

## Past present and future views on the United Nations

### Creating new content for innovative UN research and teaching

A project of the UN Studies Working Group

Wednesday, June 4, 2008

German Development Institute (DIE), Tulpenfeld 6, Bonn, Germany

## AGENDA

### Tuesday, June 3, 2008 (7:00pm)

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Informal dinner (self-pay) at restaurant "Em Höttche" in downtown Bonn ([www.em-hoettche.de](http://www.em-hoettche.de))

The UN Studies Working Group will be officially renamed „UN Studies Association - UNSA“

### Wednesday, June 4, 2008 (9:30am - 6:00pm)

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9:30am – 9:45am

**Registration and coffee** at the German Development Institute, seminar room on the ground floor

9:45am – 10:00am

**Welcoming remarks** by Thomas Fues, German Development Institute

**Introduction** of seminar goals and procedure by seminar organizers Julia Harfensteller and Henrike Paepcke

### WORKSHOP SESSION 1 (10:15am – Noon)

#### State of the art: what are current dominant views on the nature of the UN in research and teaching?

**Moderators:** Julia Harfensteller, Henrike Paepcke, UN Studies Working Group

#### Presentations:

- **Henrike Paepcke** (DIAS, UN Studies Working Group, Berlin, Germany): General overview of UN study programs world-wide
- **Albrecht Horn** (former Director of the UN Department for Economic and Social Affairs, New York; Lecturer; Board Member, German UNA): Dominant misinterpretations of the UN: assessing autonomy and efficacy of the UN as an intergovernmental organization

Noon – 1:30pm

**Lunch break** (cold and warm buffet)

around 1:00pm:

**Welcome Note** by Manuel Fröhlich (University of Jena / German UN Association, DGVN, Germany): UN Studies in Germany

followed by:

**Report** by Alexander Siedschlag (WWEDU, Austria) on the Wels colloquium "The United Nations and the New Media/Information Age" (WWEDU / ACUNS)

## **WORKSHOP SESSION 2 (1:30pm – 3:30pm)**

### **Proposals for new views and basic assumptions on the UN**

**Moderator:** Sylvia Karlsson (Turku School of Economics, Finland)

**Special speech by Sir Richard Jolly** (University of Sussex / UNIHP, Ralph Bunche Institute, CUNY, New York, USA): Lessons from the UN Intellectual History Project

#### **Presentations:**

- **Julia Harfensteller** (University of Bremen, UN Studies Working Group, Berlin, Germany) UN and language; UN as a historical phenomenon
- **Ibrahim Saleh** (The American University, Cairo, Egypt): Studies linking UN and Media as in successful public diplomacy, peace building / dealing with the current political PR-ization
- **Sylvia Karlsson** (Turku School of Economics, Finland): Research side / multilevelness
- **Rudolf Christoph Reiet** (University of Bonn): The UN Legal Research Group - re-writing the UN Charter
- **Albrecht Horn** (former Director of the UN Department for Economic and Social Affairs, New York; board member of the German UNA): Intergovernmental agreements and their national implementation as core function of the UN

3:30pm – 3:45pm

**Coffee break**

## **WORKSHOP SESSION 3 (4:00pm – 5:45pm)**

### **Translating new views into UN teaching**

**Moderator:** John Mathiason (Syracuse University, USA)

#### **Presentations:**

- **Kent Kille** (College of Wooster, Ohio, USA): Active Teaching and Learning About the UN
- **Kirsten Haack** (Open University, Scotland/UK): Learning about the UN at Masters level: How to bridge the education/training divide? Is problem-based learning the answer?
- **John Mathiason** (Syracuse University, New York, USA): Simulations in classrooms / climate change
- **Michael Platzer** (Bond University, Australia): E-learning/ distance learning about the UN
- **Rudolf Christoph Reiet** (University of Bonn): The UN Legal Research Group

5:45pm – 6:00pm

**Closing session:** synthesis of brainstorming, results and next steps

7:00pm

**Joint dinner** (self-pay) at “Rheingarten” restaurant, located at the Rhine River (a 10-minute walk from the DIE and close to the Gustav-Stresemann-Institute; [www.rheingarten-bonn.de](http://www.rheingarten-bonn.de))

**Thursday, June 5, 2008 (9:00am - 11:00pm)**

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Official meeting of the The UN Studies Working Group/UNSA at the German Development Institute (seminar room): Discussion on our current and future activities.

The meeting is open to all interested parties.

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