

News of the Master of Arts in Political Science program

The MA program in Politics and Security resumed its academic program on 10 January 2011 and welcomed four new Teaching and Research Fellows – Mr. Payam Foroughi, Ms. Kristin Fjastad, Mr. Afiz Aliyev and Mr. Przemyslaw Ozierski, who are currently teaching the following elective courses respectively: Cases in IR, Comparative Politics, Political Economy and Foreign Policy Analysis.

This semester, the MA program curriculum offers nine modular courses, three of which have already been organized. From 10-14 January 2011, Dr. Indra Overland from NUPI organized a five day module: “Energy



Politics”. This was followed (from 31 January to 11 February, 2011) by another popular module “Sustainable Development”, which was organized by Mr. Jonathon Hornbrook, Program Manager of the GTZ in Bishkek. Within the framework of this 10-day module, Mr. Hornbrook traditionally invites professionals and experts from various international organizations and donor community in Central Asia. This year, among the invited experts were Mr. Kurt Wagner, Ms. Rainer Schliwa, and Mr. Volker Frobarth from GTZ, Mr. David Gullette from UCA, Mr. Mike Latham and Mr. Andrew Segars from the US Embassy and Ms. Katrin Bauch from the German Embassy.

From 28 February to 4 March, 2011, Mr. Dmitry Shevkun, Chief of Party of the IFES, Bishkek, organized module: “Elections and Electoral Systems”. This module covered both lectures and interactive exercises, such as simulative election game. The final day of the module was concluded with a round table: “Parliamentarism in Central Asia”, where the members of parliaments of Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan were invited. Mr. Muhiddin Kabiri, MP of the Republic of Tajikistan, Mr. Kamal Burhanov, MP of the Republic of Kazakhstan and Mr. Omurbek Tekebaev and Mr. Felix Kulov, MPs of the Kyrgyz Republic shared their knowledge on history and contemporary developments of parliamentarism in Central Asia.



Additionally, the OSCE Academy hosted several high level officials. On 4 February 2011, Mr. Pierre Morel, Special Representative of Central Asia and Georgia of the EU delivered a lecture: “Security Aspects of the EU Policy in Central Asia”. On 3 March, 2011 H.E. Mr. Audronius Azubalis, the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania had visited the OSCE Academy and had a question-answer session with the Academy's MA students.

Alumni news

OSCE Academy Alumni Network conducted several events during winter 2010-2011. Starting from the end of November, Alumni Chapter meeting took place in Dushanbe and Bishkek. Alumni in Tajikistan were discussing how the Tajikistan's Alumni branch and the OSCE Academy can be mutually beneficial. One of the points is assistance of Tajik Alumni in promotion, consultation, and support during the enrollment of the new students from Tajikistan as well as data search on potential Lecturer from Tajikistan for the Academy. Alumni in Bishkek, during their meeting in February agreed to help the Academy with recruitment of students for the 2011-2012 Masters Programme. As a part of this assistance Open House for Bishkek-based candidates interested in the OSCE Academy's Masters Programme in Political Science and Security was organized by the Academy's alumni in Bishkek. At the same time, Alumni in Afghanistan, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan actively advertised MA Program through their networks. Besides, active participation in recruitment process, alumni show interest in sharing their knowledge with current students. Akmal Abdullayev'05, talked to current students of the OSCE Academy's masters programme on radioactive waste management in Central Asia. Coming spring will bring more Alumni Network events and activities.



Research and publications

The OSCE Academy in Bishkek and the Geneva Centre for Security Policy have published new occasional Central Asia Security Policy Briefs:

“Comparing India's and China's Approaches in Central Asia” by Ajay Patnaik

Dr. Ajay Kumar Patnaik is Professor and currently Director of the Area Studies Programme on Russia and Central Asia in the Centre for Russian & Central Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. He has authored three books – Nations, Minorities and States in Central Asia (2003), Central Asia: Between Modernity and Tradition (1995) and Perestroika and Women Labour Force in Soviet Central Asia.

“Trust in a Traditional, Tolerant and Transparent Multi-level Game? The Kazakhstani OSCE Chairmanship 2010” by Anna Kreikemeyer

Dr Anna Kreikemeyer is a senior research fellow at the Centre for OSCE Research (CORE) of the Institute of Peace Research and Security Policy (IFSH) at the University of Hamburg (Germany). Her field of research is foreign and security policies of Central Asian states as well as the development of the OSCE.

“The state at its borders: the internal dimensions of Kyrgyzstan's border security” by Katarzyna Czerniecka
This paper was prepared on the basis of a study undertaken in the framework of the Research and Teaching Fellowship at the OSCE Academy in Bishkek in 2010.

Katarzyna Czerniecka graduated from the University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies. She has several years of practical experience in development cooperation with particular reference to Central Asia and the Caucasus. Her research interests include security and development policy in Central Asia and the European Union's external action.

OSCE Academy jointly with the Geneva Centre for Security policy launched Central Asia Security Policy Briefs Series in November 2010. This occasional paper series deals with current issues of comprehensive security relevant for Central Asia. This includes but is not limited to such themes as socioeconomic determinants of security, identity-based conflicts, political Islam, ethnopolitics, security organizations, bilateral relations, the situation in Afghanistan and other neighboring states.

Central Asia Security Policy Briefs are available at: <http://www.osce-academy.net/en/policybriefs/>

