

# CIS News

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CIS News



## Editorial



**T**he Center for International Studies (CIS) Zurich was founded in 1997 to join into a common unit the chairs of international relations, security policy, and conflict research of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology and the University of Zurich. The five participating professors – Thomas Bernauer, Jürg M. Gabriel, Dieter Ruloff, Andreas Wenger and myself – set our goals as coordination and mutual support within the areas of research, teaching, and public relations work. It is also our aim to raise consciousness of the necessity for informed cooperation with other countries, both in students at the universities and in the wider Swiss community.

Now, three years later and with a staff of almost ninety, the center has become one of the largest in Switzerland. Through its many research projects and activities, the center is firmly embedded within the international network of research institutions. We are determined to continue to promote openness and the spread of information. This new CIS newsletter is one of the products of our efforts in that direction. Twice a year the newsletter will inform you about ongoing research projects, teaching efforts, services, and events at the CIS. We would be pleased to receive feedback that would help us to develop the newsletter further.

Prof. Kurt R. Spillmann

## Computer Assisted Learning at the Center for International Studies (CIS) Zurich

**The requirements for higher education have shifted in the last few years towards support of continuing education activities. Due to ever-new technologies, frequently refocused policies, and a rapidly developing world economy, basic education is being concentrated, while further education is becoming more and more important. In Switzerland cooperation between universities is steadily growing and – with the establishment of a Virtual Campus Switzerland – higher education is becoming more flexible and more accessible. At the Center for Security Studies and Conflict Research, a member of the CIS, these reforms are actively supported.**

**S**ince 1998, the Center for Security Studies and Conflict Research has been developing distance education programs in the social sciences within the framework of its International Relations and Security Network (ISN) (see separate text box on page 4). Luzius Meyer, Education Modules Developer, explains the concept as follows: «We aim to meet the new requirements by constantly improving the quality and the variety of our courses and by facilitating access to our educational services. We believe that to make students fit for their professional lives means to educate and to train them in environments similar to the ones they will encounter in the future. Our goal is to create learning environments that allow independent learners and problem solvers to develop broad abilities and high social competence.»

New information technologies are a great aid to achieving these goals. Information

technology will accompany the graduates throughout their careers, and they need to acquire technological competence during their studies. But information technology also helps to broaden communication among teachers and students and among students themselves. This makes learning more effective and increases the social competence of the students. Finally, information technology is becoming increasingly important both in security politics and in academic security studies.

For these reasons the center has made the development of computer-assisted teaching and learning a priority. Its integration into the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) and its international connections have allowed the center to play a pioneering role in the field of computer-assisted teaching of the social sciences.

«Sicherheit wagen» – «A venture into security» is the first interactive learning program published by the center.

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## Regionalization – A New Challenge to Russia

The military campaign against secessionist Chechnya is a clear indication that Russia is ready to use any means to protect its territorial integrity and to work against further disintegration of the once almighty state. Since the dissolution of the Soviet Union in 1991, Russia has experienced a decline of its state structures. At the same time, there has been consolidation of political, economic, and judicial structures in most of Russia's 89 federal subjects. The problem of regionalization, the shifting of power from the center to the regions, is one of the most crucial challenges to the new Russia.

The international dimension of Russia's regionalization is the main concern of the project «Regionalization of Russian Foreign and Security Policy: Interaction between Regional Processes and Central State Concerns». As well as «national» interests, the Russian state must now also consider the interests of «sub-national» actors, such as economic groups or economically influential regions of the Russian Federation. Not only Russia's internal stability, but also its performance in international relations will depend largely on the impact of interests pursued by important domestic actors – including Russian regions.

**Despite the shift of power in Russia from the center to the periphery, most specialists remain fairly traditional in their analysis of Russian foreign and security policy.**

The project is being carried out by members of the Russian study group at the Center for Security Policy and Conflict Research led by Prof. Andreas Wenger. Jeronim Perovic (coordinator), Dr. Andrei Makarychev, and Oleg Alexandrov are at



*The Russian study group at the CIS from left: Prof. Andreas Wenger, Dr. Andrei Makarychev, Jeronim Perovic. (Missing on the photo: Oleg Alexandrov)*

work on the project, which was begun in October 1999. The research is being conducted in close cooperation with research institutions and organizations in Russia and several Western countries.

The object of the study, the analysis of regional dimensions of Russian foreign and security policy, is a topic that has not yet been investigated systematically. Despite the shift of power in Russia from the center to the periphery, most specialists remain fairly traditional in their analysis of Russian foreign and security policy. They tend to focus on a narrow circle of foreign policy actors and look almost exclusively at questions of «high» politics, leaving out the important role of sub-national factors.

This project aims at determining whether and how the Russian central state understands the specific interests of Russian regions and the extent to which regional processes have an impact on Moscow's formulation of foreign and security policy. Therefore, the main task of this project is to establish interest profiles of selected Russian regions. This will allow a more

thorough examination of the interaction between the elite of selected Russian regions that have a relatively high international profile (such as Tatarstan, Kareliya, St. Petersburg, Nizhny Novgorod, Tyumen, Sverdlovsk, etc.) and central state organs in regard to matters of foreign and security policy. For this purpose, extended field research in Russian regions is envisaged.

Expected results of this project will contribute to a deeper understanding of possible implications of regionalization, not only for Russian foreign policy, but also for Europe's security concerns as a whole. ■

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# Trade Liberalization versus Protection of Consumers and the Environment? A CIS Workshop

**Proponents of free trade and proponents of environmental and consumer protection are often at loggerheads. The WTO's meeting in Seattle in December 1999 showed once again how acrimonious such conflicts can be. The events in Seattle, the transatlantic trade conflict over bovine growth hormones, the EU's problems with mad cow disease, fights over food containing genetically modified organisms, and other developments have also demonstrated that such conflicts can paralyze the global trading system. To assess the interactions between these policy-domains, and to explore ways and means of reconciling free trade and environmental or public health objectives, the CIS organized a workshop in December 1999 that brought together a small group of experts on the subject.**

**M**any environmental and consumer groups argue that the liberalization of international trade inflicts damage on the environment and on public health. In the worst case, it leads to inter-jurisdictional competition in regulatory laxity and a «race to the bottom». Orthodox free traders, in contrast, claim that trade promotes the protection of consumers and nature. Trade increases welfare, and wealthier people demand more environmental and consumer protection. In December 1999, Prof. Thomas Bernauer and Prof. Dieter Ruloff organized a CIS workshop on the question of whether and under which conditions a synergetic relationship between free trade and free finance on the one hand and protection of consumers and the environment on the other hand is possible.

The discussion was launched with presentations by Dieter Ruloff (CIS), Thomas Bernauer (CIS), Manfred Elsig (CIS), Andreas Ziegler (State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, Bern), Matthias Buck (Ecologic, Berlin), and Dirk Lehmkuhl (Max Planck Project Group on the Study of Common Goods, Bonn). Dieter Ruloff identified

trade-environment/public health disputes as part of a broader problem – that of making regulations in various international policy-domains compatible. Thomas Bernauer outlined what is known about physical and regulatory effects of free trade and free finance on environmental and consumer protection, and vice-versa, and where the (many) open theoretical and empirical questions lie. Manfred Elsig then reported on observations he had made at the WTO's Seattle meeting. Andreas Ziegler and Dirk Lehmkuhl explored the lessons learned from what is the most complex policy experiment worldwide in reconciling free trade and environmental/consumer objectives: the European Union's internal market and environmental/consumer policies. Matthias Buck then examined the effects of international free trade regimes on efforts to negotiate and implement international environmental regulations.

The ensuing, lively discussion benefited greatly from the participation of other external guests, including Prof. Urs Luterbacher (Graduate Institute for International Studies, Geneva), Manuela Jost (Swiss Agency for the Environment, Bern), Eva Zbinden (Swiss Federal Office of Public Health, Bern), Prof. Astrid Epiney (University of Fribourg), Sibylle Grosjean (Greenpeace), and other participants from the ETH and the University of Zurich.

Most participants agreed that free trade and free finance affect environmental and consumer protection policy in more complicated ways than orthodox economic theories on the one hand and the more radical environmental and consumer groups on the other hand suggest. Although global and regional market forces occasionally constrain national and international policy making and exert pressure on natural resources, they have only rarely led to a significant erosion of environmental and consumer standards in open economies. Under the specific circumstances that were debat-



Thomas Bernauer and Dieter Ruloff (eds.), *Handel und Umwelt: Zur Frage der Kompatibilität Internationaler Regime* (Trade and the environment: On questions of the compatibility of international regimes). Opladen: Westdeutscher Verlag, 1999, ISBN 3-531-13109-5 (in German)

ed by the participants in the CIS workshop, free trade and free finance may even have positive effects on efforts to achieve a more sustainable development of nations. These positive effects are by no means direct and automatic, but are shaped very much by policy choices, institutional structures, political systems, market structures, and other factors. The events in Seattle and a number of important international trade disputes suggest, moreover, that national and cross-national diversity of environmental and consumer regulations is, in many cases, surprisingly strong and persistent and generates serious tensions between different societal groups within and across countries, as well as between states.

Researchers at the CIS started to explore questions on trade liberalization and environmental/consumer protection in 1994. In 1999, Thomas Bernauer and Dieter Ruloff, in collaboration with Andreas Ziegler and Richard Senti, published a book on trade and the environment (see above). At present, a research group at the CIS, including Thomas Bernauer, Ladina Caduff, and Erika Meins, is collaborating with other researchers at the ETH as well as research groups at MIT and the University of Tokyo. They are working on a larger project that explains cross-national diversity in environmental and public health regulations and the impact of such differences on global and regional trading systems (see <http://www.ib.ethz.ch/research/projects.htm>). ■

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## «Sicherheit wagen» – an Interactive Multi-media Program about the History of Swiss security Policy

«Sicherheit wagen» is a high quality interactive learning program that introduces newcomers to Swiss security policy to the theoretical background of security studies and to the main phases of Swiss security policy since 1945, its actors, and the aims and means of the official policy. The program provides a wide range of source material on the subject, including documents, radio and television broadcasts, and movies.

The program consists of three main sections that represent three different ways of guiding the student through the history and historical sources. The «Café des Alpes» is a place where students can beam into four different time periods and find newspaper articles, cartoons, radio and TV broadcastings, and a photo gallery. This is an exploratory approach to the source material. A search for specific topics and a wider range of documents, including the written descriptions of events and developments, starts in the «Archive», a section intended as a basis for individual work. The didactic backbone of the program can be found in the «Academy». This is a step by step introduction to the topic, a place where

students will have to answer questions or state their opinion – and where they will get individual feedback.

Additional features include a learning control in the form of summaries that the students must collect, a notepad for making notes, and a 'print' button that facilitates reading of the many written pages included in the program. All these features are designed to produce a long and exciting journey through 50 years of Swiss defense policy during the Cold War and the first steps towards a cooperative security policy in the post-Cold War era.

At the Swiss Military College, this learning program is part of the curriculum. «Sicherheit wagen» is designed to refocus teaching towards a process in which students take charge of their learning, in which the teacher moves from being the «sage on the stage» to the «guide at one's side». In the final instance, graduates can use the program as professionals in teaching their own courses.

The full version of the program will be available in the winter semester of 2000/2001. The program will be part of a virtual classroom that will be established in the fall of 2000. It will also serve as a companion piece to Prof. Andreas Wenger's

«Sicherheit wagen» –  
A venture into  
security –  
the first interac-  
tive CD-ROM  
on the history  
of Swiss  
security policy



lectures on «Sicherheitspolitik I: Allgemeine Grundlagen und Übersicht über die schweizerische Sicherheitspolitik seit dem Zweiten Weltkrieg» (Security policy I: General bases and overview of Swiss security policy since the Second World War). Additional programs are in planning, such as «An Introduction to the History of International Relations» and «A Parallel History of the Warsaw Pact and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization», based on the latest documents available from the archives of NATO and WAPA states. ■

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## International Relations and Security Network (ISN)

<http://www.isn.ethz.ch>

The International Relations and Security Network is an initiative to foster dialogue on security issues in Europe. The ISN is coordinated and developed by the Center for Security Studies and Conflict Research. It is supported by the Swiss Government as part of its contribution to NATO's Partnership for Peace (PfP). In cooperation with its over 40 official partner institutes, the ISN connects representatives from governmental, academic, military, press and non-governmental bodies through a number of Internet and other services.

**Information Brokering:** Provision of reference services on institutions, projects, conferences, as well as retrieval of single documents. Soon to include current world affairs with a short daily comment.

**Educational Modules:** Production, cataloguing and dissemination of distance learning modules and provision of accompanying support (virtual classrooms, tutoring). The ISN is a leading partner in the Advanced Distributed Learning (ADL) initiative in the framework of the PfP.

**Networking Facilitation:** Organization of conferences and seminars and maintenance of tools and services for a continuous discussion over the Internet.

**Publishing House:** The ISN publishes periodicals on current events, documents from archives and other official sources, and proceedings from academic and PfP conferences.

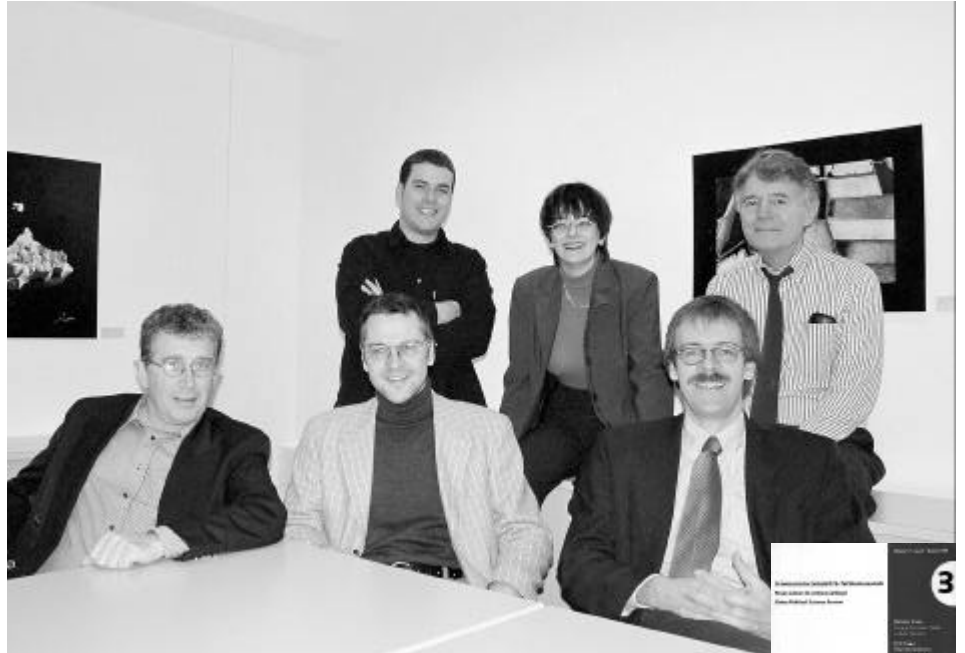
## Researchers at the CIS Edit the Swiss Political Science Review

The Swiss Political Science Review (SPSR) provides a forum for analysis and discussion of Swiss and international politics. The review is published three to four times a year and contains articles, research notes, debates, and book reviews addressing primarily the scientific public. First published in 1995, the journal's editing responsibility has been in the hands of the Center for International Studies (CIS) since October 1998.

The review is the first and only specialized political science journal in Switzerland that takes a comprehensive look at Swiss and international politics. It is committed to substantive, methodological, and theoretical diversity, including contributions from related disciplines that help to enrich thinking in political science. International and pluralistic in its outlook, the SPSR is by no means limited to contributions on Switzerland or by Swiss authors. Since the publication is tri-lingual, it has the unique capability of drawing the attention of German, French, and English speaking political scientists to contributions in languages other than their own.

In 1998, the board of the Swiss Political Science Association appointed CIS Professor Thomas Bernauer as the review's editor-in-chief. The new editorial team includes Professors Jürg Martin Gabriel and Dieter Ruloff as co-editors, Marc Holitscher as editorial assistant, Roger Pfister as production manager, and Ingrid Kissling-Näf (Professor of Resource Economics at the ETH), Georg Kohler (Professor of Political Philosophy at the University of Zurich), and Andreas Wenger (Professor of Swiss and International Security Policy at the ETH).

Each issue of the review contains articles, research notes, debates, and book reviews. Articles consist of longer texts that contribute substantially to scientific knowledge



The new editorial team of the SPSR (from left): Prof. Dieter Ruloff, Prof. Thomas Bernauer, Marc Holitscher, Prof. Ingrid Kissling-Näf, Prof. Andreas Wenger, Prof. Jürg M. Gabriel. (Missing on the photo: Prof. Georg Kohler and Roger Pfister)

on domestic politics, comparative politics, international relations, political economy, or political theory or philosophy. Research notes provide summaries of ongoing research and preliminary research results. The main objective of the book review section is to direct attention to new books published by political scientists in

**International and pluralistic in its outlook, the SPSR is by no means limited to contributions on Switzerland or by Swiss authors.**

Switzerland. Debates are usually organized by a member of the SPSR Editorial Committee and focus on current issues such as governance of the Internet, globalization, quotas of women in politics, reform of the Swiss political system, or consumer safety in open economies. They provide a forum for experts to present

their often different or even contradicting points of view in a way that is attractive and intelligible not only to political scientists but also to a broader public.

All contributions to the review are selected on the basis of excellence. Articles and research notes are subject to an anonymous peer-review procedure that follows transparent guidelines. Contributions must propose a new theoretical argument, suggest a new empirical interpretation of established theory, submit empirical results of general interest, or contain a high-level critique of the work of others. Final decisions on the publication of contributions and the journal's content lie in the hands of the editorial staff. ■

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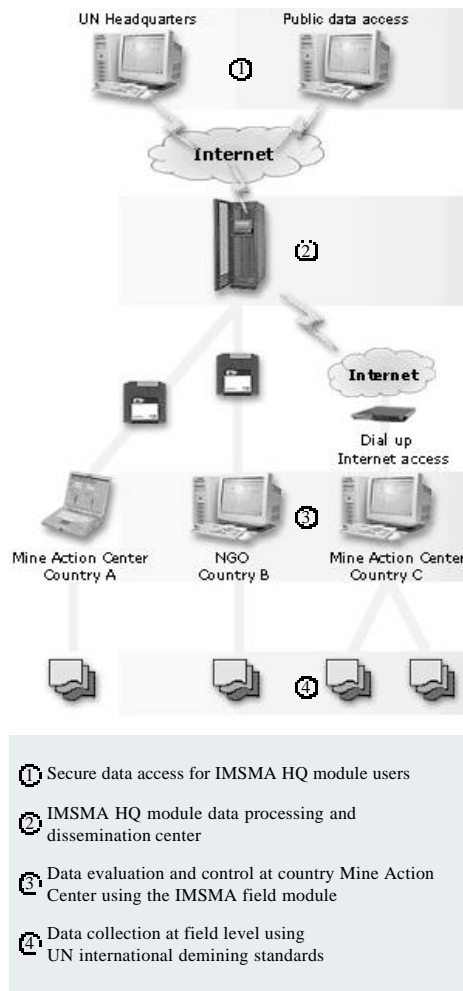
# IMSMA – UN Standard in Humanitarian Demining



As the international community continues to increase its efforts to counter the worldwide landmine problem, there is a vital need to communicate information concerning the location, characteristics, and hazards of mines or unexploded ordnance. The Center for Security Studies and Conflict Research at the CIS has developed the Information Management System for Mine Action (IMSMA), which has become the UN-approved international standard for humanitarian demining. First tested in Somalia and Kenya, the system was used successfully in 1999 to coordinate mine action efforts in Kosovo.

IMSMA is an information management system that improves capabilities for decision-making, coordination, and information policy related to mine action. Developed for the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS), it is part of Switzerland's efforts to support and strengthen humanitarian demining. IMSMA is a joint project of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) and the Center for Security Studies and Conflict Research. The latter is responsible for the technical development of the system and for researching and identifying the data that is collected and evaluated.

The lack of an international data standard for humanitarian demining has so far made it difficult to plan and coordinate international efforts in humanitarian demining and to develop coherent mine action strategies. In January 1999, the UN approved



IMSMA as the new international standard for humanitarian demining, thus enabling comprehensive collection and evaluation of data at both the multinational and multi-organizational levels. Standardization facilitates the exchange of information and improves the safety of deminers and the affected population. Using IMSMA allows for an improved allocation of resources and personnel for mine action on a worldwide level and saves time and costs due to the already developed data-

base and comprehensive information on the progress of demining activities.

Set up as a networked multi-user system, IMSMA enables several organizations to enter and evaluate their data simultaneously. The system consists of two modules, as information management capability in mine action is needed at two different levels: data is collected at the Mine Action Centers (MAC) and entered into the field module. In addition to the local data managing capabilities that the module provides to the UN Mine Action Coordination Cell (MACC), data is transferred to the headquarter module, where consolidation and analysis at strategic level are performed. The results of data managing at the headquarter level can be transferred back to the field for guidance purposes. Moreover, UN institutions, organizations involved in mine action, donors, governments, and other interested organizations and individuals can access the results.

The IMSMA development team set up the information management system in Pristina (Kosovo) in June 1999. Since then, the system has been used by the UN, the NATO Kosovo Force (KFOR), and 17 mine clearance organizations. It has helped to improve the security of the civilian population and of international personnel working in the region. In addition, the system enables the MACC to plan and evaluate humanitarian demining effectively. Beyond Kosovo, IMSMA is being used in Yemen, Chad, Mozambique, and Azerbaijan. The UN has defined a list of 22 additional countries that are to receive the system. ■

## Calendar

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- **Europa Forum** March 27-28, 2000, Lucerne/Switzerland
- **Hannah Arendt Tage Zurich 2000** April 14-16, 2000, Zurich/Switzerland
- **3rd Partnership for Peace Consortium** June 19-21, 2000, Talinn/Estonia
- **New Faces Conference 2000** October 12-15, 2000, Chexbres/Switzerland
- **4th International Security Forum** November 15-17, 2000, Geneva/Switzerland

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or visit the IMSMA web site: <http://www.imsma.ethz.ch>

# Recent CIS Publications

**Thomas Bernauer, Staaten im Weltmarkt (States in world markets)**

Opladen: Leske + Budrich, 2000, ISBN 3-8100-2498-8 (in German)

Based on theoretical arguments and empirical research, the author shows that, contrary to a widespread belief, the dynamics of world markets rarely undermine government policies. Economic globalization has, in some cases, even contributed to more government intervention. Statistical analyses of the public sector, as well as case studies on international banking, transnational corporations, and tax harmonization in the European Union, show that even in policy areas characterized by high capital mobility, states are able to reorganize their control over economic activities.

**Thomas Bernauer, Dieter Ruloff (eds.), The Politics of Positive Incentives in Arms Control**

Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1999, ISBN 1-57003-301-3

Politics of Positive Incentives in Arms Control raises the question of whether it is sensible to «buy» cooperation from critical states and examines some recent cases of nuclear non-proliferation diplomacy. In exploring the conditions under which positive incentives are effective and efficient, the editors and four other contributors draw on a wide range of social science theories and empirical research. Arms control issues still rank high on the international agenda, and this volume shows that positive incentives can contribute to the resolution of global governance problems and, under specific conditions, are indeed superior to threats and sanctions.

**Karl W. Haltiner, Kurt R. Spillmann, Andreas Wenger, Sicherheit 1999 (Security 1999)**

Zurich: Center for Security Studies and Conflict Research and the Swiss Military College ETH, 1999, ISBN 3-905641-66-6 (in German)

The annual «Sicherheit» studies tap long-range trends and tendencies in Swiss opinion formation regarding security and defense policies. They are based on representative surveys of Swiss voters conducted yearly or every two years. «Sicherheit 99» presents the current trend of opinions on neutrality or openness of foreign and security policy against the background of significant events of 1999, such as the Kosovo War and the conclusion of Swiss bilateral contracts with the European Union.

**Sandra Lavenex, Safe Third Countries: Extending the EU Asylum and Immigration Policies to Central and Eastern Europe**

Budapest and New York: Central European University Press, 1999, ISBN 963-9116-44-0

This book analyzes the bilateral and multilateral processes by which EU asylum and immigration policies are gradually incorporating the Central and Eastern European Countries (CEEC). The extension of Western European asylum and immigration policies has evolved from a purely inter-governmental field of cooperation to become an issue of priority in the politics of EU enlargement. This book highlights the tension between inter-governmentalism and supra-national politics, realism and liberalism in the definition and transmission of the EU *acquis* and analyzes the effects of this tension on domestic policies in the CEEC, enlargement politics, and the broader prospects of European integration.

**Thomas Bernauer, Dieter Ruloff (eds.), Globaler Wandel und schweizerische Aussenpolitik (Global change and Swiss foreign policy)**

Zurich: Verlag Rüegger, 1999, ISBN 3-7253-0657-5 (in German)

Radical changes in world politics from 1985 to 1995 posed new challenges to Swiss foreign policy. Using case studies, this book analyzes the reactions of foreign policy actors in Switzerland to these challenges and the problems that resulted. The focus is on the reunification of Germany, the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the Gulf War, and the negotiation of the European Economic Area (EEA) Agreement. The analysis yields recommendations for reforms with regard to information exchange and to strengthening the strategic planning level.

**Kurt R. Spillmann, Joachim Krause (eds.), International Security Challenges in a Changing World**

Bern: Peter Lang, 1999, ISBN 3-906763-68-4

In the past decade, the nature of world affairs has undergone significant changes unparalleled since the end of World War II. The old order of the East-West conflict has not been superseded by a new «World Order». Against this backdrop, this book analyzes the future of strategic studies and examines the possibilities of enlarging Western cooperative structures, regional security problems and dynamics, new challenges to security, and future instruments and dimensions of security policy. Contributions by young and promising scholars provide a good overview of contemporary challenges in the field of security and defense issues and utilize highly illustrative examples to map future aims of strategic studies.

**Kurt R. Spillmann, Andreas Wenger (eds.), Towards the 21st Century: Trends in Post-Cold War International Security Policy**

Bern: Peter Lang, 1999, ISBN 3-906764-31-1

To examine the issue of international security after the end of the Cold War, this book looks at key changes and analyzes the main problems and issues today, and comes up with trends that are likely to shape international security policy in the future. In a first part, three leading research institutes offer their views on the development of post-Cold War international security. In the second part, renowned international experts present case studies that focus on future challenges to European and American security policy. The book concludes with a comparative analysis by the editors that identifies security trends and issues whose resolution will be decisive for the development of international security in the 21st century.

**Kurt R. Spillmann, Andreas Wenger, Stephan Libiszewski, Patrik Schedler, Informationsgesellschaft und schweizerische Sicherheitspolitik (Information society and Swiss security policy)**

Zurich: Center for Security Studies and Conflict Research, 1999, ISBN 3-905641-64-X (in German)

The authors throw light on a perspective hardly considered in international debate – the connection between the information society and Swiss security policy. If information is perceived as a strategic power resource, new chances arise for the developed small state to uphold its interests and to participate in the stabilization of the Euro-Atlantic area. Under consideration of the fact that Switzerland occupies a favorable starting position, the study focuses on the political challenges of new information and communication technologies. The authors derive concrete suggestions for reforming present organization structures and sketch out support measures for a fully developed Swiss foreign and security policy.

**Kurt R. Spillmann, Andreas Wenger, Derek Müller (eds.), Between Russia and the West: Foreign and Security Policy of Independent Ukraine**

Bern: Peter Lang, 1999, ISBN 3-906763-82-X

This book addresses the achievements, challenges, and problems of the Ukraine's foreign and security policy since 1990/91. The discussion centers on the often problematic, but presently stable, bilateral relations with Russia and on the Ukraine's policies aimed at enhancing its position in the Central Eastern European region and integrating it into Western and Euro-Atlantic structures. The book contains contributions by well known foreign and security policy analysts from independent Ukraine, Russia, and the West, and the editors concluding remarks.

# About the CIS

The Center for International Studies (CIS) Zurich was set up jointly by the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) and the University of Zurich. It is the largest center of its kind in German-speaking Switzerland, integrating chairs in international relations, security studies, and conflict research. With the founding of the CIS, its members pooled their resources in order to intensify cooperation in research and teaching and to promote public information in their fields.

Formally established in 1997 and located in downtown Zurich, the CIS consists of four basic units with a staff of almost 90. Members of the CIS are the Center for Security Studies and Conflict Research (ETH) directed by Prof. Kurt R. Spillmann and Prof. Andreas Wenger, two chairs of International Relations at the ETH, Prof. Thomas Bernauer and Prof. Jürg M. Gabriel, and one chair of International Relations at the University of Zurich, Prof. Dieter Ruloff.

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