

FIIA

FINNISH INSTITUTE
OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

ENGLISH

FIIA Activities in 2022

Finnish Institute of International Affairs

Introduction

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

The Institute receives its core funding from the Finnish Parliament and sets its research agenda independently. Its fellows publish in internationally recognised publications as well as in the Institute's own publication series.

FIIA was established in its present form in 2006, having been maintained up to that point since the 1960s by a private foundation.

The Director of the Institute is Dr. Mika Aaltola. FIIA currently employs about 54 people, over half of whom are researchers.

Research

The Institute has four Research Programmes.

The European Union Research Programme focuses on the EU's global and regional role as well as the internal dynamics of the EU. The main research themes are the EU's external relations, general political directions and institutional development.

The EU's Eastern Neighbourhood and Russia Research Programme studies the EU's eastern neighbourhood with a special

focus on Russia's domestic and foreign policy. In particular, the programme concentrates on political developments in the region, transformations in region's key countries as well as the process of Eurasian integration. It also studies international relations in the EU's eastern neighbourhood and the relationship between the region and the EU.

The Global Security Research Programme focuses on great power relations. The programme examines related challenges for the European and Finnish security environments, and implications for global governance structures and the rule-based international order. Great power relations are increasingly challenged by actual and possible domains of competition, including in the Arctic region and cyber space. At the same time, older forms of tension have re-emerged, such as territorial contestation and nuclear threats. Relations with the US remain vital, even if the transatlantic security relationship is undergoing major changes. The influence of other regional powers, such as China, Japan, India, and Brazil, has a growing impact on global governance, economy, and security.

The Global Security research programme pursues an academic and a policy-oriented research agenda. The research programme examines the norms and institutions of global governance, multinational security arrangements, hybrid threats and democratic

vulnerabilities, geostrategy and geoeconomics, as well as economic and political drivers of regional power politics including their domestic constituents.

The research programme includes the following components:

Center on US Politics and Power, Asia Research Cluster, Global Governance Cluster, and Arctic Research Cluster.

Outreach

FIIA has a broad and active outreach programme intended for decision-makers, researchers, civil servants, NGOs, the media and the general public. Anyone can subscribe to FIIA's publications and express one's interest in receiving invitations to FIIA events through the Institute's website.

FIIA publishes Reports, Working Papers, Briefing Papers, Comments and Finnish Foreign Policy Papers. All publications can be downloaded from the FIIA website. In addition to these series, FIIA publishes a quarterly journal in Finnish, *The Finnish Journal of Foreign Affairs* (Ulkopolitiikka-lehti).

FIIA's events are tailored to specific target audiences and they attract both national and international speakers and participants. Events vary from closed roundtables to large public seminars.

The Institute houses a public library specialising in international relations. Its collections are at the disposal of the general public.

Summary of Activities

Research Focus Areas

The year 2022 was the final year of the three-year research programme period.

In 2020, research conducted by the Finnish Institute of International Affairs (FIIA) focused, in accordance with the focus areas of its three research programmes, on the EU's external relations and the Union's internal political dynamics, Russia's foreign policy and internal political development, and global power politics, particularly on the foreign policy and international role of the US and China. The three research programmes were brought together by the themes of relations between the great powers, European security policy, the climate and energy policy, and Arctic policy. Additionally, a new fourth research programme called Finnish Foreign Policy, Northern European Security and NATO was established. Its functions began toward the end of 2022.

The European Union research programme focused on the global role of the European Union, including its strive for strategic autonomy, as well as EU's internal dynamics. Key activities were redirected to address the implications of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, including studies focusing on EU and multilateralism, EU's security and defence policies, and EU action to address energy crisis. The programme also followed closely developments in

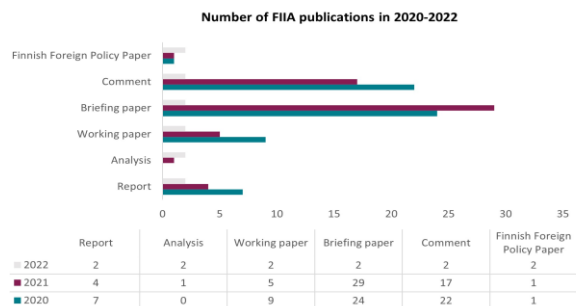
major EU member states at the times of crises. In addition, the programme conducted an independent review commissioned by the Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee on Finland's engagement in Afghanistan 2001-2021, and contributed an EU perspective to the institute aim to provide snap analyses regarding the rapidly changing Finnish security policy including NATO accession process.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine refocused the research activity of the Programme on EU's Eastern Neighbourhood and Russia. Military and political developments in and around Ukraine required both permanent monitoring and an in-depth analysis of emerging trends. Regarding Russia, special attention was paid to the further consolidation of authoritarianism, its new domestic political practices and societal reactions to them. Belarus was largely viewed through the prism of its status of Russia's closest ally and co-aggressor, which made Minsk's dependence on Moscow absolute

and total.

As concerns Central Asia, patterns of leadership succession in the region were studied as well as Russia's connectivity strategies in the region.

The Global Security research programme pursued an academic and a policy-oriented research agenda examining the norms and institutions of global governance, multinational security arrangements, hybrid threats and democratic vulnerabilities, geoeconomics, as well as economic and political drivers of regional power politics including their domestic constituents. Great power competition increasingly featured on the research agenda with research focussing on the United States and China in particular. Another central theme was the international politics of climate change and climate security. The research programme includes the Center on US Politics and Power (CUSPP) and supports the institute-wide cross-cutting research theme of geoeconomics.



All media exposure in 2022

Summary | All media exposure

Media	Mentions	%	Potential reach	%	Reactions	%
Finnish online	9 858	+194%	11 975M	+290%	2 115 086	+761%
Finnish print	3 582	+76%	200M	+63%	-	-
Global online	9 214	+998%	41 127M	+829%	1 806 379	+1 869%
Total	22 654	+263%	53 302M	+597%	3 921 465	+1 063%
Social	50 578	+362%	290M	+451%	349 676	+1 068%

Publications

The Institute released a total of 57 publications in 2022. Around 34,000 publication downloads/views were recorded from the website.

FIIA's researchers also published widely outside the Institute, including books and a PhD thesis, policy papers by other research institutes as well as academic articles in peer-reviewed scholarly journals or scientific books. The Institute's researchers published a total of 35 peer-reviewed articles in 2022. Altogether, over 170 external publications were published.

The Institute's quarterly journal Ulkopoliitikka (Finnish Journal of Foreign Affairs) received a boost in readership during the year 2022 in the wake of Russia's war in Ukraine. The magazine's issues offered readers vital perspectives to the war, European security and ongoing transformations in world politics.

Media Appearances

FIIA's media visibility was on a high level throughout the year. The significant number of researchers commented on various foreign policy issues such as Russia's aggression in Ukraine, Finland's NATO process and great power relations.

In 2022, ca 10,000 hits for the Institute were recorded in online, television, radio and print media. FIIA's media visibility continued to increase on social media. FIIA was mentioned 50 578 times on social media in 2022 in Twitter, Facebook and YouTube. The vast majority of the hits resulted from interviews with FIIA researchers.

Seminar Activity

2022 was a busy year for FIIA's seminar activity with 85 organised seminars.

FIIA Publications 2022

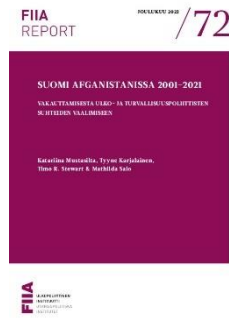
Selected FIIA Reports

[Nordic resilience: Strengthening cooperation on security of supply and crisis preparedness](#)

Mikael Wigell, Mariette Hägglund, Christian Fjäder, Emma Hakala, Johanna Ketola & Harri Mikkola

[Finland in Afghanistan 2001-2021: From stabilizing to advancing foreign and security policy partnerships](#)

Katariina Mustasilta, Tyyne Karjalainen, Timo R. Stewart, Mathilda Salo



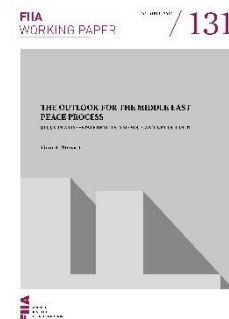
Selected FIIA Working Papers

[The outlook for the Middle East Peace Process: Stuck in a one-state reality and you can't get out of it](#)

Timo R. Stewart

[Assessing the European Union's REPowerEU plan: Energy transition meets geopolitics](#)

Marco Siddi



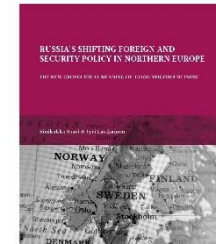
Selected Finnish Foreign Policy Papers

[Finland as a NATO ally: First insights into Finnish alliance policy](#)

Matti Pesu, Tuomas Iso-Markku



FIIA Briefing Paper 331



Selected FIIA Briefing Papers

[Russia's shifting foreign and security policy in Northern Europe: The new geopolitical meaning of 'good neighbourliness'](#)

Sinikukka Saari, Jyri Lavikainen

[Western financial warfare and Russia's de-dollarization strategy: How sanctions on Russia might reshape the global financial system](#)

Maria Shagina

[Zelenskyy's change of approach towards Russia: From soft touch to firm hand](#)

Arkady Moshes & Ryhor Nizhnikau

FIIA Briefing Paper 349



[NATO's Nordic enlargement and Turkey's reservations: Trilateral Memorandum of Understanding in the context of Turkey's wider strategic interests](#)

Toni Alaranta

[China's Belt and Road Initiative: Successful economic strategy or failed soft-power tool?](#)

Jyrki Kallio

FIIA Comment 17



Selected FIIA Comments

[One year into Taliban rule: Will the isolation of Afghanistan continue?](#)

Katariina Mustasilta, Olli Ruohomäki & Timo R. Stewart

[Shifting alliance dynamics in the Indo-Pacific: Is the Taiwan question going regional?](#)

Bart Gaens, Mikael Mattlin



FINNISH INSTITUTE
OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

FIIA Contact Details

Address

Finnish Institute of International Affairs
Arkadiankatu 23 B
00100 Helsinki

Mailing address

Finnish Institute of International Affairs
P.O. Box 425
FI-00101 Helsinki, Finland

Telephone

+ 358 9 432 7000

Email

firstname.lastname@fii.fi
kirjaamo@fii.fi

Website

www.fii.fi

Subscribe to FIIA's Newsletter at

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