

CORE Newsletter February 2006

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International CORE Activities

CORE at High-Level Conference of the Belgian OSCE Chairmanship

On the occasion of the opening of the Belgian OSCE Chairmanship, the Belgian Foreign Ministry arranged the conference "The OSCE: Security through Dialogue and Co-operation" in Brussels on 31 January 2006. Two foreign ministers addressed the more than 200 participants, among them a number of NGO representatives. The Belgian Foreign Minister, Karel de Gucht, outlined the focus of his OSCE Chairmanship, whereas the Ukrainian Foreign Minister, Borys Tarasyuk, spoke on the "OSCE: from European Security Architecture to Partnership, Stability and Prosperity". Discussions were organized along four subsequent panels. In panel 1, Ambassador Wilhelm Höyneck, former Secretary General of the OSCE; Mr. Natan Sharansky, founding member of the Helsinki Group in Moscow in 1975; and former Vice Prime Minister of Israel addressed the development of "The OSCE from Helsinki to the present day". In panel 2, Ambassador Jan Kubis, Special Representative of the European Union in Central Asia; Mr. Robert F. Simmons, NATO Deputy Assistant Secretary General; and Dr Wolfgang Zellner, Head of CORE dealt with the division of labour and modes of co-operation among the OSCE, the EU, the NATO, and other international organizations. The OSCE's three dimensions of security were discussed in panel 3 by the former OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, Ambassador Max van der Stoep; Ms Alyson Bailes, Director of SIPRI; and Mr Alexey Stukalo, Deputy Co-ordinator of the OSCE Economic and Environmental Dimension. Panel 4 was devoted to the OSCE's reform perspectives with contributions by Ambassador Vladimir Chizhov, Permanent Representative of Russia to the EU; Prof. Victor-Yves Ghebali, Institute of International Studies, Geneva; and OSCE Secretary General Marc Perrin de Brichambaut. Discussions focused, among other things, on the imminent tasks of the OSCE, i.e. the resolution of the so-called frozen conflicts, its place in the network of international organizations, its reform perspectives, and on most recent issues, such as the gas dispute between Russia and Ukraine.

Contact: Dr Wolfgang Zellner

zellner@ifsh.de

CORE at Graduate Student Workshop in Harvard

From 2-3 February 2006, Merle Vetterlein, PhD Candidate at CORE, attended the 8th Annual Kokkalis Graduate Student Workshop at Harvard University (see online http://www.ksg.harvard.edu/kokkalis/workshop_2006.html). The Kokkalis Program on Southeastern and East-Central Europe, together with the Southeastern Europe Study Group (SEESG) at Harvard's Center for European Studies, launched this workshop on Southeastern Europe in 1999 for the European Studies program. The Workshop brings together graduate students from around the world and from all disciplines of the social sciences. In her presentation, Ms. Vetterlein focused on the influence of the Ohrid Framework Agreement on the educational policy of the Republic of Macedonia. This presentation was based on interviews, which were made during her field research in October and November 2005 in several Macedonian towns. Her core argument was that the Agreement fails to create a stable multi-ethnic Macedonian state. By taking the educational policy as an example, she underlined that the Agreement institutionalizes ethnicity as a factor of social life and political decision-making and, by doing so, it allows for the instrumentalization of ethnicity.

Contact: Merle Vetterlein, Dipl.-Pol.

vetterlein@ifsh.de

New CORE Publications

Democratization Policies in Central Asia Revisited

After the change of power in Kyrgyzstan in March, and the massacre in Andijan, Uzbekistan in May 2005, an intimate understanding of the social and political processes in Central Asia now seems more important than ever. The volume recently edited by Andrea Berg and Anna Kreikemeyer puts emphasis on "Realities of Transformation" and offers an account of democratization policies and their effects on Central Asia. The authors from Austria, Germany, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan investigate democratization policies from various perspectives focusing on the democratization of power structures, democratization through external actors and democratization of the judicial sector. Finally, the authors shed light on the complicated relationship between democratization and security. "Realities of Transformation" is comprised of scholarly articles and texts from NGO representatives.

Berg, Andrea/Anna Kreikemeyer (Eds), Realities of Transformation. Democratization Policies in Central Asia Revisited, Nomos Publishers Baden Baden 2006, 250 pages, 49 €, ISBN 3-8329-1637-7.

Contact: Dr Anna Kreikemeyer

annakreikemeyer@gmx.de

The OSCE and Multi-Ethnic Police Forces in the Balkans

The (re-)establishment and/or reform of multi-ethnic democratic police services have become an integral part of the peace-building missions of the UN, the OSCE, and the EU. In 2005, 13 out of 17 post-conflict peace-building missions worldwide included a police component, tasked with creating, reforming, training and/or monitoring domestic police forces. Nevertheless, the record of international efforts in creating multi-ethnic police services on the Balkans is rather short and based only on a brief period of experience. This CORE Working Paper therefore compares the international police activities of the OSCE, UN and EU in Kosovo, Southern Serbia and Macedonia. It analyses whether, and to what extent, multi-ethnic police services can help to overcome the legacy of ethno-political conflicts. It poses the question whether they can identify the structural deficiencies of post-socialist security sectors. Finally, it studies the problems confronting the OSCE, the UN and, the EU when they developed and implemented their training and reform concepts. The Working Paper concludes with a number of recommendations on the enhancement of the effectiveness of police training and reform missions.

Thorsten Stodiek, The OSCE and the Creation of Multi-Ethnic Police Forces in the Balkans, CORE Working Paper No. 14, Hamburg 2006.

Contact: Dr. Thorsten Stodiek

stodiek@ifsh.de

'Western Gypsies and Travellers' – 'Eastern Roma'

The article considers how the discourse of EU institutions on 'Gypsies' and 'Roma' has developed over time and how political space was and continues to be opened up in the process. It reveals that the evolution of that discourse contains a radical break. A dividing line separates a debate, now largely marginalized, on the situation of 'Gypsies' in Western Europe held in the European Community in the 1970s and 1980s from a high-profile discussion of the situation of 'Roma' in Eastern Europe carried out in the course of EU Enlargement. It shows how this divide allows for the inscription of ethnicity as a category relevant to 'Eastern Europe' while avoiding this with regard to the 'Western' part of the continent. In substantiating these claims, the article reveals how two different interpretative patterns have consecutively channelled the discourse of EC/EU institutions.

Katrin Simhandl, "Western Gypsies and Travellers" – "Eastern Roma": The Creation of Political Objects by the Institutions of the European Union, in: Nations and Nationalism 12(1), 2006, pp. 97-115.

Contact: Katrin Simhandl, M.A.

katrin.simhandl@gmx.net

Turbulence in Croatia

The year 2005 has been a very turbulent one for Croatia. In March, the European Union decided to postpone the start of membership negotiations due to the failure of the Croatian authorities to

arrest ICTY war crimes suspect Ante Gotovina, who is still on the run. The spring and summer of 2005 brought an uprising of nationalism and a series of interethnic incidents in Croatia. Although these tensions were the result of domestic political developments as well, the European Union contributed with its conditionality to the weakening of the pro-European forces and the creation of a broad anti-European coalition. It seemed that the EU had risked the fragile stability of the whole region for the sake of showing its perseverance. But thanks to a surprising assessment by ICTY chief prosecutor Carla Del Ponte, Croatia is now fully co-operating with the tribunal, and thanks to a package deal at the European Summit in October 2005, the membership negotiations could finally start. Hopefully, this positive decision will contribute to reviving the stagnating reform process in Croatia.

Solveig Richter, Kroatien: Zitterpartie nach Europa – Zwischen EU-Konditionalität und politischen Manövern, in: Südosteuropa Mitteilungen, 45 (6), 2005, pp. 6-15.

Contact: Solveig Richter, M.A.

colli1924@yahoo.de

CORE Services

OSCE Networking Project

Together with the Graduate Institute of International Studies (HEI) in Geneva, CORE operates the website "OSCE Networking Project", which is technically supervised by the International Relations and Security Network (ISN) of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich (ETH). The website offers, among others, comprehensive references to secondary literature and documents on CSCE/OSCE development as well as a data base of hyper links to information on specific OSCE countries.

See online www.isn.ethz.ch/osce.

Contact: Dipl.-Pol. Uwe Polley

polley@ifsh.de

Recent OSCE-Relevant Publications

Ghebali, Victor-Yves, The OSCE Between Crisis and Reform: Towards A New Lease on Life, DCAF Policy Paper, no. 10, Geneva 2005, 22 pp.

Ghebali, Victor-Yves, The OSCE and European Security: Essential or Superfluous? Europaeum Lecture Delivered at St. Anne's College, University of Oxford, in: Europaeum Publishers, Oxford 2005, 53 pp.

Ghebali, Victor-Yves/Daniel Warner (Eds), The Political-Military Dimension of the OSCE: Arms Control and Conflict Management Issues, in: PSIO Occasional Paper, no. 2, Geneva 2005, 235 pp.

Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg/IFSH (ed.), OSCE Yearbook 2004, Yearbook on the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, vol. 10, Baden-Baden 2005.

Letschert, Rianne, M., The Impact of Minority Rights Mechanisms, The Hague 2005, 501 pp.

Stodiek, Thorsten/Wolfgang, Zellner, Multiethnische Polizeien auf dem Balkan, in: Die Friedenswarte. Journal of International Peace and Organization, vol. 80, no. 1-2, 2005, pp. 83-111.

Zellner, Wolfgang, Russia and the OSCE, in: Cambridge Review of International Affairs, vol. 18, no. 3, October 2005, pp. 389-402.

We hope you have enjoyed this issue of CORE-News. If you know of anyone, who might be interested in our newsletter, please let them know about it. We would be grateful for any comments, or suggestions for improvement. To contact us, please write to: core@ifsh.de

Centre for OSCE Research/CORE
Institute for Peace Research and Security Studies
at the University of Hamburg
Falkenstein 1
22587 Hamburg
Germany
Tel: +49 40 866077-67
Fax: +49 40 8663615
www.core-hamburg.de