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Vienna School of International Studies
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The American Austrian Foundation



Annenberg
SCHOOL FOR COMMUNICATION
UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

Milton Wolf Seminar
Vienna, Austria
March 23-25, 2011

**PICKING UP THE PIECES: FRAGMENTED SOVEREIGNTIES AND EMERGING
INFORMATION FLOWS**

SEMINAR OVERVIEW

Launched in 2001, the Milton Wolf Seminar Series aims to deal with developing issues in diplomacy and journalism – both broadly defined. The 2011 seminar is jointly organized by the Center for Global Communication Studies (CGCS) at the University of Pennsylvania’s Annenberg School for Communication, The American Austrian Foundation (AAF), and the Diplomatic Academy in Vienna (DA). Guests include those working for state and multi-lateral organizations, journalists, media development practitioners, academics, and a select group of highly engaged graduate students interested in the seminar themes.

The organizers envision the Milton Wolf Seminar as a meeting place for media practitioners, diplomats, academics, and students to share their perspectives, formulate new ideas, and identify new areas where further research is needed. While different speakers will present their ideas in different panels, the seminar is designed to be more of a two-day continuing conversation in which all students and participants are encouraged to openly participate in dialogue and explore potential synergies and future collaborations. In order to encourage an open exchange of ideas, seminar attendance is limited to invited participants and select students.

THEMATIC OVERVIEW

This year’s seminar addresses diplomatic efforts to shape the form and content of the domestic media and communications environments of a variety of states that are experiencing stress, instability, and pressure on sovereignty. These activities are not without controversy. The same asymmetrical power relationships that dictate international relations in general also influence the ability of states to determine the structure of their own information spaces and to participate in the processes of negotiations and rulemaking that influence global information flows.

The 2011 Milton Wolf Seminar will explore activities such as international broadcasting, media development, media campaigns to promote government accountability, and efforts to expand the free flow of information. Individual sessions will examine media and communications interventions in a variety of countries including: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iran, Sudan, and Hungary.

Among the questions that will permeate the Milton Wolf discussions:

- How, when, and under what conditions should states intervene in the domestic information spaces of other states?
- What have been the hallmarks of the successes and failures of existing efforts?
- What are the ethical considerations present in intervening in the media and communications spaces of fragile or transitional states?
- Media and communications development (e.g. efforts to improve or supplement domestic media and communications actors through activities like journalism training) are often considered as separate from diplomatic outreach (e.g. public diplomacy and strategic communication). What are and should be the points of interaction between these two strands of intervention?
- New technologies are altering the flow of information within and across geographic territories. How does the rise of the social media and other mobile and internet technologies

complicate these processes? What are the implications of states supporting and or opposing the circulation of internet censorship technologies in closed and fragile states in order to promote the free flow of information across borders?

SUGGESTED FURTHER READING

We have included a list of potential further reading materials that evaluate these issues that we hope you might review in advance of the Seminar.

Arsenault, Amelia and Shawn Powers. 2010. [Media Development: A Review of the Literature](#). Washington, DC: InterNews Media Map Project.

Clinton, Hillary. 2010. [Remarks on Internet Freedom](#). January. The Newseum, Washington DC.

Frohardt, Mark and Jonathan Temin. 2003. [Use and Abuse of Media in Vulnerable Societies](#). Washington, DC: USIP.

Harvey, Mark (Ed.). 2006. [Media Matters: Perspectives on Advancing Governance and Development](#). Global Forum for Media Development.

Price, Monroe E. and Mark Thompson, eds. 2002. *Forging Peace: Intervention, Human Rights and the Management of Media Space*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press. This edited volume includes chapters on Cambodia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Rwanda, Kosovo and East Timor. It includes analysis of different forms of media intervention with a particular focus on the legal issues involved.

THANK YOU

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support provided by The Wolf Family Foundation, The Austrian Foreign Ministry and The U.S. Embassy in Vienna. We appreciate the support given by the academic partner institutions and thank the panelists for donating their time.

Agenda

DAY ONE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2011

6:00 – 8:00 PM Welcome Reception and Registration (Musikzimmer, Diplomatic Academy)

DAY TWO: THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2011

9:00 – 9:30 Introduction

- **Minister Elisabeth Bertagnoli**, Deputy Director, *Diplomatic Academy Vienna*
- **Katharine Eltz-Aulitzky**, Executive Director, *The American Austrian Foundation*
- **Monroe Price**, Director, Center for Global Communications Studies, *Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania*

9:30 – 11:30 Session 1: Building Media and Communications Structures in Complex Environments

This session will examine external government efforts to establish and guide how media is regulated and structured in countries considered to be in crisis.

Moderator: Monroe Price, Director, Center for Global Communications Studies, *Annenberg School for Communication University of Pennsylvania*

Panelists:

- **Jean-Marie Etter**, Director General, *Fondation Hironnelle*
- **Doug Griffin**, Director, *Albany Associates*
- **Manuel Puppis**, Senior Research and Teaching Associate, *Institute of Mass Communication and Media Research (IPMZ), University of Zürich*

11:30 – 1:00 Welcoming Lunch

1:00 – 3:00 Session 2: Public Diplomacy and Strategic Communication towards Fragile States

Diplomats and those concerned with international broadcasting will discuss their experiences working in fragile states.

Moderator: Amb. Wolfgang Petritsch, Permanent Representative of Austria, *OECD*

Panelists:

- **William Burke-White**, Foreign Policy Planning Staff, *U.S. Department of State*
- **Minister Christoph Meran**, Deputy Director, Division for Middle Eastern Affairs, *Austrian Ministry for Foreign Affairs*
- **Christian Ultsch**, Foreign Editor, *Die Presse*

3:00 – 5:00 Breakout Sessions

All participants will break into four groups to discuss the specific challenges facing such efforts in a specific case study country.

Group I: Sudan Case Study

- **Hildebrand Bijleveld**, International Programme Director for Development of Professional Journalism, *Press Now*
- **Jean-Marie Etter**, Director General, *Fondation Hironnelle*

Group II: Iran Case Study

- **Gudrun Harrer**, Senior Editor, *Der Standard*
- **Yahya Kamalipour**, Director, *Center for Global Studies, Purdue University*
- **Naeim Karimi**, *Carleton University*
- **Reza Marashi**, Research Director, *National Iranian American Council*
- **Ali Mirsepassi**, Director, Iranian Studies Initiative, *New York University*

Group III: Egypt Case Study

- **Adel Iskandar**, Instructor, Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, *Georgetown University*
- **Monroe Price**, Director, Center for Global Communications Studies, *Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania*

Group IV: Hungary Case Study

- **Eva Simon**, Media Lawyer, Hungarian Civil Liberties Union
- **Julia Sonnevend**, Visiting Fellow, Information Society Project, *Yale University Law School*

6:30 Walking Dinner @ the U.S. Deputy Chief of Mission's (Christopher Hoh) Residence

DAY THREE: FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 2011

9:00 – 11:00 Session 3: Bosnia and Herzegovina

In the early 1990s, governments from around the world poured money into Bosnia and Herzegovina in an effort to develop its media systems in order to promote democratization and mitigate future conflicts. This panel will look at past efforts and current challenges with a specific focus on current efforts to regulate hate speech.

Moderator: Monroe Price, Director, Center for Global Communications Studies, *Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania*

Panelists:

- **Christopher Hoh**, Deputy Chief of Mission, *U.S. Embassy in Austria* and former Director for South Central European Affairs in the State Department, overseeing U.S. policy and programs related to Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia
- **Mehmed Halilovic**, Deputy Ombudsman, *The Federation of BiH for the Media*
- **Danijela Majstorović**, Assistant Professor & Head, English Dept., *University of Banja Luka*

11:00 – 11:15 Tea Break

11:15 – 12:30 Perspectives from the Field

Moderator: *Amelia Arsenault*, Visiting Scholar, Center for Global Communications Studies, *Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania*

Panelists:

- *Ljiljana Zurova*, Executive Director, *The Press Council in Bosnia-Herzegovina*
- *May Fawaz*, Lebanese Journalist
- *Nidzara Ahmetasevic*, Journalist, Bosnia and Herzegovina

12:30 – 2:00 Lunch

2:00 – 3:45 Session 4: The Right to Connect

This session will focus on attempts to leverage the internet and mobile telephony to open closed societies in addition to or as a replacement for media interventions.

Moderator: *Eva Šimon*, Media Lawyer, Hungarian Civil Liberties Union

Panelists:

- *Dunja Mijatović*, Representative on Freedom of the Media, *OSCE*
- *Emily Parker**, Policy Planning staff member, *U.S. Department of State*
- *Silvia Lindtner*, Information and Computer Science; *University of California, Irvine*

**Any views expressed by Ms. Parker are hers personally and do not necessarily represent the U.S. Government or Department of State.*

3:45 – 4:00 Tea Break

4:00 – 5:30 Session 5: New Issues, New Directions

During this closing session panelists and audience members will participate in an open discussion about the major issues raised and conclusions formed out of the different sessions and case studies.

8:00 Heurigen Fuhrigassl Huber

Neustift am Walde 68
1190 Vienna, Austria
01 4401405