#### NATO / PfP SYMPOSIUM / SEMINAR ('In the Spirit of' / DCF / AUT 266)



### Civil-Military Relations IX / Strategic Cultures and Cultural Interoperability in C-M-R

November 8th to 10th, 2006

National Defense Academy Stiftgasse 2a A – 1070 VIENNA



This International Seminar will be offered by the Institute for Human and Social Sciences of the National Defense Academy, Vienna and conducted in cooperation with the Center for Civil-Military Relations, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California

#### Introduction and Background

The subject of strategic culture studies in security affairs is resurging for both policy and scholarly reasons. The renewed scholarly interest has been heralded by Samuel Huntington's civilizational thesis in the wake of the general alteration of the post-Cold War Security Environment. It found further encouragement by concrete events, most of all the GWOT and the ongoing war in Iraq with its attempts to consolidate something like a western-style democracy in the country.

The enormous intuitive appeal to the idea that "culture matters" assumes thus again analytical importance in shaping national security processes and outcomes. Critics of "hard-factor"-concepts such as realism and neo-realism believe that the concept of strategic culture provides a valuable tool for promoting an understanding of the political-military propensities of security communities, their processes for generating strategic theories as well as defense policies, and their inclinations regarding political decision-making.

The threats emerging from the new post-Cold War international security environment pose imminent challenges to nations and cultures. The task to form effective strategies and efficiently and appropriately employ soldiers and weapons has become much more intricate. The two predominant aspects of threat assessment are the *capabilities* of potential actors and the *incentives* that might drive them. In the context of threat evaluation, strategic culture research focuses first and foremost on the consideration of motivational mindsets and value-awareness that rest behind threat capacities.

#### Seminar Description and Objective

While the levels of strategy, operations and tactics are increasingly merging, both political-diplomatic and military thinking has to be adapted to external influence of cultural and social nature. However, the cultural challenge is twofold. On the one hand, the image of a conflict itself carries, or might even be based upon, social and cultural variability; on the other hand, intervening forces are mostly multi-national coalitions, whose composition varies from mission to mission, thus posing the challenge of reconciling the peculiarities and aspirations of all strategic cultures

involved. In addition, on the part of intervening forces we sometimes face the clash of civilian and military cultures, as missions are being carried out in close civil-military cooperation. The ensuing impact on education and joint training in civil-military affairs has long taken hold in the arena of international relations. The series of civil-military relations seminars within which this international seminar takes place has been dedicated to promote both cooperation and understanding in relevant fields. These efforts find continuation in this civil-military seminar with respect to the newly resurging topic of strategic culture studies.

This multi-national seminar is intended to meet the interests and needs of all those civil and military experts who are concerned with or affected by security studies and national security affairs in a strategic culture perspective. The event will focus on the relations between Europe and the US in the face of present and imminent challenges and threats and the discrepancies regarding Iraq and the GWOT.

Participants will discuss options in what way the national and international civilmilitary communities could contribute to more appropriate foreign policy and security interaction across the transatlantic arena.

#### Seminar Management

This seminar is offered by the National Defense Academy, Vienna, as part of an "in the Spirit of" (ISO) activity for 2006, and promotes the goals of the PfP-Cooperation Area 'Democratic Control of Forces and Defense Structures' (DCF).

The Institute for Human and Social Sciences (IHSS) of the National Defense Academy will conduct the seminar on a joint basis with the Center for Civil-Military Relations (CCMR) of the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California.

In the established series of civil-military relations seminars, this event is meant to further develop the mutual understanding and ability for efficient civil-military cooperation in all fields of political counseling, decision-making process and educational efforts.

For questions regarding the scholarly planning and conduct of the seminar contact

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Administratively, the seminar management is supported by

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who will serve as the primary Points of Contact (PoC) for this event.

#### Travel and Accommodation

The seminar will take place at the National Defense Academy, Vienna, Stiftgasse 2a, A-1070 Vienna.

Participants should arrive no later than **November 7, 2006** and are have to cover all their travel and lodging expenses.

#### a) Accommodation

For accommodation a choice will be offered between military quarters and a nearby hotel:

- Single room at the military quarters (breakfast included) € 14,-- per person;
- Single room (breakfast included)at the hotel approx. € 75,--per person

Please indicate your choice on the enclosed registration form. Reservations will be taken care of by the organizers.

#### b) Travel and Transportation

Participants will be picked up from the airport (railway station) upon arrival in Vienna by military transportation.

Guests who require visa are advised to make their arrangements at the diplomatic representation of Austria in their respective country prior to travel.

#### Seminar Language

The official working language at the seminar will be English. Participants should thus meet the proficiency standard in English as described in STANAG 6001/3232.

#### **Registration and Inquiries**

The seminar is open to a maximum of 60 participants. Please complete the enclosed registration form and return it no later than

#### October 20th, 2006

to the point of contact listed above.

Due to PfP-Regulations, the conference fee for each foreign participant is € 181 which covers all the expenses for seminar materials as well as meals and refreshments.

Please refer also to one of the mentioned representatives of the Institute if you have any further questions.

**Seminar Program and Participation** 

The final seminar program, as well as further information, will be forwarded to all

participants in due course.

If you are interested in making a presentation on one of the above mentioned

topics or any other issue related to the subject area of the seminar, kindly note this on

the registration form and include the working title of your presentation.

**Seminar Proceedings** 

Please note that all lectures, presentations, working group results, and all other

valuable proceedings of the seminar will be published as a book in the Publication

Series of the National Defense Academy Vienna.

Attachments

Call for Papers

Registration Form

Brig. Gen. Edwin R. Micewski, Ph. D.

Director of the Institute for

Human and Social Sciences (IHSS)

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#### 9<sup>th</sup> International Civil-Military Relations Seminar

# Strategic Cultures and Cultural Interoperability in C-M-R

Vienna, November 08 - 10, 2006

## Call for Papers

The Austrian National Defense Academy invites you to the 9<sup>th</sup> International Civil-Military Relations Seminar. The conference will take place in Vienna and will be hosted by the Institute for Human and Social Sciences (IHSS) of the National Defense Academy Vienna in cooperation with the Center for Civil-Military Relations (CCMR) of the Naval Postgraduate School.

We also invite you to contribute to the seminar by presenting a paper on a subject related to the general theme of the meeting. We suggest presenting and discussing strategic cultural aspects and issues as they impact national security and international relations in a civil-military perspective.

The newly resurging topic of strategic culture attempts to enrich the discourse of strategic studies by adding humanities and social sciences related aspects to the field. While international relations theory focuses on state action and the international order, strategic culture attends to domestic actors and conditions and considers the significance and impact of shared ideas and ideational factors as well as other immaterial realities on security studies. By virtue of its approach, strategic culture studies deems only possible in an interdisciplinary way and by introduction of the various sub-disciplines of social science such as anthropology, comparative politics, sociology, psychology, etc.

The conference aims at exploring ways of how the various strategic civil-military communities of the nations of the Euro Atlantic arena and beyond can contribute to the promotion of civil-military interoperability in this particular area of political and military responsibility.

The organizing committee invites scientists, researchers, as well as civil and military defense personnel interested in or affected by the subject matter, to participate in the conference.

We are encouraging all interested colleagues to forward proposals for topics that should be covered at the conference, as well as to provide us with ideas for papers and presentations they would like to contribute to the conference proceedings.

#### Deadline for the submission of proposals and papers:

#### September 8th, 2006

All papers and the proceedings of the seminar will be published in a conference compilation within the National Defense Academy Publication Series.

For detailed seminar registration, a preliminary program as well as an application are included in this call for papers.

Brig. Gen. Edwin R. Micewski, Ph.D. Director of the Institute for Human & Social Sciences (IHSS)

#### **Point of Contact:**

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For more on the Institute for Human and Social Sciences go to: www.bmlv.gv.at\organisation\beitraege\lvak\imm



# NATO / PfP Symposium / Seminar PWP / DCF / AUT 266 Civil-Military Relations IX – Cultural Studies Vienna, November 08-10, 2006



# REGISTRATION FORM (to be returned by October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2006)

National Defense Academy Institute for Human and Social Sciences

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| 1) | Personal | Data |
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| name                 | first name       |        | rank - title institution |                  |  |
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| 2) Companions        |                  |        |                          |                  |  |
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| 3) Arrival:          |                  |        |                          |                  |  |
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| Departure:           |                  |        |                          |                  |  |
| Mode                 |                  | day    | time                     | number           |  |
| 4) Accommodation     |                  |        |                          |                  |  |
| Hotel/single (€75,-) |                  |        | Military Qu              | arters (€14,-)   |  |
| 5) Presentation      |                  |        |                          |                  |  |
| yes □ no □           | Title            |        |                          |                  |  |
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Date/signature