

FIIA 2/2013

NEWSLETTER

FIIA cooperated with the Office of the President of the Republic of Finland to organise the Kultaranta Talks in Naantali 16–17 June. In July, FIIA will take part in SuomiAreena in Pori. Moreover, Programme Directors have been appointed for 2014–2016.

Kultaranta Talks

President of the Republic Sauli Niinistö hosted a debate on foreign and security policy at Kultaranta on 16–17 June 2013. The Kultaranta Talks featured a wide-ranging discussion on the current and future state of Finland's foreign and security policy.

President Niinistö opened the event on the evening of Sunday, 16 June. The opening debate of the second day focused on the big picture of foreign and security policy and Finland's place on the world stage.

Before noon, the participants were divided into small working groups that spent the morning discussing the state of Finnish foreign policy from various perspectives, including values and interests, resources, and the future of the EU. In the afternoon, the working groups focused on the options of Finland's security policy: NATO, the EU and Nordic cooperation. The leaders of the working groups summarised the discussions during the closing debate.

The participants invited to the event included around one hundred foreign and security policy experts from various areas of society, including politics, research, administration, business, NGOs and the media. The **opening** and **closing sessions** of the event can be watched in YLE Areena.

The event was organised by the Office of the President of the Republic in cooperation with FIIA.



President Niinistö closed the Kultaranta Talks after Markku Mantila (from left to right), Jukka Tarkka, Teija Tiilikainen and other working group moderators had summarised the debate. Photo: The Office of the President of the Republic of Finland.

FIIA to take part in SuomiAreena

FIIA will organise panel discussions at SuomiAreena in Pori in July. The first panel discussion will focus on current issues in Finnish foreign policy on 17 July. The panel consists of representatives from five political parties. On 18 July, the second panel consisting of researchers will discuss Nordic cooperation and NATO as options in Finnish security policy.

Programme Directors appointed

Mika Aaltola, Juha Jokela and Arkady Moshes will continue in their current positions in the next three-year period from 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2016.

Dr **Mika Aaltola** leads the Global Security Research Programme, which focuses on global trajectories of security that have significance for the European and Finnish security environments. In his research, Dr

Aaltola has focused for instance on US domestic and foreign policy as well as great power relations.

Dr **Juha Jokela** leads the European Union Research Programme, which focuses on the EU's external relations, institutional development and economy. Dr Jokela's research focuses on the EU's foreign policy. Recently, he has published on EU's role in the G20.

Dr **Arkady Moshes** leads the EU's Eastern Neighbourhood and Russia Research Programme which focuses especially on Russian domestic and foreign policy. Dr Moshes has published extensively on issues such as Russia-EU relations and Ukrainian and Belarusian domestic and foreign policy.

While also having their own research agendas, the principal responsibility of the Programme Directors is to lead their research

The Finnish Institute of International Affairs is an independent research institute that produces high level research to support political decision-making and public debate both nationally and internationally

programme and to take part in the planning of the Institute's research activities.

Staff news

Anna Kronlund has joined FIIA's Centre for the US Politics and Power as a Researcher. Her research focuses on US politics and decision-making culture.

Dr. **Diarmuid Torney** has joined the European Union Research Programme for eight months as a Visiting Researcher/TAPIR Postdoctoral Fellow. His research focuses e.g. on global climate and energy policy and EU-Asia relations.

The Finnish Journal of Foreign Affairs

The issue 2/2013 of the Finnish Journal of Foreign Affairs (**Ulkopolitiikka-lehti**) came out at the end of May with the interview of Timo Soini, the leader of the Finns

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Party, as its leading **profile story**. Soini's comments on possibly giving up the leadership of the party and moving to EU politics were widely cited in the Finnish media.

The issue also took a look at what will happen in **Afghanistan** once the current international military operation comes to an end next year. In addition, the issue shed light on the **new geopolitics in Asia** and found out why many of China's neighbors are keeping an eye on Chinese policies with growing suspicion.

The Journal can now be read both as a printed journal and as an e-paper on **Lehtiluukku.fi**.

Recent publications

All FIIA publications can be downloaded from the **Institute's website**.

FIIA Report

Russia as an international actor: The view from Europe and the US
Sean P. Roberts

FIIA Briefing Papers 125-131

Kiinan kasvava vaikutusvalta: Tuovatko taloussuhteet Kiinalle poliittista vipuvartta?
Mikael Mattlin

Russia's defence reform: Assessing the real 'Serdyukov heritage'
Katri Pynnöniemi

Arctic economic potential: The need for a comprehensive and risk-aware understanding of Arctic dynamics
Harri Mikkola & Juha Käpylä

The German energy transition: Status, challenges and the Finnish perspective

Patrick Matschoss

Counterterrorism in external action: The EU's toolbox for responding to terrorism abroad

Teemu Sinkkonen

Maritime Security in a multipolar world: Towards an EU Strategy for the Maritime Commons

Timo Behr, Mika Aaltola & Erik Brattberg

Responsibility to protect... itself? Russia's strategy towards the crisis in Syria

Marek Menkiszak

Transatlantic drug trade: Europe, Latin America and the need to strengthen anti-narcotics cooperation

Mikael Wigell & Mauricio Romero

FIIA Comments

Global drug policy is ripe for reform
Mikael Wigell

The UN Blueprint for the Post-2015 Development Agenda

Marikki Stocchetti

Towards an integrated Transatlantic market

Johanna Jacobsson

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