

BLUE HELMET FORUM AUSTRIA 2012  
Humanitarian Assistance in Complex Emergencies - What Role for the Military?

The Association of Austrian Peacekeepers supports Austria's engagement in peacekeeping activities and promotes the ideals of the United Nations in civil society. Under the umbrella of the United Nations Vienna the Austrian peacekeepers participate in the Network for Peace, which brings together peacekeepers from Central and South East Europe. In this context the Association annually organises the BLUE HELMET FORUM AUSTRIA (BHFA) in cooperation with the Austrian Ministry of Defence.

In continuation of last year's FORUM with the topic "International Disaster Relief Assistance - What Role for the Military?" the FORUM 2012 should provide an opportunity to address the issues of complex emergencies with a focus on civil-military coordination. Today peace operations are not limited to peacekeeping. Missions encompass also humanitarian assistance, economic reconstruction, security sector reform as well as peace- and state building. Humanitarian assistance in conflict situations has developed into a multi-facetted task and requires concerted action already in an early phase of a crisis. This necessitates an innovative response that will quickly and efficiently meet the needs of those affected. Military and civil defence assets, prepared for responding to disasters, can fill existing gaps. They can enable traditional humanitarian assistance providers to leverage their resources, and provide in addition a rapid surge of assistance capacity. In a second step, economic reconstruction and peace building efforts should ensure a lasting framework for reconciliation and social development.

Recently the deployment of Military and Civil Defence Assets (MCDA) to support humanitarian assistance in conflict situations has received increased attention by the international community. While many lessons have been learned from these deployments there remains still a significant challenge for effective civil military coordination. The development of a functioning civil-military coordination mechanism has become a main challenge in order to ensure concerted action in complex emergencies.

The invitations for the BHFA are directed towards experts from the civilian and military field and towards high ranking personalities from politics, business, media, science and diplomacy, for whom the knowledge of the military aspects of "Emergency Relief Operations" and civil military coordination is of relevance. The FORUM will be held in English and will be open to a limited number of participants. The conference fee covers all costs for administration, meals, conference documents and the cultural program. Accompanying partners are welcome to participate in all social and cultural events at a reduced fee. The publication of the FORUM proceedings will be sent to all participants, relevant organizations and academic institutions.

President: GEN Günther GREINDL (ret)  
Academic Directors: Thomas ACHLEITNER (AAP) & COL Georg EBNER (NDA)  
Directors Administration: Andrea GRASSER & CPT Karl SMUTEK-NARATH

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# Blue Helmet Forum Austria 2012

An Initiative of the Association of Austrian Peacekeepers

Engaging for Peace

## Humanitarian Assistance in Complex Emergencies - What Role for the Military?

Vienna, October 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
National Defence Academy, Sala Terrena, Stiftgasse 2a, 1070 Vienna



Foto: Bundesheer

Online Registration: [www.austrian-peacekeepers.at](http://www.austrian-peacekeepers.at)

In cooperation with



Directorate General for Security Policy  
of the Austrian Ministry of Defence



National Defence Academy



Institute for  
Humanities & Social Sciences

# PROGRAM

## Monday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012

**16:00 - 17:00** Arrival and registration

**17:00 - 17:30** Opening of the **BLUE HELMET FORUM AUSTRIA 2012**  
The opening language will be in German (translation to English)  
**Welcome to participants**

**Günther GREINDL**, GEN (ret.)  
President of the Association of Austrian Peacekeepers

**Erich CSITKOVITS**, LTG  
Commandant of the National Defence Academy

### Opening Address

**Johann PUCHER**, MG  
Head of the Directorate General for Security Policy of the Austrian  
Ministry of Defence

**17:30 - 18:00** Presentation in celebration of the 20th anniversary of  
"Nachbar in Not"  
**Kurt BERGMANN**, Co founder „Nachbar in Not“, Vienna  
**Friedrich ORTER**, ORF

**18:00 - 19:00** Keynote Speech and Discussion

**Edmund ENTACHER**, GEN, Chief of Defence Staff, Ministry of Defence

**19:15 - 19:30** Official conference photo

**19:30 - 23:00** Buffet at the **Officers Club**, National Defence Academy

## Tuesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012

**9:00 - 10:30** Session: Principles, Policies and Guidelines  
Chair: **Rudolf MÜLLER**, UN OCHA

### Introductory presentation by the chair

**Bruce WILIAMS**, RAdm, DDG EUMS

**Prof. Dr. Wolf-Dieter EBERWEIN**, President Voluntary Organisations  
in Cooperation in Emergencies (VOICE), Brussels

**Hassan LAI**, BG, Chief of Staff ECOWAS

**10:30 - 11:00** Coffee break

**11:00 - 12:30** Session: Practical Experiences  
Chair: **Kurt BERGMANN**, co-founder "Nachbar in Not", Austria

### Introductory presentation by the chair

**Gerry FOITIK**, Mag., Bundesrettungskommandat, Red Cross Austria

**Khalid JAFFERY**, GEN, Ambassador of Pakistan to Bosnia and  
Herzegovina

**Friedrich RIECHMANN**, LG (ret), Bundesbeauftragter Johanniter  
Unfall Hilfe, Germany

### Question and answer

**12:30 - 13:30** Lunch

**13:30 - 15:30** Session: Practical Experiences - continued  
Chair: **Christian SEGUR-CABANAC**, LTG, MoD, Austria

### Introductory presentation by the chair

**Andreas SCHIESS**, SDC, Swiss Federation

**Kees van den HEUVEL**, BG, Deputy Chief of Staff Operations  
1 (German/Netherlands) Corps, Netherlands

**Albrecht BROEMME**, President THW, Germany

### Question and answer

**16:00 - 17:00** Departure to **Wr. Neustadt**

**17:00 - 18:30** Visit to Special Forces, **Wiener Neustadt**  
**Peter HOFER**, LTC (GS), Commander Special Forces,  
Briefing and practical introduction

**19:00 - 22:00** Visit to a typical Viennese *Heuriger*

## Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012

**9:00 - 10:30** Session: Improving Civil-Military Coordination  
Chair: **Univ. Prof. Dr. Heinz GÄRTNER**, University of Vienna

### Introductory presentation by the chair

**Maximilian EDER**, LTCOL, NATO Operations Division

**Ingrid NORDSTRÖM-HO**, UN OCHA

**Wolfgang WOSOLSOBE**, MG, AutMilRep

**Jules FROST**, World Vision

**10:30 - 10:45** Coffee break

**10:45 - 12:30** Session: Improving Civil-Military Coordination- continued

### Expert discussion

**12:30 - 13:00** Closing remarks and award of certificates  
**Günther GREINDL**, GEN (ret)

**13:00 - 14:00** Lunch