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Coming up at the Mershon Center

Watch for our Twitter feed from this event!

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

Trafficking and Civil Society: Denial, Distress, Danger
4 p.m., 155 Jennings Hall, 1735 Neil Ave.
Co-sponsored by the Center for Slavic and East European Studies, and the Columbus Council on World Affairs

The U.S. Department of State estimates that 600,000 to 800,000 people are trafficked across international borders each year. Of these, 80 percent are women and children, most of whom are trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation. Also known as trafficking in persons, human trafficking comprises the fastest growing criminal industry in the world. Despite this, governments around the world are only beginning to address the problem. In most countries, traffickers operate with almost total impunity even in the most severe cases. Trafficking and Civil Society: Denial, Distress, Danger is an interdisciplinary discussion of the realities of human trafficking and analysis of how NGO networks, government officials, and civil society as a whole can effectively work together to address and combat human trafficking. Panelists include Yana Hashamova, director of the Center for Slavic and East European Studies; Marguerite Hernandez, PhD candidate in sociology; and Kristin Silver, undergraduate major in psychology. The panel features Ambassador Mark P. Lagon (above), executive director and CEO of Polaris Project, a leading anti-human trafficking nonprofit organization running the primary national hotline, the National Human Trafficking Resource Center. Lagon will speak on “The Crucial Role of Civil Society in Fighting Human Trafficking: As Much in America as the World.” Read more and register

Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Jeffrey Checkel

“Causal Mechanisms and the (Transnational) Dynamics of Civil War”
Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Jeffrey Checkel is Professor of International Studies and Simons Chair in International Law and Human Security at Simon Fraser University. He is also Research Professor at the Centre for the Study of Civil War at the International Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), where he leads a working group on Transnational and International Facets of Civil War. Checkel is author of Ideas and International Political Change: Soviet/Russian Behavior and the End of the Cold
Friday, January 22, 2010

**Jeffrey Engel**

“1989 and the Key to the Present”

Noon, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, 1501 Neil Ave.

Jeffrey Engel is associate professor of history and public policy at the Bush School of Government & Public Service at Texas A&M University. He teaches courses in American foreign policy and the evolution of international strategy, with primary research interests including diplomacy’s domestic and localized effects, technology and foreign policy, and economic warfare. He is author of *Cold War at 30,000 Feet: The Anglo-American Fight for Aviation Supremacy* (Harvard, 2007), which won the 2008 Paul Birdsall Award from the American Historical Association for the most important work on European military or strategic history since 1870. His next project, *Seeking Monsters to Destroy: Language and War from Thomas Jefferson to George W. Bush* (Oxford, forthcoming) is a history of the personification effect, addressing how the American tendency to personify international conflicts alters policy options.

Read more and register

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**Other events**

Monday, January 11, 2009

**Human Trafficking: Modern Day Slavery in Ohio**

With Michelle Hannan, Social Services Coordinator for The Salvation Army in Central Ohio

1-4:15 p.m., 115 Stillman Hall, 1947 College Road

This workshop will discuss the definition, scope and prevalence of human trafficking in the United States, with a focus on Ohio. Participants will learn how and where human trafficking takes place, the psychological and physical effects of trafficking on victims, how to identify and help victims and how to join or develop local coalitions in their communities. Michelle Hannan, MSW, LISW-S is the Social Services Coordinator for The Salvation Army in Central Ohio. Ms. Hannan is responsible for The Army’s housing, workforce, education, material assistance and human trafficking survivor services. Since 2007, Hannan has coordinated the Central Ohio Rescue and Restore Coalition to end human trafficking.

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Tuesday, February 9, 2010

**Sen. Tom Daschle**

“Perspectives on Health Care Reform”

4 p.m., Wexner Center Film/Video Theater, 1850 College Road

Sponsored by the John Glenn School of Public Affairs

Is health care a right for every U.S. citizen? Join former U.S. Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle for an insider’s look at one of the largest changes in national health policy in recent history. Daschle, a representative and a senator from South Dakota, served in Congress from 1978 to 2005. An outspoken advocate for health care reform, he is author of *Critical: What We Can Do About the Health-Care Crisis*. Seating is limited and RSVPs are required: please visit [http://glenn.osu.edu/news/muroff2010/](http://glenn.osu.edu/news/muroff2010/) or call 614-
Mershon offers faculty, student research grants

Each year, the Mershon Center for International Security Studies holds a competition for Ohio State faculty and students to apply for research grant funds. Applications must be for projects related to one of our areas of focus: the use of force and diplomacy; the ideas, identities, and decisional processes that affect security; and the institutions that manage violent conflict. We will also consider projects related to Ohio State’s global gateways in China, India and Brazil, as well as policy issues in biosecurity and cybersecurity. For more, including an application form and instructions, please see http://mershoncenter.osu.edu/grants/grants.htm. The deadline is January 29, 2010.

Midwest Slavic Conference call for proposals

The Midwest Slavic Association and The Ohio State University’s Center for Slavic and East European Studies (CSEES) are proud to announce The 2010 Midwest Slavic Conference, to be held at the Blackwell’s Pfahl Hall on the OSU campus April 15-17, 2010.

Conference organizers invite proposals for panels or individual papers addressing all disciplines related to Russia, Eastern Europe, Central Asia, and the Caucasus. The conference will open with a keynote address and a reception on April 15, followed by two days of panels.

Please send a one-paragraph abstract and brief C.V. to csees@osu.edu by February 1, 2010. Undergraduate and graduate students are encouraged to submit presentations. Limited funding will be available to subsidize graduate hotel lodging. For more information, contact the Center for Slavic and East European Studies at (614) 292-8770 or csees@osu.edu.

CSEES would also like to announce the Midwest Slavic K-12 Teacher Workshop on Slavic topics of interest. This workshop will take place on Saturday, April 17th and is open to all current and pre-service K-12 teachers of all subjects and grade levels. This K-12 Workshop will be held in collaboration with the Russian and East European Institute at Indiana University. For more information, contact CSEES Outreach Coordinator Sunnye Rucker-Chang at Sunnye.Rucker-Chang@oia.osu.edu.

Call for abstracts: New Horizons in International Security

April 9-10, 2010

New Horizons in International Security: An Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference in Security Studies

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

This conference seeks to bring together graduate students from a variety of disciplines who specialize in topics related to war, peace, and all aspects of international security. International security is interpreted broadly here to include its physical and natural science dimensions such as engineering, computer science, and biology. Hence, we strongly encourage submissions from graduate students with backgrounds in the technological aspects of international security, as well as from students in the social sciences and humanities.

The conference is an initiative of the Program in Arms Control, Disarmament, and International Security (ACDIS) at the University of Illinois. A central assumption of the ACDIS program is that the challenges of international security must be approached “as complex phenomena that can only be understood through an examination of multiple causes and impacts.”

With this in mind, the goals of the conference are to: 1) consider the diverse methodological and theoretical approaches currently being applied to security studies; 2) establish an ongoing dialogue between scholars working on divergent aspects of security within varying disciplinary contexts; and 3) identify new and cutting-edge perspectives from which security-related topics are being explored. Possible presentation topics include, but are not limited to:
Nuclear proliferation and arms control
Nuclear test verification issues
Missile defense systems
Biological threat reduction
Food security issues
Cybersecurity
Energy security and climate change
Spatial analysis of conflict
Identity and conflict
Human security
Reconsidering historical perspectives of war
Peace movements
International security organizations
Militarism and militarization
Regional security and peacekeeping
Ethics, morality, and culture of war International law aspects of war
Women and gender in security and conflict
Post-conflict reconstruction

In addition to oral presentations, we are open to posters. Please submit a presentation or poster abstract of no more than 250 words as an email attachment to acdis.conference@gmail.com no later than January 30, 2010, as well as a brief (up to 150 words) biographical statement, outlining your discipline, departmental/university affiliation, stage in degree program, and any noteworthy accomplishments such as fellowships or publications. Please note that acceptance is not guaranteed, and that abstracts will be evaluated based on their suitability to the goals and focus of the conference.

Acceptance notifications will be emailed by February 15, 2010. A selection of up to eight conference presentations will be featured as papers in a special issue of Swords and Ploughshares, the ACDIS periodic bulletin, which is distributed worldwide in print and online.

Thanks to generous support from the University of Illinois Graduate College Focal Point program, travel subsidies will be awarded to all non-University of Illinois presenters. Please note that some international students may NOT be eligible for travel reimbursements. This varies by visa type. Please inquire with your institution’s international student and scholar services if you have questions about your eligibility.

Conference web site: http://acdis.illinois.edu/students/focal-point/conference.html

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