

Monday morning meeting

18 November 2024

Notes

Outreach

- CONGRATULATIONS to Timo for a successful launch of his report in Brussels last week. Timely and appreciated!
- On Tuesday at 10:00, there will be a visit by German students from the Freiburg Institute for the International Education of Students Abroad. They will be briefed by Steph, Katarina, Marie and Ann-Sofie.
- On Tuesday at 13.00, there will be a Media training in the conference room. All are welcome!!
- On Tuesday at 16.00, there will be a discussion on European Security with SIPRI Associates in the Conference Room. There will be a mingle over drinks afterwards. All are welcome!!
- On Thursday and Friday, the WMD Programme will be hosting a workshop on 'Nuclear Escalation Pathways and Outer Space: Views from Europe', as part of a grant from the UK. This workshop will be held in the Conference Room and will include international officials and experts on space/nuclear issues.
- This week we finalize the materials for the Top 100 launch. Thanks to all involved for short turnover time engagement!!!

Operations

Finance:

- On Thursday and Friday last week, we had a Performance Audit by our external auditors; BDO. It focused on our processes and routines. The next audit, the Annual Report Audit, will take place in February, week six. That will focus on our results in numbers.
- We kindly ask everyone to prepare for the annual closing by making sure we receive all invoices and reimbursements etc. on time. We will send out instructions and information at the beginning of December.

Armament and Disarmament

- Last week, a group of SIPRI staff were involved in the EU's Annual Nonproliferation and Disarmament Conference and various back-to-back events (mentorship programme, next generation workshop, EUNPDC Network meeting etc.). Katharina chaired an excellent panel on challenges to conventional arms control; Sibylle as chair of the EUNPD Consortium did the conference conclusions; and Wilfred, Kolja and Lucas participated and networked.
- Wilfred will be in Turin on Monday-Wednesday to observe a meeting on CBRN (Chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear) Academy as part of a SCOPE Consortium project.
- Mark and Lauriane will be in Nuremburg on Wednesday and Thursday for the second Erlangen conference on export controls and academia, organized by Germany and the UNODA. Mark will be giving a keynote speech on recent developments, and Lauriane will be chairing a session on how to minimize critical misuse and diversion of scientific know-how.
- Sibylle, Alex, Kolja, Vitaly and Vivianne will be in Den Haag on Friday (22 November) for a workshop exploring the arms control implications of quantum technologies, which SIPRI is co-hosting with Quantum Delta. The workshop will take place back-to-back with an event on Quantum for Good in preparation for the International Year of Quantum in 2025, hosted by UNICC (the *United Nations International Computing Centre*) and Quantum Delta. To coincide with this, Alex published a great quantum tech piece last week.
- Jules and Vincent will be in Brussels for two events and meeting with UNODA and EU External Action Services: 1) the Annual Conference of FARI, a Brussels-based organization that works

on AI for the Common Good. SIPRI is organizing a session; 2) an Educational Workshop on Responsible Innovation in AI for Peace and security, organized in partnership with UNODA

- A new episode of the responsible AI for Peace Podcast is out. In this episode, our guest is Allan Dafoe, who is the Director of Frontier Safety and Governance at Google DeepMind. We talked about how Google DeepMind (GDM) is analysing and mitigating future risks posed by advanced AI models.

Conflict Peace and Security

Last week:

- On Wednesday, Claudia presented on the Peace Operations Database at an Armed Conflict Location and Event Data (ACLED) organized meeting on conflict data.
- On Thursday, SWAP organised an online presentation on 'Gaps and Needs in Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding, Early Warning, and Mediation Mechanisms and Structures in Ghana and its Border Areas'.
- Timo published a report and on Thursday organized the event 'Towards a more strategic civilian CSDP: Strengthening EU civilian crisis management in a new era of geopolitics and risks', at the Permanent Representation of Poland to the EU, in Brussels. High-level participation from EEAS including Managing Director for Peace, Security and Defence, Chair of the Political and Security Committee and Civilian Operations Commander as speakers. Many thanks to the editorial department (especially Annika) for their help and getting the publication out on time, and many thanks to Comms and Events team (Martina, Mimmi, Amelie and Lucas) for assistance ahead of and during the event.

This week:

- Today from 12.00-13.15, Dr Yingqin Zheng, guest researcher in the China and Asia Security Programme, will hold a lunchtime discussion on 'Conflict and cooperation: Security and sustainable development of the Arctic in a changing world and the Sino-Nordic cooperation', in the Conference Room. (Please note that this is in place of your lunchtime talks).
- Fei will be in Brussels and Berlin this week, briefing relevant parties on their German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO) supported project. They will also visit the EEAS and IDEA at the EU Commission.

Peace and Development

Last week:

- On Saturday, SIPRI, UNDP, CCCPA, and FBA hosted an event at COP29 entitled: 'Towards a Youth-Inclusive Climate, Peace and Security Agenda'. The event featured young experts on climate action, conflict prevention and peacebuilding, highlighted youth-led efforts to address climate-related security risks and provided practical guidance for advancing a unified agenda on youth, climate, peace, and security.
- Also on Saturday, Florian spoke on a panel at the Karin Söder days – a meeting place for Center Party members with an interest in foreign and security policy – on climate change and security.