



ASPR
SCHLAINING · VIENNA

3 - 5 October 2022
SCHLAINING CASTLE

PEACE WORK IN TRANSFORMATION

40TH ANNIVERSARY CEREMONY AND CONFERENCE



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Anniversary Ceremony and Conference

At the ASPR we can look back on 40 years of peace and conflict resolution work. Participants from around the world have come to Stadtschlaining, and joined numerous international dialogue processes, training exercises, and peacebuilding courses, and research conferences. The research developed here has contributed to improving the peacebuilding community's understanding of the challenges faced.

Transformation has always been a part of our work during our 40 years of engagement. We want it to stay that way for another 40 years, so our anniversary is also an occasion to look forward. The anniversary celebrations and the conference will be dedicated to the topics and challenges of today and tomorrow. With a view to the intersection between the climate crisis and digital technologies with peace and conflict, key figures and experts will discuss their experiences and innovations in the context of the peace work of the future, topics which will be explored in greater depth during the conference workshops.

Long-standing partners of our institute from civil society and academia, from national and international governmental institutions, as well as from international and regional organizations are invited to participate in the celebrations and the conference.

The content of this tentative agenda may be subjected to change.

The events for our anniversary will take place under the current Corona protection regulations.

Team

CURATORIAL TEAM

Moritz Ehrmann, Christian Strohal, Lukas Wank

ORGANISATION

Claudia Hofer, Elisabeth Horvath, Silvia Polster,
Yerivan Pruscha, Martina Tader, Wolfgang Weilharter

COORDINATION

Mercedes Corrales

GRAFIC | SOCIAL MEDIA | WEB

Elke Marksteiner, Anja Böck

1982 - 2022



CURRENT VERSION

3 October 2022

Jubiläumsfeier Anniversary Celebration

Language: German & English Translation

4 October 2022

1st Conference Day

Rethinking Security-Rethinking Peace Environment, Climate Crisis and Conflict

Language: English

5 October 2022

2nd Conference Day

Technology and digitalisation in peace and conflict

Language: English

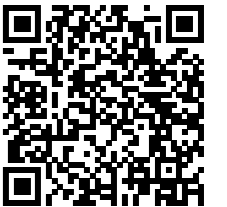
Closing Remarks

Outlook on Peace and Conflict

Language: English

Conference Programme
40 Years Peace Centre
www.aspr.ac.at

Speakers
Biographies
and more



JUBILÄUMSFEIER

3 Oktober 2022

JUBILÄUMSFEIER

Burg Schlaining / Granarium

Friedensarbeit in Transformation

Das ASPR blickt auf 40 Jahre Friedens- und Konfliktarbeit zurück.

Seit unserer Gründung sind wir durch unsere Forschung und durch zahlreiche internationale Dialogprozesse sowie Trainings als Friedensakteur tätig. Wir sehen Transformation als einen wichtigen Teil unserer Arbeit und wollen daher das diesjährige 40-jährige Jubiläum zum Anlass nehmen, einen Blick auf die Themen und Herausforderungen von heute und morgen zu werfen.

16.30	Begrüßung	Mag. Moritz Ehrmann ASPR Direktor
	Videobotschaft	Dr. Alexander Van der Bellen Bundespräsident der Republik Österreich
	Willkommensansprache	Mag. Norbert Darabos ASPR Präsident Bundesminister für Landesverteidigung und Sport a.D.
	Eröffnungsreden	Mag. Hans-Peter Doskozil Landeshauptmann des Burgenlandes Bundesminister für Landesverteidigung und Sport a.D. Dr. Heinz Fischer Ehemaliger Bundespräsident der Republik Österreich Stellvtr. Vorsitz des Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens

Moderator: **Martin Ganster** Reporter und Redakteur bei ORF Burgenland
Musikalische Untermalung des Festakts durch **Ensemble REIHE Zykan +**

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

3 October 2022

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Schlaining Castle / Granarium

Peace Work in Transformation

At ASPR, we look back on 40 years of peace and conflict work.

Since our foundation, we have been working as a peace actor through our research and through numerous international dialogue processes as well as trainings. We see transformation as an important part of our work and therefore want to use this year's 40th anniversary as an opportunity to take a look at the issues and challenges of today and tomorrow.

16.30	Opening	Moritz Ehrmann ASPR Director
	A Message from the President	Alexander Van der Bellen Federal President of the Republic of Austria
	Welcome Address	Norbert Darabos ASPR President Former Austrian Minister of Defence
	Opening Speeches	Hans-Peter Doskozil Governor of Burgenland Former Austrian Minister of Defence Heinz Fischer Former Federal President of the Republic of Austria Co-Chair of the Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens

Moderator: **Martin Ganster** Reporter and editor at ORF Burgenland
Accompanied by musical performances by **Ensemble REIHE Zykan +**

17.20 Video-Grußbotschaften der Kooperationspartner*innen

Mag. Klaudia Tanner
Bundesministerin für Landesverteidigung

Dr. Martin Polaschek
Bundesminister für Bildung, Wissenschaft und Forschung

17.20 Video-Greetings from the Cooperation partners

Klaudia Tanner
Federal Ministry of Defence, Austria

Martin Polaschek
Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research, Austria

17.30 **40 Jahre Friedensarbeit in Schlaining**

Mag. Ursula Gamauf-Eberhardt
Projektmanagerin für den Bereich Friedenspädagogik des ASPR

Mag. Lukas Wank
ASPR Stellvertretender Direktor

17.30 **40 years of working for peace at Schlaining**

Ursula Gamauf-Eberhardt
ASPR Project Manager for the Peace Education Portfolio

Lukas Wank
ASPR Deputy Director

18.10 FESTREDEN
Friedensarbeit - gestern, heute und morgen

Prof. Werner Wintersteiner
Zentrum für Friedensforschung und Friedensbildung
Alpe-Adria Universität Klagenfurt

Angela Kane
Senior Fellow am Wiener Zentrum für Abrüstung und Nichtverbreitung; Vizepräsidentin des International Institute for Peace in Wien

18.10 KEYNOTES
Peacework - yesterday, today and tomorrow

Werner Wintersteiner
Zentrum für Friedensforschung und Friedensbildung
Alpe-Adria Universität Klagenfurt

Angela Kane
Senior Fellow at the Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation; Vice President of the International Institute for Peace in Vienna

19.00 EMPFANG *Rittersaal*

19.00 RECEPTION *Rittersaal*

3 October 2022

MUSIC

Ensemble REIHE Zykan +

Contemporary music often has a „blind” spot where social and political life is concerned.

The REIHE ZYKAN + provides an remedy. Founded in 2020 by Irene Suchy and Michael Mautner, the vocal and instrumental ensemble REIHE Zykan + addresses socio-political issues in its modernist repertoire, based on the viewpoints and themes of its namesake founder Otto M. Zykan. He was part of the movement Artists for Peace and set a standard as a composer of the State Operetta.



LITERATURE

BOOKTABLE

On the fringes of the conference, there is a book table on the topics and contents that will be dealt with in the context of the anniversary celebration and the conference. This extensive selection of books is offered by Fritz Weber. Mr. Weber is the owner of the „ÖKO-Treff im Lichtental” in Viennas Alsergrund District. Founded in 1986 as a friendship and family business, the company was one of the first and was certified as a Climate Alliance business as early as 1998. Initially, the company started as a specialized bookstore for ethics, ecology and peace policy. Later, the product range and services offered was expanded widely.

Throughout the conference

EXHIBITION

POLISH PEACE POSTERS

This exhibition shows a selection of Polish peace posters from 1950 to 1984. In words of the Polish writer, poet, essayist and literary critic Wojciech Zukrowski:

„In this portfolio (Polish Peace Posters) we find the posters of the most outstanding Polish graphic artists. It must arouse amazement that even after years we have not forgotten their work, that this work has not aged, although they speak about the time when they were created (...) Poland is the birthplace of the World Movement for Peace, whose cradle was Wrocław. This is not a coincidence. (...) It was necessary to go out into the streets with the solutions, to appeal to the conviction of passers-by, because this cause of peace became a general principle. Hence the posters painted by the most outstanding masters, although they achieved world fame in entirely different fields.”



4 October 2022

1ST CONFERENCE DAY

Granarium

The Future of Peace and Conflict10.00 OPENING ADDRESS **Moritz Ehrmann**, ASPR Director

10.05 OPENING DEBATE

Rethinking Security – Rethinking Peace

Current developments call into question our understanding of peaceful coexistence and cooperative security on the European continent. Many boundaries have been crossed and many irreversible steps have been taken. In light of this, a return to the status quo ante seems unimaginable. In any case, it seems clear that if security in Europe and beyond its borders has to be rethought, peace has to be rethought as well. Once the dynamics of escalation will have stopped, any way forward will require a long process of dialogue and confidence building on many levels. Such a different perspective on the political shifts and developments we see in the context of Ukraine opens a pathway to avoid zero-sum solutions that could easily become dominant.

Amb. Gregor Kössler Political Director, Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs, Austria

Amb. Hossam Zaki Assistant Secretary General, League of Arab States

Amb. Thomas Greminger Director, Geneva Centre for Security Policy

BG Peter Vorhofer Defence Policy Director, Federal Ministry of Defence, Austria

Victoria Roşa Foreign Policy & Security Expert/Conflict & Gender researcher, GMF Marshall Memorial Fellow

Moderator: **Walter Kemp** Senior Fellow, Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime

11.30 - 11.50 *Coffee Break*

11.50 PANEL DEBATE

Game-changer conflicts - What next?**Lessons for Peacebuilding in Ukraine from Iraq, Syria and Libya**

The war in Ukraine has fundamentally challenged the European security architecture and will have unforeseen consequences for peacemaking efforts in Europe. While each conflict and region is unique, there are key lessons one can draw from similar experiences in other regions. This session aims at bringing out relevant lessons and key insights from contexts such as Iraq, Syria and Libya, wars that have lasting impact on respective populations. How did these conflicts impact regional and international peace and conflict dynamics and what can be learned for the reconstruction of the European peace and security architecture beyond Ukraine. The panel of experienced professionals and experts will look into these questions and provide space for further discussions.

Amb. Bettina Muscheid Head of Delegation, EU Delegation Nicaragua

Amb. Martin Sajdik Former OSCE Representative for the Conflict in and around Ukraine

Elpida Rouka Senior Political Officer, Office of Special Envoy for Syria, UN

Maruan El Krekshi Head of MENA Programme, Crisis Management Initiative

Sajad Jiyad Visiting Fellow, European Council on Foreign Relations

Moderator: **Anna Hess** ASPR Head of Conflict Resolution

13.20 - 14.40 *Lunch Break*

14.40 PANEL DISCUSSION

**Environment, Climate Crisis, and Conflict:
A geopolitical perspective**

The climate and ecological crises are accelerating. They will bring with them fundamental changes to geographies, resource distribution and usher humanity into a new phase of fundamental geo-economic transformations. At the moment, these trends are accelerating competition at geopolitical levels rather than competition, causing the multi-lateral system to fragment and suffer a crisis of legitimacy. The war in Ukraine is the latest indication that the international order is shifting into complex territory with international and planetary consequences. The weaponization of economic and energy inter-dependencies is a new trend that threatens the fragmentation of the international community into different spheres, all the while impacting vulnerable countries in a way that dampen stabilization or development prospects. All of this is happening at a time when climate- and technology-related transitions lead to profound changes in societies and in notion of security itself, and lead to more competition for geo-economic dominance. This session will explore the complex links relating geopolitics with planetary boundaries and question what needs to change about the ways in which we conceptualise of and work towards peace. Furthermore it will ask what peace and stability in a climate-disrupted world are? What should it aim to do and can new visions for peace mandates be imagined, even when geopolitical competition flares up?

Amb. Irene Giner-Reichl President, Global Forum of Sustainable Energy (GFSE),
ASPR Board Member

Ismail Numan Telci Vice President, Center for Middle Eastern Studies (ORSAM)

Thomas Waitz Member of the European Parliament

Moderator: **Olivia Lazard**
ASPR Consultant, Visiting Scholar Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

16.10 - 16.30 *Coffee Break*

16.30 PANEL DISCUSSION

**Environment, Climate Crisis, and Conflict:
A peacebuilding perspective**

Peacebuilders and international mediators often considered themselves marginal to the fight against climate change. In fact, they felt often more powerless than anything, being cornered into handling the consequences of extreme ecological degradation and climate disruptions and the human insecurity they bring with them. But in the overarching climate security narrative of the past decade, peacemakers could not address drivers of climate disruptions. Science has now equipped us with the understanding that ecosystems approaches, environmental protection and regeneration need to feature chiefly at the top of peacemaking priorities – not just for the benefit of climate adaptation and mitigation, but very much for the benefit of local populations and stabilisation at various levels. In fact, it is the latter that needs to take priority. The question remains how to integrate nature at the negotiation table, and how to use the power of regeneration techniques to create better dialogue, reconciliation and stabilization. Peacebuilding efforts now need to understand conflict not just from the perspective of human dynamics, but from the perspective of eco-systemic integrity and that of the relationships between human societies and their natural environment.

Luc Gnacadja Former Minister of the Environment, Housing and Urban Planning in Benin
Former Executive Secretary, United Nations Convention to
Combat Desertification

Mariko Peters Senior Peace & Conflict Adviser, European External Action Service

Ralf Ernst Deputy Co-ordinator, Head Economic Activities

Moderator: **Olivia Lazard**
ASPR Consultant, Visiting Scholar Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

18.00 *Dinner Reception*

FILMSCREENING

4 October 2022

FILMSCREENING DEAR FUTURE CHILDREN

Franz Böhm, 2021 89 Min

Englische Originalfassung mit deutschen Untertiteln

19.30 Intro Gespräch zum Film mit
Lukas Wank (ASPR) und
Carla Lehner (This Human Rights Filmfestival)

19.45 Film Start
in collaboration with
This Human World Filmfestival Vienna

Angesichts der weltweit zunehmenden Proteste ist DEAR FUTURE CHILDREN ein Film über die neue Generation, die im Zentrum dieses erschütternden politischen Wandels steht. Wir sehen, wie Rayan in Chile für soziale Gerechtigkeit protestiert, Pepper sich in Hongkong für Demokratie einsetzt und Hilda in Uganda gegen die verheerenden Folgen des Klimawandels kämpft. Angesichts der schier unmöglichen Chancen und der erschütternden Auswirkungen ihres Aktivismus auf ihr persönliches Leben, werden wir diese drei jungen Frauen fragen, warum sie weiterkämpfen.

Granarium

INTERNATIONAL
HUMAN RIGHTS FILM FESTIVAL
**this human
world**

4 October 2022

FILMSCREENING DEAR FUTURE CHILDREN

Franz Böhm, 2021, 89 Min

English original version with German subtitles

19.30 Intro talk about the film with
Lukas Wank (ASPR) and
Carla Lehner (This Human Rights Filmfestival)

19.45 Film Start
in collaboration with
This Human World Filmfestival Vienna

With global protests on the rise, DEAR FUTURE CHILDREN is a film about the new generation at the heart of this shattering political shift. We witness how Rayan protests for social justice in Chile, Pepper fights for democracy in Hong Kong and Hilda battles the devastating consequences of climate change in Uganda. Facing almost impossible odds, we will be asking these three young women why they keep fighting.



5 October 2022

2ND CONFERENCE DAY

Granarium & Seminar Rooms

Technology and Digitalisation in Peace and Conflict

9.15 PANEL DISCUSSION

Technology and Digitalisation in Peace and Conflict: Two Sides of One Coin?

The development of new technology often brings with it a certain idealism and the promise for a better future, but technology can also be used for harm. In practice this means that new and emerging technologies increasingly play a central role in contemporary and atypical forms of conflict, both, as drivers of conflicts and as tools for conflict work. Assessing contemporary security threats and risks as well as exploring the potential of technologies for conflict prevention and peacebuilding will therefore be the focus of this debate. Hence, presenters will address topics such as the potentials and pitfalls at the interface between technology-peace-conflict as well as its political impacts, not least with regard to Ukraine.

Amb. Tuula Yrjölä Director of the OSCE Conflict Prevention Center and Deputy Head of the OSCE Secretariat

Annika Hansen Head of Team Analysis, Center for International Peace Operations

Enrico Formica Senior Mediation Officer for the UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs United Nations Office in Geneva

Raluca Csernatoni ASPR Consultant, Visiting scholar, Carnegie Europe

Stefan Lang Head of Christian-Doppler Laboratory GEOHUM, Vice-Dean, Faculty of Digital and Analytical Sciences, Paris-Lodron University Salzburg

Moderator: **Dr. David Lanz** Representative for Dialogue Promotion, International Crisis Group

11.15 - 11.30 Coffee Break

11.30 - 13.45

MARKETPLACE

Tools, Technologies, and Trends in the service of Peace

Following up from the morning panel debate, short introductory ignite talks will set the frame for what Peace-Tech can mean in practice. Then, enjoy a boxed lunch while embarking on a self-guided tour through our Marketplace with a chance to engage with PeaceTech tools of various organisations and learn about their approaches and how these tools are used to respond to conflicts. Get inspired by exchanging with other conference members about PeaceTech, the latest projects and innovative ideas in this domain.

Dialectiq**Miguel Pantaleon**, Strategy and systems thinking advisor
Zahed Yousouf, Founder**PeaceEye****Andreas Papp**, Independent Consultant**Perigee****Markus Enenkel**, Co-Founder/CEO**CDL GEOHUM****Petra Füreder**, Researcher, Dept. of Geoinformatics, University of Salzburg**CMI****Aino Piitrola**, Project Officer for Digital Peacemaking

13.00 Lunch

Fatuma Ahmed Ali

Fatuma Ahmed Ali is an Associate Professor of International Relations at the United States International University – Africa (USIU-A), Nairobi, Kenya. She is also a Visiting Faculty and an External researcher of the Inter-university Institute for Social Development & Peace (IUDESP) of the Universitat Jaume I, Castellón, Spain. Her areas of specialization are in the field of International Relations, Peace, Conflict and Development Studies, Post-colonial Studies, Security and Gender Studies.

Emil Brix

Emil Brix is the Director of the Diplomatic Akademie Wien – Vienna School of International Studies since 2017. Mr. Brix started in 1982 in the Diplomatic Service of the Republic of Austria. Positions as Consul General in Krakow, Director of the Austrian Cultural Institute in London and Head of the Cultural Policy Section in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are just a few to name. 2010 to January 2015 Ambassador in London, until 2017 Ambassador in Moscow.

Raluca Csernatoni

Dr Raluca Csernatoni is a research fellow at Carnegie Europe, where she specialises in European security and defence, as well as emerging and disruptive technologies. She is also a team leader and research expert on new technologies for EU Cyber Direct - EU Cyber Diplomacy Initiative. Dr Csernatoni is currently a guest professor at the Brussels School of Governance and its Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy, at Vrije Universiteit Brussels in Belgium. She is also a visiting professor on technology, security, and high-tech warfare with the Department of International Relations of Central European University, and an associate research expert on PeaceTech with the Austrian Study Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution.

Norbert Darabos

Norbert Darabos was Austrian Minister of Defence from 2007 - 2013 and Burgenland's State Councillor for Social Affairs and Health from 2015 - 2019. He was a member of the Austrian Parliament for many years and in his function as Secretary of the Austrian social-democratic party (SPÖ) he led several election campaigns. As a historian, he is currently responsible for establishment of the „Museum for the Contemporary History of Burgenland“ at Schlaining Castle. Since 2019 Norbert Darabos has been President of the Austrian Centre for Peace at Schlaining.

Hans Peter Doskozil

Born in 1970, Dr Hans Peter Doskozil is a police officer and lawyer by profession. Since 2019, Mr Doskozil has been the Governor of Burgenland. He held various positions in the Federal Police Department, Ministry of the Interior, Security Department of Burgenland and in the service of the Governor of Burgenland before he became the head of the Security Department of Burgenland in 2012. Between 2016 – 2017 Mr Doskozil served as Minister of Defence.

Maruan El Krekshi

Maruan El Krekshi is the Head of CMI's Middle East and North Africa and leads CMI's programme activities in the region. Before joining CMI, El Krekshi served as a Governance Programme Officer with UNDP in Yemen for 3 years, working on elections, human rights, transparency, the justice sector, and civil society capacity development-related projects. He has also worked for the World Food Programme, where he served as a Policy and Programme Support consultant in the Office of the Executive Director, in addition to short assignments with UNHCR and UNDP programmes in Libya. He holds a master's degree in Development Studies from the University of Helsinki.

Moritz Ehrmann

Moritz Ehrmann is the Director of the Austrian Centre for Peace at Schlaining. He brings to the Centre his extensive experience from varied contexts, including Iraq, Colombia, Jordan, Ukraine, and Yemen, and through his previous work with the International Committee of the Red Cross and as an Austrian diplomat. He began his career with the Austrian foreign service, for which he was most recently deployed to the Austrian OSCE Chairmanship Task Force from 2016 to 2017. Since 2018, he has been engaged in informal international peace mediation.

Markus Enenkel

Markus Enenkel has a background in applied research for disaster risk management and financing. He is the founder/CEO of the Austrian tech start-up PERIGEE and a senior research fellow at Harvard Humanitarian Initiative. Previously, Markus has worked with humanitarian NGOs and UN organisations, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and the World Bank.

Heinz Fischer

Heinz Fischer was the President of the Republic of Austria from 2010 to 2016. Dr Fischer was re-elected for his second term in April 2010 with 79% of the votes. In 1971, he was elected to the Austrian National Council, where he served until 2004. Between 1983-1987 he served as Minister of Science. From 1975 to 1983, he was chairperson of the Social Democratic parliamentary group. From 1990 to 2002, he was also the President of the Austrian National Council. In 1992, Heinz Fischer was elected Deputy Chair of the Social Democratic Party of Europe, a position he held until his election as President of Austria in 2010. From 1995 to 2002, he was also President of the National Fund of the Republic of Austria for Victims of National Socialism. Dr Fischer also pursued an academic career, becoming a professor of political science at the University of Innsbruck. As a co-founder he has been Co-Chair of the Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens since 2018.

Enrico Formica

Enrico Formica is serving as Senior Mediation Officer for the UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs at the United Nations Office in Geneva. At the moment, he is providing direct support to a number of UN mediation efforts in Africa and the Middle East. He is also coordinating a number of initiatives that explore the use of digital technology in mediation. Previously, he worked as the Chief of Staff of the UN Special Coordinator's Office in Jerusalem where, inter alia, supported international efforts to relaunch the Middle East peace process. He also maintained sensitive contacts in Gaza and Israel to promote understandings on various security and humanitarian issues. He previously served in UN peace operations in Sudan and Guinea Bissau and in the Department of Political Affairs in New York.

Petra Füreder

Petra Füreder is a researcher at the Department of Geoinformatics – Z_GIS at the University of Salzburg in Austria since 2008. She has been involved in a range of national and international projects in the field of humanitarian relief, environmental monitoring, and emergency response. The involvement in establishing an Earth observation-based information service for Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) and being the main person in charge of providing timely and reliable information of refugee/IDP camps over several years, strengthened her research interests in not only optimizing automated image classification methods but also in communicating complex information content exploring appropriate geovisualisation techniques.

Ursula Gamauf-Eberhardt

Ursula Gamauf-Eberhardt is the Project Manager for the peace education portfolio at the Austrian Centre for Peace at Schlaining. She is also responsible for the OSCE training programmes. Her thematic focuses include peace education, dealing with the past and the OSCE.

Martin Ganster

Born in 1977 he has been working as a reporter and editor at ORF/Austrian Broadcasting Company since 2007. Mr Ganster is a familiar media person to many people, especially in the province of Burgenland, as moderator of the popular shows "Burgenland Heute/Burgenland today" and "Guten Morgen Österreich/good morning, Austria".



Irene Giner-Reichl

Irene Giner-Reichl looks back on more than 40 years in the diplomatic service of Austria; her functions included Permanent Representative to the UN in Vienna, Director-General for Development Cooperation, and Austrian Ambassador to the Peoples Republic of China, Mongolia, Brasilia, and Suriname. She advocates passionately for sustainable development –well-being for humans, animals, and all of nature.

Luc Gnacadja

Luc Gnacadja is the Founder & President of the think-tank GPS-Dev (Governance & Policies for Sustainable Development). He has served as minister of environment and Urban Development of the republic of Benin (1999-2005) and Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) (2007-2013). Mr Gnacadja is a Member of the Advisory Board of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.

Thomas Greminger

Ambassador Thomas Greminger is the Director of the Geneva Center for Security Policy (GCSP). Previously, he served as Secretary General of the OSCE in Vienna. Ambassador Greminger also served as Deputy Director General of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation at the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and as the Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the OSCE, the United Nations and the International Organizations in Vienna, among many other postings within the Swiss government.

Annika Hansen

Dr Annika Hansen has worked in the context of peace operations for over 25 years and currently heads the Analysis Team at the Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF) in Berlin. From 2008-2016 she worked at UN Headquarters and in the UN mission in Libya (UNSMIL), having earlier served in the EU Police Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (2002-2003). From 1996-2008, Annika was a Senior Analyst at the Norwegian Defence Research Establishment (FFI) and the International Institute for Strategic Studies, London (2000-02). Most recently, she consulted the UN on the Strategy for the Digital Transformation of UN Peacekeeping (2021).

Anna Hess

Anna Hess is a professional in the field of international affairs with extensive experience in conflict studies and peace mediation. Prior to joining the Austrian Center for Peace as the Head of Conflict Resolution, Anna led and supported several formal and informal peace processes as part of the Swiss mediation activities. Over the course of more than 15 years, Anna has also developed and led educational programs in the field of peace and conflict studies. Parallel to her practical work, she has authored several publications. Her research focuses on the impact of geopolitical tensions on the settlement of protracted conflicts in the OSCE area and beyond.

Sajad Jiyad

Sajad Jiyad is an Iraqi political analyst based in Baghdad. He is a fellow at The Century Foundation. His focus is on public policy and governance in Iraq, currently overseeing and consulting for projects on capacity building of public institutions and civil society organisations. He has an educational background in economics, politics, and Islamic studies.

Angela Kane

Angela Kane worked for over 35 years for the United Nations and held posts at the Assistant- and Under-Secretary-General levels. She is the Vice President of the International Institute for Peace in Vienna and serves as Senior Advisor to the Nuclear Threat Initiative in Washington. She is also a Senior Fellow at the Vienna Center for Non-Proliferation and Disarmament. She is a Professor at Tsinghua University/Schwarzman Scholars in Beijing and serves on Boards in Europe, North America, and Asia, focusing on political affairs, conflict resolution and artificial intelligence.

Walter Kemp

Walter Kemp is the Director of the Global Strategy at the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime, Strategic Adviser at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy and teaches at the Diplomatic Academy in Vienna. In the past he has worked at the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the International Peace Institute and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. His latest book is Security Through Cooperation: To the Same End (Routledge, 2022).

40 years #peaceCentre

Gregor Kössler

Ambassador Gregor W. Kössler is the current Director General for Political Affairs at the Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs of Austria. A career diplomat, he served i.a. as bilateral Austrian Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Head of Cabinet of two Austrian Foreign Ministers as well as in senior positions in international organisations.

Stefan Lang

Dr Stefan Lang is an Associated Professor at the Department of Geoinformatics and Vice-Dean at the Faculty for Digital and Analytical Sciences of the Paris-Lodron University Salzburg. He is actively promoting the University's third mission via public outreach activities, industry cooperation and civic engagement. Building on a long-term collaboration with humanitarian organisations, he is heading the Christian Doppler Laboratory on geo-humanitarian action (GEOHUM).

David Lanz

Dr David Lanz is a trained mediator with fifteen years of experience supporting international mediation processes and leading dialogue efforts. Before joining International Crisis Group in 2022, he led swisspeace's mediation program for six years and served in the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre for three years, deploying as part of the organisation's response to the crisis in and around Ukraine in 2014. He also has experience working for the UN Mission in Sudan and as an election observer for the Carter Center.

Olivia Lazard

Olivia Lazard is dedicated to environmental peace-making as a mediator and is an advisor with the Austrian Centre for Peace at Schlaining. She is a fellow at Carnegie Europe. Her research focuses on the geopolitics of climate, the transition ushered by climate change and the risks of conflict and fragility associated with climate change and environmental collapse.

Carla Lehner

Carla Lehner is a Vienna-based curator and cultural producer. In her academic career in the Netherlands she has been particularly engaged with queer feminist network practices. Today she is the artistic director of this human world - International Human Rights Film Festival.

Bettina Muscheidt

Bettina Muscheidt is Ambassador of the European Union in Nicaragua. Ambassador Muscheidt has a long experience in EU institutions, holding different positions in the European External Action Service (EEAS), European Commission and European Investment Bank (EIB).

Miguel Pantaleón

Miguel Pantaleón is a Certified Systems Practitioner with eight years of experience in applying systems thinking and network analysis to the social sector, sustainability, urban mobility and political settlement in Spain, the UK, and Latin America. He is co-founder of SCiO Spain (Systems and Complexity in Organisations).

Andreas Papp

Andreas Papp is an aid worker and business consultant who began his professional engagement with Doctors without Borders in West Darfur, followed by coordination positions on project or country level in Somalia, Kenya, South Sudan, Lebanon, Iraq. He continued as Delegate & Program Director at the Austrian Doctors without Borders branch office. From 2015 onwards, Mr Papp oversaw as Emergency Response Director at SOS Children's Villages International relief programs in 28 countries around the globe. At the beginning of 2020, Mr Papp founded his individual company, Andreas Papp Consulting e.U

Mariko Peters

Born in 1969, Mariko Peters is a lawyer, civil servant, and politician. Her field of expertise is among others international and European crisis response, peacebuilding, and human rights. Her work abroad comprised posts in Bosnia for the OSCE and Afghanistan in the Dutch diplomatic service. She was a Member of the Dutch Parliament between 2006 – 2012 (Green-Left/GL). Ms Peters currently is a senior peace & conflict adviser at the European External Action Service/Brussels.



Aino Piirtola

In the past two years, Aino Piirtola has been working on digital peace-making at CMI - Martti Ahtisaari Peace Foundation. Before joining CMI, Aino worked in the technology and start-up communities in Helsinki and Berlin. She has contributed to various voluntary projects exploring the development and application of digital technologies in fragile contexts.

Martin Polaschek

Born in 1965, Martin Polaschek is an academic and lawyer. He has been a university professor since 2000, Vice-Rector (since 2003) and was the Rector of the University of Graz from 2019 – 2021. Dr Polaschek's research is specialized in the development of jurisdiction in post-war Austria, university law and communal law. He is a widely respected expert in the legal field of de-Nazification. Since 2021 he is serving as Minister of Education, Science and Research.

Jan Pospisil

Jan Pospisil is Associated Professor at the University of Coventry. Until 2022 he was Research Director at the ASPR. His work focuses on peace processes and political settlements, donor politics in peacebuilding, resilience, and South Sudanese and Sudanese politics.

Victoria Roşa

Victoria Roşa is a senior researcher specialising in security & defence, conflict studies & gender issues with a particular focus on Eastern Partnership countries, Transatlantic cooperation, and Russia. She served as Security and Defence Adviser to the Moldovan Prime Minister Maia Sandu. Mrs. Roşa is a 2017 Alumni of the Marshall Memorial Fellowship of the German Marshall Fund of the United States.

Elpida Rouka

Elpida Rouka has served with the United Nations in the peace and security/political negotiations field for over 20 years, most recently as Chief of Staff to the former UN Special Envoy on Syria whom she joined in September 2014. Since 2019 she has been advising the incoming UN Envoy on Syria as part of his core good offices/mediation team, with a particular focus on the Russia file. In the summer of 2019 she also headed the Envoy's office in Damascus. Previously, she was in Jerusalem where she led the political team for the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, an office which was set up after the Oslo Accords.

Martin Sajdik

Born in 1949, Dr Sajdik is a lawyer and Austrian diplomat. After various stations in the diplomatic service and within the Austrian Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Dr Sajdik became Austrian Ambassador for China, North Korea, and Mongolia, then Head of the Austrian Mission to the United Nations in New York and from 2015 to 2020, he served as the OSCE Special Representative for the Conflict in and around the OSCE.

Christian Strohal

Ambassador Christian Strohal was director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) of the OSCE in Warsaw. In 2008 he became Austria's permanent representative at the United Nations in Geneva, 2013 Permanent Representative to the OSCE in Vienna. Since 2016-2017 he was Special Representative for the Austrian Chairmanship of the OSCE 2017.

Claudia Tanner

Born in 1970, Mrs Tanner is a lawyer by profession. She held various posts in the NÖ Bauernbund/Farmers Union of Lower Austria, including the Directorate. Mrs Tanner served in several positions in communal and provincial politics, especially as a member of the NÖ Landtag/Assembly of the province of Lower Austria. Since 2020 she serves as Minister of Defence of Austria.

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Ismail Numan Telci

Ismail Numan Telci is the Vice-President of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies (ORSAM), Turkey. He is also an Associate Professor at the Department of International Relations and a lecturer at the Middle East Institute (ORMER) at Sakarya University. His research focuses on the Gulf region, the Levant, and African politics. His work and comments appeared on international outlets such as TRT World, Al Jazeera, BBC, Deutsche Welle and Le Monde.

Alexander Van der Bellen

Born in 1944, Dr Van der Bellen is an economist and was a professor of economy at the Universities of Innsbruck (1976) and Vienna (1980 – 1999). Between 1994 - 2012 he was a Member of the Austrian Parliament. From 1997 to 2008 he was the spokesperson of the spokesperson and between 2012 – 2015 he was a member of the Vienna City Council. Since 2017 Dr Alexander Van der Bellen is the President of the Republic of Austria.

Peter Vorhofer

Brigadier Dr. Peter Vorhofer, born in 1967, is Head of Directorate for Defence Policy and International Relations as well as Deputy Head of Section I – General Directorate for Defence Policy at the Federal Ministry of Defence in Austria. Previously, he was Security Policy Advisor to the Federal Minister of Defence and Head of the Institute for Military Leadership at the Theresian Military Academy. He also held leading positions with EUFOR ALTHEA in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Lukas Wank

Lukas Wank is the Deputy Director of the Austrian Centre for Peace at Schlaining and in this capacity is responsible, among other things, for the Centre's cooperation portfolio with the Austrian Ministry of Defence as well as other individual projects. His background is in peace research and conflict analysis, security policy and the military, development cooperation and humanitarian aid.

Werner Wintersteiner

Professor emeritus Werner Wintersteiner, Ph. D., was the founding director of the "Centre for Peace Research and Peace Education" at Alpe Adria University in Klagenfurt, Austria. His main research fields include peace education, global citizenship education, culture, and peace, as well as literature and peace and literature education.

Zahed Yousuf

Zahed Yousuf is an innovative peacebuilder with over 15 years of experience in over 20 countries affected by violence and conflict. Mr Yousuf has worked with multi-national companies, as well as bilateral donors, helping them rethink their role in exacerbating conflict dynamics and exploring ways they can build more peaceful political solutions.

Tuula Yrjölä

Tuula Yrjölä is the Director of the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre and Deputy Head of the OSCE Secretariat since February 2020. Previous postings include Head of OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe, Ambassador of Finland to Egypt and Sudan and Roving Ambassador to Central Asia. Ambassador Yrjölä has over 30 years of experience in the Finnish diplomatic service, thirteen of which she spent in Eastern Europe, South Caucasus, and Central Asia.

Hossam Zaki

Ambassador Hossam Zaki is an Egyptian diplomat, with a 30-year long career in diplomacy He is currently Assistant Secretary General and Chief of Staff at the League of Arab States. He was Assistant Foreign Minister for European Affairs. He previously served as Senior Middle East Advisor for the Foreign Minister of Egypt, Spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Deputy Chief of Minister's Cabinet. He has extensive knowledge on issues pertaining to the Middle East and crises including Palestine and Arab- Israeli affairs. Ambassador Zaki was Egypt's Ambassador to Brazil from 2012-2015.