

FIIA 1/2016

NEWSLETTER

FIIA has been granted external research funding while the Finnish Journal of Foreign Affairs wins an award. Several researcher vacancies will become available later this spring as the three-year research programme period is coming to an end this year.

Research grants to FIIA

A research project on critical global and regional trends that may affect Finland's international position in the next few years has been granted €260,000. The project is led by Director **Teija Tiilikainen** and coordinated by **Eeva Innola**.

FIIA will cooperate with University of Lapland and SYKE (the Finnish Environment Institute) on another research project focusing on the Finnish chairmanship of the Arctic Council. FIIA's share of the €180,000 grant is €55,000. **Harri Mikkola** and **Juha Käpylä** will be participating in the project.

Both projects are funded by the Government's Analysis, Assessment and Research Activities and will last until the end of 2018.

Activities in 2015

In her opening remarks at the annual **FIIA Day seminar** on March 3, Director **Teija Tiilikainen** summarised FIIA activities in 2015. FIIA organised almost 90 seminars last year either alone or in cooperation with international or national partners. For instance, FIIA continued to cooperate with the Office of the President of the Republic of Finland in organising Kultaranta Talks in June last year.

A record number of 58 publications were released in the FIIA publication series in 2015. In addition, FIIA researchers continued to publish widely in different national



Nathalie Tocci, Deputy Director at Istituto Affari Internazionali, presenting at a two-day EU Global Strategy seminar on EU's Strategic Vision for Relations with Russia and the Eastern Neighbourhood. The seminar was organised in cooperation with EUISS and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland. Photo: Mattias Lehtinen / FIIA

and international outlets. Among well over 150 external publications were 32 peer-reviewed academic articles, 6 books (published by e.g. Ashgate and Rowman & Littlefield) and two PhD dissertations.

NATO evaluation

In accordance with the Government Programme, the effects of Finland's possible NATO membership will be assessed in connection with the preparation of a Report on Finnish Foreign and Security Policy. Director **Teija Tiilikainen** and member of the FIIA Board René Nyberg take part in preparing the evaluation which is expected to be completed in May. Other experts appointed by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs are Ambassador (ret.) Mats Bergqvist and François Heisbourg, Chairman of the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) and of the Geneva Centre for Security Policy.

Upcoming vacancies

As the three-year research programme period is coming to an end this year, the majority of programme director and researcher positions will be declared open later this spring. Programme director positions will be declared open on 15 April and the deadline for applications will be 6 May. Researcher positions will be open from 29 April until 20 May.

Staff News

Senior Research Fellow **Sinikukka Saari** is on a leave of absence until January 2019. During this period, she will be working at the Unit for Policy Planning and Research at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland.

Michael Haltzel will return to FIIA's Center on US Politics and Power in late April for a few weeks.

Programme Director **Arkady Moshes** is on a month-long visit at the Elliot School of International Relations, George Washington University, in Washington, D.C. He will return in mid-April.

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

Finnish Journal of Foreign Affairs

The Finnish Journal of Foreign Affairs was awarded the **Magazine of the Year 2015 Prize** in the trade and organisational magazines' category in the Edit Magazine Competition. The jury thanked the Journal for its analytical articles that keep the readers hooked.

The latest issue, 1/2016, focuses on the rise of nationalism in Europe while it also deals with the **crisis of EU decision-making** caused by the unprecedented inflow of asylum seekers in 2015, and European Competition Law. Furthermore, it explores the roots of **Islamic terrorism in Europe**, especially France, and profiles Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the current leader of ISIS.

The journal is available both as a **printed journal** and as an e-paper at lehtiluukku.fi. The next issue is due in May.

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Recent publications

All FIIA publications can be downloaded from the Institute's [website](http://www.fiia.fi).

Books

Art House

Enemmän kuin puoli taivasta: Kiinalainen nainen historiassa, yhteiskunnassa ja kulttuurissa
Tiina Airaksinen, Elina Sinkkonen,
Minna Valjakka

FIIA Working Paper 90

Turkey's political direction: Authoritarianism, liberal democracy or dissolution?
Toni Alaranta

FIIA Briefing Papers 189–192

Moscow's Arctic dreams turned sour? Analysing Russia's policies in the Arctic
Juha Käpylä, Harri Mikkola & Toivo Martikainen

Dividing the EU with energy? Unpacking Russia's energy geoeconomics
Toivo Martikainen & Antto Vihma

Private sector development: Strengthening the role of the private sector in the European development policy
Tito Gronow

China's new foreign politics: Xi Jinping's universal rule by virtue?
Jyrki Kallio

FIIA Comments

China's National Congress sacrifices the economy for politics
Jyrki Kallio

NATO redefined?
Carrie Weintraub

The Swedish defence policy paradox
Charly Saloniuss-Pasternak

Italy at loggerheads with the European Commission and Germany
Marco Siddi

One year after Boris Nemtsov's murder, Russia's liberal opposition is threatened, repressed and ridiculed
Veera Laine

Viktor Orbán walks a tightrope between Brussels and Moscow
András Rácz

A year since Minsk-2
Arkady Moshes

Japan and South Korea reach significant yet fragile agreement over comfort women issue
Bart Gaens

Russia's new national security strategy does not provide much hope for cooperation
Katri Pynnöniemi

EU-Ukraine trade agreement finally enters into force
Kristi Raik

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