention in industrialized countries should be directed to reducing their own emissions levels. The EU and now also the US have developed plans for how to transform their economies in the direction of sustainability, with the goal of overhauling their existing energy systems. However, Russia's invasion of Ukraine created new difficulties for the envisaged energy transformation in the EU. Instead of looking to alternative or renewable forms of energy, EU countries welcomed nearly any kind of energy that could replace Russian gas flows. Until now, the effects of the mutual energy boycotts between Russia and the West have been mitigated surprisingly well. Nevertheless, this was only the first winter in which EU countries had to deal with this situation.

The sustainable electrification of our economies is the central task for our future. The EU still requires significant energy storage capacity due to the fluctuating production of wind and solar power over days and seasons. Batteries are necessary not only for e-mobility but also for other purposes for which a continuous flow of energy is needed. However, the current technology for these batteries demands large quantities of rare earths and metals, which are sourced from outside the EU. These materials are often mined in countries such as the DRC and processed in countries such as China. It is not only the resulting dependence on this supply chain but also the environmental conditions of mining these materials that raise major questions about an energy transition predicated on these technologies.

In the meantime, other ways of cooperation between the EU and African countries in particular are being developed, including project ideas and plans concerning hydrogen production.

However, this must be done in a way that meets the interests and needs of local populations - not just those of the energy-importing countries. Energy cooperation between the EU and Africa on the basis of expanded wind and solar power production can also help the EU to reduce its CO₂ emissions and support African countries in their development while implementing the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Such cooperation would also be an important element in a comprehensive migration policy.



Selected projects

Geopolitics of Climate Change

The manifold crises the world and the EU are facing overshadow the urgent need for a common global approach towards one of the biggest challenges, the global climate crisis. The COP 25 in 2021 only was able to reach a minimal compromise while other buzzwords like the European Green Deal signal at least good intentions, but clear pathways how to reach envisaged goals are still widely missing. With the hope of diversification of energy supplies the hope of normalization in the future goes along. However, little debates are heard about the implications of the global climate crisis its consequences on energy supply and energy transformation and how this is all connected to geopolitics. While Russia used to be the biggest energy supplier to many European countries, Europe is also still depending on more than 90% on China when it comes to the supply of rare earths. There are manifold dependencies on other natural resources, metals, cobalt, etc. which are all essential in order to transform from fossil into renewable energies. The global world is facing multiple crises in the last years and the European Union seems to be unprepared to deal with all of them at the same time. While in 2015 first cracks in the unity of the European Union after the migration influx became visible, Brexit, the Covid-Pandemic and now the full-scale invasion of Russia into Ukraine added additional pressure on the European Union. How could the EU or the International Community react to these challenges coherently? What are the links between environment, climate crisis and geopolitics and who are the main players in this field? These and other questions will be discussed by our experts in this discussion.

Date	25 October 2022
Format	Panel discussion
Moderation	ANGELA KANE, former Under Secretary General for Management, Vice-President of the IIP
Participants	HANNES SWOBODA (president of the IIP and Club of Rome, Austrian Chapter, former MEP); FRANZ BAUMANN (climate expert at UN, visiting research Professor New York University); OLIVIA LAZARD (fellow at Carnegie Europe, director of peace consulting)



Energie – Der Schlüssel zur Klimaneutralität

Date	31 October 2022
Format	Blog Article
Author	Hannes Swoboda, President of the IIP, former MEP

Wenige Tage vor der nächsten Klimakonferenz COP27 in Sharm-El-Sheik erschien der diesjährige World Economic Outlook der Internationalen Energie Agentur. Fatih, Birol der Direktor der Agentur, macht schon in seinem Vorwort klar, dass mit dem Krieg Russlands gegen die Ukraine nicht nur eine geopolitische Wende eingeleitet wurde sondern auch die „erste wahrhaft globale Energiekrise“ losgetreten wurde.

Neue Fraktionen für Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft

Man muss sich ja nur vorstellen wie sich in den letzten Jahren die Europäische Union mit ihren Mitgliedsländern, aber auch viele andere Staaten, auf eine schrittweise Energiewende, weg von fossilen Energien, vorbereitet haben und plötzlich die Rahmenbedingungen geändert wurden. Gaslieferungen aus Russland wurden reduziert und die Preise für Öl und Gas aber auch für davon abhängige Produkte wie Dünge- und Lebensmittel sind rapid nach oben gegangen. Mehr als bei der letzten Energiekrise haben die Verknappung des Angebots aus Russland und die Preissteigerungen in der ganzen Wirtschaft durchgeschlagen. Aber vielleicht war auch die psychische Betroffenheit nach langen Jahren der Wohlstandssteigerung einerseits und nach der einigermaßen gut überwundenen Finanzkrise und der Corona Epidemie andererseits stärker als 1973.

Derzeit findet jedenfalls infolge der massiven Preiserhöhung ein finanziell nicht unbedeutender Vermögenstransfer von den Konsumenten von fossilen Energien zu den Produzenten statt. Aber solche Transfers belasten nicht alle Schichten gleichermaßen. Sicher ist - und darauf verweist der Energy Outlook 2022 dankenswerterweise mehrmals -, dass die Armut auf Grund der Energiekrise und deren Folge wieder deutlich zugenommen hat. Weniger Menschen haben durch die exorbitanten Preiserhöhungen Zugang zu modernen Formen der Energieversorgung. Das ist nicht nur ein soziales Problem, sondern auch eine Gefährdung der Stabilität in betroffenen Ländern und bringt neue Spannungen in das Verhältnis des reichen „Westen“ und des armen „Süden“.

Mit Recht fordert der Energy Outlook eine „faire und inklusive“ Energiewende. Das betrifft die schwächeren sozialen Schichten innerhalb der reichen Länder aber auch die Unterstützung für den ärmeren Teil der Welt insgesamt. Und da Europa sowohl hinsichtlich des Krieges als auch bezüglich der energiepolitischen Folgewirkungen der russischen Aggression im Mittelpunkt der derzeitigen Krise steht, ist die Europäische Union besonders gefordert.

Aber natürlich sollten sich auch jene Länder für eine Unterstützung der ärmeren Länder engagieren, die von der globalen Umverteilung infolge der Unterbrechung im Energiehandel Europas mit Russland profitieren, nämlich die USA und die energiereichen Länder des Nahen Osten. Wenn man bedenkt, dass gerade die Entwicklungs- und die sich in einem Industrialisierungsprozess befindlichen Länder besonders stark in ihren Anstrengungen zur Erreichung der Klimaziele nachhinken, wäre eine Unterstützung durch die Gewinner der Energiekrise besonders wichtig.

3 Szenarien der Energienachfrage

Der Energy Outlook 2022 präsentierte - wie schon die Jahre zuvor - 3 Szenarien wie sich die Energienachfrage und das entsprechende Angebot entwickeln könnten. Dabei verhehlen die

AutorInnen des Berichts nicht ihre Präferenz für das Szenario, das zu null Emissionen im Jahre 2050 führt. Das am wenigsten anspruchsvolle Szenario geht von den derzeitigen politischen Vorhaben und Maßnahmen der einzelnen Regierungen aus. Schon etwas anspruchsvoller ist das Szenario, dass die angekündigten Versprechungen der einzelnen Regierungen ernst nimmt und zum Ausgangspunkt der Berechnungen hat.

Das Netto Null Szenario (Net Zero Scenario - NZS) verlangt einen raschen Ausstieg aus fossilen Energien und verstärkte Investitionen in nachhaltige, saubere Energien. Das jedenfalls zusätzlich zum Energiesparen und zu Maßnahmen zur Steigerung der Energieeffizienz. Eine solche Strategie ist schnell entworfen, aber ihre Umsetzung ist mit einer Reihe von Engpässen konfrontiert. Wie auch die gleichzeitig aus dem Bereich der UNO publizierten Berichte im Hinblick auf die COP27 feststellen, blieben die Investition in die grüne Energie deutlich hinter den Versprechungen und den energiepolitischen Notwendigkeiten zurück. Es braucht also mehr Investitionen in die nachhaltigen Energien und das in Zeiten einer Wirtschaftskrise und von finanziellen Aufstockungen der Militärausgaben. Mindestens doppelt, wenn nicht sogar dreifach so viel, müsste an Geld in die nachhaltige Energieerzeugung fließen, soll das Netto Null Emissions Ziel erreicht werden.

Engpässe müssen rasch überwunden werden

Ohne zusätzliche finanzielle Mittel ist das in Paris und danach beschlossene Klimaziel nicht zu erreichen. Darüber hinaus bleiben manche für die Energiewende wichtige Produktionen, so z.B. die von Wärmepumpen deutlich hinter dem Bedarf zurück und müssten erhöht werden. Entscheidend ist aber die Versorgung mit jenen Mineralien und seltenen Erden, die für die Elektrifizierung unseres Energiesystems - nach herkömmlichen Technologien - notwendig sind. Die massiv verstärkte Elektrifizierung der Industrie und der Mobilität ist eine tragende Säule der Energiewende. Und je mehr wir das Netto Null Szenario verwirklichen wollen, desto mehr müssen wir die fossilen Energien durch nachhaltig erzeugten Strom ersetzen.

2050 sollten 50% des Energieendverbrauchs durch klimaneutralen Strom gedeckt werden. Um Strom zu lagern und für den jeweiligen Verbrauch bereit zu halten, braucht es aber Batterien. Und derzeit sind es vor allem die Lithium-Ionen Batterien, die diese Aufgabe erfüllen. Aber diese Batterien brauchen viele Rohstoffe die nur schwer - und das mit hohen Kosten - zu gewinnen sind. Insbesondere dann, wenn die Gewinnung mit hohen ökologischen Standards erfolgen soll. Und wir sehen vor allem in Europa von Serbien bis Portugal, aber auch weltweit viele Proteste von Menschen, die nachhaltige Schäden an der Umwelt befürchten. Eine auf die gängigen Batterietechnologien basierende Elektrifizierung erfordert jedenfalls eine Unmenge von neuen Bergwerken in besonders sensiblen Gebieten mit all den erwähnten Risiken. (Siehe dazu die Debatte zu „Geopolitics and Climate change“ organisiert vom IIP und dem Club of Rome auf iipvienna.com).

Nun gibt es verschiedene Forschungen und Versuche, wie man ohne diese große Zahl an kostbaren Ressourcen Batterien erzeugen kann. Und Ähnliches gilt für die Erzeugung von grünem Wasserstoff. Aber wir sind noch lange nicht so weit, um schon in größerem Ausmaß auf diese Technologien setzen zu können. Aber die Forschungen in diese Richtung müssen fortgesetzt und intensiviert werden. Was wir aber jedenfalls brauchen sind verstärkte Anstrengungen des Recyclings im Rahmen einer Kreislaufwirtschaft, die bezüglich vieler Rohstoffe die Wiedergewinnung ermöglichen muss. Aber auch das alles erfordert zusätzliche finanzielle Mittel.

Entscheidend ist es aber auch, genügend Fachkräfte für die Umsetzung der Energiewende zu haben. Derzeit ist der Mangel an solchen Fachkräften - von Forschern bis zu den Elektrikern

und zu den Installateuren - ein Engpass, den es bald zu überwinden gibt. Langfristig allerdings kann gerade das Netto Null Szenario einen deutlichen Beitrag zur Schaffung von Arbeitsplätzen schaffen.

Positive Trends müssen verstärkt werden

Zusammenfassend lässt sich sagen - und das sind die Schlussfolgerungen des Energy Outlooks aber auch der aktuellen UN Berichte - dass einige positive Schritte in den letzten Jahren gesetzt wurden. So sind die schädlichen Emissionen in den USA und der EU sowohl insgesamt als auch pro Kopf zurückgegangen. Und bezüglich des weltweit größten Emittenten, China gibt es zwar nach wie vor steigende Emissionen, insgesamt und pro Kopf zu verzeichnen, aber eine Verflachung des Anstiegs ist zu bemerken. Und hoffentlich ist dies nicht nur auf die durch COVID bedingte Verlangsamung des Wachstums zurückzuführen.

Andererseits braucht es jedenfalls verstärkte Investitionen in die nachhaltige Stromproduktion. Ohne Elektrifizierung auf nachhaltiger Basis kann unser Klimaziel nicht erreicht werden. Und eine Reihe von Engpässen sind zu überwinden, soll es mit der Elektrifizierung vorankommen. Und was immer vor allem in Europa kurzfristig gemacht werden muss, um die Bevölkerung mit ausreichend Energie zu versorgen, die Energiewende muss gleichzeitig mit Nachdruck verfolgt werden.

Am 19.12 veranstaltet der Club of Rome - Austrian Charter - gemeinsam mit einigen anderen Instituten eine Präsentation des Energy Outlooks in Wien mit Fatih Birol und nachfolgender Diskussion. Es ist auch eine digitale Teilnahme mit Anmeldung über den Club of Rome möglich.



All Activities: Climate, Resources and Health

(click on the activity for more details or use the QR code)

November 22 | COP 27 - Enttäuschung und Hoffnung 

October 25 | Geopolitics of Climate Change 

October 31 | Energie - Der Schlüssel zur Klimaneutralität 

October 5 | Eine Welt für alle 

September 13 | A Better Way to Detect the Origins of a Pandemic 

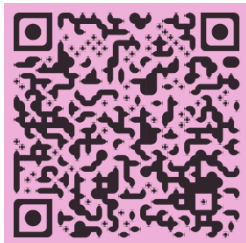
August 23 | Klimawandel und die neue Weltordnung 

May 4 | Dem Frieden eine Chance - Der Menschheit eine Zukunft 

March 3 | Peacebuilding in the Era of Climate Crisis 

January 18 | Die Corona-Pandemie: Ein Stresstest für liberale Demokratien? 

January 18 | Global Citizenship: An alternative to vaccination-nationalism? 



Peace, Art and Gender

Stephanie Fenkart

Art and Peace

Like peace, art is multidimensional and takes on different forms and shapes, different content, different approaches, and different intentions. Therefore, acknowledging the potential of art as a tool to deal with conflicts and relationships – with the goal of rendering them more visible or prompting emotions and questions – can be greatly empowering. Since political or economic discussions are sometimes perceived to be too academic or even too boring, art can provide the opportunity to appeal to people’s emotions and senses and to create empathy. Depending on the particular format and intention, art can also show the horrors of war and injustice in a brutal yet sensitive way while at the same time serving as a reflection on humanity and international relations. Art is this and so much more.

At the IIP, we seek to engage in peaceful and non-violent conflict resolution through different means. In addition to our more policy-oriented activities such as public talks, conferences, and background talks, we believe that art exhibitions, movies, and readings can promote awareness in different ways.

Furthermore, many artists are vocal and critical about existing power structures in countries or societies. Sadly, especially under authoritarian regimes, artists are often at risk for being vocal about injustice or being critical of governments in power.

Giving room to artists at the IIP’s premises is one way to show the complexities of conflicts, to demonstrate that conflicts affect individuals and groups on manifold levels, and to illustrate the human dimension of the abstract-seeming origins and consequences of war and conflict. Conflicts have significant and diverse impacts on individuals and societies, and they are always embedded in the past, the present, and the future. To overcome conflicts sustainably, politics, policies, and engagement must take all three dimensions into account.

With the support of art exhibitions, movie screenings, and readings, the IIP strives to include art in its holistic approach towards peace, which is not only defined as the absence of war and violence, but as so much more.

Gender and Peace

Especially in a world where security, politics, geopolitics, economics, and other areas are still mostly seen as male domains, it is of the highest importance to fight for gender equality. Several initiatives already understand this reality, and many engaged experts seek to formulate policies that include a feminist perspective. A feminist perspective doesn’t necessarily mean a female perspective, but rather an inclusive perspective that aims at equality and justice as well as support for minorities or vulnerable groups. Especially in conflict or war areas, women, children, the disabled and the elderly are often the most vulnerable groups. On the other hand, the same groups are able, knowledgeable, and competent in dealing with certain issues or best understanding the contexts, histories, or social relationships in their own communities. In addition, many groups continue to be marginalized simply for belonging to a minority – be it based on sex, religion, ethnicity, age, or sexual orientation. Support for inclusion and justice lies at the basis of the IIP’s work.

Therefore, the IIP tries to hold at least one event per quarter that focuses on gender as a key topic or theme. The IIP also commits to mainstreaming gender perspectives into all other relevant IIP events and programming through directed questions, subjects, panelists, and publications.

In essence, gender equality lies at the heart of democracy, human rights, peace, just societies, and well-balanced power relations. Striving for gender equality must therefore be viewed as crucial and indispensable in order to reach a common understanding for a more peaceful humankind.



Selected projects

"Die Kreuzung" - Osso

Am 7. Oktober 2022 hat die Vernissage der Ausstellung "Die Kreuzung", vom Künstler Osso, stattgefunden. Man braucht nicht weit zu schauen, um Finsternis wahrzunehmen. Nicht weit in die Vergangenheit, nicht weit in die geographische Umgebung. Man mag mit dem Finger zeigen auf Länder, in denen Repression herrscht, ein einziger Artikel in einer Zeitung, ein Kunstwerk, ein Gedicht, ja sogar ein privater Kommentar dazu führen kann, dass Menschen weggesperrt werden oder verschwinden. Mut wird mit Freiheitsentzug und mitunter auch mit dem Leben bezahlt.

Trotz den Repressionen findet die Kunst allerdings nie losgelöst von ihrer Umgebung statt, vielmehr werden in Kunstwerken individuelle oder gesellschaftliche Verhältnisse ausgedrückt und reflektiert. Kunstwerke können durch Wiedererkennungs- oder Verfremdungseffekte ihre Weltansichten herausfordern oder gesellschaftliche Missstände kritisieren.

Um sich mit ihren Arbeiten frei ausdrücken zu können suchen viele Kunstschaffende neue Heimaten, die ihnen diese Möglichkeit bieten. Kunst lebt von künstlerischer Freiheit, ist aber ihrerseits der Gesellschaft verpflichtet. Der guatemalteke Künstler Plinio Villagrán Galindo sagt in einem Interview: „Die Kunst, wenngleich sie häufig als elitär bezeichnet wird, ist doch das einzige Medium, welches die Werkzeuge für Reflexion zur Verfügung stellt. Sie ist das Schlachtfeld der Ideen, der Kreativität, der Sensibilität als Waffe gegen die Gewalt.“

Auch der kurdische Maler Osso ist einer dieser Künstler, der seine Heimat verlassen musste, um seine Kunst frei von Repression ausdrücken zu können. In Wien fand Osso seine neue Heimat und fing an sich neu zu entdecken. In seinen Werken bekommt man Sehnsucht und Leidenschaft nach Bewegungsfreiheit. Es ist eine Suche, ein Erforschen, ein fast zum Bersten energiegeladenes Verharren, ein Finden in Farben und Formen. Trauer und Erstarrung werden ebenso zum Ausdruck gebracht, wie poetische Ekstase und Lebensfreude.

Date	7 October 2022
Format	Exhibition opening
Artist	Osso



Peace Research: A Feminist Perspective

In this video interview peace researcher Elise Féron discusses feminist perspectives in peace studies, policy implications of the feminist peace research, approaches to diaspora in peace studies, and the role of women in the diaspora.

Élise Féron is a Docent and a senior research fellow at the Tampere Peace Research Institute (Finland). She lectures for the MA in Peace, Mediation and Conflict Research. Before moving to Finland, she held permanent positions at the University of Kent (UK) and at Sciences Po Lille (France). Her main research interests include conflict-generated diaspora politics, conflict prevention, gender and peace negotiations, masculinities and conflicts, sexual violence in conflict settings, as well as post-colonial interstate relations.

Date	9 September 2022
Format	Expert Interview
Speaker	ÉLISE FÉRON, Docent and a senior research fellow at the Tampere Peace Research Institute in Finland
Moderation	MARYLIA HUSHCHA, Researcher at the IIP



IIP Christmas Get-Together. Keynote: Rojava in the context of regional security

Date	14 December 2022
Format	Reception
Keynote speech	WALTER POSCH, National Defense Academy (Vienna, Austria), Institute for Peace Support and Conflict Management
Music	SAKINA TEYNA & MARKO FERLAN www.sakinateyna.com SOFIA LABROPOULOU www.sofialabropoulou.com
Exhibition	OSSO, 'Die Kreuzung' www.osso-art.com



All Activities: Peace, Arts and Gender

(click on the activity for more details or use the QR codes)

December 14 | IIP Christmas Get-Together. Key Note Speech by Walter Posch: “War and Peace: Rojava in the context of regional security”

December 13 | Immoral Code – Filmvorschau und Diskussion 

October 7 | VERNISSAGE der Ausstellung "Die Kreuzung" - Osso

September 27 | Peace Research: A Feminsit Perspective 

August 1 | Women from Georgia in Austria - Information and Resources Related to Hate Crimes: Report on the Workshop/Cultural Event 

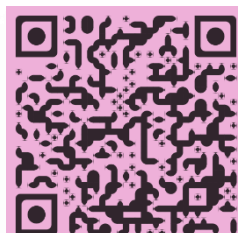
June 29 | Migration and Border Security in the EU: War in Ukraine, Gender, and Frontex 

April 6 | Zwischen Morgenröte und Weltbrand | Erinnerungen an Stefan Zweig 

March 24 | IIP Talk with Angela Kane: Diplomacy and Conflict Resolution - Experiences from the Field 



Peace and Arts



Peace and Gender

Global topics

Heinz Gärtner

The war in Ukraine is generating major geopolitical consequences. The world finds itself amid a great power competition between the US, China, and Russia, in which each seeks to maintain or even expand their zones of influence and reacts nervously when another great power approaches its borders.

The security dilemma

Each country's decisions about security and alliance membership have consequences for other actors. Each side purports to act defensively, while other actors often perceive these actions as offensive, in accordance with the principle of the security dilemma. For example, missile deployments are often perceived by other countries as offensive and a threat to their own security, despite claims to the contrary. As a result, the rhetoric escalates, and both sides assume increasingly aggressive behavior, even escalating to war. Cuba's decision in 1962 to station Soviet missiles on its territory provoked sharp US reactions.

Each country is free to choose to join an alliance. However, it should not be forgotten that every alliance membership has consequences for other states. Ukraine viewed its potential NATO membership as defensive, while Russia viewed further NATO expansion as a long-term threat. Ultimately, Russia wanted to create a *fait accompli* by forcibly dividing and demilitarizing Ukraine.

Typologies of polarization

Several typologies of polarization have existed in the different phases of the post-war period. After the end of bipolarity shaped by the military alliances of NATO and the Warsaw Pact, there was – according to Charles Krauthammer, political scientist of the realist school – a “unipolar moment.” In this phase of assumed unipolarity, US-led NATO was the sole military alliance. However, this period was by no means peaceful, as shown by the wars in Kuwait in 1991-1992, in the Western Balkans in the 1990s, in Afghanistan after 2001, and in Iraq after 2003. Data shows that this brief period of unipolarity saw the greatest number of US military interventions since 1776. So, there can be no question of a “hegemonic peace.”

For neutral states, this period was difficult. Unipolarity strives for global dominance, leaving little room for neutrality. The idea of “with us or against us” dominated. During this phase, US embassies in neutral states complained that they were contributing too little to the NATO operation in Afghanistan. Activities outside the alliance, such as peacekeeping operations within the framework of the United Nations, were not taken seriously.

The “unipolar moment” was short-lived, although in some US politicians' minds it has lasted to this day. However, it is becoming increasingly difficult for Washington to impose its will on others – with the withdrawal from Afghanistan just the tip of the iceberg.

After this period, the realist school coined the term multipolarity. Multipolarity has historically been associated with polarization and war if one considers the periods before the two world wars. Similar ideas are expressed by the terms “Post-American World” or “the Rise of the Rest.” However, the term multipolarity is a euphemism, as the world truthfully faces a tripolarity. US

security and defense doctrines speak of great power competition. Thus, rival powers China and Russia seek to challenge the US in many parts of the world. However, this constellation changed with the war in Ukraine. With the exception of its nuclear weapons, Russia will fall out of the competition as a great power. The result will be a renewed global bipolarity, now between the US and China.

Characteristics of polarization

Polarization always has two characteristics: ideology and alliance building. During the Cold War, there was an ideological confrontation between a liberal market economy and state communism. US President Joe Biden's idea of the "alliance of democracies" against autocracies is one example of the current ideological polarization. It seeks to create a global alliance and bloc, but like all ideologies, it is dishonest. The autocratically-governed states of Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Vietnam, the Philippines under Rodrigo Duterte, and India under Narendra Modi belong to this alliance when it comes to geopolitical interests. Here the primacy of geopolitics over idealism applies. At the same time, China's Belt and Road Initiative has a soft power capacity that goes beyond economic interests and can improve quality of life. Russia, conversely, has no attractive ideology to offer. Russification, the fight against Nazism, or historical nostalgia for Peter the Great have little appeal.

In addition to existing alliances such as NATO or the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO), new ones have also been founded. For example, these include the Australian-British-American Alliance (AUKUS) and the Asian Quad, consisting of the US, India, Japan, and Australia, both of which are directed against the potential Chinese threat. The "Abraham Accords," in turn, is an emerging alliance between Israel and some Arab states directed against Iran. China has no alliances, but it is building a "global network of partners," with the Belt and Road Initiative as a key tool. This includes a large number of bilateral relations that take on a multilateral character for China. These are not forced relationships but are based on voluntary participation, although dependencies can also arise. China also dominates the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, which does not yet have the character of an alliance. Russia, on the other hand, is currently only a member of the successor organization to the Warsaw Pact, the CSTO. In addition, Russia has allies in Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America. It sees its position as a great power in the West threatened by NATO expansion and in the East by Chinese influence through the Silk Road Initiative. That is why Russia believes that, by going to war against Ukraine, it can at least maintain its influence in the West. Accordingly, Russia understands its "military operation" in Ukraine as a fight against US dominance in the West.

Alternatives

There are signs that a new iron curtain, a cordon sanitaire, may fall from the Arctic to the Black Sea and will last well beyond Russian President Vladimir Putin's term in office. With this new cold war, Europe will remain alone while the US focuses on China in the new bipolar world. In order to prevent a permanent division, Europe must develop alternatives.

A major international security conference – similar to that of the Conference for Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) in Helsinki in 1975 – might be envisaged for the post-war period. The idea would be to create a system of common security in which security is seen as indivisible, serving as a counter-model to the security dilemma. Another model could be a conference of states – similar to the Congress of Vienna after 1815 – that negotiates a reorientation of the security policy order for a new stability. Security can be achieved by reducing threats, not just by increasing military capabilities.

Selected projects

Neutralität – Immerwährend, aktiv oder kooperativ?

Am 26.10.1955 hat der österreichische Nationalrat das Verfassungsgesetz zur „immerwährenden Neutralität“ Österreichs beschlossen. Damit war die völkerrechtliche Grundlage zur Wiederherstellung der vollständigen Unabhängigkeit der Republik Österreich geschaffen. Dies war zweifellos ein auch international beachtliches Zeichen in Zeiten des damals bereits bestehenden Kalten Krieges. Neben Österreich haben die Schweiz, wo dieses Prinzip bereits seit 1815 international anerkannt ist, europäische Staaten wie Finnland, Irland, Malta und Schweden dieses Prinzip in der einen oder anderen Weise realisiert. Der jüngst erfolgte Beitritt Finnlands und Schwedens zur NATO hat dies für diese beiden Staaten widerrufen. Aktuelle Ereignisse, vor allem der völkerrechtswidrige Angriff Russlands auf die Ukraine, hat nun die nationale aber auch internationale Debatte über die aktuelle Sinnhaftigkeit dieses Prinzips ernsthaft infrage gestellt. Eine ausführliche und seriöse Diskussion ist daher wichtig und notwendig. Auch in Österreich wird diese Diskussion geführt, leider jedoch kaum in einer fundierten, rationalen und faktenbasierten Weise.

Date	13 October 2022
Format	Panel Discussion
Partner	Zeitschrift International
Moderation	FRITZ EDLINGER, Herausgeber der Zeitschrift International
Participants	HEINZ GÄRTNER (Politikwissenschaftler, Autor zahlreicher einschlägiger Veröffentlichungen); ERWIN SCHMIDL (Leiter des Instituts für Strategie und Sicherheitspolitik an der Landesverteidigungsakademie Wien); GÜNTHER GREINDL, (General i.R., Gründungs- und Ehrenpräsident der Vereinigung Österreichischer Peacekeeper); URSULA WERTHER-PIETSCH (Privatdozentin für Völkerrecht und internationale Beziehungen an der Universität Graz)



Book presentation: *The Chancellor*

Date	2 March 2022
Format	Online panel discussion
Speaker	KATI MARTON, Best selling author & former ABC News correspondent and Bureau Chief in Germany
Moderation	HANNES SWOBODA, President of the IIP and former MEP

Angela Merkel has always been an outsider. A pastor's daughter raised in Soviet-controlled East Germany, she spent her twenties working as a research chemist, only entering politics after the fall of the Berlin Wall. And yet within fifteen years, she had become chancellor of Germany and, before long, the unofficial leader of the West.

Acclaimed author Kati Marton sets out to pierce the mystery of this unlikely ascent. With unparalleled access to the chancellor's inner circle and a trove of records only recently come to light, she teases out the unique political genius that is the secret to Merkel's success. No other modern leader has so ably confronted authoritarian aggression, enacted daring social policies and calmly unified an entire continent in an era when countries are becoming only more divided. Again and again, she's cleverly outmaneuvered strongmen like Putin and Trump, and weathered surprisingly complicated relationships with allies like Obama and Macron.

Famously private, the woman who emerges from these pages is a role model for anyone interested in gaining and keeping power while staying true to one's moral convictions. At once a riveting political biography, an intimate human portrait and a revelatory look at successful leadership in action, *The Chancellor* brings forth from the shadows one of the most extraordinary women of our time.



All Activities: Global Topics

(click on the activity for more details or use the QR code)

December 12 | Grenzen des Dialogs - Dialog ohne Grenzen 

October 17 | Neutralität - Immerwährend, aktiv oder kooperativ? 

September 30 | Integration of and in a fractured World - Some thoughts on the EU's specific tasks 

September 15 | Der lange Weg zum Frieden - Mag. Stephanie Fenkart (Reiner Wein Interview) 

August 26 | Is AI Upending Geopolitics? with Angela Kane 

August 26 | Lab Leak? Bioweapons Attack? Natural Pathogen? A New Proposal Would Give the UN the Ability to Investigate | Angela Kane 

August 25 | Heinz Gärtner: Der Krieg drängt zum Äußersten 

July 18 | Frieden muss man sich erarbeiten 

July 18 | Internationale Beziehungen zwischen Hobbes und Kant 

June 16 | 50 Years of Connecting and Decoupling 

March 30 | Abschied von Dr. Erhard Busek 

March 1 | Book Presentation: The Chancellor 

February 9 | Wirtschaftssanktionen funktionieren nicht 

January 24 | Hat die Demokratie verloren? 



Der Standard Blog: Gesellschaft - Macht – Frieden

The IIP in cooperation with Sir Peter Ustinov Institute and Think- and Do-Tank Shabka, run an online blog section at one of Austria's largest daily newspapers – Der Standard.

Gesellschaftliche- und Machtverhältnisse schaffen Frieden – wenn sie von Gerechtigkeit geprägt sind. Herrschen Vorurteile und Hass ist es nicht weit bis zu Gewalt und Krieg. Das Sir Peter Ustinov Institut widmet sich der Erforschung und Bekämpfung von Vorurteilen als Grundvoraussetzung für ein friedliches Zusammenleben. Der Förderung eines globalen Friedens hat sich das International Institute for Peace verschrieben und Shabka als strategischer Think & Do Tank versteht sich als zivilgesellschaftliche außen- und sicherheitspolitische Plattform. Zusammen sind wir Teil einer starken Zivilgesellschaft, für die das Streben nach Gerechtigkeit die Voraussetzung für nationalen-, europäischen- und globalen Frieden ist.

Die einzelnen Beiträge spiegeln die Meinungen der AutorInnen wider und nicht zwangsläufig die der Institute.



All Blogs at *Der Standard*

(click on the activity for more details or use the QR code below)

12. Dezember | Die iranischen Frauen und die unvollendete Revolution

1. Dezember | Ukraine: Der komplizierte Weg zum Frieden

4. November | Verschwörungstheorien, Corona-Proteste und ein neuer Typus von Autoritären

4. Oktober | Ukraine-Krieg: Ken Ende in Sicht?

7 September | James Joyce, Nationalismus und die Ukraine

12 August | Krieg in der Ukraine: Europa muss besser aufgestellt werden

18 Mai | Können Russland und Europa trotz allem ein Haus bewohnen?

13. Mai | Warum Antisemitismus eine gesamtgesellschaftliche Herausforderung ist

7. April | Mit Russen reden?

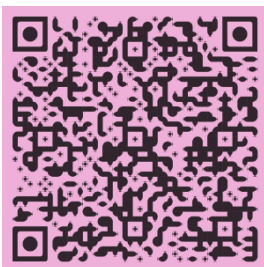
14 März | Österreich: Auf in die Nato?

22. Februar | Der Kampf um europäische Werte

14. Februar | Die Ukraine und ihre vielen Fronten – am Rande eines Krieges?

26. Jänner | Was tun mit Russland?

5 Jänner | 2022: Das Jahr der drei Kriege?



Partners and Networks



Neutrality Studies



NETWORK OF THINK TANKS ON
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EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Consortium

Promoting the European network of independent
non-proliferation and disarmament think tanks

International Institute for Peace

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