

# FIIA Activities in 2014

# The Finnish Institute of International Affairs

### Introduction

The Finnish Institute of International Affairs (FIIA) is an independent research institute that produces highlevel research to support political decision-making and public debate both nationally and internationally.

The Institute receives its core funding from the Finnish Parliament and sets the research agenda independently. Its fellows publish in internationally recognized publications as well as in the Institute's own publication series.

FIIA was established in its present form in 2006, having been maintained up to that point and since the 1960s by a private foundation.

The Director of the Institute is Adjunct Professor Teija Tiilikainen. FIIA currently employs about 50 people, over half of whom are researchers.

### Research

The Institute has three Research Programmes which will run until the end of 2016. The current programme period began in 2014.

The European Union Research Programme focuses on the EU's global and regional role, as well as the internal dynamics of the EU. The main research themes are the EU's external relations, general political directions and institutional development.

The EU's Eastern Neighbourhood and Russia Research Programme studies the EU's eastern environment with a special focus on Russia's domestic, foreign and security policy. In particular, the programme concentrates on political developments in the region and the process of the Eurasian intergation. It also studies international relations in the EU's eastern neighbourhood and the relationship between the region and the EU.

Security The Global Research approaches Programme global security challenges within framework of broad security. The programme seeks to understand the global trajectories of security that have significance for the European and Finnish security environments. The issues approached include the prospects for global governance systems, changes in the major power structure, significant factors in functional and regional security and insecurity, the role of the transatlantic relationship in world politics, and the different dimensions of the European security policy.

### Outreach

FIIA has a broad and active outreach programme intended for decision-makers, researchers, civil servants, NGOs, the media and the general

public. Anyone can subscribe to FIIA's publications and express their interest in receiving invitations to FIIA events through the Institute's website.

FIIA publishes Reports, Working Papers, Briefing Papers, Comments and Finnish Foreign Policy Papers. Furthermore, Analysis publication series was launched in early 2014. All publications can be downloaded from the FIIA website

In addition to these series, FIIA publishes a quarterly journal in Finnish, *The Finnish Journal of Foreign Affairs* (Ulkopolitiikkalehti).

FIIA's events are tailored to specific target audiences and they attract both national and international speakers and participants. Events vary from closed round tables to major conferences.

The Institute houses a public library specialising in international relations. Its collections are at the disposal of the general public.

FIIA also maintains Eilen, the Archive and Chronology of Finnish Foreign Policy which is available at www. eilen.fi. In addition to the chronology, the archive includes speeches and key documents of the Finnish foreign policy, and was opened in March 2012.

# **Summary of Activities**

### **Research Focus Areas**

The year 2014 was the first year of the Institute's three-year research programme period 2014-2016. The year was marked by significant changes in Finland's international environment as a result of the war in Ukraine: EU-Russia relations deteriorated, and tensions rose in the Baltic Sea region.

The European Union Research Programme finalised several of its research projects during 2014. The themes of the projects included differentiated integration in the EU's external relations, the European External Action Service, and the Middle East policies of northern EU countries.

Furthermore, the consequences of the European financial crisis were assessed in a joint research project with Etla, the Research Institute of the Finnish Economy. This project was funded by the Jane and Aatos Erkko Foundation, and the final report was published in May 2014.

The EU's Eastern Neighbourhood and Russia Research Programme focused on Russia's foreign and defence policy and actions in Ukraine.

Among the Programme's other research areas were the political and economic development in the EU-

Russia common neighbourhood, i.e. in Ukraine and Georgia, and the Eurasian Union. The Programme also studied Russian domestic issues such as the country's political system and Russian nationalism.

Research activity in the Global Security Research Programme stressed the study of global power structures, so-called Global Flow Security, and international security policy institutions.

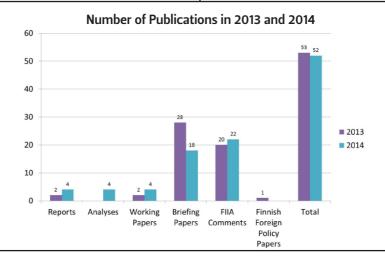
In addition to its regional focus on the US and Asia, the programme also concentrated on special themes such as Latin American politics. The programme increased its focus on the Arctic region. Baltic and Finnish security questions (including Finnish security of supply) were given special attention. US research was further strengthened through FIIA's Center on US Politics and Power activities such as researcher exchanges and by organising a Summer Session on US role in the Baltic region security.

### **Publications**

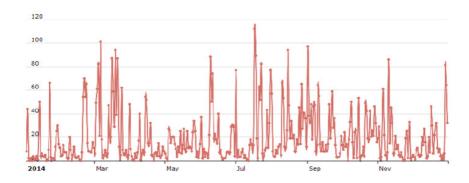
The Institute released a total of 52 publications in 2014. Approximately 23,000 publication downloads were recorded from the website.

A new publication format, the FIIA Analysis, was launched. FIIA Analyses are slightly longer and more theoretical than FIIA Briefing Papers.

FIIA's researchers also published widely outside the Institute, including books, policy papers by other research institutes as well as academic articles in peer-reviewed scholarly journals.



# Appearances in the Media in 2014



The quarterly journal of the Institute, Ulkopolitiikka (Finnish Journal of Foreign Affairs) maintained a circulation of c.a. 2,400.

# **Media Appearances**

FIIA's media visibility reached an all-time high, especially due to appearances related to the Ukraine crisis such as Russia's role in the conflict, EU sanctions, shifts in great power relations and Finnish security policy.

The researchers also commented frequently on issues such as the European elections, ISIS, and politics in the US (especially midterm elections) and in Turkey and its presidential elections. In addition, topics related to energy issues, Latin America, China and Arctic region were commented on in the media.

Over 7,000 hits for the Institute were recorded in online, television, radio and print media. Vast majority of the hits resulted from interviews with FIIA researchers.

# Seminar Activity

2014 was a record year for FIIA's seminar activity with 97 organised seminars. Compared to the previous year, 2014 featured more events with external project funding. The seminars attracted over 5,500 participants. About half of the seminars were organised in cooperation with the Institute's partner organisations like the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Defence.

# **Parliamentary hearings**

FIIA researchers provided 15 written and/or oral statements to parliamentary committees.

# **FIIA Publication Series 2014**

### **FIIA Reports**

Towards the Geopolitics of Flows: Implications for Finland

Mika Aaltola, Juha Käpylä, Harri Mikkola, Timo Behr

Keeping the Door ajar: Local border traffic regimes on the EU's eastern borders Andrei Yeliseyeu

EU:n suunta: Kuinka tiivis liitto? Juha Jokela, Markku Kotilainen, Teija Tiilikainen, Vesa Vihriälä

Multi-speed Europe? Differentiated integration in the external relations of the European Union Juha Jokela (ed.)

### **Selected FIIA Working Papers**

Linking Domestic and European Politics: Finnish MEPs and the Votes that Shaped the 7th European Parliament

Tuomas Iso-Markku

How to Reform the UN Climate Negotiations?
Perspectives from the past, present and neighbour negotiations
Antto Vihma

### Selected FIIA Analyses

Pioneers of a European Diplomatic System: EU Delegations in Moscow and Washington Heidi Maurer & Kristi Raik

The Eurasian Economic Union: Breaking the pattern of post-Soviet integration?
Sean Roberts, Anaïs Marin, Arkady Moshes, Katri Pynnöniemi

# **FIIA Reports**



### **FIIA Working Papers**



# **FIIA Analyses**



# **FIIA Briefing Papers**





### **FIIA Comments**



## **Selected FIIA Briefing Papers**

EU Sanctions Against Russia: Europe brings a hard edge to its economic power Kristi Raik, Niklas Helwig & Juha Jokela

> China's Public Opinion Management: Tightening the Grip in the Digital Age Elina Sinkkonen

Divided Stands the Visegrad? The V4 have been united towards the Ukraine crisis but remain split concerning Russia András Rácz

The ICC under Political Pressure: Towards Lowered Expectations of Global Justice Katja Creutz

### Selected FIIA Comments

The dialogue between the EU and the Eurasian Economic Union: Brussels is desperately looking for "good news" in its relations with Russia Arkady Moshes

Islamic soul-searching on scorched earth: ISIL launches a new brand of Islamism, which requires a uniform coalition to be defeated Wolfgang Mühlberger

Passing the Arctic Council torch to the US and beyond: Will discontinuity in the Arctic agenda remain the name of the game? Juha Käpylä & Harri Mikkola

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