

Monday morning meeting

24 February 2025

Notes

Director's Office

- Last Monday, Stefan and Charlotta met with the State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Dag Hartelius, and Ann-Sofie Nilsson, UD-NIS, to informally give an update to the Swedish government about the recruitment of the next SIPRI Director.
- Last week Tuesday, SIPRI signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the International Organization for Migration (IOM).
- Last Thursday UD-NIS (the arms control department at the MFA) came to SIPRI for their annual meeting. After welcoming words by Dan, the Director of UD-NIS Ann-Sofie Nilsson gave an overview of the MFA priorities in the field of arms control. Colleagues from the A&D Cluster presented SIPRI's ongoing work. Many thanks to everyone who made this a fruitful, engaging and inspiring event, much appreciated by the MFA colleagues.
- The Cooperation Group met last week. Among other topics we started looking at the "Agreement of Cooperation at SIPRI" which was signed last spring. These discussions will continue at the next meeting to identify what works well, what does not work well, with an aim to develop ideas and an action plan for how we can enhance and improve the cooperation within the organization.
- The MBL with the Unions continues. A meeting was held last week, and another one will take place this week.

Outreach

- The Forum team (together with staff from FBA) spent the last week working through the 107 session proposals that were submitted for the 2025 Forum. The quality of session proposals was very high, and the assessment of which sessions should be accepted was tough. Only about 50% of sessions will be taken forward (either alone or through a merge). Decisions will be going out to session organisers this week. Not all SIPRI sessions have made the cut however Martina will reach out to the relevant people this week to discuss alternative options.

Operations

- Salary revision:
As you have seen in the message from Dan this morning, the salary revision for 2024 is now finalized. The new salary will be included in the February salary payment, which should be in your bank account on 25 February. However, the retroactive part of the salary, i.e from 1 October to 31 January, will unfortunately not be paid out until the March salary (for technical reasons). If and when there have been any late changes after the salary talks with your manager these will also be reflected in the March salary. If you have any question or anything is unclear, don't hesitate to reach out to your line manager or HR or Kristina.

- Annual Report:
The Annual Report has now been approved by both our external auditors from BDO and the MFA auditors. It has now been sent to our Board members for signatures and the final signed version will be sent to the MFA later this week. The Finance team will present the details of the Annual Report to SMT this week and it will be shared with all staff as soon as it is formally approved by all. Big thank you to the Finance team, PMO and GAD for all great job in finalising this. And also many warm thanks to Sofie for her great job with the narrative part of the report and for the dialogue with the MFA.

Armament and Disarmament

- Nivi published a chapter on transparency and confidence-building in the Elgar Encyclopaedia of Space Law.
- Nivi also has an Interview on space security for Fredspodden podcast hosted by Svenska Freds.
- This week, Tytti will be in Vienna to take part in a workshop with Open Nuclear Network about escalation risk.
- Vlad taking part in an online dialogue Tuesday on the Iran nuclear deal organized by CENESS (Center for Energy and Security Studies).
- Wilfred will virtually brief colleagues at Nagasaki University (following SIPRI's new MoU) on Friday about the impact of strategic technologies on nuclear deterrence.

Conflict, Peace and Security

- Jiayi was at the Brussels Climate Security Dialogue organized by the EU's FPI from Wednesday-Thursday last week.
- Barbara (K) spoke at a conference on "What Future for Europe?" hosted by the Royal Swedish Academy of War Sciences.
- Today at lunchtime Barbara will share her reflections on European security and where the debate is headed. Welcome at 12:00 in the Conference room!
- On Wednesday, Barbara will discuss current transatlantic developments with the 2025/2026 classes of newly recruited diplomats from Germany, France and Poland (online).
- Marie will present the SIPRI-XCEPT research paper on the experiences of displaced Sudanese women and girls in Eastern Chad at a workshop on Gender, Global Security, and Cross-Border Conflict Trends, organized by XCEPT at Pembroke College, Oxford, on Thursday.

Peace and Development

- Barbara (MT) will be in Berlin 27-28 of February to lead a workshop on Climate Security from a Global South Perspective as part of the "Young European Security Conference". This is a new initiative for security education by the Schwarzkopf Foundation Young Europe and the Hertie Foundation.