

# FIIA <sup>1/2018</sup> NEWSLETTER

FIIA has launched four new Government-funded research projects. In late March FIIA organized jointly with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland a two-day brainstorming meeting on EU Defence.

## Four new Government-funded research projects launched

Four new Government-funded (Government's analysis, assessment and research funding) research projects have recently been launched at FIIA.

A project on the "EU's role as a Security Community" is led by Programme Director Juha Jokela and it studies European public opinion as well as citizens' attitudes and values underpinning the development of the EU as a security and defence actor. A project entitled "Changing Great Power Politics and Its Implications for Finland" is led by Director Teija Tiilikainen and focuses in particular on the Sino-Russian relationship and the US-Russian relationship and their broader significance for the global order. A third project is entitled "New Challenges for the Strategic Deterrence in the 21st Century" and is led by Visiting Senior Fellow Leo Michel.

A number of FIIA researchers take part in these three research projects, of which the two first mentioned shall be concluded in the autumn of 2018 and the third in May 2019.

The fourth new research project focuses on societal resilience. The project is led by Professor Sirpa Virta from the University of Tampere. From FIIA, Senior Research Fellows Juha Käpylä and Harri Mikkola take part in the project, which is due to be concluded by the end of 2018.



Foreign Minister Timo Soini gave a speech on transatlantic relations at a FIIA seminar marking the release of the FIIA report "Between Change and Continuity: Making sense of America's evolving global engagement" on 31 January 2018.

## Expert meeting on EU Defence

FIIA organized, jointly with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, a two-day brainstorming meeting on EU Defence in late March.

The aim of this closed session among a group of 20 experts was to take stock of the recent developments and analyse the future direction of the EU in the field of security and defence. The discussion focused on the EU's strategic approach, EU Defence in a transatlantic context, instruments and capabilities of EU Defence, and its implications for national security and defence policies.

MFA, MoD and FIIA experts were joined by Jan Joel Andersson (EDA), Frances G. Burwell (Atlantic Council), Pierre Haroche (IRSEM), Sylvia Hartleif (EPSC), Arnold

Kammel (AIES), Claudia Major (SWP) and Marcin Terlikowski (PiSM). This event was the third edition of the Mustio discussions organized in the premises of the historical Svartå Manor outside of Helsinki.

## Staff News

Sophie Eisentraut has joined FIIA's Global Security research programme in February. She holds a PhD from Freie Universität Berlin and has joined FIIA as a Transatlantic Post-Doc (TAPIR) Fellow.

## Finnish Journal of Foreign Affairs

This year's first issue of *Ulkopolitiikka*, the Finnish Journal of Foreign Affairs, focuses on the rise of authoritarianism.

In the cover story, Dan Slater, professor at the University of Michigan, states that **democracy is**

The Finnish Institute of International Affairs is an independent research institute that produces high level research to support political decision-making and public debate both nationally and internationally

**no longer safe anywhere.** The article investigates how authoritarian measures are getting stronger even within the European Union, not to mention Russia and Turkey. In Hungary prime minister Viktor Orbán is building an illiberal state. Poland is in dispute with the EU in relation to the practice of rule of law.

Ulkopolitiikka also tells how **US President Trump did not manage to drain the swamp in Washington,** but gave instead more power to the lobbies.

The Journal is available both as a **printed journal** and as an e-paper at [lehtiluukku.fi](http://lehtiluukku.fi).

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## Recent publications

All FIIA publications are available on the Institute's [website](http://www.fiia.fi).

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### FIIA Reports

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**EU member states and Russia:  
National and European debates in an  
evolving international environment**  
Marco Siddi

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**Between change and continuity:  
Making Sense of America's Evolving  
Global Engagement**

Mika Aaltola, Charly Salenius-  
Pasternak, Juha Käpylä & Ville  
Sinkkonen

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### FIIA Briefing Papers

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**Regionalism à la ASEAN: Past  
Achievements and Current Challenges**  
Bart Gaens & Olli Ruohomäki

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**EU:n kauppapolitiikka koetuksella:  
Kompastuuko unioni omiin  
jalkoihinsa?**  
Saila Turtiainen

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**Russian-Ukrainian relations: The  
farewell that wasn't**  
Arkady Moshes & Ryhor Nizhnikau

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**Nordic foreign and security policy  
cooperation: The new strategic  
environment as a catalyst for greater  
unity?**  
Tuomas Iso-Markku

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**Catalonia as a laboratory for European  
separatism: Understanding the  
independence process and its  
meaning in a wider European context**  
Teemu Tammikko

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**Taiwan's role in East Asian security:  
Overlooked actor in a pivotal position**  
Jyrki Kallio

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**China-Russia security cooperation:  
Geopolitical signalling with limits**  
Elina Sinkkonen

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### FIIA Comments

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**A new government takes office in  
Berlin: What prospects for Franco-  
German leadership in the EU?**  
Tuomas Iso-Markku & Marco Siddi

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**The decreasing asymmetry in Russia-  
China relations: The consequences  
of the Western policy shift towards  
China**  
Marcin Kaczmarek

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**Uncertainty in the Italian election:  
Towards a political stalemate?**  
Marco Siddi

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**Donbas is becoming a no-man's land:  
Pressures to freeze the status quo are  
rising**  
Ryhor Nizhnikau & Jussi Lassila

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**Trump's first year at the helm:  
Towards a zero-sum world?**  
Ville Sinkkonen & Mika Aaltola

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**The price of the Russian elections:  
Easy to achieve, Putin's victory will  
have huge costs**  
Arkady Moshes

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**Cancelling Brexit: Possible  
theoretically, but difficult politically**  
Juha Jokela

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