annual 2025

Österreichisches Institut
für Internationale Politik
Austrian Institute
for International Affairs

Organisation of the Austrian Institute for International Affairs - oiip

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The Institute

Team 2025

Sophie Reichelt

Annika Scharnagl

Cengiz Günay

Petra Podesser

Johannes Späth

Daniela Pisoiu

Olena Butnyk

Thomas Eder

Vedran Dzihic

Kotayba Kadri

Tara Petkov

Henri Schultz

Ivan Vejvoda

Daniela Härtl-Smolé

Loïc Simonet

Ceren Çetinkaya

Judith Kohlenberger

Visiting Fellows 2025

Zeynep Arkan Tuncel has been a Visiting Fellow at the oiip since February 2024 and is an Associate Professor of International Relations at Hacettepe University, Ankara. Her research interests include EU foreign and security policy and hybrid threats, Turkish foreign policy, Critical IR theories and the role of identity, discourses and narratives in foreign policy.

Ljiljana Kolarski was an Ernst Mach Fellow from October 2024 to June 2025. She is pursuing her PhD at the Faculty of Political Studies at the University of Belgrade. Her research interests include women in politics, with a focus on female political representation, citizen participation and authoritarianism. Her PhD thesis is “Political Representation of Women in the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia from 2001 to 2022."

Dan Ziebarth was an Ernst Mach Fellow from October 2023 to June 2025. He is also a PhD Candidate in the Department of Political Science at George Washington University and a PhD Candidate in the Law Group at Wageningen University & Research. His research primarily focuses on climate and environmental policy and law, with other substantive interests including democracy, migration, public opinion, elections and public law.

Özgecan Eskiduman was an Ernst Mach Fellow from September 2025 to March 2026. She holds a PhD in International Relations from Hacettepe University. Her doctoral research examined Israeli security narratives and ontological security in the context of the First and Second Palestinian Uprisings. Her research interests include European security discourses, with a focus on migration and ontological security.

Widy Susanto is an Ernst Mach Fellow December 2025 to August 2026. He earned his PhD in History from Bilkent University in 2024, with a dissertation on U.S.–Southeast Asia relations during the Cold War. His research interests include the history of multinational nuclear cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region and the history of development in Southeast Asia.

Affiliated Researchers

Emiliano Alessandri is a policy expert with over fifteen years of experience in international and multilateral settings. He has held positions at the Institute of International Affairs of Rome, the Brookings Institution, the German Marshall Fund of the United States, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe and the International Center for Migration Policy Development, among other organizations.

Kristin Höltge is a professional in international affairs and development with experience across multilateral organizations and field contexts. She has held positions at the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, the Berghof Foundation and the International Crisis Group, working in Central Asia, Eastern Europe and Afghanistan.

Ralph Janik is an Assistant Professor at Sigmund Freud Private University in Vienna. He also teaches at the University of Vienna, Andrassy University Budapest and the University of the Bundeswehr Munich. His research focuses on the interplay between International Relations and international law, human rights and armed conflicts.

Marie Krpata is an Affiliated Researcher at the oiip and a researcher at the French Institute of International Relations, focusing on the European Union and the foreign policies of France and Germany. She has worked at Minority Rights Group, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe and in international consulting.

Johannes Leitner is co-founder and managing partner of LM Political Risk and Strategy Advisory in Vienna, specializing in geostrategy, trade compliance and political risk. He also directs the EMBA in International Management at the University of Applied Sciences for Economy, Management and Finance in Vienna.

George Kalpadakis is a Senior Researcher at the Academy of Athens (Modern Greek History Research Center) and Visiting Professor at the University of Vienna (Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies).

Osnat Lubrani served at the United Nations for 26 years in senior positions, including as UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator in Ukraine (2018-2022), Fiji and nine other Pacific Small Island States (2013-2018) and Kosovo (2009-2013). She also held several positions as UNDP Resident Representative and as UN Women Director.

Bernardo Mariani is an international peace and security consultant with 30 years of experience across civil society, governments, multilaterals and businesses in Asia, Africa and Europe. He has specialized expertise in China and global security issues.

Angela Meyer is a founding member and board director of the Vienna-based International Infrastructure Dialogue Centre – IDC and works at the University of Vienna. She holds a PhD in Political Science from Sciences Po (IEP) Paris and the University of Vienna.

Hanna Murat is an Affiliated Researcher at the oiip and Senior Analyst at Berlin Global Advisors, a geopolitical consulting firm. She teaches European politics, international relations and negotiation techniques at Sciences Po Paris and Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne.

Jan Pospisil is an Affiliated Researcher at the oiip and Associate Professor (Privatdozent) at the University of Vienna. His work focuses on peace and transition processes with a focus on the wider Red Sea region and East Africa, donor politics in peacebuilding, resilience and South Sudanese and Sudanese politics.

Camillo Stubenberg is a social scientist and development practitioner whose work focuses on the intersections of technological, environmental and societal change. He recently completed a PhD in Global Development at Cornell University, where he examined the technopolitics of Lebanon's crisis-induced energy transition.

Interns 2025/26

Yuki Adachi holds an MA in International Relations with a specialization in Conflict and Security from Central European University. Her Master's thesis explored the transition of mediation tactics of Egypt and Qatar in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Fedor Agapov completed his Bachelor's degree in Political Science at the University of Amsterdam and is currently pursuing a Master of Advanced International Studies at the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, where he also works as a Teaching Assistant in the Department of History.

Benjamin Beinlich is in the third stage of his law studies at the University of Vienna (Juridicum) and holds a bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Vienna. At the oiip, he supported Sophie Reichelt and Annika Scharnagl in the research project "Security Education by Empowering Democratic Strength (SEEDS)".

Tata Beraia is a graduate student of the Public Policy program at Central European University. Her research interests include hybrid regimes, corruption and development in Eastern Europe as well as external relations of the European Union.

Simeon Brigh is a senior at Indiana University Bloomington and an intern at the oiip as part of the International Education of Students program (IES Abroad). He is currently studying history and nonprofit management.

Klara Brunnsteiner is pursuing her Master's degree in International Studies at the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna. She previously completed her Bachelor's degree in Communication Studies and Korean Studies at the University of Vienna and Seoul National University.

Ádám Csobánci pursued a Master's in Conflict and Peace Studies at the University of Cyprus. His Master's thesis explored academic perspectives in International Relations on the evolution of EU security and defense policies in response to Russia's war in Ukraine.

Justus Dehnicke is a Master's student in International Development at the University of Vienna. He completed his Bachelor's degree in Culture and Business Studies at the University of Passau.

Sophie Draeger is a graduate student at the Central European University where she is pursuing a Master of Public Administration and holds a BA from Maastricht University in European Studies. Her research focuses on European Affairs, Geopolitics and Industrial Policy.

Zoe Edwards is a graduate student at the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna where she is pursuing her Master of Advanced International Studies. She holds a BA from the University of Oxford in Philosophy, Politics and Economics. Her research interests include nuclear nonproliferation, disarmament, arms control, geoeconomics and geopolitics, as well as transatlantic relations.

Laura Füsselberger is studying law at the University of Vienna and has also completed a Bachelor's degree in Political Science at the same institution. Her primary research interests focus on the European and international dimensions of both disciplines, particularly the role of the EU in a changing geopolitical environment. A central area of emphasis in her work is European integration.

Tobias Gerber is a BA student in International Relations at Webster Vienna Private University. He has also studied as a visiting student at Harvard University, where he completed courses at both the Government Department and the Harvard Kennedy School.

Julius Gruber studied political science and law in Munich and international relations in Vienna and Rome. His research has focused on European Union external affairs and neighbourhood policy, European security and the impact of historical narrative and public memory on contemporary international affairs and diplomacy.

Raffael Kögel is a graduate student at Sciences Po Paris, where he is pursuing a Master's degree in International Governance and Diplomacy. He previously earned a Bachelor's degree from Sciences Po's Reims campus, where he focused on the political, legal and economic interrelations between Europe and North America.

Anna Ludwig was pursuing her Master's degree at the University of Vienna with a focus on European economic policy and cooperation, further deepening her expertise in international trade and sanctions regimes. At the oiip she supported Sophie Reichelt and Annika Scharnagl in the research project "Security Education by Empowering Democratic Strength (SEEDS)."

Tizian Metzner has completed a Master's degree in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) at the University of Groningen and began his internship at the oiip in October. He also holds a Master's in International Relations, specialising in International Political Economy.

Giulliano Molinero Junior is an Italian-Brazilian Master's student at CEU, where he researches lobbying practices in the autocratic context, particularly on the environmental agenda. He has a previous Master's in European and Global Politics from Tampere University, Finland and a Bachelor's in International Relations.

Veronika Nechaeva completed the DLG program at the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, then continued her Master's studies there. Her academic efforts focused on the topic of studying and analyzing international conflicts through the prism of cultural studies and international communication, as well as developing a methodology for their early prevention.

Ece Oyman was a Master's student in International Relations, specializing in Conflict and Security at Central European University (CEU). Her research interests include the impact of domestic policy on regional security policies, the influence of border security on conflict ecosystems, particularly in the West Asia and North Africa (WANA) region.

Sarah Pavlis holds a Master's degree from the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, where she completed her thesis on the mahalla system and local governance in Uzbekistan. Before her Master's, she obtained a Bachelor's degree in Social and Human Sciences from the Université libre de Bruxelles.

Theresa Rauch is a graduate from the International Joint MA in Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Kent (United Kingdom) and the Philipps-Universität Marburg (Germany). Before her Master's, she completed her BA in History with a focus on international relations and conflict studies at Utrecht University.

Leonhard Sommer is pursuing a degree in Business Law at the Vienna University of Economics and Business and in Political Science at the University of Vienna. He has gained professional experience at ICUnet-Austria in the field of Global Mobility, supporting international employee relocation and intercultural transition processes.

Lucie Stiborová is in her first year of the Master's program East Asian Economy and Society at the University of Vienna. In her Bachelor's studies in International Business Administration and Sinology, she focused on the interconnections between international politics, economics and culture through specialized courses.

Manuela Novoa Villada is a recent graduate in Critical Gender Studies at Central European University. Her Master's thesis, named Reimagining Sexuality Education: Transforming Everyday Sexual and Gender Dynamics as a Peace-building Strategy to Address Colombia's Gender-based Violence Continuum, explored from an ethnographic approach the relationship between comprehensive sexuality education and peacebuilding in Colombia's "post-conflict" period.

Julia Volpp is a student at the University of Chicago, where she is pursuing a Bachelor's in Public Policy with a specialization in Comparative Political Economy. Her interests include criminal justice reform, water and food security and foreign policy (particularly regarding the United States, EU and China).

IMSISS – (International Master in Security, Intelligence and Strategic Studies) Interns

The oiip is an IMSISS – partner. IMSISS is a 24-month Erasmus Mundus Joint Master's degree (EMJMD) awarded by a consortium of European universities – University of Glasgow (UK); Dublin City University (Ireland); Charles University in Prague (Czech Republic) and the University of Trento (Italy). As part of their studies, IMSISS students can apply for internships at the oiip.

Josefine Paulsen was in her last semester of the Erasmus Mundus International Master's in International Security, Intelligence and Strategic Studies at the University of Glasgow. Her main areas of interest include Middle Eastern affairs, non-proliferation and alliance dynamics. At the institute, Josefine was working under the mentorship of Cengiz Günay.

Pablo Villar Bolaños holds a double Bachelor's degree in International Relations and Law from the University of Deusto in Bilbao, Spain. Passionate about Great Power Competition, Outer Space Security and the post-Soviet space, he maintains an inherently curious mind, continuously exploring new perspectives and expanding his expertise across various fields.

Mission Statement

Institute: The Austrian Institute for International Affairs (oiip) is an independent research institute that was founded in 1979 and has been committed to research in the field of international politics ever since. It is Austria's leading research institute on international politics and is situated at the juncture between academic and policy-oriented research. Aside from academic research and publishing at the international level, the institute's staff are also engaged in teaching, policy consultancy and raising public awareness on a variety of important issues.

Solutions: We take practical, independent and courageous socio-political positions and develop solution-based approaches which we offer to national and European representatives of politics, administration, the economy and society. We constitute a meeting point and a venue for critical thinking and international and interdisciplinary debates, exchanges and second track diplomacy. As such, the Institute's work contributes to Austria's internationalisation.

Self: We work to advance an informed and unbiased view of world politics and we are committed to intercultural dialogue and exchange. Diversity and gender equity are our core assets, which we work to promote. The institute is also committed to the best possible career development of its staff members. Both internally and externally, we seek to embody the interrelated concepts of respect, open communication and transparency.

What we do: Research: Our core work is research and analysis of international politics. We monitor international developments, identify political and societal trends. We publish our findings in academic journals, working papers, policy analyses and policy briefs. Our bottom-up approach incorporates societal, political and economic developments at the local, regional and national levels into geopolitical assessments. We are positioned at the juncture of academic and policy research. Thus, our research activities are guided by academic standards and quality criteria. We publish our research findings in academic journals, working papers, policy analyses and policy briefs. Our goal is to make our expertise accessible to a broad range of audiences.

Teaching & Training: As part of our Academy, we offer Executive Education Training Programs for professionals, executives, diplomats, journalists, students and civil society representatives. Most of our experts also hold teaching positions at universities and we train interns.

Platform for international Dialogue: We provide a platform for international experts, fellows, early career scholars and students. We design, organize, moderate and document, conferences, panel

discussions, round tables and workshops, as well as innovative and outcome-oriented participatory formals, such as stakeholder fora or incubator rooms. Additionally, we are part of and draw on a wide network of international research partnerships.

Consultancy: Based on our research, we offer consultancy and tailored briefings for decision-makers in government institutions, international organizations, civil society and the private sector. National and international media outlets frequently consult our expertise.

Research Areas

1) Security Politics

Our research focuses on issues of security and security politics: we address the questions of how and by whom security, insecurity and risks are defined and whose security is considered to be relevant. We analyse security policies, institutions, technologies and practices from the perspective of critical security studies, including feminist and postcolonial approaches. Additionally, we research the forms, characteristics, causes, processes and effects of terrorism, extremism, radicalization, as well as hybrid threats to Austrian, European and global security. We take different ideological orientations as well as individual, group and state actors into account.

Research Topics in this Area:

- Security Regimes
- Extremism, Radicalization and Terrorism
- Hybrid Threats
- Border Politics

2) Europe and the World

Our research focuses on the EU's relations with the Western Balkans, Turkey, North Africa and the Middle East, as well as with China, the USA and the Global South. We examine how EU accession processes, the European Neighborhood Policy and the EU's Foreign Policy instruments work and how they are discussed and perceived in the partner states and we analyse the foreign policy of these countries vis-á-vis the EU.

Research Topics in this Area:

- EU accession processes
- EU Neighborhood Policy
- Transatlantic relations
- Sino-European relations

3) Political Regimes & Foreign Policy

Democracies around the world are facing multiple challenges. Our research deals with democracy, democratization and reform movements as well as the background of the rise of populist, illiberal and authoritarian forces and their impact on the functioning of state and political institutions. We also examine whether and how populism and autocratization affect the shaping of foreign policy and international relations.

Research Topics in this Area:

- Democratization
- Autocratization
- Opposition and social/protest movements
- State, statehood and governance
- Foreign policy research /analysis

4) Multilateralism and the World of Geopolitics

The liberal world order is in flux. Emerging international and regional actors are challenging the dominance of the West and Western-style institutions. Multilateral organizations such as the UN, the OSCE, but also NATO are facing major challenges. Our research starts here and examines the impact of these changes on various levels of international politics. It addresses the question of the future of international organizations and the international system and examines the implications for warfare and peacebuilding. We also examine economic, social and systemic drivers behind geopolitics. We take a critical approach that sees power politics as the outcome of cultural, social, economic and political processes.

Research Topics in this Area:

- International organisations
- The international order / international law
- War and peace building
- Geopolitics /Power politics

5) Migration, Transnationalism & Diaspora

Our research explicitly examines migration not from a security perspective, but as a social, political, cultural and transnational phenomenon. Our research encompasses two key areas: the intercultural, political and economic coexistence of migrants in Austria and the transnational connections they have. Additionally, we examine the role of migration in international and bilateral relations. We are also researching the policies individual states pursue towards their diaspora, how they are implemented and the factors driving these policies.

Research Topics in this Area:

- Migration Research
- Migration Diplomacy
- Transnationalism
- Diaspora Politics

Regional Focus

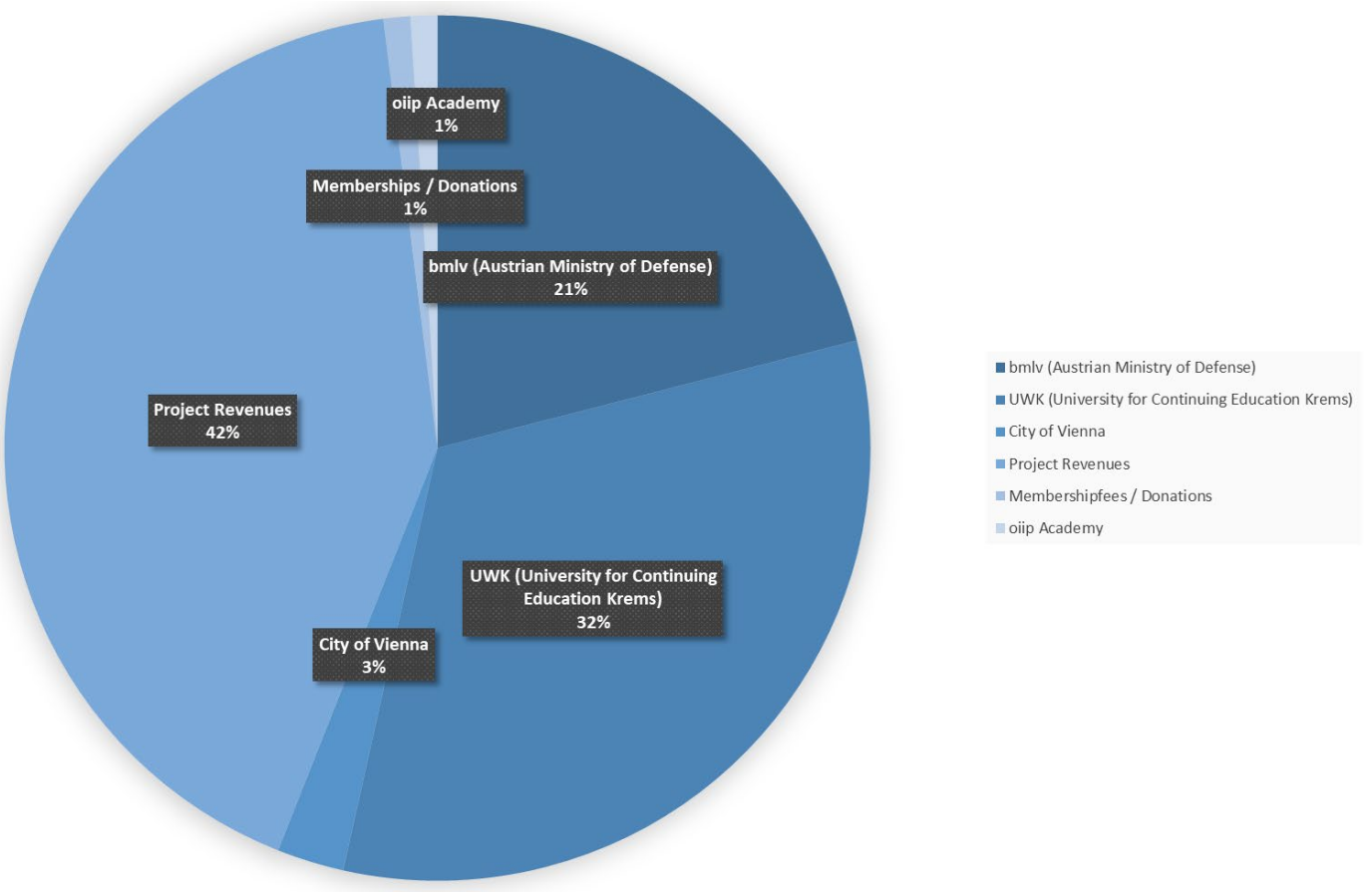
The oiip has many years of expertise in the following regions and countries:

- Western Balkans
- Middle East and North Africa
- Turkey
- China
- Indo-Pacific
- USA

2025 IN NUMBERS

12	FUNDED RESEARCH PROJECTS
71	PUBLICATIONS
22	CONFERENCE PARTICIPATIONS
26	PUBLIC EVENTS
20	UNIVERSITY CLASSES TAUGHT
20	INTERNATIONAL INTERNS
5	INTERNATIONAL FELLOWS
73	MEDIA APPEARANCES

Funding 2025



Research 2025

The following pages list the research activities conducted at the Austrian Institute for International Affairs - oiip throughout 2025. These include funded research projects, published project reports, policy analyses, policy briefs and working papers that are part of one of our cooperations with the Austrian Ministry of Defence and the University for Continuing Education Krems (UWK). The research activities and policy papers are structured along our major research areas and the research topics we have pursued. While the research areas highlight the continuity of the institute's foci, the topics vary from year to year according to specific projects, developments in the world and the expertise of our researchers.

1. Security Politics

1.1 Security Regimes

Project

Post-War Europe: How to Rebuild our Security Architecture?

In the run-up to the 35th anniversary of the Charter of Paris and the 50th anniversary of the Helsinki Accords, the project puts the achievements and failures of Europe's security architecture under scrutiny and looks for solutions to overcome the deep divides in existing institutions that shape this architecture.

Funded by: Institut français des relations internationales (Ifri)
Duration: 2023-25
Project lead oiip: Loïc Simonet

Project

SEEDS (Security Education by Empowering Democratic Strength)

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has fundamentally altered the understanding of security in Europe and Austria. In light of new threats, it is crucial to make democratic societies more resilient. National defense and security encompass not only the protection of territorial sovereignty but also the defense of democratic order and the rule of law. Schools play a vital role in conveying and sustainably anchoring democratic resilience and are therefore a key component of Intellectual national defense (Geistige Landesverteidigung). The SEEDS (Security Education by Empowering Democratic Strength) project focuses on determining young people's knowledge base and information sources on security policy issues through participatory research workshops with students.

Funded by: KIRAS, Österreichische Forschungsförderungsgesellschaft FFG
Duration: December 2024 – July 2026
Project Lead: Annika Scharnagl, Sophie Reichelt

Project

Reimagining Security: New Horizons for EU-Turkey Cooperation in an Era of Polycrisis

This project aims to broaden the lens and explore avenues for security cooperation between Turkey and the European Union (EU) beyond classical hard-security issues. It applies a comprehensive, bottom-up and forward-looking research strategy inspired by critical security theories and strategic foresight. The project employs a Strategic Foresight framework structured in three key stages: Horizon Scanning, Scenario Workshop and Backcasting.

Funded by:	Stiftung Mercator
Duration:	October 2025 - June 2026
Project lead:	Cengiz Günay
Collaborators:	Ceren Çetinkaya

Commentary, March 2025

It's time to use the OSCE

Loïc Simonet & Jane Kinninmont

The commentary argues that as European leaders prepare a peace plan for Ukraine, they should draw on the organisation that helped manage risks and offer communication channels during the Cold War. Europeans have been alarmed that the US has opened talks with Russia about Ukraine without them – they understandably want to be at the table, with Ukraine itself at the forefront. The commentary was co-published by the oiip and the European Leadership Network.

Policy Analysis 4 / May 2025

Navigating neutrality: How to find the best match between NATO and its four remaining neutral Western European Partners (WEP4)?

Loïc Simonet

"Is small still beautiful?" (Gebhard, 2013). Is NATO still interested in the remaining four neutral countries in Europe (Austria, Ireland, Malta and Switzerland)? Can these WEP4 benefit from the Alliance's 'return to Europe' in the aftermath of the Russian invasion of Ukraine? On the opposite, might the Alliance's 'war' approach, with high focus on defence and deterrence, risk marginalizing them and evidencing "the limits of partnership for deterrence" (Aronsson & Swaney, 2022, 5)? Using the opportunity of the current geopolitical crisis as well as rapidly shifting alliance constellations, this paper aims to assess the current partnership between NATO and the WEP4 and to provide with a framework for its redefinition in light of the new security context in Europe.

Policy Analysis 8 / June 2025

NATO is safe, but for how long? What needs to be taken from the Hague Summit (24-25 June 2025)

Sophie Draeger & Loïc Simonet

The Hague NATO Summit was a success – on paper. Mark Rutte's first test as Secretary-General may have avoided the chaos of Trump's first term, but the outcome reveals deep contradictions in the Alliance. The agreed 5% defence spending target is historic and the final communiqué strikingly short, yet these moves mask rather than resolve NATO's structural vulnerability. Trump's transactional view of Article 5 remains the Alliance's Damocles sword, as America's long-term commitment to Europe remains in question. While Trump's pressure spurs long-overdue momentum toward a stronger European defence posture, it also risks accelerating Europe's militarization at the expense of its founding peace project.

Policy Analysis 10 / July 2025

The Current State of Energy Security in Europe

Josefine Paulsen, Dan Ziebarth, Cengiz Günay & Johannes Späth

The Policy Analysis examines the state of energy security in Europe. The concept of energy security has been commonly used to refer to the ability to secure uninterrupted access to energy and energy supplies at an affordable price (IEA, World Energy Outlook 2022). The policy analysis identifies four major threat domains to energy security: (1) geopolitical coercion and cyberattacks; (2) infrastructural and systemic weaknesses; (3) resource scarcity and critical mineral dependency; and (4) political/regulatory fragmentation. The paper argues that over-reliance on diversification won't be enough.

Report, August 2025

The Helsinki + 50 commemoration (30 July-1 August 2025). Main takeaways and the way forward

Marc Perrin de Brichambaut & Loïc Simonet

On 31 July 2025, 50 years after the signature of the Helsinki Accords, the Finnish Chair of the OSCE convened a commemorative conference which was also an opportunity for the OSCE participating states to share views and interact with the civil society. In a very different political context than the one which prevailed in 1975, the Helsinki+50 conference confirmed that the "legacy" of the Helsinki Final Act is still the foundation for a common future, beyond violations and divergences in interpretation. Helsinki +50 was also an opportunity to take stock of the reflection on the future of the OSCE engaged by Finland in March 2025. Improving the effectiveness of the OSCE was at the core of the discussion between states, which also confirmed the need to preserve the Vienna organization.

1.2 Extremism, Radicalization and Terrorism

Project

PARTES PARticipatory Approaches to proTEcting placeS of Worship

PARTES proposes a comprehensive prevention model for the protection of PoW (Places of Worship) that is evidence-based, inclusive and participatory. In order to effectively combat the security threats posed to PoW, it is essential to understand the underlying violent extremist phenomenon and its concrete manifestations in relation to these targets; involve faith-based communities in policies and measures and educate the broader population with regard to toxic extremist rhetoric but also to the features and manifestations of various faiths.

Funded by:	Internal Security Fund, European Commission EU-ISF
Duration:	March 2023 – April 2025
Project lead:	Daniela Pisoiu
Collaborators:	Annika Scharnagl, Olena Butnyk

Project

PARTESS-COM Participatory approaches to protecting places of worship, schools and community centres

PARTESS-COM develops and promotes preventive protection measures for religious communities, places of worship and associated institutions across the EU. It responds to increasing threats posed by extremism, hate crimes and disinformation targeting faith-based groups. Building on the lessons of predecessor projects (PARTES, SHRINEs, PROSPERES), it brings together stakeholders from security, civil society, academia and religious organisations to co-develop practical, sustainable solutions. In doing so, PARTESS-COM strengthens coordination between public authorities and religious communities and contributes to a whole-of-society approach to protecting public spaces.

Funded by: Internal Security Fund, European Commission EU-ISF
Duration: March 2025 – March 2027
Project lead: Daniela Pisoiu
Collaborators: Olena Butnyk

Project

Monitoring Extremism Prevention in Austrian Schools II

In order to ensure the proper implementation of the initiative Extremism Prevention in Austrian Schools II, experts of the oiip and the UWK are collaborating on monitoring the implementation of the initiative. As part of the ongoing quality assurance and monitoring process, new trainers and workshop concepts are reviewed and assessed. The criteria for the assessment were established during the jury activity.

Funded by: Bundesministerium für Bildung BMB & Bundesministerium für Arbeit, Soziales, Gesundheit, Pflege und Konsumentenschutz BASGPK
Duration: October 2024 – December 2026
Project Lead: Annika Scharnagl

Project

Evaluation of Extremism Prevention in Austrian Schools II

The oiip was commissioned by the Ministry of Education for the evaluation of the initiative.
The evaluation process will continue throughout the school years 2024/2025 and 2025/2026.
Using a mixed methods approach, the experts of the oiip gather feedback through questionnaires, focus group discussions, observations and interviews and provide in-depth analysis. The aim of the evaluation is to assess the impact of the initiative and its sustainability.

Funded by: Bundesministerium für Bildung BMB & Bundesministerium für Arbeit, Soziales, Gesundheit, Pflege und Konsumentenschutz BASGPK
Duration: December 2024 – November 2025

Project Lead: Cengiz Günay
Collaborators: Annika Scharnagl, Johannes Späth

Project

Jury for Extremism Prevention and Mental Health Workshops

A new workshop initiative funded by the Ministries of Education and of Labour, Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection was launched in October 2025. The booking process for workshops began in January 2026. The workshops cover a wide range of topics, including extremism prevention, democracy education, mental health and resilience. The oiip was responsible for developing the selection criteria for workshops and participating organizations and evaluated all submissions against these criteria on a rolling basis during the first quarter of 2026. In addition, the oiip will carry out ongoing evaluations of the workshops throughout 2026.

Funded by: Bundesministerium für Bildung BMB & Bundesministerium für Arbeit, Soziales, Gesundheit, Pflege und Konsumentenschutz BASGPK
Duration: October 2025 – December 2026
Project Lead: Annika Scharnagl
Collaborators: Johannes Späth, Tara Petkov

oiip - UWK Policy Brief, December 2025

Effective Counterterrorism Needs Human Rights: Evidence and Policy Options for Counterterrorism Policy

Daniela Pisoiu

The policy brief argues that human rights and the rule of law are not external constraints on counter-terrorism (CT), but core conditions for its long-term effectiveness. It reviews evidence showing that much of the CT field rests on a limited empirical base, with rigorous evaluations remaining scarce. Building on insights from systematic reviews and subsequent scholarship, the paper highlights how rights impacts matter most at the level of strategic “impact”, namely whether measures reduce terrorism over time rather than only producing short-term outputs and outcomes. The Policy Brief was part of the cooperation between the oiip and the UWK and published simultaneously on both platforms.

2. Europe and the World

2.1.EU Neighborhood Policy

Project:

Coordination of the Austrian Anna Lindh Foundation Network

The coordination of the Austrian Network of the Anna Lindh Foundation includes internal network meetings, the organization of events and workshops, communication with the network members and the headquarters in Alexandria/ Egypt.

Anna Lindh Stiftung Österreichisches Netzwerk

Funded by: Anna Lindh Foundation
Duration: April 2024 – July 2026
Project Lead: Sophie Reichelt

2.2. Transatlantic Relations

Commentary, February 2025

Trump's Presidency Through Russia's Eyes: Expectations, Calculations, Priorities

Veronika Nechaeva

The commentary argues that Russia's government and expert community were trying to harbor no illusions about a breakthrough in U.S-Russian relations after Donald Trump's return to the White House. While having rejoiced and exchanged congratulations on November the 6th, the leadership was carefully considering its approach, balancing strategic caution with diplomatic maneuvering.

oiip - UWK Policy Brief, March 2025

The rise of Techno-Authoritarianism and its impact on US foreign policy

Johannes Späth

The policy brief examines the ideological foundations of techno-libertarianism and its links to authoritarian tendencies. Particular attention is given to Europe, where tech billionaires and U.S. policymakers are already exerting pressure on regulatory frameworks and electoral integrity. The EU cannot afford to remain passive. Beyond defending itself from digital interference and political manipulation, it must recognize its growing responsibility as a counterweight to illiberalism and corporate capture of governance. With democracy at an inflection point, Europe's response will not only shape its own future but could also determine whether liberal democracy remains a viable global model in the years to come.

Policy Analysis 3 /March 2025

Beyond the deregulation dilemma: the European 'regulatory state' at crossroads

George Kalpadakis

The policy analysis examines the so-called deregulation dilemma in the European political economy—the widely held assumption that economic competitiveness requires reducing regulatory safeguards. In the context of the renewed deregulatory push by the United States, the paper argues that the European Union faces increasing pressure to simplify its regulatory framework. However, the author warns that broad deregulation could undermine legal predictability, investor confidence and key policy goals such as climate protection and industrial strategy. Instead of sweeping deregulation, the analysis advocates targeted regulatory refinement, emphasizing sector-specific flexibility, risk-proportionate enforcement and greater regulatory coherence.

Working Paper 123, March 2025

Friedrich Merz and "Zeitenwende 2.0": A "New Era" for Transatlantic Relations?

Marie Krpata

On February 23, 2025, almost 60 million voters were called upon to elect a new German Bundestag. There is also the question of what role Germany will play within the European Union and what direction it wishes to take towards the United States following Donald Trump's return to the White House. The coming years will be decisive for the affirmation of Europe's role in the world order and for its security. Will the future German government seek to portray itself as resolutely pro-European, or will it be anxious to defend its own interests? What new Franco-German dynamic could emerge?

Policy Analysis 7 / May 2025

The 'geopolitical' European Union and the new Transatlantic relation 100 days after Donald Trump's inauguration: How to navigate the storm?

Loïc Simonet

Donald Trump's second administration is a test for the "geopolitical" EU. It comes at a time of morosity and decline in Europe, both in terms of hard and soft power and reveals EU's major structural deficiencies and dependencies. In Ukraine, "Europe's era is over", former Russian President Dmitry Medvedev cynically assessed. At the same time, Donald Trump's contemptuous foreign policy plays an accelerating role for the EU's long-awaited strategic autonomy. The narrative is rapidly changing and the Commission's first initiatives are promising, but the EU needs not only competitiveness but also political ambition. New 'coalitions of the willing' are emerging in Europe across old borders such as Brexit-related divisions or rivalries between the EU and NATO, reviving the concept of 'concentric circles'.

2.3. Sino-European Relations

Policy Analysis 5 / May 2025

Brave New World – The Future of China-US relations

Thomas Eder

The US's diminished leverage and Beijing's reticence to engage an erratic US president mean that a new trade deal will likely take longer than in Donald Trump's first administration, if it materializes at all. Prolonged trade tensions are unlikely to spiral into a security crisis in the Pacific. Both sides have economic priorities, US allies and partners lose trust in Washington and Beijing will be loath to upset a trend towards a more accommodating region. The US-China trade and technology war will challenge the EU and its member states more than before but also provide Europe with leverage as the US and China gradually lose their economic partnership.

oiip - UWK Policy Brief, December 2025

Worrying about the bomb? – Nuclear proliferation fears & China's foreign policy

Thomas Eder & Tizian Metzner

Unprecedented nuclear proliferation risks are emerging: Russia and North Korea threaten nuclear strikes against non-nuclear armed states during Moscow's war of conquest and US allies lose trust in extended deterrence. While China has been sympathetic to arguments about the need to mitigate regional security dilemmas for Iran and North Korea, Beijing appears less interested in the regional security dilemmas emerging in Europe and East Asia.

This policy brief finds opinion polling, scholarly and political discourse in Poland, Germany, South Korea and Japan indicating rapid societal realignments on (additional) nuclear sharing or armament and on trust in US security guarantees. The policy brief was part of the cooperation between the oiip and the UWK and published simultaneously on both platforms.

3. Political Regimes & Foreign Policy

3.2 Autocratization

Policy Analysis 9 / July 2025

Flawed by Design: What al-Sisi's Egypt Reveals About the Myth of Authoritarian Efficiency

Johannes Späth

The policy analysis challenges the narrative that authoritarian regimes offer better governance efficiency and contribute to regional stability. Using Egypt under President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi as a case study, it argues that the perception of authoritarian efficiency is not only analytically flawed but dangerously misleading for international policymakers. European and Western engagement with Egypt continues to rely on flawed assumptions about authoritarian capacity and stability. Financial support, arms sales and diplomatic legitimacy are extended largely unconditionally, under the illusion that al-Sisi's regime can deliver long-term order. This approach ignores the structural fragility baked into Egypt's political economy and risks enabling a trajectory toward fiscal implosion and social unrest.

oiip - UWK Policy Brief, December 2025

Poland and Serbia – On the Deep Traces of Autocratization and the Struggle for Democratic Renewal

Vedran Dzihic & Laura Füsselberger

Poland and Serbia have undergone a profound process of autocratization of the state and society, the structural depth of which continues to make democratic renewal considerably more difficult. The text analyzes four central dimensions of this development: the rule of law, governance, media and the public sphere and ideology. In these areas, clear signs of strong de-democratization and de-Europeanization have been observed and in some cases continue to be observed. Although Poland took initial steps toward re-democratization following the change of government in 2023, the result of the presidential election in June 2025, won by the right-nationalist Karol Nawrocki, highlights the structural limits of this transformation. The Policy brief was part of the cooperation between the oiip and the UWK and published simultaneously on both platforms.

oiip - UWK Policy Brief, December 2025

The Political Economy of Contemporary Populist Authoritarianism: The Examples of Poland, Serbia and Turkey

Vedran Džihić & Tata Beraia

The policy brief, based on a panel discussion with experts on Turkey, Serbia and Poland, argues that competitive authoritarianism is resurging as leaders exploit crises, legalism and personalization to hollow out democratic checks while preserving a façade of elections; Turkey's Erdogan uses a legalistic veneer, clientelism and risky economic policy, Serbia's Vučić combines opaque

high public investment, corruption and geopolitical ambiguity to maintain support and Poland's PiS, who was running Poland for ten years altogether, used to fuse economic populism with cultural conservatism to capture courts and media. The policy brief was part of the cooperation between the oiip and the UWK and published simultaneously on both platforms.

Policy Analysis 13/ December 2025

Infrastructural Capture: How Big Tech's Dependency Loop Is Reshaping American Statecraft

Johannes Späth & Giulliano Molinero Junior

The Policy Analysis examines the emergence of a self-reinforcing "privatization-dependency loop" through which major technology corporations have become structurally embedded within core functions of the U.S. federal government. Unlike historical forms of privatization, where the state contracted specific services to private actors, contemporary Big Tech firms now provide the digital infrastructure, computational capacity and increasingly the cognitive architecture through which the state operates. This creates unprecedented forms of dependency that translate into political leverage, enabling these firms to shape subsequent rounds of policy and procurement in ways that deepen their integration into state operations.

3.4 State, Statehood and Governance

Policy Analysis 2 / January 2025

Kosovo and Serbia in a Dangerous Prolonged Standoff – The Role of Informal Structures

Vedran Dzihic

In the past two years the conflict between Serbia and Kosovo has intensified significantly. This analysis argues that the rapidly accelerating spiral of escalation has been directly linked to the strength and persistence of the informal structures between northern Kosovo and Serbia. Serbia relies in part on criminal and armed nationalist groups that have repeatedly carried out acts of violence in northern Kosovo. Through this strategy, Belgrade seeks to reinforce Serbia's territorial claim over Kosovo. The Policy Analysis scrutinizes the impact of informal networks and parallel institutions on peace and security.

3.5. Foreign Policy Research / Analysis

Commentary, February 2025

Germany First: Merz's plans to rebrand German foreign policy

Malina Wiethaus

The commentary analyses prior to German general elections the future of German foreign policy. It argues that Friedrich Merz, the chancellor candidate for the conservative Christian Democratic Union stands for a more pronounced position in the Ukraine War.

4. Multilateralism and the World of Geopolitics

4.4 Geopolitics / Power politics

Project

Geopolitics - Dynamics and Developments

Building on the long-standing substantive cooperation between the oiip and the Austrian Ministry of Defence, the oiip implemented a research project on geopolitics between 2023 and 2025. The project comprised a total of nine policy analyses examining geopolitical developments, assessing major shifts and evaluating their associated risks and opportunities for Europe and Austria.

Funded by: the Austrian Defence Ministry
Duration: 2023-2026

Policy Analysis 1 / January 2025

The European Union and the Sahel: the day after

Angela Meyer, Loïc Simonet & Johannes Späth

Geopolitics are changing fast in the Sahel. Over the past three years, the Sahel, one of the most impoverished and imperilled regions of the world, has undergone a dramatic cycle of regime change and alliance shift, which has significantly challenged the strategy and engagement of the European Union (EU) and its member states in the region. In light of growing anti-Western sentiments, new international players are appearing or increasing their influence, such as the Russian Federation, China and Turkey. The Policy Analysis dives into the drivers of the Sahel region's geopolitical dynamics and critically investigates the shortcomings of the EU's approach to the region. This Policy Analysis was part of the "Geopolitics" Project in cooperation with the Austrian Ministry of Defence.

Policy Analysis 6 / May 2025

A Tug-of-War that Risks Snapping the Rope: Regional Competition over Post-Assad Syria

Cengiz Günay, Josefine Paulsen & Yuki Adachi

The sudden fall of the Assad regime occurred amid widespread political and economic crises, regionally and internationally. The prospects for international cooperation on reconstruction — let alone democratization - remain slim. Regional powers pursue ambitious goals but are weakened by domestic challenges and economic stagnation. While most actors agree on preserving the Syrian nation-state, their approach to the interim government under Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) diverge significantly. In this fragile context, there is an imminent risk of re-escalation and snapping the rope. This Policy Paper analyzes the competing geopolitical interests in the Eastern Mediterranean in the context of Syria's regime change. This Policy Analysis was part of the "Geopolitics" Project in cooperation with the Austrian Ministry of Defence.

oiip - UWK Policy Brief, September 2025

New Middle Powers of the 'Global South': Honest brokers or dishonest breakers?

Loïc Simonet

The rise of the new middle powers from the Global South reshapes the global chessboard. These actors are neither allies nor adversaries, but transactional and autonomous players – swing states in a multiplex world. They do not seek to uphold the liberal international order, nor to destroy it; rather, they navigate it to extract gains, preserve sovereignty and hedge against Western and Chinese dominance alike. While many present themselves as neutral brokers, they often act as revisionist disruptors. China and Russia benefit most from this posture, presenting themselves as partners against a self-serving West. The policy analysis was part of the cooperation between the oiip and the UWK and published simultaneously on both platforms.

Policy Analysis 11 / November 2025

Africa's growing interest in BRICS: Between pragmatism and the strive for more sovereignty

Angela Meyer

At their annual summit in Johannesburg in August 2023, the BRICS group decided to expand its alliance by admitting new member states. More than 40 countries expressed interest in joining or associating with BRICS and 22 submitted formal applications (European Parliament 2024a). Among those wishing to join BRICS or at least strengthening ties with the organization are many African states. The Policy Analysis explores the reasons for this growing trend among African states and lays out the consequences for relations with Europe and the West. This Policy Analysis was part of the "Geopolitics" Project in cooperation with the Austrian Ministry of Defence.

Policy Analysis 12 /December 2025

Building Connectivity, Managing Risk: The EU's Geopolitical Role in the Black Sea

Cengiz Günay, Ceren Çetinkaya, Klara Brunnsteiner, Justus Dehnicke & Sarah Pavlis

Situated at the crossroads between Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia and the Middle East, the Black Sea region is an energy hub (for oil and gas from Russia and the Caspian region) and a transit route for trade from China through Central Asia to Europe. Russia's war on Ukraine has highlighted the need to diversify energy supplies and trading routes. The so-called Middle Corridor, a multimodal network of railways, ports and shipping lines across Central Asia and the Caucasus presents an alternative to the Northern Corridor through Russia. However, a feasible Middle Corridor would require large-scale investments. This Policy Analysis was part of the "Geopolitics" Project in cooperation with the Austrian Ministry of Defence.

5. Migration, Transnationalism & Diaspora

5.1 Migration Research

Project

Recent Arrivals in Austria: New refugees from Syria and other third countries on the Austrian labour market

Given the extended duration of displacement experienced by Syrian refugees in Austria, their circumstances differ markedly from those who arrived in 2015. This group often faces greater challenges, including disrupted education, limited financial resources and potentially more severe trauma resulting from prolonged stays in refugee camps, particularly at European borders, as well as experiences of racism, discrimination and physical violence. The evolving and often deteriorating psychological and socio-economic conditions of these individuals, now clients of the Public Employment Service Austria (AMS), necessitate a reevaluation and adjustment of the support measures currently offered. The study aimed to identify the altered psychological and socio-economic conditions and needs of Syrian refugees who have been registered with AMS Vienna, Upper Austria and Styria since 2022.

Funded by:	AMS Vienna and BGS
Duration:	February 2024 - May 2025
Project lead:	Judith Kohlenberger
Collaborators:	Sophie Reichelt, Christina Khoury, Hannah Kalcher, Kotayba Kadri, Ashraf Rahme

Project

Migration Background in Later Life: Living Realities, Needs and Resources of Older Adults with a Migration History in Austria

Older People with a Migration Background are also a growing group in Austria. This includes members of the so-called Gastarbeiter generation from Turkey and the former Yugoslavia who came to Austria in the 1960s and 1970s, as well as younger cohorts of migrants from other European countries or Arabic-speaking regions. As their numbers increase, so too does this group's significance for politics and society — yet little is known about their specific living conditions and needs to date.

Funded by:	Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection
Duration:	November 2024 – August 2025
Project Lead:	Judith Kohlenberger
Collaborator:	Sophie Reichelt, Vedran Džihić, Cengiz Günay, Henri Schultz, Ceren Çetinkaya, Larissa Lojic
Partner:	Vienna Institute of Demography (VID), Austrian Academy of Sciences

oiip - UWK Policy Brief, June 2025

Political Borderwork in the Exclave of Melilla: Third Sector Organizations as Agents of Migration Policy Change?

Sophie Reichelt

On 24 June 2022, around two thousand migrants attempted to cross the border fence between the Moroccan city of Nador and the Spanish enclave of Melilla. The violent efforts by Moroccan and Spanish security forces to push them back turned the “Barrio Chino” crossing into a death trap and a mass grave, leaving at least 27 people dead and dozens still missing. This tragedy exemplifies a profound crisis at the EU’s external borders, characterized by militarization, externalization and the normalization of human rights violations. Beyond the “Nador–Melilla massacre,” the paper examines four additional key shortcomings and consequences of border and migration management in Melilla: illegal pushbacks, human rights violations in reception centres, irregularities in asylum procedures and deficiencies in the documentation of migrants. The policy brief was part of the cooperation between the oiip and the UWK.

oiip - UWK Policy Brief, November 2025

New Post-Yugoslav Diaspora in Austria – Post-migrant Perspectives and Plurality Instead of Politics of Fear

Vedran Dzihic & Henri Schultz

The policy brief examines the new post-Yugoslav diaspora; younger generations, growing up with multiple affiliations and identities and characterized by transnational ways of life, a rejection of binary categories of belonging and a stronger sense of political and social self-confidence. On this basis, new forms of political and social engagement are emerging that challenge the dominant “either-or logic” of integration policy in Austria by incorporating the lived realities and perspectives of many migrants. The policy brief was part of the cooperation between the oiip and the UWK and published simultaneously on both platforms.

Trend Reports 2025

The experts of the Austrian Institute for International Affairs – oiip have analysed trends and risks for international security.

NATO in 2025 and Beyond: Success and Peril Go Hand in Hand
Trend Report 1 / January 2025
Emiliano Alessandri

A Possible Ceasefire in Ukraine in 2025: Is the OSCE on Board?
Trend Report 2 / January 2025
Loïc Simonet

The End of Françafrique: A Second Decolonisation Wave in Africa
Trend Report 3 / January 2025
Angela Meyer

Chinese Foreign Policy in 2025: Absorbing Blows & Profiting from Others' Mistakes
Trend Report 4 / January 2025
Thomas Eder

France – U.S. Relationship under Trump 2.0: No Big Drama or Turbo-Charged Confrontation?
Trend Report 5 / January 2025
Loïc Simonet

The Politics of Misinformation: Social Media, Polarization and the Geopolitical Landscape in 2025
Trend Report 6 / January 2025

Ceren Çetinkaya

Hybrid Threats and the Role of the Far Right
Trend Report 7 / January 2025
Daniela Pisoiu

Navigating a World on Edge: Why Teaching War and Peace is Essential amid Rising Global Tensions in 2025
Trend Report 8 / January 2025
Annika Scharnagl

The European Union and Critical Raw Materials: Juggling Geopolitical and Economic Realities
Trend Report 9 / January 2025
Dan Ziebarth

The End of an Era: The Decline of Neoliberalism and the Emerging Interregnum
Trend Report 10 / January 2025
Johannes Späth

The Rise and Growing Coordination of The Global South
Trend Report 11 / January 2025
Veronika Nechaeva

Bridging divides: Saudi Arabia's Quest for Strategic Autonomy
Trend Report 12 / January 2025
Yuki Adachi

Bro-Politics in Action: Trump and the "Personalization" of Foreign Policy
Trend Report 13 / January 2025
Ádám Csobánci

From Belgrade to Tbilisi: How the EU Views Civil Protests
Trend Report 14 / January 2025
Ljiljana Kolarski

Smoke and Mirrors: Israel Stronger or Weaker in 2025? Implications for Israel and its Neighbours
Trend Report 15 / January 2025
Osnat Lubrani

Reflections

The Austrian Institute for International Affairs – oiip was proud to publish the second issue of its Magazine REFLECTIONS. The Magazine aimed to make current topics of international politics accessible and interesting to a broader readership. This year's issue addresses the rise of authoritarian populism and aggressive power politics around the globe, the retreat of democracy and liberal values and how these developments affect international relations. However, we do not want to paint an overly bleak picture and further contribute to dystopian discourses. This is why we also asked our authors to explore trends, dynamics and developments that promise democratic resilience. Guided by academic quality criteria and drawing on deep experience, the institute and its researchers aim to help navigate the storm and fight for democratic freedom, peace, human rights and welfare, which are of utmost importance to all of us.

External Policy Publications

Contributions in "Risikobild" in cooperation with the Ministry of Defence

- Günay, C., & Späth, J. (2025). Nordafrika - Die Gefahren der Autokratisierung. In verteidigungspolitik.at - Risikobild 2025, 163-167.
- Simonet, L., Meyer, A., & Späth, J. (2025). Die EU und der Sahel – Der Tag danach. In verteidigungspolitik.at - Risikobild 2025, 168-171.
- Pospisil, J. (2025). Das Horn von Afrika – Sicherheitspolitisches Nadelöhr. In verteidigungspolitik.at - Risikobild 2025, 172-176.
- Janik, R. (2025). Krieg und Kriegszustand – Wann ist ein Angriff ein Angriff? In verteidigungspolitik.at - Risikobild 2025, 268-271.

Annika Scharnagl

- Scharnagl, A. (2025). Der Schutz religiöser Stätten vor Extremismus: Zielscheibe Gotteshäuser, Herder Korrespondenz, No. 7/2025.

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- Dzihic, V. (2025). BiEPAG Policy Brief: Mining in the Western Balkans – The Rise of Dangerous Transactionalism, März 2025.
- Dzihic, V. (2025). BiEPAG Reacts: Bosnia and the EU Enlargement Report – A Non-Event in a Non-Process, BiEPAG, November 2025.
- Dzihic, V. (2025). From Hope to Dark Times and Back, in: European Voices, June 2025, 58-62.

Thomas Eder

- Eder, T. (2025), EU-China cooperation on multilateralism and global governance: new prospects and fresh concerns. Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES) and Shanghai Institutes for International Studies (SIIS) - China-Europe and Cross-Strait Relations, 106-110.

Judith Kohlenberger

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- Kohlenberger, J., & Denys, O. (2025). Ungenutzte Talente? Die Arbeitsmarktintegration ukrainischer Vertriebener im europäischen Vergleich. ÖGfE Policy Brief, 2025(02), 1 - 11.

Loïc Simonet

- Simonet L. (2025). The CFE Treaty is Dead. Could It Still Inspire a Ceasefire in Ukraine? Arms Control Today, 55, March 2025. https://www.armscontrol.org/aca/2150.

Johannes Späth

- Tanchum, M., Salman, M., Fakhoury, S., & Späth, J. (2025). Pathways to a Euro-Arab Gulf green partnership: How renewable energy-based manufacturing value chains can expand EU-GCC cooperation in green transition and climate diplomacy (Policy Study No. 38). EuroMeSCo / European Institute of the Mediterranean. https://www.euromesco.net/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Policy-Study38.pdf

Academic Publications

Monographs

Zeynep Arkan

- Arkan, Z. (2025). *European Security and Hybrid Threats: A Narrative in the Making,* Palgrave Macmillan.

Contributions to Edited Volumes

Judith Kohlenberger

- Kohlenberger, J., Herzog, T., & Schnitzler, T. (2025). Migrant and Refugee Students from the Global South at Austrian Universities: Insights into Well-being and Educational Success. In E. Nairz-Wirth, K. Ledermüller, S. Weiss, B. Thaler, F. Lessky, M. Unger, & M. Fellner (Hrsg.), Transition and Transformation in Higher Education, 111 - 142. Waxmann Verlag GMBH. https://doi.org/10.31244/9783830999867
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Vedran Dzihic

- Dzihic, V. (2025). Kickl, Orbán, Vučić: Die neue autoritäre Achse. *Blätter für deutsche und internationale Politik* 2/2025, 29-32.
- Džihić, V. (2025). Conclusion: The Paradoxical Resilience of Dayton – Navigating Hybridity, Stable Unresolvedness and the Horizon of Real-Utopian Hope. *Südosteuropa Mitteilungen:* 47-53.

Judith Kohlenberger

- Kohlenberger, J., Martin-Shields, C., Easton-Calabria, E. (2025) "'Managing' the Paradox: Refugee Self-Reliance and Solving the Problem of Refugee Policy Discontinuity." *Journal of Refugee Studies*.
- Khoury, C., Kohlenberger, J. (2025) "Navigating a Paradox: Well-Being and Dimensions of (Non-) Belonging of Syrian Refugees in Austria." *Refugee Survey Quarterly*.
- Riederer, B., Buber-Ennser, I., Setz, I., Kohlenberger, J., & Rengs, B. (2025). Attitudes of Ukrainian refugees in Austria: gender roles, democracy and confidence in international institutions. *Genus*, 81(3). https://doi.org/10.1186/s41118-024-00230-3

Sophie Reichelt

- Kohlenberger, J., Reichelt, S., & Kadri, K. (2026). (Im)permanent Settlement: Protracted Displacement and Secondary Movement Experiences of Syrian Refugees from Turkey to Austria. *Social Sciences*, *15* (2), 67. https://doi.org/10.3390/socsci15020067
- Reichelt, S. (submitted). Grenzregime Melilla: Menschenrechte im Schatten der Zäune. *Juridikum* 4/2025.

Loïc Simonet & Raffael Kögel

- Simonet, L. & Kögel, R. (2025). The OSCE back to square one? Rescuing the organization from the illusion of a CSCE-revival, *Security and Human Rights Monitor*.

Public Events

The oiip regularly organizes panel discussions, workshops and public lectures addressing current, but also long-term developments in international politics. These events are important platforms that bring national and international scholars, experts and practitioners together with an interested audience. Over the past years, our events have attracted an ever-growing number of university students, diplomats and representatives of international organizations, public services, NGOs, journalists and interested citizens from Vienna and beyond.

Panel Discussion, 29 January 2025

The Future of Syria: Political and Economic Challenges after the Fall of the Assad Regime

Moderation:

CENGIZ GÜNAY, oiip

Discussants:

RABIE NASSER, SCPR & Department of Development Studies

DIANA BASHUR, Department of Political Science

The panel traced Syria's trajectory through 14 years of conflict, beginning with the social movement in 2011 which evolved into a brutal military conflict involving regional and international powers, culminating in the fall of Assad in 2024. The discussion explored political and development challenges, including rebuilding, inclusive governance, addressing socio-economic disparities and navigating the legacies of conflict. In cooperation with the Department of Development Studies at University of Vienna and the Syrian Center for Policy Research (SCPR).

Panel Discussion, 11 March 2025

Austria as an Actor in the EU - What are the Opportunities and Limits for Austrian Foreign Policy?

Moderation:

CENGIZ GÜNAY, oiip

Discussants:

FRANZ FISCHLER, former EU Commissioner

PATRICK MÜLLER, University of Vienna, Diplomatic Academy

INGRID STEINER-GASHI, KURIER

Episode 4 of the series "Österreichische Außenpolitik Neu" discusses how actively Austria engages in the EU, in which areas it contributes and to what extent it co-determines EU foreign policy. It examined where Austria acts as a bystander, free-rider, or active player.

Panel Discussion, 24 March 2025

Austria and the Western Balkans - The Key Region of Austrian Foreign Policy in Transition?

Options and Opportunities

Moderation:

CENGIZ GÜNAY, oiip

Participants:

FRANZISKA TSCHINDERLE, Profil

WOLFGANG PETRITSCH, oiip

VEDRAN DŽIHIĆ, oiip

The fifth episode of the series “Austrian Foreign Policy Revisited” focused on the Western Balkans as a key priority of Austrian foreign policy. Recent developments in the region, including large student protests in Serbia, renewed attacks on the Bosnian state and public outrage in North Macedonia, formed the backdrop of the discussion. Against the context of a new Austrian government, the event examined how Austria positions itself towards the Western Balkans. In cooperation with the Federal Ministry of Defence.

© oiip - 25 March 2025

Panel Discussion, 25 March 2025

From Handshakes to Hashtags: Challenges to Digital Diplomacy

Speakers:

NEMANJA MALISEVIC, Microsoft

Discussant:

LOÏC SIMONET, oiip

The fireside conversation addressed the growing importance of cyberspace as a key battleground in modern warfare and its impact on diplomatic efforts to secure lasting peace. It explored how

rapid technological advancement has transformed conflicts and intensified diplomatic negotiations on rules governing digital conflicts and cyber operations. The discussion also looked ahead to upcoming UN negotiations, including a Regular Institutional Dialogue and a Permanent Mechanism on cybersecurity.

Online Panel Discussion, 26 March 2025

Understanding the March 15 Protests and State Repression in Serbia

Moderation:

VEDRAN DŽIHIĆ, oiip

Discussants:

MARKO KMEZIĆ, CSEES, University of Graz

JELENA KLEUT, University of Novi Sad

JELENA LONČAR, University of Belgrade

LUKA GLUŠAC, University of Belgrade

The online panel discussion focused on the mass anti-government protest held in Serbia on March 15, 2025, the largest in the country's history, led by a student movement active for nearly four months. It examined the disruption of a 15-minute silent vigil by an unusual and alarming noise that triggered a brief stampede among protesters. The discussion addressed suspicions regarding the alleged use of a sonic weapon, official denials by the authorities and announced legal actions against those accused of spreading disinformation. It analysed the escalation of state repression against peaceful demonstrators, students, professors, independent journalists and civil society organizations.

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Panel Discussion, 29 April 2025

Shaping Turkey's Democratic Future - Event Series Episode 1: Turkey at the Crossroads - Is this the End or the Beginning of Democracy?

Moderation:

CENGIZ GÜNAY, oiip

Participants:

ŞEBNEM GÜMÜŞÇÜ, Middlebury College

SEREN SELVIN KORKMAZ, IstanPol Istitute, IPC at Sabancı University

MURAT SOMER, Özyeğin University, CEU

The first event of the joint series Shaping Turkey's Democratic Future focuses on the political turning point marked by the detention of Istanbul Mayor Ekrem İmamoğlu. The arrest is discussed as an attack on Turkish democracy and as a trigger for the largest protests in years, beginning at universities and spreading nationwide. The discussion addresses the government's response through police repression, legal prosecution and arrests of students, journalists and critics. It also examines how repression has generated increased public protest and enabled the opposition CHP to channel resistance through economic boycotts and a mass signature campaign. The panel explores whether the regime will continue its repressive course or move toward compromise and whether the opposition can translate social resistance into political change. The role of external actors and the Turkish diaspora is also discussed. In cooperation with the Ministry of Defence.

Online Panel Discussion, 7 May 2025

Walls, Fences and Deportations: The Radicalization of Border and Migration Policies

Moderation:

JUDITH KOHLENBERGER, oiip, WU

Participants:

MERT CANGÖNÜL, University of Amsterdam & Koç University

CHARLES MARTIN-SHIELDS, German Institute of Development and Sustainability – IDOS

SOPHIE REICHELT, oiip

GABRIELLA SANCHEZ, Georgetown University

The event examined how migration has increasingly been perceived as a major problem in Western societies and beyond. The discussion highlighted how migrants face growing hostility worldwide. It drew attention to Donald Trump's hardline policies, which disregarded human rights and high court decisions, setting a dangerous precedent. Raids, deportations, visa restrictions and the militarization of borders are presented as elements that have entered political mainstream. The panel explored how these ideas are echoed by a growing number of European politicians. It also considered the consequences of new border regimes and visa regulations for migrants and societies in the United States, Europe and beyond.

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Panel Discussion, 15 May 2025

Political Risks, Threats and Opportunities in a Changing World - Assessing the Business Context

Moderation:

CENGIZ GÜNAY, oiip

Participants:

ZEYNEP ARKAN, oiip, Hacettepe University, Ankara

JOHANNES LEITNER, LM Political Risk and Strategy Advisory; University of Economics and Finance, Vienna

HANNES MEISSNER, LM Political Risk and Strategy Advisory, University of Economics and Finance, Vienna

The panel addressed how the economic and political system is undergoing enormous changes from Russia and China to the United States. It noted that trust in security coordination, supply chains and energy cooperation is weakening. The discussion highlighted how politics and businesses must maneuver in a volatile environment marked by de-globalization and fragmentation. The panel aimed to assess the risks, threats and opportunities emerging from these dynamics.

The event is held on the occasion of the publication of the Routledge Handbook of Political Risk and European Security and Hybrid Threats: A Narrative in the Making.

Panel Discussion, 20 May 2025

Terrorism financing: new trends and policy responses

Moderation:

DANIELA PISOIU, oiip

Panelists:

BIBI VAN GINKEL, ICCT

GERRIT ZACH, OSCE Transnational Threats Department's Action against Terrorism Unit

The panel discussion presented an overview of the latest developments in terrorist financing. It highlighted the role of social media and other new technologies in facilitating these activities. The event also touched upon the legal and policy framework related to countering the financing of terrorism. Particular attention was paid to the unintended consequences of implementing the Financial Action Task Force Counter-Terrorist Financing measures. The speakers outlined initiatives and recommendations developed at the international level. In cooperation with the Defense Ministry.

Panel Discussion, 16 June 2025

How to Defend Equality in Times of Authoritarianism and Anti-Gender Politics: The Role of Women's Movements in Turkey, Serbia and Hungary

Moderation:

CENGIZ GÜNAY, oiip

Panelists:

ANDREA PETŐ, CEU

ZEYNEP ALEMDAR, Centre for Economics and Foreign Policy Studies (EDAM)

LJILJANA KOLARSKI, Ernst Mach Fellow oiip

The panel explored how women-led and feminist movements are responding to anti-gender rhetoric and authoritarian pressures. It highlighted restrictions on reproductive rights, attacks on gender studies and the shrinking of civic space. The discussion focused on the strategies these movements use to resist such challenges. It also considered the transnational dimensions of feminist activism. The event emphasized why defending gender equality is a fundamental democratic imperative.

Panel Discussion, 2 October 2025

The Changing Nature of Terrorism

Moderation:

DANIELA PISOIU, oiip

Keynote:

LEVI WEST, Australian National University

The keynote examined how terrorism has undergone profound transformations in its forms, motivations and geopolitical implications. It interrogated the evolving nature of terrorism and its effects on international security agendas in the twenty-first century. The October 7 attacks and the war in Ukraine are presented as examples of political violence with far-reaching ripple effects that destabilize regions and challenge global governance. By placing these developments in a longue durée perspective, the lecture drew parallels to the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand in 1914. It showed how terrorism can function as a catalyst for broader structural transformations in international order. The analysis stressed the need to reassess existing theoretical paradigms and policy approaches, highlighting the interplay between terrorism, state power and fragile multilateral institutions. In cooperation with the Ministry of Defence and the Australian Embassy Vienna.

Panel Discussion, 6 October 2025

Universities Under Pressure: Academic Freedom in an Age of Authoritarianism and Human Rights Frameworks

Moderation:

CENGIZ GÜNAY, oiip

Panelists:

CARSTEN Q. SCHNEIDER, CEU

KIRSTEN R. LEYER, EU Agency for Fundamental Rights

The panel examined unprecedented challenges to academic freedom, including political interference, shrinking institutional autonomy and direct threats against scholars. It highlighted significant declines in academic freedom across more than 30 countries, affecting both fragile and established democracies. Carsten Q. Schneider discussed how autocratic regimes co-opt independent institutions and the resulting academic migration trends toward Europe. Kirsten R. Leyer focused on threats to academics, the erosion of university autonomy and the need for human rights protections, including a possible Council of Europe Convention. The discussion also addressed competing definitions of academic freedom, such as those in the ERA Act. The event emphasized the importance of defending academic freedom as a cornerstone of democratic and human rights frameworks. In cooperation with the Central European University Vienna.

Panel Discussion, 12 November 2025

Russian Political Mythology and the War on Ukrainian Identity

Moderation:

LOÏC SIMONET, oiip

Panelists:

ANTON SHEKHOVTSOV, Central European University

TATIANA ZHURZHENKO, Center for East European and International Studies (Germany)

The panel discussion and book presentation examined why Russia wages war not only on Ukraine's territory but also on Ukrainian identity. It explored how political myths, distorted histories and entrenched beliefs have sustained and justified aggression both within Russia and

abroad. The discussion traced the Kremlin's narratives of historical grievance and imperial destiny as instruments of propaganda, disinformation and violence. It addressed how myths of Russophobia and denial of Ukrainian statehood have been weaponized to rationalize invasion. The panel also considered narratives of NATO "provocation" that obscure the real motivations behind the war. By unpacking anti-Ukrainian sentiments and their modern manifestations, the discussion highlighted the role of revisionist myth-making in shaping public perception, policy and international discourse.

Panel Discussion, 13 November 2025

AI in Economy, Science and Security: Has Europe Missed the Boat?

Moderation:

CENGIZ GÜNAY, oiip

Speakers:

SUSANNE WEIGELIN-SCHWIEDRZIK, Österreichische Forschungsgemeinschaft (ÖFG)

SEAMUS ALLEN, Institute of International and European Affairs (IIEA), Dublin

DANIEL HIKES-WURM, Austrian Armed Forces

Discussants:

PHILIPP KOCH, EcoAustria

RONALD MAIER, University of Vienna

The panel discussed the role of AI in Europe's economy, science and security sectors. It explored whether Europe is keeping pace with global AI developments. Speakers highlighted implications for technological competitiveness and strategic autonomy.

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Panel Discussion, 24 November 2025

International Civil Society Initiatives for Inclusion, Dialogue and Change

Moderation:

SOPHIE REICHELT, oiip

Welcome:

ALEXANDER RIEGER, Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs

Panelists:

7 AWARDEES OF THE INTERCULTURAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The event welcomed the winners of the Intercultural Achievement Award, honoring civil society initiatives that foster intercultural and interreligious dialogue. This year's awardees come from Uganda, North Macedonia, Kazakhstan, Israel, Peru/Austria, Croatia and Austria. Their projects addressed pressing issues including environmental sustainability, peacebuilding, social inclusion, empowerment and education for intercultural understanding. The panel discussion allowed awardees to share insights into their initiatives, visions for change and challenges in their contexts. The conversation highlighted how local action can create lasting global impact. The event emphasized the transformative role of civil society through dialogue and cooperation. This event was supported by the Anna Lindh Foundation.

Conference, 2 December 2025

30 YEARS AFTER DAYTON: Mission Accomplished? Austria as a Peace Actor in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Moderation:

VEDRAN DŽIHIĆ, oiip

Welcome:

HANNES SWOBODA, IIP

Opening Speech:

BEATE MEINL-REISINGER, Federal Minister for European and International Affairs

Panelists:

WOLFGANG PETRITSCH, oiip

ARMINA GALIJAS, University of Graz

ANDREAS HERDINA, Former Member of the Office of the High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina

JOSEPH MARKO, Former International Judge of the Constitutional Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina

DŽENETA KARABEGOVIĆ, University of Salzburg

The panel reflected on Austria's role in Bosnia and Herzegovina thirty years after the Dayton Peace Agreement. It examined Austria's military contributions to IFOR and SFOR from 1996 to 2004 and its political engagement through High Representatives Wolfgang Petritsch and Valentin Inzko. The discussion considered how Austria's involvement shaped post-war dialogue among

communities while addressing ongoing political and social challenges. Panelists assessed the impact of Austria's engagement on Bosnia and Herzegovina's stability. The event also explored lessons from Austria's peacebuilding efforts that may inform current and future strategies. Participants highlight the continued relevance of Austria's legacy as a regional peace actor. In cooperation with the International Institute for Peace (IIP), University of Graz and the Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs of Austria.

Panel Discussion, 3 December 2025

China's rise in Latin America & the Global Race for Critical Raw Materials

Moderation:

THOMAS EDER, oiip

Discussants:

RUBEN GONZALEZ VICENTE, University of Birmingham

KARIN KÜBLBÖCK, Austrian Foundation for Development Research (ÖFSE)

The panel examined China's growing role in Latin America and the EU's efforts to strengthen relations with the region amid strategic autonomy policies and US protectionism. It highlighted China's investment growth, particularly in Brazil and record imports of agricultural products such as soybeans. Beijing's diplomatic engagement through BRICS, the China-CELAC Forum and bilateral strategic partnerships is discussed. China's dominance in global rare earth and critical raw material industries is reinforced by its position in Latin America. The discussion contrasts Chinese and EU approaches, noting EU trade agreements with Chile, Andean countries, Mexico and the Mercosur Group. In cooperation with the Ministry of Defence.

Panel Discussion, 3 December 2025

Peacebuilding After Dayton - Lessons for Today

Welcome:

MARYLIA HUSHCHA, IIP

GERHARD MARCHL, Karl-Renner-Institut

Analysis:

FERENC NÉMETH, Corvinus University of Budapest

Moderation:

HANNES SWOBODA, IIP

Panelists:

ADNAN CERIMAGIC, European Stability Initiative (ESI), Berlin

MAXIMILIAN LAKITSCH, University of Graz

OLESYA KHROMEYCHUK, Ukrainian Institute London

DONIKA EMINI, Balkans in Europe Policy Advisory Group, Prishtina

The panel reflected on the 30th anniversary of the Dayton Peace Agreement and its continuing relevance for understanding conflict and peace. While Dayton ended a brutal war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, lasting stability has remained elusive. Panelists discuss lessons from Dayton that

may inform the resolution of contemporary global conflicts. Comparisons and insights highlight strategies from the past that could foster durable peace today. The discussion emphasizes how the experiences of Bosnia and Herzegovina can guide broader peacebuilding efforts worldwide. Participants draw on research and policy perspectives to analyze the successes and limitations of Dayton's legacy. In cooperation with the Karl-Renner-Institut, University of Graz and Political Capital.

Online Panel Discussion, 12 December 2025

Protection of Places of Worship and Religious Communities as Critical Infrastructure

Moderation:

DANIELA PISOIU, oiip

Discussants:

MARCIN PODOGROCKI, University of Łódź

JOSÉ LUIS SALIDO, Euro-Arab Foundation (Granada)

ALESSANDRO LAZARI, University of Salento (Italy)

PETER VAN DE CROMMERT, Dutch Institute for Safe and Secure Spaces – DISSS

The online panel addressed the increasing targeting of places of worship and religious communities across Europe by extremism, hate crime and ideologically motivated violence. Participants examined the current threat environment and emerging risks faced by diverse religious communities. The discussion highlighted solutions ranging from soft security measures and community engagement strategies to enhanced communication between religious actors, local authorities and security stakeholders. Validated practices were reflected upon to identify ways forward for safer and more resilient environments for worship. The event emphasized the importance of treating places of worship as critical infrastructure requiring attention and resilience. In cooperation with the University for Continuing Education Krems (UWK) and the EU project PARTESS-COM.

Workshops

Lecture, 28 May 2025

Pursuing Justice: Investigating and Prosecuting Russian War Crimes in Ukraine

Speaker:

OLEG TATAROV, Deputy Head of the Office of the President of Ukraine

In his lecture, Mr. Tatarov offered insights into the legal and institutional strategies Ukraine employs to address war crimes, including cooperation with international partners such as the International Criminal Court. He also reflected on the broader geopolitical significance of accountability, the resilience of legal systems in wartime and the emerging role of Ukraine in shaping the European legal and security order.

Workshop, 13 November 2025

Are we ready for the AI revolution?

Speakers:

SEAMUS ALLEN, IIEA Ireland

DANIEL HIKES-WURM, Austrian Armed Forces

In the expert workshop, we discussed in a closed round the challenges that arose in connection with AI in public and private sectors. What strategies existed? Where were Europe and Austria well positioned? Where did security policy issues arise and how competitive were we in the fields of digitalization and the development and deployment of AI compared to the United States or China? In cooperation with ÖFG - Österreichische Forschungsgesellschaft.

Seminar Series

Europe in a Fragmented World: Geo-economic and Geo-political Dynamics

In cooperation with the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw).

The seminar series aims to analyse geopolitical and geoeconomic trends and their impact on Europe's future from an interdisciplinary perspective. The series seeks to contribute to the ongoing debates on how to reposition Europe within an increasingly politically unstable and economically competitive international system.

Panel Discussion, 15 January 2025

Europe Alone at Home? The Future of EU–US Relations

Moderation:

CENGIZ GÜNAY, oiip

MICHAEL LANDESMANN, wiiw

Speakers:

GABRIEL FELBERMAYR, WIFO

SUDHA DAVID-WILP, German Marshall Fund Berlin

HANNES SWOBODA, wiiw

The event introduced a new seminar series jointly organised by the Austrian Institute for International Affairs (oiip) and the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw), titled Europe in a Fragmented World: Geo-economic and Geo-political Dynamics. This first seminar addressed the topic of Europe Alone at Home? The Future of EU–US Relations. Europe's importance to the US has been in decline and there is concern that a second Trump administration could further weaken transatlantic ties and pursue an isolationist economic policy. In cooperation with the Austrian Ministry of Defence.

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Panel Discussion, 20 March 2025

The end of US protection and the future of Ukraine and Europe

Moderation:

CENGIZ GÜNAY, oiip

Participants:

OLGA PINDYUK, wiiw

ANTON SHEKHOVTSOV, CEU

LOÏC SIMONET, oiip

The event addressed the growing strain in transatlantic relations and the implications of recent US policy shifts on the Ukraine war and European security. The discussion focused on whether Ukraine can withstand US pressure and how proposed natural minerals deals may affect the conflict. It also considered whether Europe's economy can bear increased burdens and if the EU can develop an autonomous security architecture.

Panel Discussion, 9 April 2025

Investigating China's strategy in the evolving global context

Speakers:

TODD HALL, University of Oxford

Discussants:

WALTRAUT URBAN, wiiw

THOMAS EDER, oiip

The seminar examined China's international behaviour in the evolving global context and challenges approaches based on power transition theory. It presented an alternative way of thinking about the People's Republic of China by conceptualizing it as seeking leadership through followership. Drawing on an analogy with domestic opposition parties, the talk outlined the implications of this strategy across three domains. The discussion addressed whether China should be understood as a dissatisfied, revisionist state likely to challenge the United States militarily.

Panel Discussion, 25 June 2025

The Political Economy of Contemporary Populist Authoritarianism: The Examples of Poland, Serbia and Turkey

Moderation:

VEDRAN DŽIHIĆ, oiip

Panelists:

MERYEM GÖKTEN, wiiw

CENGIZ GÜNAY, oiip

BRANIMIR JOVANOVIC, wiiw

MALWINA TALIK, IDM

The panel discussed the global retreat of democracy and the rise of populist authoritarianism. It noted that 38% of the world's population is now affected by autocratization. The event highlighted how economic inequality and support for right-wing parties fuel anti-establishment sentiment. Contemporary populist authoritarian regimes are described as opaque, informal and marked by the personalization of power. They promise improvements for ordinary people but typically concentrate wealth among ruling elites. The discussion examined the political and economic DNA of such regimes through the cases of Poland, Serbia and Turkey.

Panel Discussion, 4 December 2025

Can (Accelerated) EU Enlargement Work?

Panelists:

STEFAN LEHNE, Carnegie Europe

VEDRAN DŽIHIĆ, oiip

MICHAEL LANDESMANN, wiiw

BRANIMIR JOVANOVIĆ, wiiw

OLGA PINDYUK, wiiw

The seminar examined the possibility of an accelerated EU enlargement covering the Western Balkans, Ukraine and Moldova. It focused on the economic and political requirements for making such an accelerated process viable. Panelists discussed lessons from previous EU accessions and which economic conditions candidate countries must address. The seminar explored political obstacles within candidate states and the EU, considering differing conditions and member state interests. The implications of some countries progressing faster than others were analyzed. The discussion highlighted the key challenges the next enlargement round is likely to face.

2025 Event Series
Austrian Foreign Policy – A New Approach

In light of the new legislative period, the event series "Austrian Foreign Policy – A New Approach" aims to bring foreign policy—an area largely overlooked in Austria—into focus. The discussions aim not only to analyse the current state of Austrian foreign policy but also to explore options, room for manoeuvre and challenges in an increasingly volatile and crisis-ridden world.

Panel discussion, 11 March 2025

Episode 4: Austria as an Actor in the EU – Where Are the Opportunities and Limits for Austrian Foreign Policy?

Moderation:

CENGIZ GÜNAY, oiip

Participants:

FRANZ FISCHLER, Former EU Commissioner

PATRICK MÜLLER; University of Vienna, Diplomatic Academy

INGRID STEINER-GASHI, KURIER

In Episode 4 of our series “Austrian Foreign Policy Reimagined”, we discussed how actively Austria engages within the EU, in which areas it is involved and to what extent it helps shape EU foreign policy. Where is Austria merely an observer, where is it a free rider and where is it an active player? In which areas could or should it do more? And where are potential alliances?

Panel discussion, 24 March 2025

Austria in the Western Balkans – The Key Region for Austrian Foreign Policy in Transition? Options and Opportunities

Moderation:

CENGIZ GÜNAY, oiip

Participants:

FRANZISKA TSCHINDERLE , Profil

WOLFGANG PETRITSCH, oiip

VEDRAN DZIHIC, oiip

Episode 5 of our series “Austrian Foreign Policy Reimagined” focused on the Western Balkans region. Austria had a new government and in terms of foreign policy, the Western Balkans remained a key priority. How is Austria positioning itself with regard to this important European neighboring region? Where do the options and opportunities lie? What needs to be done to ensure the region remains stable and that EU membership becomes possible in the future?

Participation in Conferences

© oiip – The Bean, Chicago

The Austrian Institute for International Affairs is a Partner Organization of the International Studies Association (ISA).

On March 2, 2025, the oiip organized at the Annual Convention in Chicago / USA the Round Table titled: **“Foreign Policy Making under Autocratization and the Future of International Relations”**.

SENEM AYDIN-DÜZGIT, Sabanci University, Istanbul
THOMAS EDER, oiip
VEDRAN DZIHIC, oiip
SERCAN CANBOLAT, University of Connecticut, Manfield
LISEL HINTZ, SAIS, Johns Hopkins University, Washington DC
Chair:
CENGIZ GÜNAY, oiip

Zeynep Arkan

- EWIS 2025 - European Workshops in International Studies/EISA, Krakow, Poland, 2.-4.7.2025.

Olena Butnyk

- Security Research Event 2025, Boosting security through EU-based innovation, Warsaw, Poland, 24.-25.07.2025.

Ceren Çetinkaya

- 16th Popular Culture and World Politics Conference, “Theorizing the Role of Cultural Producers: The Cultural Labor of Geopolitics in Contemporary Turkey" Paper presentation and panel discussion, Lisbon, Portugal. 20-21.11.2025.

Thomas Eder

- ISA - International Studies Association - Annual Conference 2025, Chicago, 1.- 4.3.2025.
- Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP) - Shanghai Institutes for International Studies (SIIS) - Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES) joint conference, SIIS, Shanghai, 19.10.2025.
- Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP) - East China Normal University (ECNU) - Friedrich Ebert Foundation FES) joint conference, ECNU, Shanghai, 20.10.2025.
- European University Institute (EUI) - Korea Foundation - Japan Foundation joint workshop, EUI - The Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, Florence, 3.-4. 11. 2025.

Cengiz Günay

- ISA - International Studies Association - Annual Convention, Chicago, 1.- 4.3.2025.
- TEPSA - Trans-European Political Studies Association - Pre-Presidendy Meeting, Copenhagen, 23.05.2025.
- CATS - Center for Applied Turkish Studies Annual Meeting, SWP Berlin.
- UN Office for Disarmament Affairs - Consultative meeting with Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu, UN High Representative and Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs, New York, 13.10.2025.
- MESA - Middle East Studies Association, Annual Meeting, Washington DC, November 21.-24. 11.2025.
- Science Diplomacy and Heritage: On the Politics of Fragments, the Role of Science, and the Perception of Lacunas, UWK, Venice, 4.12.2025

Judith Kohlenberger

- Inaugural Conference des Vienna Centre for Migration and Law 2025 “Migration in Times of Polarization”, Rechtswissenschaftliche Fakultät der Universität Wien, 30.6.-1.7.2025

- 48. Österreichischer Völkerrechtstag zum Thema „Asyl und Migration: Die Rolle des Völkerrechts im Spannungsfeld zwischen nationaler Souveränität und internationaler Solidarität“, Alpbach/Tirol, 12.-14.6.2025.

Sophie Reichelt

- Sophie Reichelt, Kotayba Kadri, IMISCOE Spring Conference, University for Continuing Education Krems, Austria, 17.-19.3.2025.

Loïc Simonet

- Conference “European Security Architecture”, IFRI, Paris, 14.4.2025.
- Closed-door seminar ‘Global implications of the war in Ukraine and challenges for a new security order’, CIDOB, Barcelona, 25 April 2025.
- Roundtable Discussion on Women’s Leadership in Rethinking Security: Beyond Fear, Force and Deterrence, 4.6.2025, organization: Loïc Simonet in collaboration with the Open Nuclear Network (ONN).
- Closed-door seminar ‘New Centrality vs New Periphery – The Geographic Extent beyond the Ukrainian war’, Wroclaw & Wojnowice, 9.-10.10.2025.

Johannes Späth

- ISPI Milan NEXT Forum 2025/ Future Think Tank leaders. 5.8.05.2025
- MESA -Middle East Studies Association, Annual Meeting, Washington DC, November 21.-24. 11.2025.

Lectures /Presentations /Talks

Find here a list of events in which our researchers participated in 2025.

© oiip - AKINS TRAUM VOM OSMANISCHEN REICH, 22. April 2025, Burgtheater

Theatre Performance & Audience Discussion - AKIN'S DREAM OF THE OTTOMAN EMPIRE, 22 April 2025 at the Burgtheater

The oiip and the Burgtheater took this special performance as an opportunity to explore the play in its historical context during the subsequent audience discussion, to reflect on the current political situation and to provide insights into the development of the characters and roles.

CENGIZ GÜNAY, oiip

LEA GOEBEL, Dramaturgy

ALEXANDER ANGELETTA, MEHMET ATEŞÇİ & STEFKO HANUSHEVSKY, Ensemble

BURG

Zeynep Arkan

- Book-talk: Arkan, Z., University of Passau. 28.06.2025.
- MA Course: Arkan, Z. Critical Approaches to Foreign Policy, University of Passau (24.06.2025-06.07.2025), Passau.

Vedran Dzihic

- Diskussionsveranstaltung mit Justyna Gotkowska, Franz Fischler und Vedran Džihić, Moderation: Wolfgang Popp, Ö1, 27. Februar 2025, Buch Wien Messe.
- Diskussion und Podcastaufnahme, Balabala Balkan, Live von der Leipziger Buchmesse, Vedran Dzihic im Gespräch mit Barbi Markovic, 28.3.2025.
- Diskussion bei der Leipziger Buchmesse, Bosnien und Herzegowina 30 Jahre nach Dayton. Ein Land auf der Suche nach europäischer Normalität, 29.3.2025, Forum Globale Perspektiven mit Taina Tervonen, Senad Pećanin, Lejla Kusturica | Moderation: Vedran Džihić
- Gespräch mit Taina Tervonen, Bosnien und Herzegowina 30 Jahre nach Dayton, Leipziger Buchmesse, 29.03.2025, Forum Globale Perspektiven.
- Paneldiskussion, Studierendenproteste in Serbien: Junge in der Demokratiebewegung Südosteuropas, 10.04.2025, IIP, Renner Institut, oiip, Vedran Dzihic als Panelist.
- Götterdämmerung und Menschenrecht – Scheitert die liberale Demokratie? Diskussion mit Vedran Dzihic bei Europäischen Toleranzgesprächen, Fresach, Kärntnen 5.6.2025.
- Diskussionsabend, Wie lang ist der Schatten des Kriegs? ZEIT-Recherchen, Berliner Ensamble, Caterina Lobenstein im Gespräch mit Vedran Džihić und Simone Gaul, 24.9.2025, Berlin, Deutschland.
- Vortrag, (HI)STORY goes Burgdorf, Vortrag von Vedran Dzihic am Gymnasium Burgdorf, 17.10.2025, Schweiz.
- Diskussion, WTF ist eine postmigrantische Kultur? Gespräch mit Jelena Poprzan, Ana Marwan und Vedran Džihić, HiStory Festival, 17.10.2025, Bern, Schweiz.
- Paneldiskussion, Can (Accelerated) EU Enlargement Work? 4.12.2025, Panel discussion in the context of the wiiw-oiip seminar series 'Europe in a Fragmented World: Geo-economic and Geo-political Dynamics', Vedran Dzihic als Moderator.
- Paneldiskussion, Hat der Friedensvertrag Frieden gebracht? Podiumsgespräch Armina Galijaš, Danijela Majstorović, Vedran Džihić, HiStory Festival, 19.10.2025, Bern, Schweiz.
- Online Event | Whose Peace? Rethinking Three Decades of Post-War Bosnia and Herzegovina, Südosteuropa Mitteilungen, 11.12.2025.
- Buchpräsentation und Diskussion: „Zwischen Ängsten und Hoffnungen – Migrationen, Aufstieg des Nationalismus und Demokratie in Europa“, Vortrag von Vedran Dzihic an der Universität Sarajevo, Bosnien und Herzegowina, 16.12.2025.
- Buchpräsentation und Diskussion: Ankommen, Vortrag und Diskussion von Vedran Dzihic in der Stadtbibliothek Tuzla, Bosnien und Herzegowina, in Kooperation mit der Universität in Tuzla, 17.12.2025.

Cengiz Günay

- Die US-Außenpolitik nach der Wahl - Was ist von der neuen Administration zu erwarten? Universität Innsbruck, 14.01.2025.

Judith Kohlenberger

- Keynote bei der Konferenz “Wartime migration and integration: Ukrainian stayers, IDPs and refugees”, Institut für Arbeit und Beschäftigung (IAB), Nürnberg, 26.-27.5.2025.
- Invited Lecture „Migration und Asyl: Ursachen und Hintergründe“, 48. Österreichischer Völkerrechtstag zum Thema „Asyl und Migration: Die Rolle des Völkerrechts im Spannungsfeld zwischen nationaler Souveränität und internationaler Solidarität“, Alpbach/Tirol, 12.-14.6.2025.
- “Toward a Politics of Non-Injury: Denormalizing Border Deaths” bei der Inaugural Conference des Vienna Centre for Migration and Law 2025 “Migration in Times of Polarization”, Rechtswissenschaftliche Fakultät der Universität Wien, 30.6.-1.7.2025.
- Vortrag bei der internen Fachtagung des Österreichischen Komitees für Soziale Arbeit zum Thema „Wie kann Integration von Menschen mit Fluchterfahrung gelingen?“, 23.5.2025.
- “Syrian refugees and their entrance in the Austrian labour market: Comparison of different arrival cohorts”, with Isabella Buber-Ennser, Bernhard Rengs and Sophie Reichelt, The Migration Conference 2025,11/06/25 to 17/06/25, London, UK.
- Vortrag und Diskussion am RECET History and Social Sciences Festival "Migration and Transformation" der Universität Wien, 3.-5.6.2025.
- “Die Macht der Zivilgesellschaft”, beim Forum „Mutige Menschlichkeit“ an der Universität Köln, 24.6.2025.
- „Migration und Zivilgesellschaft“ in der Kunsthalle München, im Rahmen der Ausstellung „Civilization: the way we live now“, am 8.7.2025.

Annika Scharnagl

- OeAD (Austria's Agency for Education and Internationalisation) Network meeting with programme providers of Extremism Prevention Workshops in Salzburg, 24 November 2025. Expert input on the distinction between primary and secondary prevention.

Loïc Simonet

- Workshop on Conventional Arms Control, SIPRI, 25 March 2025 (online presentation).
- Comité Autriche des Conseillers du Commerce Extérieur de la France (CCE), 5 May 2025, Vienna, French Embassy (presentation).
- Austrian-Czech Dialogue Forum 2025. Post-Conflict Prospects - 50 years after Helsinki: The OSCE’s contribution to Ukraine’s path forward, Prague 20 Nov. 2025 (panelist).
- Security Dialogue “Helsinki Final Act 50 Years”, OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC), 26 November 2025, Vienna Hofburg (panelist).

- Inter-civilizational Dialogue from a European Perspective, 27th – 28th November 2025, Dublin, organized by the Dublin City University, Centre for Religion, Human Values and International Relations (online presentation).
- “From Helsinki to Uncertainty? The OSCE, Europe’s Security Architecture, and the Challenges of the 21st Century”, Center for Global Political Economy & Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Bratislava, December 3, 2025 (online presentation).
- NGO Committee on Peace, « 50 years Helsinki Accords: Lessons for Today », Vienna, VIC, 5 Dec. 2025 (panelist).

CRES SUMMER SCHOOL
”Next Generation Europe”

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Cres, 14 – 19 September 2025

Regaining new European and democratic momentum

The “CRES Summer School”, organised on the island of Cres (Croatia), focused on the topic: “Defending democracy in turbulent times: challenges and opportunities. The European perspective.”

The Summer School aimed to support a new generation of young European experts, scholars, activists and engaged citizens in their work for a renewed Europe and strengthened European togetherness. The interactions provided young researchers and activists with knowledge, experience and skills relevant to their professional futures and the future of Europe. Participants, including those who had taken part in the first edition of the Summer School in Cres in September 2022, organised under the framework of the WB2EU project, formed a vibrant network of enthusiastic young leaders, capable of addressing political challenges, deepening dialogue with decision-makers and contributing to the restoration of European and democratic momentum.

Teaching

Zeynep Arkan

- MA Course: Arkan, Z. Critical Approaches to Foreign Policy, University of Passau, Professorship of International Politics (24.06.2025-06.07.2025)

Vedran Dzihic

- WS 2024/25: Forschungspraktikum FOP, Südosteuropa zwischen Demokratie und autoritären Tendenzen. Grundlagen und Trends, Universität Wien, Institut für Politikwissenschaften
- WS 2024/25: Masterseminar, Universität Wien, Institut für Politikwissenschaften
- SS 2025: BAK14 Bachelorseminar und -arbeit, Universität Wien, Institut für Politikwissenschaften
- WS 2025/26: Vorlesung BAK9: Österreichische Aussenpolitik - Hintergründe, Trends und aktuelle Herausforderungen, Universität Wien, Institut für Politikwissenschaften
- 22.1.2026, Critical Geopolitics in the Western Balkans, Sigmund Freud University, LL.M. programme: Public International Law

Thomas Eder

- January/February 2025: BA course (blocked) “International Organizations: Practice and Challenges in Times of Crisis of Multilateralism” (with Loïc Simonet), IES Abroad - Vienna - SAF (Chinese students)
- Summer 2025: BA course “Europa-China Beziehungen - Diskurse u. Politiken in Beijing, Brüssel u. zentralen Hauptstädten”, Political Science Department, University of Vienna
- Summer 2025: BA course “The Future of International Law”, IES Abroad - Vienna (US students)
- Winter 2025: BA course “The Future of International Law”, IES Abroad - Vienna (US students)

Cengiz Günay

- WS 2025/26: BAK14 Bachelorseminar und -arbeit (2025W), University of Vienna, Department of Political Science
- WS 2025/26: VM1 / VM6 - Soziale und globale Ungleichheit als Grundlage für politischen Umbruch und Revolution? Das Beispiel der MENA (Middle East and North Africa) Region (2025W), University of Vienna, Department of Development Studies
- Summer 2025: M11: Der Staat, politische Regime und internationale Beziehungen in der MENA Region (2025S), University of Vienna, Department of Political Science.

Judith Kohlenberger

- Summer 2025: Master seminar “Politik und Ökonomie”, Department Sozioökonomie, WU Wien.

Loïc Simonet

- January/February 2025: BA course “International Organizations: Practice and Challenges in Times of Crisis of Multilateralism” (with Thomas Eder), IES Abroad - Vienna - SAF (Chinese students)
- Spring/Summer 2025: BA course “International Organizations: Practice & Challenges in time of crisis of multilateralism”, IES Abroad - Vienna (US students)
- Autumn/Winter 2025: BA course “International Organizations: Practice & Challenges in time of crisis of multilateralism”, IES Abroad - Vienna (US students)
- 2.12.2025: Multilateralism & international Organizations. Sigmund Freud University, LL.M. programme: Public International Law
- 9.12.2025: The European Union and global challenges. Sigmund Freud University, LL.M. programme: Public International Law

Annika Scharnagl

- 19.11.2025: Critical IR theories. Theories of International Relations, Sigmund Freud University, LL.M. programme: Public International Law

oiip ACADEMY

World politics are increasingly volatile, unpredictable and marked by rising political, military and trade tensions. These developments not only endanger security—they also limit opportunities. In this environment, strategic planning and resilience require a deeper, more comprehensive understanding of risks, threats and trends.

The oiip Academy brings the institute's expertise into exclusive executive education programs designed for professionals, executives, diplomats, journalists, students and civil society representatives. Our hybrid programs are held in english and they are tailored for those who seek to:

- Broaden their perspective on global developments,
- Deepen their understanding of regional dynamics and
- Sharpen their skills in assessing political risks — all from a Central European perspective.

Module 1: Geopolitical Thinking in Practice, 23 October 2025

Cengiz Günay, Johannes Späth

In this first module of our "How to navigate Geopolitical Risks" modular Executive Education Course series participants explored how geopolitical thinking can be applied in practice. In an interactive one-day hybrid format participants were introduced to classical and contemporary theories of geopolitics, gained tools for analyzing power dynamics in today's complex world and examined emerging global risks - from chokepoints and infrastructure dependencies to the technology race and shifting executive power.

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Module 2: Geopolitics and Political Risks in the Middle East, 27 November 2025

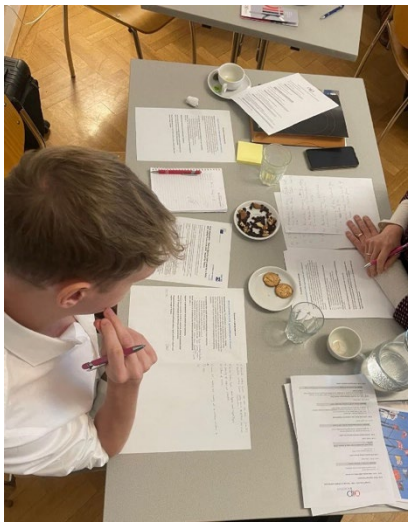
Cengiz Günay, Osnat Lubrani

The second module of our "How to navigate Geopolitical Risks" modular Executive Education Course series provided participants with a structured introduction to geopolitical risks, political and societal dynamics and trends in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. In an interactive one-day hybrid format participants explored how to map strategic dynamics, assess regional trends and apply early warning tools to better understand developments in this complex and often misunderstood region.

Module 3: Geopolitics and Political Risks in the Western Balkans, 11 December 2025

Vedran Džihić, Ivan Vejvoda

The third module of our "How to navigate Geopolitical Risks" modular Executive Education Course series provided participants with a structured introduction to political and societal dynamics, geopolitical risks and trends in the Western Balkans. In an interactive one-day hybrid format participants explored how to map geopolitical dynamics, assess regional trends and analyse the state of democracy and the EU-integration in the region. Through real-world case studies and interactive exercises, the module applied bottom-up qualitative methods to assess political risks and develop early warning tools to better understand developments in this complex region in the middle of Europe with EU-membership aspirations.



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Media Review

January

- **Podcast Politik Wissen**: 5.1.2025, Cengiz Günay, “Sonderreihe USA #5: Die US-Außenpolitik nach der Wahl: Was ist von der neuen Administration zu erwarten?“

February

- **Kronen Zeitung**, 21.2.2025, Thomas Eder, Interview, “China hofft, dass Trump alle vor den Kopf stößt”
- **Ö1 Mittagsjournal**, 25.2.2025, Thomas Eder, Interview, “Manöver vor Australien: Chinas Botschaft an Trump”
- **VIDC**, Podcast des VIDC, 24.2.2025, Vedran Dzihic im Gespräch mit Sybille Straubinger, “Liberale Demokratie: Quo vadis? “
- **ORF.AT**, 26.2.2025, Vedran Dzihic, Interview, “Bosnien-Herzegowina Dodiks Machtpoker auf dem Prüfstand“
- **Ö1 Mittagsjournal**, 28.2.2025, Cengiz Günay, Interview, “Friedensabkommen mit PKK“

March

- **Der Standard**, Kommentar der anderen, 2.3.2025, Judith Kohlenberger, „Hart im Ton bei Asyl und Migration, mit unionsrechtlichen Stolpersteinen“
- **Ö1**, 5.3.2025, Johannes Kaup im Gespräch mit Vedran Dzihic, "Aus dem RadioKulturhaus Wien, Im Zeit-Raum: Flucht, Neubeginn und Integration"
- **Scenor,** 5.3.2025, Blogpost by Annika Scharnagl “United in Response: Collaborative Approaches in Protecting Places of Worship”
- **PROFIL**, 7.3.2025, Vedran Dzihic, Interview, "Gratiszeitung „Heute” bringt bezahlte Anzeige der Republika Srpska"
- **Der Standard**, 19.3.2025, Gastkommentar der anderen von Vedran Dzihic, Vučićs "Königreich der Macht" ist unter Druck“
- **Ö1, Mittagsjournal,** 20.3.2025- Cengiz Günay, Interview: (Türkeiexperte) zur Situation in der Türkei“
- **ORF III Aktuell**, 20.3.2025, Cengiz Günay, Interview, "Es ist ein politischer Coup"
- **Kurier**, 20.3.2025, Cengiz Günay, Interview, "Experte zur Krise in der Türkei: Das ist ein Angriff auf die Demokratie"
- **OKTO**, 22.3.2025, Vedran Dzihic zu Gast im Studio, "Das Dreieck – Politik und Debatte im Community TV“
- **ORF ZiB 2**, 23.3.2025, Cengiz Günay, Interview, "Proteste in der Türkei"

- **Kronen Zeitung**, 24.3.2025, Cengiz Günay, Interview, "Türkei: Situation besitzt viel Sprengpotential"
- **FM4**," 25.3.2025, Interview Cengiz Günay, "Protests in Turkey"
- **GMX**, 25.3.2025, Interview mit Vedran Dzihic, Experte über Situation auf dem Westbalkan: "Friedensordnung steht auf dem Spiel"
- **Tiroler Tageszeitung**, 27.3.2025, Interview Cengiz Günay, Türkei-Experte Günay: „Glaube an Demokratie in der Türkei ist noch nicht erloschen"
- **Profil**, Cengiz Günay, 23.3.2025, "Türkei: Aufstand gegen Erdogan",
- **IIP Podcast**, 27.3.2025, Peace Matters, with Thomas Eder und Lukas Weber, "Weltmacht China: konfrontativ oder kooperativ?"
- **WDR**, 29.3.2025, Interview mit Vedran Dzihic, "Das Ankommen in Europa besser gestalten, Denk' ich an Europa"
- **Ö1, Punkt Eins**, 30.3.2025, Cengiz Günay, "Opposition im Gefängnis"

April

- **SWR**, 2.4.2025, Cengiz Günay, "Der schwierige Partner – Verliert der Westen Erdogans Türkei?",
- **SRF**, 5.4.2025, Cengiz Günay, Interview, "Türkische Opposition kündigt Großdemonstration an"
- **Deutsche Welle,** 9.4.2025, Interview mit Vedran Dzihic, "Die EU in Bosnien: Kallas' Machtwort, Brüssels Schwäche"
- **Republik**, 28.4.2025, Interview mit Vedran Dzihic, "Die Demokratie auf der Strasse retten"

May

- **Frankfurter Rundschau**, 11.5.2025, Interview mit Vedran Dzihic, "Die Proteste könnten diesmal die Demokratie in Serbien erneuern"
- **PodCast, PeaceMatters#31**, 14.5.2025, Cengiz Günay, "Außenpolitik und innenpolitische Macht. Die Türkei heute verstehen"

June

- **PodCast, Care in Action**, 3.6.2025, Cengiz Günay
- **Ö1, Europa Journal**, 13.06.2025, Cengiz Günay, "Eskalation im Nahen Osten, Wie soll die EU reagieren?"
- **Arbeit und Wirtschaft**, 15.6.2026, Interview mit Vedran Dzihic, "Ein Regime am Kippen"
- **Global Panaroma**, 26.06.2025, Zeynep Arkan, The Concept of Middle Power and Türkiye's Foreign Policy
- **Körber Stiftung**, 27.6.2025, Der History & Politics Podcast der Körber-Stiftung mit Vedran Dzihic, "Bosnien-Herzegowina – ein Staat in Zwangsjacke. Geschichte ist Gegenwart!

- **France24, L'ICE,** 29.6.2025, Loïc Simonet, Interview,"Les dessous technologiques de la politique anti-immigration de Donald Trump"
- **Deutschlandfunk**, 30.6.2025, Interview mit Vedran Dzihic, "Massenproteste gegen Präsident Vučić halten an"

July

- **ORF, ZiB 2**, Interview, Cengiz Günay, Tausende Türken demonstrieren gegen Erdogan
- **Tagespost,** 10.07.2025, Cengiz Günay, Interview, "Netanjahu treibt Trump vor sich her"
- **Ö1, Mittagsjournal**, 11.07.2025, Cengiz Günay, Interview, "Politologe Günay zur Waffenniederlegung der PKK"
- **OFFEN Gesagt**, 11.7.2025, Podcast mit Vedran Džihić, Über das Thompson-Konzert,
- **Südosteuropa Gesellschaft**, 14.7.2025, Südostwärts, Podcast mit Vedran Dzihic
- **CARE,** 21.7.2025, Care in Action, Podcast mit Vedran Dzihic
- **Körber Stiftung**, 27.7.2025, Podcast mit Vedran Dzihic Bosnien-Herzegowina – ein Staat in Zwangsjacke
- **Radio Klassik Stephansdom**, 20.7.2025, Vedran Dzihic, Radiointerview, "Lebenswege"

August

- **Der Spiegel**, 29.8.2025, Vedran Dzihic, Interview, "Das Regime treibt seine brutale Politik immer intensiver voran"
- **Der Standard**, 30.8.2025, Vedran Dzihic, Kommentar der anderen, "In Serbien liegt die Hoffnung auf den Schultern der Studierenden"

September

- **DF heute**, 6.9.2025, Vedran Dzihic, Interview, "Proteste gegen Vučić-Regierung:Serbien: "Nervosität im Kern des Regimes"
- **Dnevni Avaz**, 11.9.2025, Vedran Dzihic, Interview, "iz Beča za "Avaz": Rusija se na Balkanu nameće samo onda kad je Zapad slab"
- **Die Presse**, 12.9. 2025, Thomas Eder, Interview, "Wang Yi in Österreich: China sucht Verbündete"
- **Charles F. Kettering Foundation,** 17.9.2025, Ivan Vejvoda, Blog Post, "The Struggle for Freedom Must Continue . . . Even in the Darkest of Times"
- **Ö1 Journal,** 19.9.2025, Thomas Eder, Interview, "Quo vadis China?"
- **ORFIII,** 19.9. 2025, Thomas Eder, Interview, "Militärparade in Beijing"
- **MO Magazin für Menschenrechte**, 25.9.2025, Gastkommentar von Vedran Dzihic, "Wieder neu Autoritarismus. Warum der Osten und Westen Europas im Kampf um Demokratie und Freiheit zusammenfinden müssen.
- **SWR**, 26.9.2025, Podcast mit Vedran Dzihic, "Korruption und Waffenkultur: Was bewirken Serbiens Proteste?"

October

- **Tiroler Tageszeitung**, 27.10.2025, Cengiz Günay, Interview, "Machtkampf um Erdogans Erbe"
- **OFFEN Gesagt**, 29.10.2025, Podcast mit Vedran Dzihic, "Gelingt Serbiens Protestierenden der Regierungssturz?“
- **Die Presse**, **East Side Stories,** 30.10.2025, Vedran Dzihic, "Wie fühlt sich ankommen, Vedran Dzihic?“ Ein Podcast von European Times und Die Presse

November

- **Falter**, 18.11.2025, Vedran Dzihic, Gastkommentar, “30 Jahre Kriegsende in Bosnien: Schmerzhafte Widersprüche und leise Hoffnung“

December

- **Wiener Zeitung**, 13.12.2025, Vedran Dzihic, Interview, “30 Jahre nach Kriegsende: Hoffen auf ein bosnisches Wunder“
- **Die Presse**, 27.12.2025, Thomas Eder, Interview, “Aufstieg zur Weltmacht: Wie China sich und die Welt verändert hat”

Networks

The oiip is an active member of the following research networks:

- Anna Lindh Stiftung (ALF)
- Centre for Applied Turkey Studies (CATS)
- Euro-Mediterranean Study Commission (EuroMESCO)
- International Studies Association (ISA)
- Jean Monnet Network
- OSCE Network of Think Tanks and Academic Institutions
- Österreichische Gesellschaft für Politikwissenschaft (ÖGPW)
- Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN)
- The Balkans in Europe Policy Advisory Group (BiEPAG)
- Trans European Policy Studies Association (TEPSA)

oiip-Membership

The Austrian Institute for International Politics (oiip), established under the Austrian Association Act (VR 611238687), is organized as an association. The institute offers both individual and institutional memberships. Membership not only supports our research objectives, activities, and independent voice, but also contributes to building a broader societal base. Members receive first-hand information, our policy analyses and publications, as well as invitations to events. In addition, membership includes a seat and voting rights at the Annual General Meeting.

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- Become part of the OIIP community
- Be invited to exclusive members-only events

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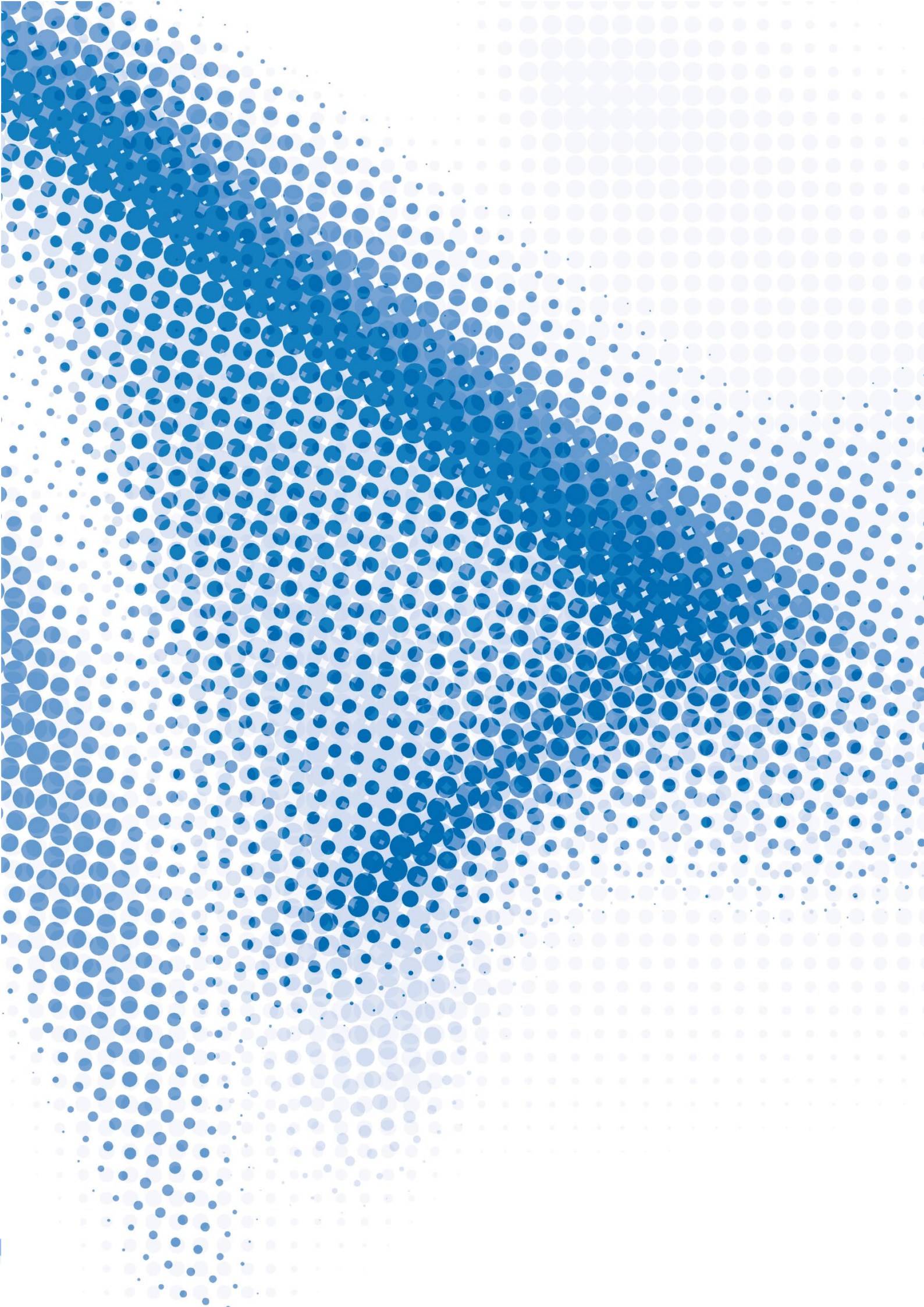
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