



wwedu
WORLDWIDE EDUCATION

World wide real-virtual colloquium

**The United Nations and the New Media/Information Age –
Education for the Next Generation of “the People of the United
Nations”**

Friday, 16 November 2007, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. (GMT+1)

**Kraftwerkcenter PANOPTIKUM (cinema/digital conference center)
Maria Theresia Strasse 51, A-4600 Wels, Upper Austria, Austria**

and

**virtual participation via the Internet by live stream and chat
(<http://www.acuns.at>)**

organized and hosted by

**WWEDU – World Wide Education, Academic Distance-Learning College,
Wels/Austria**

Academic Council of the United Nations System (ACUNS)



This colloquium is taking place in an innovative hybrid format, combining an on-site event in Wels/Austria with a virtual occurrence mediated through the Internet. Some panels will include on-site as well as virtual speakers to make full use of the new media potentials for this colloquium, which is dedicated to the role of the new media and newly established information infrastructure for educational purposes – better communicating the United Nations system to the people.

The themes of the event just are as innovative as its format. The Wels UN Colloquium will center on leading questions such as: How do new communication technologies and their inherent new opportunities for interaction of people and social communities impact the United Nations' ability to act? What are the new media's consequences for global networking and international community action in forging and realizing global policy initiatives? How can the United Nations system make use of the new media and information infrastructure in order to transmit its ideas and communicate its mission to the youth who will form the next generation of opinion leaders and decision-makers?

In addition to its thematic objectives, the Wels UN Colloquium will also provide a platform for presenting and discussing newly launched projects in the field of education-focused UN studies as well as relevant database projects.



Program

08:10 a.m.

**Free transfer shuttle from the Hotel Bayrischer Hof, Dr.-Schauer-Strasse
21-23, 4600 Wels, to the conference location**

09:00-09:30 a.m.

Opening remarks

Local organizing committee

Opening addresses on behalf of

City of Wels

WWEDU World Wide Education

Academic Council on the United Nations System (ACUNS)

09:30-10:00 a.m.

Keynote address

Edward Mortimer, Director, Salzburg Seminar

“The UN and the New Information Age”

10:00-12:00 a.m.

Panel: “UN Studies and Distance Learning/Education: New Technologies for Research & Teaching”

Moderator: Michael Platzer, Visiting Professor, Global Media,
Bond University/Australia



Foster Ofosu, WWEDU – World Wide Education, Wels/Austria

“Long Distance Learning in Developing Countries”

Henrike Paepcke/Julia Harfensteller, UN Studies Working Group, Berlin/Germany

“The Wiki Portal of the UN Studies Group”

Axel Wuestenhagen, former Director, United Nations Information Center

“Registry of UN Studies in Austria”

Veronika Bauer, European Training and Research Centre for Human Rights and Democracy/Institute of International Law and International Relations, University of Graz/Austria

“Survey of Digital Human Rights Libraries”

John Mathiason (virtual panelist), Syracuse University/USA

“Examining the UN System Using International Public Sector Management Methods”

12:00-01:30 p.m.

Lunch break



01:30-03:30 p.m.

Panel: Human Rights and New Information Technology

Moderator: Wolfram Karl, Director, Austrian Human Rights Institute, Salzburg and University of Salzburg/Austria

Manfred Nowak (video), Director, Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Human Rights, Vienna/Austria

“Potential of New Technology in the Work of UN Rapporteurs”

Stephanie Hankey (video), Director, Tactical Technology Collective (UK/India)

“Human Rights Defenders and Digital Advocacy”

Sameer Padania (virtual panelist), Witness

“A Visual Image is Worth a Thousand Words”

Walther Lichem, former Director, UN Department, Austrian Ministry Foreign Affairs and Adviser

„People’s Movement for Human Rights Learning”

Sami Ben Gharbia (video), Global Voices Online

“Digital Advocacy: Netizen Watch Dogs”



Matthias C. Kettemann, Institute of International Law and International Relations,
University of Graz/Austria

*“Human Rights in the Information Society: The Results of Two Projects at
the University of Graz 2003-2007”*

03:30-04:00 p.m.

Coffee break

04:00-06:00 p.m.

Panel “New-Media Mediated Peace Building & Societal Development”

Moderator: Alexander Siedschlag, Director, Center for European Security Studies,
WWEDU – World Wide Education, Wels/Austria and CEO, German United Nations
Association, Bavarian Branch

Nasra Hassan, Director, United Nations Information Service Vienna

“The Media, Peacekeeping, and Civil Society”

Harvey Langholtz (virtual panelist), Director, United Nations Institute for Training
and Research, Program of Correspondence Instruction on Peacekeeping
Operations (UNITAR POCI)

“Distance Learning on Peacekeeping from UNITAR POCI”

Mark McCarthy, ReliefWeb Project Manager, United Nations Office for the
Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), Geneva/Switzerland

“ReliefWeb and the Role of Information in Humanitarian Response”



Ethan Zuckerman (video), Harvard University/Global Voices

“Connecting Social Justice NGOs”

Gay Rosenblum-Kumar (virtual panelist), United Nations Headquarters, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

“The UN Peacebuilding Portal”

James Arbuckle, Canadian Peacekeeper

[Presentation title to be determined]

06:00-07:00 p.m.

Dinner buffet

07:00-08:30 p.m.

Panel “Communicating with Youth – New-Media Perspectives for Teaching the UN System”

Moderator: Wolfgang Luef, German Weekly Newspaper “Die Zeit”, Vienna office/
Austria

Carmel Mulvany (virtual panelist), UN Department of Public Information/Bill Yotive,
Global Teaching and Learning Project. Education Outreach Section, Outreach
Division, UN Department of Public Information

“Connecting with Youth”



Ingrid Lehmann, University of Salzburg/Austria and former director, UN Department of Public Information

“Youth Perceptions of the United Nations”

Gregor Waldhauser, Vice President, Austrian Academic Forum for Foreign Affairs

“The Difficulties of Communication with Austrian Youth on Global Issues”

Niko Jilch, Kurier Daily Newspaper, Vienna/Austria

“The CyberSchool Bus in German”

Michael Platzer, Visiting Professor, Global Media, Bond University/Australia

“‘Serious news’ Carried on MTV, You Tube, and Comedy Channel”

08:30-09:00 p.m.

Round Up and Next Steps

Paul A. Linnarz, Deutsche Welle, Bonn/Germany

09:00 p.m.

Farewell address by the organizers

Saturday, 17 November 2007 – “day after” event

10:00-12:00 a.m.

Wels city tour including insights into the ancient Roman history of the town



Meeting point: 10:00 a.m., Hotel Bayrischer Hof, Dr.-Schauer-Strasse 21-23

Please indicate your interest in the city tour along with your registration on <http://www.acuns.at> (“additional information” field)

Venue information, video conferencing method and registration form

See <http://www.acuns.at>

Arrival description for the Kraftwerkcenter PANOPTIKUM:

http://www.panoptikum-wels.at/index_anfahrtsplan_main.htm

Local organizer

WWEDU – World Wide Education

Chair of the local organizing committee: Alexander Siedschlag

Assistant and chat moderator: Andrea Jerković

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Conference accommodation

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E-Mail office@bayrischerhof.at, Homepage <http://www.bayrischerhof.at>

Special room rates available, see <http://www.acuns.at>



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The Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA)

Global Voices

Deutsche Welle – Media Services

Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Human Rights, Vienna/Austria

Technical Support Initiative (UK)

UN Studies Working Group within the ACUNS framework

United Nations Association of Austria

Wilfred Laurier University, Ontario/Canada

Witness