

WORKSHOP ON CHALLENGES OF A COMMON SECURITY POLICY IN EURASIA



IPB
International
Peace Bureau



aepf



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Organisational Structure

This event is organised by the International Peace Bureau (IPB) and the Asian European Peoples Forum (AEPF).



The International Peace Bureau is dedicated to the vision of a World Without War. Our current main programme centres on Disarmament for Sustainable Development and within this, our focus is mainly on the reallocation of military expenditure. We believe that by reducing funding for the military sector, significant amounts of money could be released for social projects, domestically or abroad, which could lead to the fulfillment of real human needs and the protection of the environment. At the same time, we support a range of disarmament campaigns and supply data on the economic dimensions of weapons and conflicts. Our campaigning work on nuclear disarmament began already in the 1980s.

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The Asia Europe People's Forum (AEPF) is an interregional network of progressive civil society organisations from across Asia and Europe. Since 1996, the AEPF has consistently been a network linking Asian and European NGOs and social movements. It is committed to fostering people's solidarity for a socially and economically just, inclusive, peaceful, sustainable and ecologically sensitive development, within and across the two regions. The AEPF's vision and practice are to advance people's voices and visions within Asia-Europe relations.

<https://aepf.info/>

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The goals of the **European Union** are to promote peace, its values and the well-being of its citizens, offer freedom, security and justice without internal borders, sustainable development based on balanced economic growth and price stability, a highly competitive market economy with full employment and social progress, and environmental protection, combat social exclusion and discrimination, promote scientific and technological progress, enhance economic, social and territorial cohesion and solidarity among EU countries, respect its rich cultural and linguistic diversity.

https://europa.eu/european-union/index_en



The **Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung** is one of the six major political foundations in the Federal Republic of Germany, tasked primarily with conducting political education both at home and abroad. The Stiftung is closely linked to Die Linke, the German Left Party. Since its founding in 1990, the Stiftung's work has adhered to the legacy of its namesake, German socialist leader Rosa Luxemburg, and seeks to represent democratic socialism with an unwavering internationalist focus. The Stiftung is committed to a radical perspective emphasizing public awareness, enlightenment and social critique. It stands in the tradition of the workers' and women's movements, as well as anti-fascism and anti-racism.

<https://www.rosalux.de/en/>



The "**Stiftung Asienhaus**" is an organisation that contributes to the realisation and adherence of Human Rights, the strengthening of civil and political participation, as well as protection of the environment. This organisation calls upon the political and economic stakeholders to engage in this process. The goals of this organisation to minimize the gap between rich and poor, work for more equal living standards and the protection of natural resources. The Stiftung Asienhaus fosters relations between between German and European civil society networks as well as European and Asian networks.

<https://www.asienhaus.de/>

The **International Eurasia Press Fund (IEPF)** is an independent non-governmental organization established in 1992 under the logo "Peace at Home, Peace in the Country, Peace in the World" and with the long term objective to support global peacemaking in which part of the world where there is a conflict; assist in providing objective firsthand information to the globe and to promote sustainable development. Since the establishment, the IEPF has been recalling the purposes and principles of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace and international understanding.



<http://iepf-ngo.org/en>

Introduction & Context

The "Peace and Security" Circle of the Asia- Europe People Forum (AEPF) is a critical part of the Forum that collectively understands, analyses, interprets and formulates alternative responses and actions on issues of peace, security, conflicts, threats and opportunities in Asia and Europe as envisioned by the people's movements of this region.

Since 2016, the world has experienced major events which are likely to greatly affect the world's order as well as peace and security. These events include: Brexit; Trump becoming the US President; the rise of aggressive xenophobic leaderships in many countries that advocate and overlook violence in order to endorse their agendas; wars, conflicts and tension in regions as diverse as Ukraine, Libya, Syria, Palestine, the Korean Peninsula, South China Sea/West Philippine Sea/East Sea; the non-Resolution of many low intensity and frozen conflicts and the potential rise of ethnic and identity conflicts; etc. Besides, increasing military spending, foreign military bases, terrorism, internal conflicts, territorial disputes, militarization and the nuclear arms race, neo-racism, refugee crisis, oppression of minorities and xenophobic nationalism have been threatening people's lives and peace and security.

A policy of confrontation, especially between NATO and Russia has increasingly prevailed in Europe. The nuclear weapons of all nations are being modernized.

On the other hand we can also observe positive steps towards peace, such as the incidents on the Korean Peninsula both between the US and North Korea as well as between both Korean nations.

But we should not forget: the continuous force and spread of the terror group calling itself the Islamic State (IS) and other terrorist movements have used violence as a way of threatening the world's security.

In such a context, the Peace and Security Circle of the AEPF plans to coordinate with peace movements and people's organizations; research and scholars in academic communities and institutions in Asia and Europe to organize various activities/ campaigns to create effective synergies in the struggle for peace and to find the better way to respond. The emergence of social movements that seek to find alternative solutions to recurring as well as new problems should be encouraged.

Currently, Southeast Asia faces continued difficulties in peace and human security in the effort of the world's super powers to maintain economic and political hegemony over our countries.



Challenges: Reimagining a Common Security

New alternatives for a common security policy and –architecture in Europe and Asia are urgently needed. Those alternatives should take into account the positive experiences of the policy of détente from the 1970s and 80s. A Common Security Policy (also known as Collective Security Policy) should serve as the basis of this new security architecture.

The term originates from the title of the Palme-report “Common Security: A Blueprint for Survival“, which was the conclusion of the Independent Commission on Disarmament and Security Issues (“Palme Commission”, 1980-1982) presided by Sweden’s Prime Minister Olof Palme.

The key message of the study reads: “In the present time security cannot be achieved one-sided. We live in a world, which economic, political, cultural and in particular military structures are increasingly dependent of each other. The public safety of a nation cannot be bought at the expense of other nations.”

This security philosophy developed by Willi Brandt, Bruno Kreisky, Olaf Palme and others US based upon the principle: the security of a state can only be guaranteed if the security of the other (the opponent) is guaranteed as well. The key principles that define this term of common security are “interdependence”, “joint responsibility” and “security for” instead of “security against.”

Objectives

- To analyze the current situation in the two continents and its impact on peace and security, as well as people’s lives.
- To analyze the current security situation in Asia and Europe and draw conclusions for a new security architecture.
- To develop items of a security architecture based upon the concept of a Common Security Policy.
- To address inhibiting as well as stimulating factors of the concept.
- To name actors and implementation strategies for a Eurasian Common Security concept.



Programme - First Day - September 23rd

Core Components of a New Security Architecture

10:00 - 14:00: Introductory Speeches

Opening and Moderation by Lisa Clark (IPB, Italy) and Dong Huy Cuong (Peace and Development Foundation/AEPF, Vietnam)

Formal welcome: Introduction of AEPF, IPB, and the thematic cluster of Peace & Security; Background and Rationale of this workshop on Common Security

1) What are the basic elements of a Common Security Policy?

by Joseph Gerson (IPB, Campaign for Peace, Disarmament & Common Security, USA); Ingar Solty (Speaker Peace & Security Policy, Rosa-Luxemburg Stiftung, Germany); Anuradha Chenoy (Jawaharlal University, India)

2) How is the current security situation in Europe?

by Claudia Haydt (Board of the European Left, Germany) and Jordi Calvo (GCOMS, Spain)

3) How is the current Security Situation in Asia?

by Walden Bello (Focus on the Global South and Senior research fellow for Southeast Asian Studies of Kyoto University, Japan)

4) What are the current mechanisms to deal with peace and security?

by Mark Christopher Batac (Global Partnership for the prevention of Armed Conflict)

14:00 - 15:00: Lunch break



Programme - First Day - September 23rd

15:00 - 18:00: Is the Common Security Policy a realistic/useful basis for the security architecture in Eurasia?

Commentaries from different continents:

Europe: Claudia Haydt, Erhard Crome (WeltTrends Institute for International Politics, Germany), Tom Unterrainer (Russell Peace Foundation & CND, Great Britain) Jenny Cegg (CND Great Britain) Jordi Calvo (Justicia i Pau, Spain)

Asia: Moon Ah-Young (Peace Educ. Policy, Peace MOMO, Korea); Suvrat Raju (Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament & Peace, India); Yayoi Tsuchida (Japan Council Against Atomic & Hydrogen Bombs, Japan); Rabindra Adhikari (Nepal Peace & Security Council, Nepal); Ke Jung (Indigenous Peoples Partnership, Myanmar)

Central-Asia: Eldor Aripov (Director of the Institute for Strategic and Interregional Studies under the President, Uzbekistan) Marc Batac (Global Campaign for the Prevention of Armed Conflict and IID, Philippines) Salman Akran Raja (Pakistan Peoples' Party, and Pakistan India Forum for Peace and Democracy, Pakistan) Kamal Chenoy (India) Anastasia Lavrina (International Eurasia Press Fund, Azerbaijan), (TBC, Kazakhstan)

USA: Joseph Gerson

18:00 - 18:30: Break

18:30 - 20:00: Discussion

Policy of Détente: 1970s, 80s & today

Moderation: Amela Skiljan (IPB, Germany)

Discussion with Wolfgang Gehrcke (Former MP die Linke, Germany)

20:00 onwards

Dinner on a boat & evening programme



Programme - Second Day - September, 24th

How do we achieve a Eurasian Common Security Policy?

Facilitator: Theresa Kresse (IPB, Germany)

10:00 - 12:00: Introduction - What could be the core components of a common security policy for Eurasia?

Asian perspective: Lee Junkyu (Center for Peace Research, Korea); Au Loong (Borderless HK, China) & Suzuyo Takazato (All Okinawa Coalition to Prevent Construction of a New Base in Henoko, Japan)

European perspective: Reiner Braun (IPB, Germany)

US perspective: Joseph Gerson

12:00 - 13:00: Break

13:00 - 14:45 Continuation of commentaries from different countries

14:45 - 15:35 Working Group Session - Question/issues to be discussed in 3 separate groups:

1. What could be the core components of a Common Security Policy for Eurasia?
 2. How does the process toward achieving a Common Security Policy look like?
 3. What is the role and responsibility of big and small countries?
 4. Implementation and reaching of agreements
 5. Developing Conflict Solutions - Case Studies (Conflict India/Pakistan and China/Vietnam)
- Report back of working group sessions (one facilitator and moderator per group)

16:00 - 18:00: Panel Discussion

How does the process towards achieving a Common Security Policy look like? Next steps and controversies

Europe: Kathrin Vogler (MP die Linke, Germany), Joseph Gerson, Michael Müller (Former state secretary of the ministry of environment, SPD, Germany), Jenny Clegg (CND, UK) & Roland Kulke (Transform! Europe, Belgium)

Asia: Anuradha Chenoy, Au Loong & Cristine Ebro (AEPF, Philippines)

Implementation and reaching of agreements

Corazon Fabrios (AEPF, IPB, Philippines), Reiner Braun & Dong Huy Cung

18:00 onwards: Dinner and evening program

