

ANNUAL REVIEW

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Peace Research
Center Prague

FOREWORD

In the fateful year 2022, PRCP confronted what peace researchers work to avoid: a bloody war close to home, unleashed by a dictatorial, nuclear armed great power against a non-nuclear, but gallantly resisting neighbour. In hindsight, the initial choice of our three research fields, frozen conflicts, nuclear arms and proliferation, and great power competition proved foresightful: Russia's aggression turned a frozen conflict into a hot war when the freeze no longer satisfied her expansionist territorial ambitions; psychological warfare accompanied military operations, using nuclear weapons as an instrument of intimidation and blackmail to bring Ukraine to terms and stop Western assistance; and the war was embedded in the ongoing great power struggle, as Russia declared to be at war with the West and its leading power USA, and tried to entangle China – already in a tense relationship with the US – into a closer alliance.

As documented below, PRCP's considerable 2022 output – peer reviewed, academic articles, policy briefs, conferences and contributions in the media – have been dominated by themes centering on the Ukraine war. Our duty to address what is relevant and to provide useful information and suggestions to the government and the public, has been dutifully fulfilled. In times like this, peace researchers do not speak softly. Peace can only be restored for the defender, and preserved for the neighbours, when the aggressor will be stopped. Giving a realistic analysis of the situation and presenting not illusionary, but reasonable policy options remains the guideline for our work in these dire circumstances. ●



Prof. Dr. Harald Müller



2022 turned out to be a year that most of us will remember for the rest of our lives. The Russian invasion of Ukraine brought the horrors of large-scale war back to the European continent and demonstrated clearly that both conventional warfighting and threats of nuclear weapon use are not things of the distant past.

The PRCP was founded in 2018 to bring together a team of scholars and experts who study the issues of war and peace. The last year was, therefore, a big challenge for our center – and I am proud that we showed that our work matters. Our members have been in the national media on an almost daily basis, providing unique expertise on all aspects of the Russo-Ukrainian war, from an analysis of the battlefield situation to the discussion of the broader strategic implications.

At the same time, we have not sidelined our academic research, and our 2022 publications show clearly that the PRCP is a prominent voice in scholarly debates in our field. Our researchers have managed to publish their findings in top-tier journals such as *International Studies Quarterly*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Contemporary Security Policy*, *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, *International Studies Perspectives*, and *Foreign Policy Analysis*. Moreover, a full-length book dedicated to our UNCE project was accepted for publication in the prestigious Oxford University Press. Finally, we continue with our PRCP policy brief series with short takes on current events in world politics.

2023 will likely continue to be a busy year for our team. I am thrilled that our PRCP family has grown even more with three new researchers, allowing us to expand our activities to previously uncharted territories. We will strive to keep up our scholarly and policy endeavors, and I genuinely hope to see everyone interested in our work at the annual PRCP conference on April 21. ●

Doc. PhDr. Michal Smetana Ph.D.

2022 IN NUMBERS

BOOK

1

POLICY
BRIEFS

4

JOURNAL
ARTICLES

11

MEDIA
APPEARANCES

> 500

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS



Elite-Public Gaps in Attitudes to Nuclear Weapons: New Evidence from a Survey of German Citizens and Parliamentarians.

International Studies Quarterly
Michal Smetana & Michal Onderčo



External drivers of EU differentiated cooperation: How change in the nuclear nonproliferation regime affects member states alignment

Contemporary Security Policy
Michal Onderčo & Clara Portela



Security, Terrorism, and Territorial Withdrawal: Critically Reassessing the Lessons of Israel's "Unilateral Disengagement" from the Gaza Strip

International Studies Perspectives
Rob Geist Pinfeld



Can 'Realists' and 'Hawks' Agree? Half-measures and Compromises on the Road to Invasion of Ukraine

Central European Journal of International and Security Studies
Vojtěch Bahenský



Ideology and the Red Button: How Ideology Shapes Nuclear Weapons' Use Preferences in Europe

Foreign Policy Analysis
Michal Onderčo, Tom W. Etienne & Michal Smetana



The lesser evil? Experimental evidence on the strength of nuclear and chemical weapon "taboos"

Conflict Management and Peace Science
Michal Smetana, Marek Vranka & Ondřej Rosendorf



From Moscow With a Mushroom Cloud? Russian Public Attitudes to the Use of Nuclear Weapons in a Conflict With NATO

Journal of Conflict Resolution
Michal Smetana & Michal Onderčo



Autonomous weapons and ethical judgments: Experimental evidence on attitudes toward the military use of “killer robots”

Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology
Ondřej Rosendorf, Michal Smetana & Marek Vranka



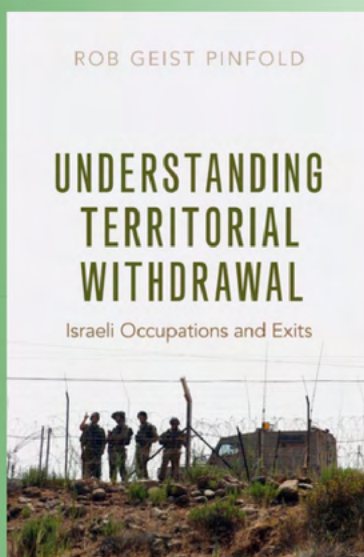
Roots of Chinese Doctrine of International Law

The Lawyer Quarterly
Michal Tomášek



One or Many? Disentangling the Puzzle of Pro-Government Militia Deployment

Studies in Conflict & Terrorism
Kamil C. Klošek & Emil A. Souleimanov



FORTHCOMING IN 2023

**Understanding Territorial Withdrawal.
Israeli Occupations and Exits**

Oxford University Press

by **Rob Geist Pinfold**

POLICY BRIEFS

WHOEVER ACTS IN THE WRONG MOVIE IS PUNISHED BY LIFE

Our principal investigator **Harald Müller** on the war in Ukraine, resemblances to the year 1938, and the need for transformation of Europe's security architecture.



A SPECIAL TRIBUNAL FOR UKRAINE: A WAY FORWARD FOR INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE?

Nikola Kurková Klímová discusses the possibilities of addressing the international crimes reported as having been committed in Ukraine. She explains, why the creation of a special tribunal for Ukraine might not be the best way forward.



THE DIFFICULTY OF DEBATES ON ISRAEL AS AN APARTHEID REGIME

In this guest policy brief, **Jakub Záhora** from Max Planck Institute in Germany engages in the discussion of the recent report by Amnesty International, which labels Israel an 'apartheid regime.'



NO GOOD MILITARY SOLUTION FOR UKRAINE

Jan Ludvík on the initial phases of the crisis between Ukraine and Russia and the grim outlooks for Ukraine in case of an armed clash.



EVENTS



PRCP Research Seminars

monthly



Válka na Ukrajině: 10 bodu pro orientaci v současné krizi

Public debate
March 9th



Češi a Izrael: diplomacie vs. veřejné mínění

Public debate
May 16th



PRCP Annual Conference

Closed roundtable - June 20th
Public conference - June 21st



Public debate
June 27th

Jak česká média pokrývají
izraelsko-palestinský konflikt?



Expert workshop
November 14th

Visit of students of the Israeli
National Security College



December 8th

PRCP Project Meeting



Public debate
November 22nd

Mlha války ve 21. století



RESEARCH GRANTS



Specializace v zahraniční a bezpečnostní politice malých států

CZECH SCIENCE FOUNDATION GRANT

Tomáš Weiss

STANTON
FOUNDATION

Public Support for Nuclear Arms Control: An Experimental Survey Approach

STANTON FOUNDATION NUCLEAR SECURITY GRANT (UNITED STATES)

Michal Smetana, Marek Vranka, Ondrej Rosendorf



System for Strategic Security Research Management

SECURITY RESEARCH, MINISTRY OF INTERIOR (CZECH REPUBLIC)

Jan Ludvík, Vojtěch Bahenský

INTERNATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

BEYOND NUCLEAR DETERRENCE WORKING GROUP

Our researchers Michal Smetana, Marek Vranka, and Ondrej Rosendorf have recently joined “Beyond Nuclear Deterrence Working Group,” a collaborative research project organized by the Harvard Kennedy School’s Project on Managing the Atom. They are currently working on a joint special issue and are planning to attend the first meeting of the group in Hiroshima, Japan, in April 2023.

EU NON-PROLIFERATION AND DISARMAMENT CONSORTIUM

PRCP continues its active participation in this EU-funded network. EUNPDC is bringing together foreign policy institutions and research centers from across the EU to encourage political and security-related dialogue and the long-term discussion of measures to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and their delivery systems.

GLOBAL RESEARCH NETWORK ON PEACEFUL CHANGE

PRCP is also a member of this platform for scholars and institutions that study the issue of peaceful change in world politics. The network has recently published The Oxford Handbook of Peaceful Change in International Relation with Oxford University Press.

INTERNSHIPS



Barbora Novotná

02/2022

During her stay at PRCP, Barbora was a bachelor's student in Political Science and Public Policy at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University. She examined the nature of expert analysis regarding the Ukraine-Russia tensions that appeared in media prior to the Russian invasion.



Lucas Tamayo Ruiz

08/2022 - 01/2023

Lucas is a Master's student of Peace and Conflict Research at Uppsala University, Sweden. During his stay at PRCP, he worked on several research projects examining the use and misuse of traumatic historical events in foreign policy, applying different methodological approaches and data analyses. His own research interest lies in conflict mediation, where he focuses on local civil peace mediation, as well as Track 1.5 mediation.

I was provided with the opportunity of going through the process of creating a research paper with the ambition of publishing it. I was able to experience first-hand all the shifts and changes that a research project suffers during its duration (...). I had the luxury of having tons and tons of help from my colleagues while drafting my paper. I could ask for help any moment I needed it, and several days a week some colleague would come into my office and ask me about my project (...). Overall, I would like to wholeheartedly recommend the PRCP to anyone pursuing an internship within the field of peace and conflict studies.

Lucas Tamayo Ruiz

NEW TEAM MEMBERS FOR 2023

In 2023, we are happy to welcome three new researchers to the PRCP team: **Jan Daniel**, **Tereza Jermanová**, and **Jakub Záhora** are joining our newly formed Middle East Research Group.



Dr. **Jan Daniel** is a Senior Researcher at the Institute of International Relations Prague. He focuses on international politics and security in the Middle East, politics and practices of international interventions in the region, Czech and European foreign policy towards the Middle Eastern countries, and the debate on hybrid warfare.



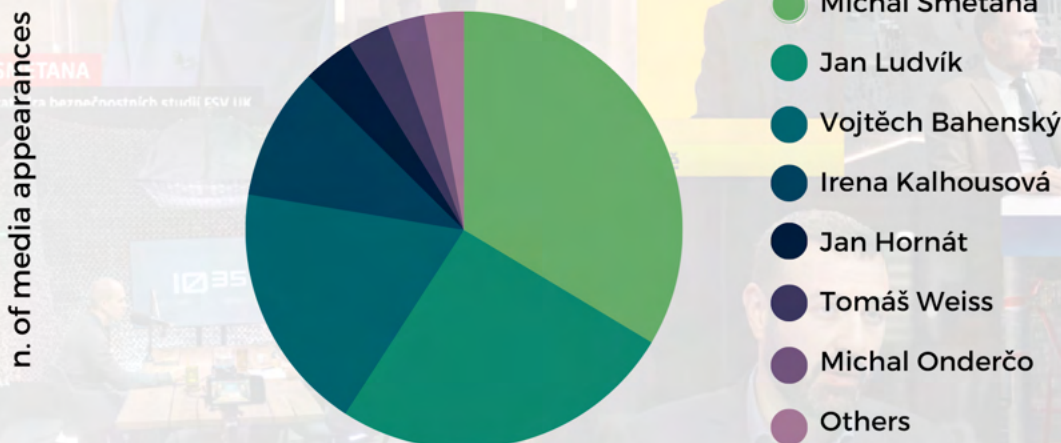
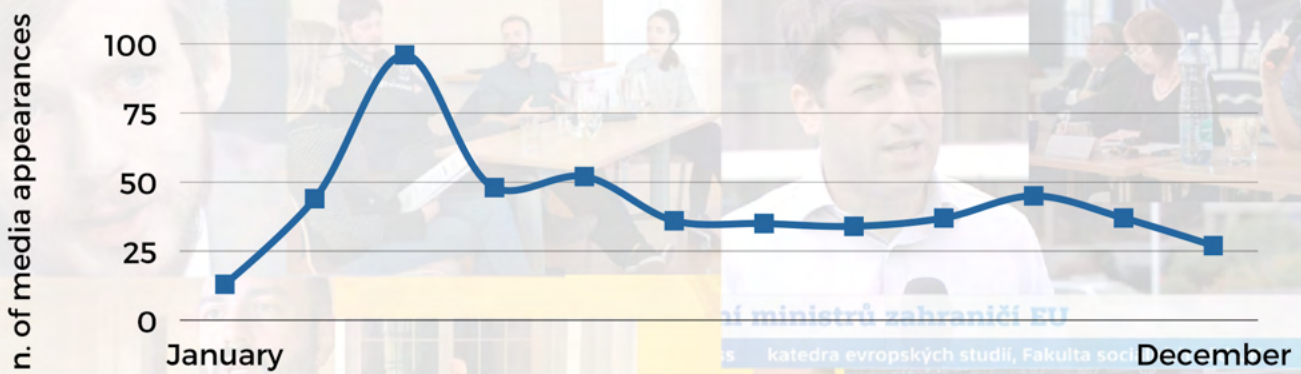
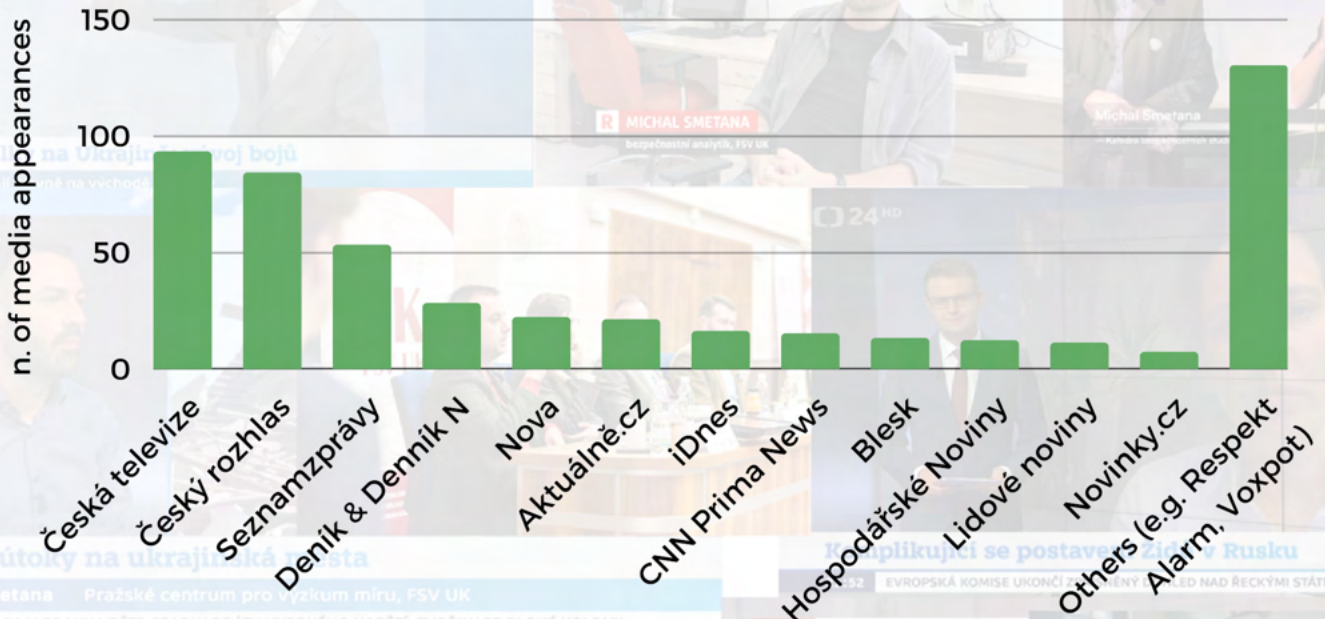
Dr. **Tereza Jermanová** is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Middle Eastern Studies at the Faculty of Arts, Charles University. In her research, Tereza focuses on democratization, constitution-making, Arab uprisings, and the politics in Tunisia and Egypt.



Dr. **Jakub Záhora** is a researcher at the UNCE VITRI Center at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University. Jakub's research interests cover mostly political ethnography and International Political Sociology. Empirically, he focuses on Israel and Palestine.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

The events of 2022 brought the expertise of our researchers into high demand. Rising up to the challenge, they made over 500 media appearances in Czech print and broadcast media, participated in many public debates, and established themselves as leading expert voices in the Czech public debate on war and conflict.





Jan Ludvík
bezpečnostní expert, Institut politologických studií FSV UK



Téma Horizontu
Nancy Pelosiová na Tchaj-wanu



21:38 **POVODÍ LABE NAVÝŠILO KVŮLI HAŠENÍ V NP ČESKÉ ŠVÝCARSKO PRŮTOK VODY V LABI POD STŘEKOVEM.**

Dvě vesmírné výzvy pro Zemi

U kosmických letů se osazená člunů vesmírné. To znamená technologií a materiálů, které jsou se Zemi, charakter, který je úplně jiný. Vesmírné lety jsou velmi nákladné, a to jak z hlediska nákladů, tak i z hlediska času. Každá mise do vesmíru stojí za statisíce miliónů dolarů. To je důvodem, proč jsou vesmírné lety tak vzácné. Přesto se v posledních letech objevily nové možnosti, které mohou změnit situaci. Například s pomocí nových technologií a materiálů se může stát, že vesmírné lety budou mnohem levnější a rychlejší. To by mohlo vést k tomu, že vesmírné lety budou mnohem častější a tím pádem i bezpečnější. To by mohlo vést k tomu, že vesmírné lety budou mnohem bezpečnější a tím pádem i bezpečnější. To by mohlo vést k tomu, že vesmírné lety budou mnohem bezpečnější a tím pádem i bezpečnější.



100 dnů války na Ukrajině: vývoj bojů
boje teď probíhají hlavně na východě Ukrajiny



MICHAL SMETANA
bezpečnostní analytik, FSV UK



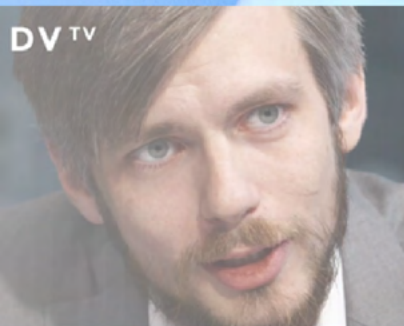
Michal Smetana
Katedra bezpečnostních studií, FSV UK



Ruské útoky na ukrajinská města
Michal Smetana Pražské centrum pro výzkum
15:06 **NÁ D1 U PRAHY VEČER SPADLY DRÁTY VYSOKÉ**



Komplikující se postavení Židů v Rusku
21:52 **EVROPSKÁ KOMISE UKONČIL ZPŘÍŠNĚNÝ DOHLED NAD ŘECKÝMI STÁTNÍMI FINANČNÍMI.**



MICHAL SMETANA
výzkumník, katedra bezpečnostních studií FSV UK



Ministrů zahraničí EU
katedra evropských studií, Fakulta sociálních věd UK



MICHAL SMETANA
bezpečnostní analytik



Y Izraeli
katedra sociálních věd, Univerzita Karlova

HIGHLIGHTS...



The Nuclear Taboo Database

At nuclear-taboo.eu you can search through our new database of academic literature that examines one of the most intriguing puzzles in our field: Why have nuclear weapons not been used in military conflict since 1945?

ELISS

Launch of Experimental Lab for International Security Studies (ELISS)

In 2022, we launched ELISS - a Prague-based interdisciplinary research group combining political science and cognitive & social psychology, with a focus on the use of experimental methods



Federal Cross of Merit for Harald Müller

On May 3, the principal investigator and supervisor of PRCP, Harald Müller, was awarded the Cross of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany by president Frank-Walter Steinmeier.

... from teaching

Golden Courses Award

Michal Parízek, Michal Smetana, Sarah Komarová, and Vojtěch Bahenský received a *Golden Course Award* for the course "Crisis Games"



Award for outstanding educational activities from the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

In December, our head researcher Michal Smetana received a prestigious award for outstanding educational activities from the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

Student podcasts

In the "Politics of Non-Proliferation" class, we have proudly launched a new series of student video podcasts on issues related to nuclear weapons in world politics.



Nuclear Reactor visit

Michal Smetana's "Politics of Non-Proliferation" class visited the VR-1 experimental nuclear reactor at Czech Technical University in Prague.



TEAM FOR

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www.prcprague.cz