



international workshop on global security



Evolving Visions *for* Global Security

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF THE INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOPS ON GLOBAL SECURITY

PRESENTED BY THE

CENTER FOR STRATEGIC DECISION RESEARCH (CSDR)

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About the International Workshops on Global Security and the Center for Strategic Decision Research

For over 25 years, the *Center for Strategic Decision Research (CSDR)* has presented a series of high-level international workshops on global security in more than fifteen countries in Europe and North America. These annual events bring together defense and foreign ministers, diplomats from the U.N., the EU, NATO and other international organizations, senior flag and general offi-

cers, industry leaders, NGO experts, and academics to discuss the growing challenges to global security in a frank, open, and not-for-attribution environment. Each of the annual workshops is held at the invitation of the host country and its government and with the patronage of that country's minister of defense or prime minister.

Speakers at recent workshops

26th INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON GLOBAL SECURITY *Istanbul, Turkey | June 2009*



Turkish Defense Minister Vecdi Gönül invites the 26th International Workshop on Global Security to Istanbul during June 2009. Minister Gönül says, “Turkey, as a staunch ally located at the center of the world’s hotspots and active regional power that plays a significant role by mediating area disputes...” is an ideal venue for this event.

At last year’s 25th Anniversary International Workshop in Rome, Minister Gönül cited Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the founder of modern Turkey: “We should consider humanity as a single body and a nation as one of its organs. Pain on the tip of a finger is felt by all other organs. Therefore, we should see all nations as part of a single body and then take the necessary precautions.”

25th INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON GLOBAL SECURITY *Rome, Italy | 20–22 June 2008*



Italian Defense Minister Ignazio La Russa keynotes the 25th Anniversary International Workshop. Other principal speakers were British Defense Minister the Rt Hon Des Browne; Turkish Defense Minister Vecdi Gönül; Estonian Defense Minister Jaak Aaviksoo; Georgia’s Vice Prime Minister Giorgi Baramidze and Foreign Minister Eka Tkeshelashvili; Admiral Giampaolo di Paola (now Chairman of the NATO Military Committee); Italy’s Chief of Staff General Vincenzo Camporini; and Admiral Luciano Zappata, Deputy Supreme Allied Commander-Transformation.

Minister La Russa warned of: “today’s energy prices [that] are not only a danger, but a true and direct threat to the orderly functioning of our communities,” the risk of simultaneous crises, for example “...energy depletion...overlapping with food shortages...[while] the causes of food shortages are substantially the same as those causing the energy crisis.” He also warned of the speed and span of change: “The time we have for crisis management and resolution no longer matches the time required to actually solve such crises.”



British Defense Minister the Rt Hon Des Browne calls for a focus on the transformation of NATO. Minister Browne says that NATO’s Response Force is not achieving its full potential; some countries are not reaching the goal of 40% deployable land forces, so “resources need to be switched away from non-deployable capabilities”; an initiative is needed “to make more helicopters and strategic lift available for operations”; NATO has “a non-deployable command structure that is scarcely optimized for the type of operations we now conduct”; there is also “a rigid committee structure and culture that inhibit cross-cutting thinking and advice and are disinclined to emphasize delivery”; and it is “hard to prioritize investment decisions, which still tend to be driven too much by potential equipment solutions.”



Admiral Giampaolo Di Paola, Chairman of the NATO Military Committee, calls for a new strategic concept and transatlantic vision. We have “a responsibility to think through all the key issues” in order to develop “a new strategic concept based on a common vision for the transatlantic relationship.”

He also warns of (a) Pressures on the earth’s ecosystem, which often lead to hunger; scarcity of oil, water, and other natural resources; effects on global warming and climate change; (b) Demographic growth; (c) Increasing income inequality. When “increasingly large numbers of people have absolutely nothing,” conflicts may be inevitable; (d) Rapidly evolving information technology; (e) Loss of sovereignty—membership in the U.N., the EU, NATO, the IMF, or WTO often leads to a “dilution of sovereignty,” so countries may have more limited options than are generally realized.



Italian Chief of Staff General Vincenzo Camporini warns against seeking security as an end in itself. “Even a superficial analysis reveals that...the search for security is at the origin of most of the forms of violence...Even World War II was justified in this way: Hitler wanted the ‘vital space’ [liebensraum] for the Third Reich, the space which was needed to make Germany feel secure.”

General Camporini says, “Why do I tell you this? Simply because I want to warn you against the belief that the use of the term ‘security’ is sufficient to grant legitimacy and legality to any action and intervention.”



Estonia's Defense Minister Jaak Aaviksoo warns that differences in the perception of threats can lead to serious misunderstandings.

Minister Aaviksoo says that security is “much more a subconscious feeling than the result of some rational argument. . .A lot of what we do in defense, at least on the political level, is very much related to our perceptions of threats.” He also warns that “we perceive the threats differently—some as less real, some as more real—and that creates a number of problems and misunderstandings.” He also says, “the internet provides open access to information, which is the best instrument for undermining totalitarian systems.”



Admiral Mark Fitzgerald, NATO's Allied Joint Force Commander in Naples, warns about the severity of the situation in Kosovo. Admiral Fitzgerald says the economic situation in Kosovo is stagnant, with dependence on funds from the diaspora or international military forces stationed in the country. Corruption and smuggling are prominent.

Kosovo has “the highest unemployment in Europe—58%—and GDP growth is just starting to come up, now at 7%... Inflation is up to about 13%...and the people are still living with 1950s and 1960s technology.”

He says that the “real issue in Kosovo...is not whether this is going to be a Serbian province or an independent country, but where are the people's next euros coming from?”



General Karl-Heinz Lather, Chief of Staff at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE), emphasizes progress in Kosovo.

“The biggest challenge was to build up crowd- and riot-control units' capabilities to deal with demonstrations, disturbances, and civil unrest. In some cases in which KFOR troops contributed, nations had to change national legislation to allow their forces to be equipped and trained for that task. Once achieved, this capability became what I think is a very powerful and effective deterrent.” He also says that international peace forces usually need to cooperate with local governments and NGOs: “Each of these organizations addresses specific target areas and develops its own mostly independent lines of operation. . . There is really a need to coordinate all these activities in theatre, to deliver a comprehensive and even-handed approach to the conflicting parties.”



Ambassador Munir Akram, Pakistan's Ambassador to the U.N., says: “Pakistan-U.S. cooperation is currently strained.”

In order to achieve success in Afghanistan, there needs to be a “strategic dialogue between Pakistan and the United States” and “The U.S. and NATO also need to review their strategic objectives vis-à-vis Afghanistan.” They must realize that they will “1) not be able to transform Afghanistan overnight into a modern democracy; 2) not be able to change the conservative Islamic ideology and beliefs. . .; 3) not be able to eliminate or ignore the major power components in Afghanistan, especially the Pashtun tribes.” Ambassador Akram also argues that “The political strategy should aim at reconciliation” in order to “1) isolate the violent extremists from the moderate, non-violent, and non-involved majority; 2) win hearts and minds through practical assistance (health, food, housing, agricultural support); 3) build peace through grass-roots measures, district by district, village by village; and 4) utilize traditional modalities, for example, the Jirga system, for dispute settlement and accommodation.”

23rd INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON GLOBAL SECURITY *Berlin, Germany | 18–20 May 2006*



German Defense Minister Franz Josef Jung opens the 23rd International Workshop in Berlin, Germany. He warns that future military crisis prevention must avoid “decade-long military presence, such as has been the case unfortunately with IFOR, SFOR, EUFOR, and KFOR in the Balkans and ISAF in Afghanistan.” He is especially concerned that “Military goals are accomplished in a few weeks or months but large military forces are then committed for years, because civil stabilization and reconstruction, which the military helps to enable by guaranteeing a safe and secure environment, progress too slowly because of insufficient planning and coordination.” We need to be quicker in “establishing self-supporting civil stability that allows forces to be downsized earlier than they have been in the past.” Moreover, Minister Jung says that “the dialogue between the EU and NATO must be improved at all levels.”

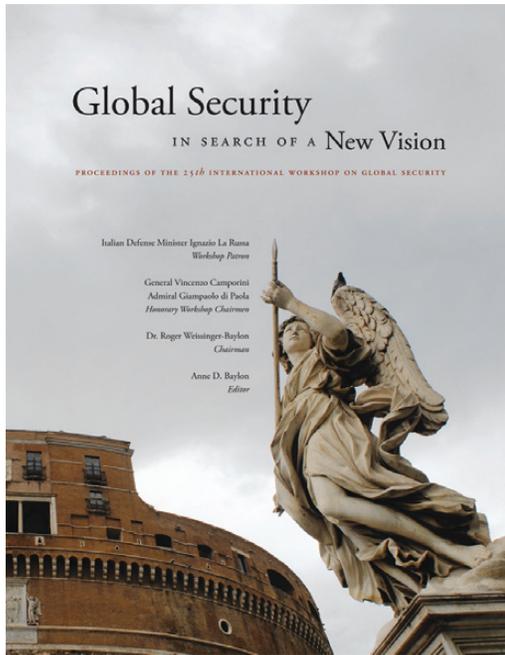
22nd INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON GLOBAL SECURITY *Chantilly/Paris, France | 10–12 June 2005*



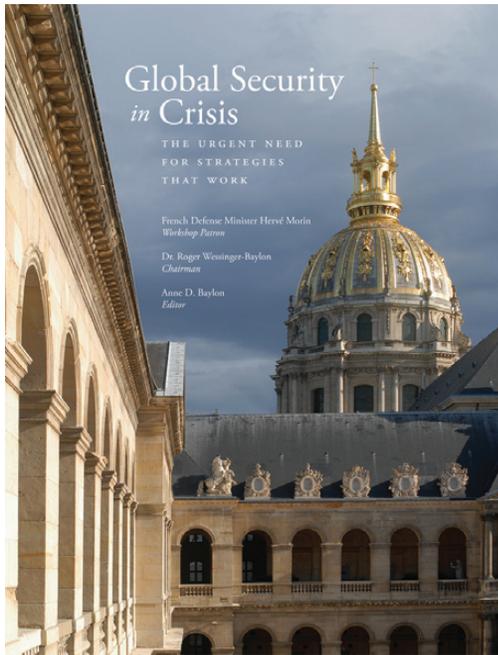
French Defense Minister Michèle Alliot-Marie keynotes the 22nd International Workshop in Chantilly/Paris, France.

Leading a panel with British Defense Minister the Rt Hon John Reid, Canadian Defense Minister Bill Graham, and Bulgarian Defense Minister Nikolay Svinarov, Minister Alliot-Marie says that the “success” of globalization (“mondialisation heureuse”) has brought us a world that is “fragmented, divided, torn apart” and in which many of her countrymen feel that “their nation is falling to pieces.” She warns that “The risks of crises in Africa, in the Middle East, and in Southeast Asia are growing. These continents or subcontinents are likely to drive peoples to flee and emigrate to other countries by tens of thousands or even millions. We may be affected in our ways of life. These crises may also have an important impact on world growth.”

Recent publications of the Center for Strategic Decision Research



25th ANNIVERSARY WORKSHOP
Rome, Italy | 20–22 June 2008



24th WORKSHOP
Paris, France | 14–17 June 2007

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