



Foresight Seminar

THE LONG-TERM IMPLICATIONS OF THE WAR IN UKRAINE

THE FUTURE OF ARMAMENTS, DISARMAMENT AND HUMAN SECURITY

Expert Roundtables - By invitation only

25 April 2023

13:30-17:10 CET

(Light lunch 12:30-13:30 CET)

FEPS Office - [Avenue des Arts 46](#), Brussels

CONTEXT

Russia's aggression against Ukraine has been widely defined as a historic turning point - a watershed moment. The ongoing war is a profoundly destabilising event that upends earlier assumptions, carries wide-ranging ramifications for all dimensions of international affairs, and fuels uncertainty on the global stage.

The Seminar will address the medium and long-term impact of the war in Ukraine on armament and disarmament issues, as well as prospects for human security and common security. The war has exacerbated great power rivalry and carries multiple implications for other crisis theatres, from the EU neighbourhood to the Indo-Pacific. It has also triggered a rapid increase in defence expenditure across much of the world, which fuels a trend already well underway. At the same time, arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation agreements are being severely tested or undermined. Rapid advancements in defence technologies pose new risks for peace and security, in a largely unregulated environment. Beyond the military dimension, the war has exacerbated various drivers of instability and potential conflict. Hybrid forms of conflict might grow in scope and intensity. The combination of climate change, resource scarcity, state fragility and other stress factors challenges stability and endangers human security and development. Issues for debate include prospects for multi-level arms control and non-proliferation frameworks, the (un)balance between technological innovation and the regulation of defence technologies, and what current and emerging risk factors entail for human security and common security in the long-term.

To address these critical issues, participants are asked to take the long view, with a 10 years' time-horizon, and focus on four basic elements, which will structure the debate:

- a) **shaping factors**: what factors will fashion developments ahead, including elements of continuity and discontinuity,
- b) **shaping actors**: what actors will play a pivotal role in affecting change, and their possible strategies,
- c) the main **uncertainties** surrounding future developments and the **wild cards** that can be envisaged, and
- d) **implications for the EU**.



The workshop encompasses two sessions. The first is dedicated to assess the implications of the war in Ukraine and of broader geopolitical tensions for arms control, non-proliferation and the regulation of defence technologies. The second addresses how a range of stress and risk factors may affect international stability and human security, including implications for conflict prevention, peacebuilding and common security.

THE FORESIGHT PROJECT

FEPS, in collaboration with partners, has launched a foresight project to assess how the war in Ukraine may affect change in several key policy areas, and for the international order at large, over the long-term. This project builds on various foresight seminars, each targeting the impact of the war in Ukraine on distinct aspects of the international agenda such as energy, trade, sustainable development, security and prospects for political contestation and populism. The purpose is to help policymakers detect the possible long-term consequences of the conflict and shape a strategic approach to deal with current challenges. As a result of the exchanges and inputs gathered in a series of seminars, a book will be published to put forward scenarios and set out recommendations for EU action.

AGENDA

12:30-13:30 **INFORMAL LIGHT LUNCH**

13:30-13:40 **WELCOMING REMARKS & INTRODUCTION TO THE FORESIGHT SEMINARS**

- **László Andor**, Secretary-General, FEPS
- **Giovanni Grevi**, Special Advisor to the Foresight Project and Senior Fellow, CSDS, Brussels School of Governance

13:40-15:10 **SESSION ONE**

TRENDS IN ARMEMENT, DISARMAMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

Issues for discussion: In what ways will great power rivalry affect arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation? What risks and inflection points can be envisaged, at the global and regional level? What factors or actors could help reinvigorate arms control and non-proliferation regimes? What prospects for the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons? What are the long-term implications of defence technological innovation for peace and security? How might they change power balances and strategic calculations? What prospects for efforts to regulate the applications of defence technologies?

Inputs by:

- **Alexander Kmentt**, Director of the Disarmament, Arms Control and Non-Proliferation Department, Austrian Foreign Ministry
- **Raluca Csernatoni**, Research Fellow, Carnegie Europe and Guest professor, BSoG

Open exchange with all participants

Moderator: **Giovanni Grevi**, Special Advisor to the Foresight Project and Senior Fellow, CSDS, Brussels School of Governance



15:10-15:25 COFFEE BREAK

15:25-17:00 SESSION TWO

DRIVERS OF INSTABILITY AND HUMAN SECURITY

Issues for discussion: What are the repercussions of the war and related developments for peace and stability, in particular concerning countries or regions particularly vulnerable to shocks and deepening geopolitical competition? How might growing levels of confrontation and mistrust on the international stage affect human security and drivers of conflict in the long-term? What emerging risks for state and societal resilience? What implications for conflict prevention and peace-building, and for the broader prospect of strengthening common security?

Inputs by:

- **Anna Sundström**, Secretary General, Olof Palme International Centre
- **Robert Blecher**, Program Director, Future of Conflict, International Crisis Group*

Open exchange with all participants

Moderator: **David Rinaldi**, Director of Studies and Policy, FEPS

17:00-17:10 CLOSING REMARKS & NEXT STEPS

- **László Andor**, Secretary-General, FEPS