

PRCP ANNUAL REVIEW



2021



FOREWORD

The year 2021 presented still more difficult conditions for the work of an internationally active research institute than the year before. The Pandemic rendered conferences and even small meetings contingent on the most careful precautions and put all collaborative activities to stringent discipline. Much inventiveness and flexibility were required, notably the creative use of digital tools. PRCP lived up to the challenge. It sustained a laudable publication output of high quality. The subjects covered a broad area from the “nuclear taboo” to the power structure in the Indian Ocean region. The Center addressed relevant policy issues in its “Policy Brief” series, acquired significant grants from prestigious sources, and continued to host young researcher interns. Proving its position at the cutting edge of methodological innovation, it established the “Experimental Lab for International Security Studies”, funded through Charles University's PRIMUS Research Programme. Thus, PRCP continued functioning as a normal academic institution of excellence in non-normal times.

The title of the annual conference “A World Turning Dangerous” pointed to another ominous global change apart from the pandemic: the fragility of peace, with war clouds hanging over Europe as well as over Eastern Asia. In both regions, aggressive ambitions of autocratic great powers are the drivers. Ignoring international rules and employing military instruments not for defense, but for threat and territorial gain, they lead the world back to the risky environment of the late nineteen thirties.



This dangerous world is known to the Czech people all too well. Hence, peace research in Prague is not characterized by naïvité, but by the keen consciousness that resisting the ambitions of autocratic leaders and turning international relations back to peaceful co-existence calls for a well-devised combination of firmness and cooperative offers. Good offers alone without firmness will not do, but will only enlarge the appetite of leaders longing for ever more power.

We at PCRP are also well aware that independent research, free of political pressure, is only possible in well-functioning democracies. We see the suppression of free opinion and independent research in the powerful autocracies, and their attempts to undermine democratic institutions and to interfere with democratic elections. We see trends to impede free academic work even in some members of the European Union. We have seen the attempts to intimidate the free expression of opinion in the United States under the last president, and similar pressures by populist movements against serious scientists in Europe. PCRP is not neutral in this contest. Doing good research without succumbing to pressure means taking a stand. We are proud and happy that the Czech Republic showed to the world how a good democracy works, conducting free elections which led to a change of government; the incumbent party accepted defeat fairly, and the transition went smoothly. It is this fresh democratic air that makes independent academic work flourish, and we are grateful. PCRP pledges to continue fulfilling its mission with enthusiasm and diligence.

Prof. Dr. Harald Müller
PRCP Research Supervisor & Senior Research Associate

2021 IN NUMBERS

3

POLICY BRIEFS

2

BOOKS

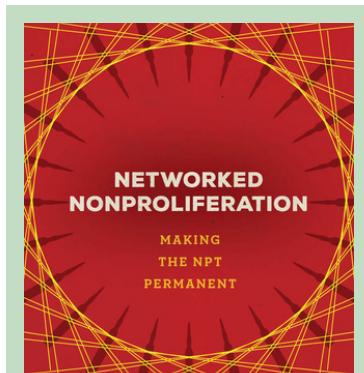
11

ARTICLES

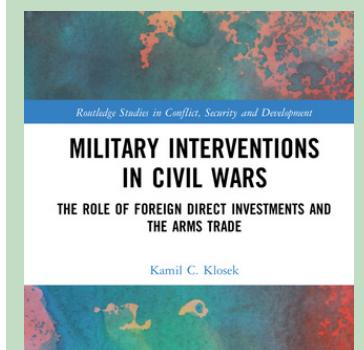
7 WoS

4 SCOPUS

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS



Networked Nonproliferation: Making the NPT Permanent
[Stanford University Press](#)
by Michal Onderčo



Military interventions in Civil Wars: The Role of Foreign Direct Investments and the Arms Trade
[Routledge](#)
by Kamil Klosek

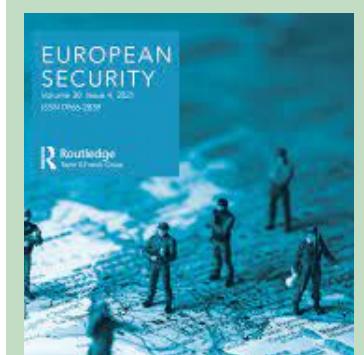


Forum: Nonuse of Nuclear Weapons in World Politics: Toward the Third Generation of “Nuclear Taboo” Research
[International Studies Review](#)

by Michal Smetana, Carmen Wunderlich, Harald Müller, Nina Tannenwald, Maria Rost Rublee, Alexander H. Montgomery, Charli Carpenter, Scott D. Sagan and Benjamin A. Valentino



NPT as an Antifragile System: How Contestation Improves the Nonproliferation Regime
[Contemporary Security Policy](#)
by Michal Smetana and Joseph O'Mahoney



Hegemonic stability in the Indo-Pacific: US-India relations and induced balancing

[International Relations](#)
by Jan Hornát

Disarming Arguments: Public Opinion and Nuclear Abolition
[Survival](#)
by Ondřej Rosendorf, Michal Smetana and Marek Vranka

German Views on US Nuclear Weapons in Europe: Public and Elite Perspectives

[European Security](#)
by Michal Onderčo and Michal Smetana

POLICY BRIEFS



May 2021

How might the V4 countries combat climate deadlock in the UN security council?

Tomáš Bruner debated different positions of V4 states in view of climate change, and their engagement in the UN.



October 2021

The human rights pitfalls of the new EU sanction regime

Nikola Kurková Klímová wrote about the EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime.



December 2021

Nuclear arms control needs a fresh start

Jan Ludvík discussed the state of nuclear arms control and the possible developments for a new nuclear-arms-control regime.

RESEARCH GRANTS

ELISS



The Past is Present: The Use and Misuse of Traumatic Historical Events in Foreign Policy

PRIMUS Research Programme (Charles University)

Irena Kalhousová

Experimental Lab for International Security Studies (ELISS)

PRIMUS Research Programme (Charles University)

Michal Smetana

Vzájemná interakce vlastní a cizí perspektivy v politickém rozhodování: perspektiva kvantové sociální vědy

Czech Science Foundation Grant

Jakub Tesař

EVENTS & SEMINARS



Book Launch: Military Interventions in Civil War

October 20th - Café Platýz, Prague

Public event introducing the new book by **Kamil Klosek**.



PRCP Research Seminars

Monthly - Prague offices + online

Monthly presentations and discussions of our research.



PRCP Annual Conference: A World Turning Dangerous

November 30th - Charles University, Prague

Our annual conference focused on Legal Perspectives on Current Trends in International Migration (Panel I) and Russia, "Hybrid Warfare," and the Future of East-West Relations (Panel II) this year.

- Speakers: Vojtěch Bahenský, Tomáš Bruner, Ondřej Ditrych, Barbara Dufková, Eliška Flídrová, Markéta Gregorová, Michal Onderčo, Tomáš Petříček, Lenka Pítrová, Martin Rozumek, and Robert Stojanov



Seeking Justice for Victims of International Crimes: The Khmer Rouge Tribunal

April 6th - online

A live-streamed debate focused on the particularities of international criminal justice in the case of the Khmer Rouge Tribunal as seen by two experts, Sangeetha Yogendran and Nikola Kurková Klímová.



PRCP Annual Project Meeting

November 29th - Prague offices + online

Our annual project meeting introduced new avenues for the team as well as our new members for 2022.

HIGHLIGHTS

New Project - ELISS

In 2022 we will be launching the Experimental Lab for International Security Studies (ELISS). It is a Prague-based interdisciplinary research group funded by Charles University's PRIMUS program. The research is situated at the intersection of political science and cognitive and

social psychology, with a focus on the use of experimental methods to study pertinent issues in foreign policy and international security. The group is particularly interested in examining the public and elite attitudes toward the use



of military force, weapons of mass destruction (nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons), AI-powered autonomous weapon systems, cyber strikes, and contemporary "hybrid threats". Additional information can be found on the dedicated webpage eliss-lab.eu or the Twitter account [@eliss_lab](https://twitter.com/eliss_lab).



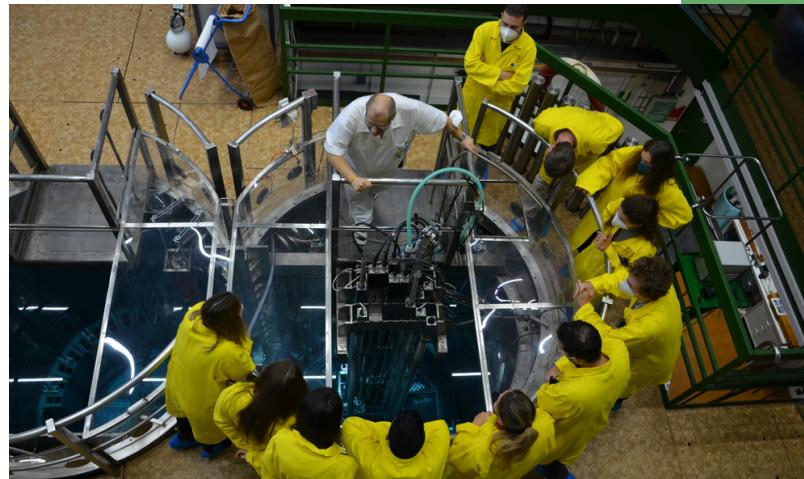
Book Award

The book *Svědectví o životě v KLDR* written by our affiliated researcher Nina Špitálníková won prestigious award Magnesia Litera.

...FROM TEACHING

Nuclear Reactor visit

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



Golden Course Awards

(*Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University*)

- **Jan Hornát** for "Promoting Democracy Abroad: the U.S. and the EU in Third Countries"
- **Irena Kalhousová** for "Israel: Politics and Society"
- **Michal Smetana & Ondřej Rosendorff** for "Political Psychology in International Relations"
- **Michal Smetana, Vojtěch Bahenský, Michal Parízek, Sarah Komasová & Tomáš Kučera** for "Crisis Games"

New courses

- **Jakub Tesař**
 - Global Politics of Development and Environment
 - Constructivism in International Relations
- **Irena Kláhousová**
 - History, Memory, and Politics: Central Europe and Israel
- **Jan Ludvík**
 - War and Strategy in Nuclear Age

PUBLIC OUTREACH



Media

- Our experts joined the public debate through over 20 media appearances in outlets such as Washington Post, Czech TV, or Deník N.

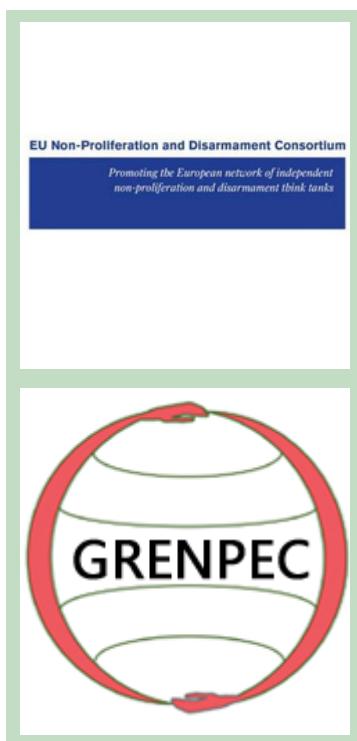
Social Media

- PRCP communicates its activities through professionally managed social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, or LinkedIn, thus reaching out and interacting with a broader audience.

New website section

- The COVID19-induced transfer to online platforms led us on to create a new webpage PRCP Online Series, which presents our live-streamed activities and events.

INTERNATIONAL MEMBERSHIP



EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Consortium

- A network 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

- A platform of scholars and institutions worldwide to form new initiatives, connect scholars, and publish existing projects.

INTERNSHIPS



Fabiana Natale

[01/04 - 30/04/2021](#)

Fabiana researched the role of central banking in contexts of political instability and civil unrest in a case study on Venezuelan foreign exchange reserves and the energy sector in maintaining regime stability.



Ondřej Kopečný

[01/04 - 30/06/2021](#)

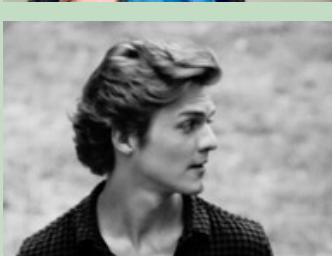
Ondřej assisted the Frozen Conflicts working group and analyzed social media communication of Armenia and Azerbaijan's Ministries of Foreign Affairs during the 2020 war.



Daria Solomina

[25/06 - 30/08/2021](#)

During her stay at PRCP, Daria was working on data analysis within two of our working groups (NCD and PEL).



Richard Křesina

[01/07 - 31/08 2021](#)

Richard was an intern at the Frozen Conflicts working group, where he conducted research on the dynamics of peaceful resolution of frozen conflicts.



Linda Jäck

[15/07 - 15/10/2021](#)

Linda was our EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Consortium intern and focused on Artificial Intelligence in nuclear disarmament. You can read her paper on our website.



Nina Webrová

[01/09 - 30/11/2021](#)

Nina worked on our Monetary Warfare research and examined the role of currencies and monetary policies implemented by rebel groups to challenge state authorities during internal armed conflicts.



Jennifer Confidence

[01/09 - 30/11/2021](#)

While at PRCP, Jennifer focused on currency and monetary policies by state and non-state actors in civil wars and their effects on conflict dynamics and the authority of the state.

NEW TEAM MEMBERS FOR 2022



Sarah Komarová

Sarah Komarová is an analyst in STEM: Empirical Research for Democracy, and a researcher at the Department of Air Transport, Czech Technical University in Prague. She focuses on the issues of terrorism, airport, and aviation security, or UAVs but deals also with a broader array of sociological topics such as the quality of living or disinformation.

At PRCP, Sarah will be part of our experimental lab team.



Lucie Kadlecová

Lucie Kadlecová is a Senior Associate in CybExer Technologies, an Estonian private company specializing in cyber security. Cyber security is her main area of research interest, especially in regards to the state's behavior in and approach to cyberspace as a new challenging sphere of power and influence.

Lucie will come to PRCP as a post-doctoral researcher.



Tereza Plíštilová

Tereza is a Ph.D. student of International Relations at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University. In her doctoral dissertation, Tereza examines protest movements in the MENA region after the Arab Spring and their visibility in the media. More broadly her academic interest lies in the new media, contemporary politics, and society of the Middle East.

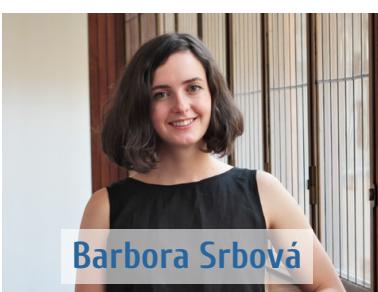
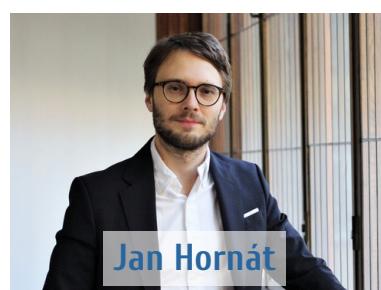
Tereza will become PRCP junior researcher.



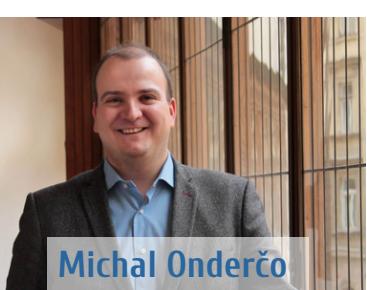
Dagmar Rychnovská

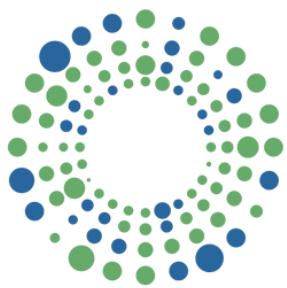
Dagmar is a Lecturer in Global Insecurities at the Department of International Relations, University of Sussex. She worked as Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Studies (IHS), Vienna, and as a lecturer at Charles University and Metropolitan University Prague. In her research, Dagmar explores the entanglements of science, technology, and security, especially in the area of global health governance and biosecurity.

Dagmar will join PRCP as a non-residential fellow.



PRCP TEAM 2021 & 2022





Peace Research
Center Prague

2021



www.prcprague.cz



@prcprague