Exploring New Capacities to Address the Threat of Atrocity Crimes: The Case for a UN Emergency Peace Service (UNEPS)

23 May – 25 May, 2011
Vienna, Austria

United Nations Youth and Student Association of Austria – Academic Forum for Foreign Affairs (UNIXSA-AUSTRIA-AFA)
Global Action to Prevent War, New York
Foreign Policy and United Nations Association of Austria (UNA-AUSTRIA)
Austrian National Defence Academy

The international community is facing new challenges in preventing and addressing atrocity crimes. While the responsibility to protect civilians -- in a manner that stresses prevention and respects sovereign jurisdiction -- has achieved broad levels of understanding and even support among diplomats, capacity deficits threaten efforts to turn high ideals into robust practice.

After a public event at the United Nations Office at Vienna, this two-part conference will initially focus the attention of diplomats, UN officials and diverse civil society experts on the tools and capacities needed to create credible, prevention-based responses to the threat of atrocity crimes. One focus of this discussion is a proposal for a UN Emergency Peace Service (UNEPS) – a standing, rapid-response, integrated capacity that quickly and effectively addresses outbreaks of atrocity crimes in those (hopefully rare) instances when diplomacy and other preventive mechanisms fail to stem the violence. Among the topics to be covered include the following:

- Closing Capacity Gaps to Address the Threat of Atrocity Crimes
- The International Status of the R2P Norm and its Three Pillars of Response
- Integrating Women’s Participation in Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding: The Role of the C-34
- UNEPS as a Complement to Other Civilian Peacekeeping and Civilian Protection Proposals
- Making the Case for Standing Peacekeeping Capacity: Suspicions and Opportunities
- Options for Regionally-Based, Rapid-Response Peacekeeping

In addition, we will hold a one-day event specifically for young practitioners in the peacekeeping/civilian protection field as they define their skills, leadership styles and priorities. Consideration will be given to the following topics:

- Assessing our Current Civilian Protection Performance
- New Priorities for Honoring our Responsibility to Protect
- New Tools and Technologies to Address the Threat of Atrocity Crimes
- Preferred Leadership Styles for Engaging a New Generation on Civilian Protection
Monday, 23 May 2011

08:00 - 09:00  Registration at the UN Office at Vienna

Public Event (hosted by the United Nations Information Service - UNIS)

09:00 - 09:45  Welcoming Remarks

Janos TISOVSZKY, Acting Director, United Nations Information Service (UNIS), Vienna - tbc

Marc E. MELICH, Chairman in Vienna, United Nations Youth and Student Association of Austria – Academic Forum for Foreign Affairs (UNYSA-AUSTRIA-AFA)

Dr. Robert ZUBER, Director, Global Action to Prevent War, New York

H.E. Dr. Helmut TICHY, Head of the International Law Office, Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs (BMEIA)

09:45 - 11:45  The UN’s Evolving Responsibility to Protect Civilians from Atrocity Crimes

Valerie ROCHER, Associate Human Rights Officer, Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, New York

Peter CROLL, Director, Bonn International Center for Conversion (BICC)

Manuela MESA, Director, Centro de Educación e Investigación para la Paz (CEIPAZ), Madrid

11:45 - 13:00  Lunch at the UN Canteen

13:00 - 13:30  Transportation to the Headquarters of the UNA-AUSTRIA

13:30 - 15:00  Workshop 1: Identifying Capacity Gaps to Prevent Atrocity Crimes

Valerie ROCHER, Associate Human Rights Officer, Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, New York

Simona NOVINEC, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

15:00 - 16:30  Workshop 2: The International Status of R2P Norm and its Three Pillars of Response

Ruben REIKE, Oxford University

Dr. Robert ZUBER, Director, Global Action to Prevent War, New York

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Heinz GÄRTNER, Senior Fellow, Austrian Institute for International Affairs (oiip)

18:30   Dinner at the “Heurigen Feuerwehr Wagner”
Tuesday, 24 May 2011

09:00 - 10:00  Brief Overview of Day One Discussions and Outcomes

Dr. Robert ZUBER, Director, Global Action to Prevent War, New York

Marc E. MELICH, Chairman in Vienna, United Nations Youth and Student Association of Austria – Academic Forum for Foreign Affairs (UNYSA-AUSTRIA-AFA)

10:00 - 12:00  Workshop 3: Integrating Women’s Full Participation in Civilian Protection, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding

Radmila NAKARADA, Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Belgrade

Mag. Aga KWIĘCINSKI, University of Vienna and Austrian National Defence Academy

Frau Hauptmann Jasmin KRUTZLER, Austrian Armed Forces

12:00 - 13:00  Lunch break

13:00 - 15:00  Workshop 4: Making the Case for Standing Peacekeeping Capacity: Suspicions and Opportunities

Dr. Robert ZUBER, Director, Global Action to Prevent War, New York

Manuela MESA, Director, Centro de Educación e Investigación para la Paz (CEIPAZ), Madrid

Mag. Dr. Ursula WERTHER-PIETSCH, Deputy Head of the Department VII.4, Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs (BMEIA)

15:00 - 15:30  Coffee Break

15:30 - 17:30  Workshop 5: UNEPS as a Complement to UN and Regional Civilian Peacekeeping and Civilian Protection Proposals

Ruben REIKE, Oxford University

Dr. Robert OBERLOHER, Hochschule der Polizei, Hamburg

17:30 - 18:30  Presentation of Core Ideas and Recommendations

19:00  Reception at the Austrian National Defence Academy
Wednesday, 25 May 2011

09:00 - 09:30 Opening Remarks

Marc E. MELICH, Chairman in Vienna, United Nations Youth and Student Association of Austria – Academic Forum for Foreign Affairs (UNYSA-AUSTRIA-AFA)

Dr. Robert ZUBER, Director, Global Action to Prevent War, New York

09:30 - 11:00 Workshop 1: Assessing our Current Civilian Protection Performance

Dr. Jan POSPISIL, Affiliated Researcher, Austrian Institute for International Affairs (oiip)

Simona NOVINEC, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

Marius MÜLLER-HENNIG, Friedrich Ebert Foundation

11:00 - 14:00 “International Club” of the UNA-AUSTRIA – Lecture in German: “Veränderungen im Mittleren Osten und Nordafrika – Bedeutung für Israel”

Avi PRIMOR, Diplomat, Israel

14:00 - 15:30 Workshop 2: New Priorities for Honoring our Responsibility to Protect

Dr. Robert OBERLOHER, Hochschule der Polizei, Hamburg

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Heinz GÄRTNER, Senior Fellow, Austrian Institute for International Affairs (oiip)

Ruben REIKE, Oxford University

15:30 - 15:45 Coffee Break

15:45 – 17:00 Workshop 3: New Tools and Technologies to Address the Threat of Atrocity Crimes

Katherine PRIZEMAN, International Coordinator, Global Action to Prevent War, New York

Lieutenant Colonel Nikolaus ROTTENBERGER M.A.I.S, Cabinet of the Austrian Minister of Defense

17:00 - 17:15 Coffee Break

17:15 - 18:30 Workshop 4: Preferred Leadership Styles for Engaging a New Generation on Civilian Protection

Dr. Peter PILZ, Security speaker, Member of Parliament

Dr. Robert ZUBER, Global Action, New York

18:30 Closing Remarks

19:00 Informal “get-together”
Addresses

UN OFFICE AT VIENNA

Vienna International Centre
Wagramer Strasse 5
1400 Vienna
Austria

Take the underground line U1 in the direction of Leopoldau until you reach “Kaisermühlen/Vienna International Centre” and then follow the signs to Gate 1 of the VIC, the main entrance. The VIC is also easy to reach by car via the A22 motorway or from the city center via the Reichsbrücke.
HEADQUARTERS OF THE UNA-AUSTRIA

Hofburg/Stallburg
Reitschulgasse 2/2. OG
1010 Vienna
Austria

Take the underground U3 until you reach “Herrengasse” and then follow Herrengasse until “Michaelerplatz”. You can also take the buses 2A and 3A until “Michaelerplatz”. Right after Michaelplatz you will reach “Reitschulgasse” where you walk through a pedestrian passage and arrive at the entrance.
AUSTRIAN NATIONAL DEFENCE ACADEMY

AG STIFTGASSE
Stiftgasse 2a
1070 Vienna
Austria

Take the underground line U3 until you reach “Neubaugasse” and exit at “Kirchengasse”. Walk on “Mariahilfer Straße” roughly 90m and turn left into “Stiftgasse”.

Credentials and Registration

The whole event is split into 3 parts.

- **PUBLIC EVENT AT THE UN OFFICE AT VIENNA**
  
  23 May 2011 08:00 – 11:45

  The public event is open for everyone who is interested in this topic. Furthermore we invite all diplomats and UN officials as well as experts to take part in this event.

- **2-DAYS WORKSHOP AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE UNA-AUSTRIA**
  
  23 – 24 May 2011

  The Workshops are limited to 40 participants. We are specifically looking for UN officials, diplomats and diverse civil society experts as well as state authorities to take part in these workshops.

- **“YOUNG PRACTITIONERS WORKSHOP” AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE UNA-AUSTRIA**
  
  25 May 2011

  These workshops are set up for students and young graduates. The Workshop is limited to 40 participants.

Contact

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