

CPS Cluster Meeting, 6 September 2022

Updates from SMT

- An &Frankly survey will take place during the autumn.
- Several policies are being created or revised:
 - o The Sexual Harassment and Exploitation Policy and the Safeguarding Policy have been approved. The Code of Conduct is almost completed.
 - o SMT is reviewing the policy relating to equal opportunities, diversity, and anti-discrimination. A conversation among staff to discuss diversity issues with an external facilitator will be held.
- It will be explored whether it is viable to group recruitment and promotions assessments. A salary structure will be explored and developed. It was also discussed whether a fee structure for consultants would be needed.

Updates from around the institute

Events

- A mapping of all SIPRI events is underway. Please reach out to Martina early on in projects that might include events.
- Budget templates for all types of events are being developed.

Editorial

- Reminders on review processes of print publications: Important that the process and timelines are being followed and communicated to relevant people, including the line manager and tagged in-house reviewers. It is not always advised to combine internal and external reviews. The draft needs to be signed off by the line manager before it goes to editorial for review.
- When you send your referee options, kindly send three names in rank order, with contact information incl. email addresses and titles.

Operations

- The new project management unit will soon be up and running and can help in having standard costs and processes set up.
- The advert for the Project Controller position has been extended.

Directors Office

- Please share any activities that you are planning to have in the conference room with Priscilla, so that it can be included in the SIPRI calendar.

Peace & Development Cluster

- Welcome to Abeer as the P&D Cluster Coordinator.
- The Stockholm Forum 2022 report is being finalized.

Arms & Disarmament Cluster

- Two recruitments are ongoing: Programme Director for Arms Transfers and a Research Assistant for Weapons of Mass Destruction.
- A EUNPCD steering committee group meeting is planned for 15 September.

Updates from the teams

China and Asia Security

- Welcome to Ryan who joined the team as Guest Researcher.
- An online roundtable on China and Afghanistan will be held on 22 September.
- Two half day online workshops on Promoting a Free and Open Indo-Pacific: Naval Incident Management in Asia and Europe will be held on 28-29 September.
- The team explores follow ups on the discussions of the cluster away day, for example China's model of participation in Africa's Security Sector Reforms.

Peace Operations and Conflict Management

- The background paper on the future of gender in peace operations and conflict management is being finalized.
- A project proposal for the ELSIE initiative (Canada) was finalized.
- Work is ongoing for the numbers of women personnel in peace operations.
- A new project was started on civilian personnel and human rights.

- Upcoming work includes report writing, the continuation of the EU Civilian CSDP project, starting up a project on exit strategies of SSR activities in peace operations, the Yearbook and potentially a dialogue meeting on transitioning SSR activities in peace operations in CAR.

Sahel and West Africa

- Welcome back to Louise who will be working as a Programme Coordinator.
- Dan Sanaren will be joining the team to finalize the report for the central Mali project.
- Luca Guglielminotti is joining the team for a three three-month internship.
- A seminar in collaboration with the EU delegation in Bamako is planned for late November/early December.
- The team is working on the report of the scoping study conducted in 18 countries in June and July. There is a preliminary date for a lunch event in the CAR, set for the first week of November.
- Pauline is coordinating a perception survey end of September in Mali and Niger for the Just Future project. Virginie and Pauline will participate in a workshop in Accra organized by CORDAID.
- Several events will be organized in Dakar, Niamey, Ouagadougou, and Bamako in the framework of the DFID project on humanitarian protection.
- The situation in the region is having an impact on funding opportunities. It might not be possible to continue working in Mali.

European Security

- On 12 or 13 of October, the first Ukraine roundtable with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation will be held. The topic will be Ukraine's national recovery programme.
- Ian is participating in a project hosted by the Fridtjof Nansen Institute. In the light of rapid acceleration in Nordic defence cooperation, they are putting together a Nordic network of researchers that parallel the intergovernmental cooperation on defence.

Middle East and North Africa

- The team finalized the policy paper on post-conflict reconstruction in the Ninewa plains.
- Amal and Florian were consulted on cooperation with Peaceful Change on a project on climate change and gender in Libya.

- Local partners for the Bosch Stiftung project will have their last dialogue session of the second round, after which a third round will be started.
- Outreach components for the USAID project are worked on in collaboration with the communications department.
- Work is ongoing for the strategic grant project.

SSC22: CPS sessions

- *Peace operations and PoC: Challenges of working with new actors (Jair)*

This closed session will be on the topic of private military and security companies (PMSCs) and peace operations, in particular on the protection of civilians. It will be discussing the challenges related to countries that invite PMSCs to assist them with the extension of state authority.

- *Gender and protection of civilians (Gretchen)*

This session is likely to be co-organized or co-sponsored with the UN. The questions that will be looked into are how are gender needs can be identified in PoC, what are the barriers of addressing those gendered needs and how can those be overcome? What are the different approaches of the civilian and the military components and how can they collaborate better?

- *TBC (Timo)*

There are plans for a session in the context of a project funded by Swedish MFA. One potential topic is the potential future role of the EU advisory mission on the Ukraine. This would be within the framework of the SSC, but will be held later in the year (tentative planning is December).

- *Implications of the new Strategic Concept for a NATO approach to PoC (Ian)*

This session will look at how NATO will adapt to take account of human security and PoC after that it has been given a very prominent place in new strategic concept at the NATO summit. NATO is already working on human security for a long time, but rather in the context of what they call crisis management operations.

- *Strengthening conflict prevention: Lessons learned from the pre-war period (Ian)*

Focus on conflict prevention, taking into account what happened in Ukraine. Likely to be looking on the period after November 2021, leading up to the invasion. We need to look at what conflict and

security building measures were used in this period, or rather unused. What does this mean for the future of conflict prevention?

- *Effects of the war in Ukraine on security dynamics in the MENA region (Ahmed and Amal)*

This session is on the effects on the Ukraine war on regional dynamics in the MENA, looking at geopolitics, food security and energy dynamics. Asking three main questions about whether the Ukraine war foretells a change in the geopolitics of the region and the security architecture and relationships.

- *Effects of the war in Ukraine on security dynamics in East Asia (Jingdong and Fei)*

This session looks at some of the Asian countries' reactions and responses to the war in Ukraine. Their reactions or positions regarding sanctions in relation to this, or their response to criticising Russia's role, are varied. The session will try to get four country representatives to address this question, assessing the implications for regional security for their national interest in particular, as well as what geopolitical economic historical factors or considerations they believe have informed their government's positions.

- *Effects of the war in Ukraine on security dynamics in the Sahel region (SWAP)*

The session is exploring the effects of the Ukraine war in the Sahel region, focusing on disinformation and the power shifts on the continent. It will cover three main areas: The first will assess the diversification of international players involved, to see how they are acting on different levels, and what new features of security cooperation this presents. The second will dive into information war and PMCs in the region. The third axis is to see what the diplomatic response by international actors could be.

- *Concluding session*

A concluding session will be held in connection to the Governing Board meeting the Monday after the SSC.

- *Follow-up sessions*

There might be an opportunity for session leads to host a feedback meeting with some interested parties from policy circles and Embassies, to share what was discussed during the SSC and to see how we can take it forward.