Crimea and Civil Society
Challenges, Antagonisms and Models of Cooperation for Ukraine and Russia

Workshop, 9th–10th April 2015

Käte Hamburger Kolleg / Centre for Global Cooperation Research (KHK/GCR21), Duisburg

Rationale

This workshop constitutes the second day of our two day themed panels on Crimea. It continues the discussion on the impact of the Crimean referendum on both Ukraine and Russia and relations between them. The Referendum has changed their relationship dramatically. Few would have imagined a year ago Ukraine would be confronting problems of lost territory, ongoing military conflict, economic decline, and social and humanitarian instability in the Donbass. Yet despite these problems, Ukrainian social activism including volunteer organizations and civil society organizations continue to shape and influence Kiev’s political structures.

At the same time civil society in Russia has become polarized by the conflict in Ukraine and Russia’s role in it. The largest part of Russian society and Russian political parties continue to support the President and his Cabinet. Growing pressure from NGO’s, including intimidation and harassment of political activists and opposition have aggravated the situation. Most recently this polarization was most acutely felt with Boris Nemtsov’s murder, and the public’s reaction to it.

This workshop aims to provide expert opinion on these and related issues as they relate to the role of Civil Society both in Ukraine and Russia. Selected topics include:

- Post-Soviet National Doctrines and Civil Society: Constructing the image of “the Other” during the conflict.
- Tension and Cooperation in the face of crisis: Civil Society and Activism in Ukraine and Russia.
- Corruption and Civic Control over political institutions.
- Ethnicity, nationalism and minority rights in situations of open conflict.
- The role of Media and Civil Society: propaganda, virtual aggression and the new media.
- Perspectives of Civil Society in Russia and Ukraine.
Programme

**Thursday 9th April 2015**

18:00–19:30  4th Käte Hamburger Dialogue

“Engaging Crimea: Prospects for Conflict and Cooperation”

Venue: German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE), Tulpenfeld 6, 53113 Bonn

(Please refer to the separate programme of the Käte Hamburger Dialogue)

**Friday 10th April 2015**

8.30.00-9.00 Coffee. Registration

9.00-9.10 Welcome – Markus Böckenförde, KHK/GCR21, Germany

**Panel 1**

9.10–10.50  **Constructing “the Nation”: the Role of Civil Society in the nation building process after the Crimean referendum**

Chair  
David Carment – KHK/GCR21, Canada

Speakers:

Ivan Preobrajensky, columnist and political scientist, news agency “Rosbalt”, Russia

Milana Nikolko, Carleton University, Canada

Oksana Danylenko, Kharkiv V.N. Karazin National University, Ukraine

Elmira Muratova, Taurida National Vernadsky University (Crimean Federal University) Simferopol, Crimea

10.50–11.15  Coffee break
Panel 2

11.15–13.00  **Civil Society and Civic activism: challenges, threats and new models of cooperation**

Chair  
Milana Nikolko – Carleton University

Speakers:  
Oksana Huss, University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany  
Walter Sperling, Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany  
Olena Petrenko, Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany  
Olga Dukhnich, Institute of Social and Political Psychology, Journalist “Novoe Vremya”, Ukraine

13.00–13.45  Lunch

13.45-15.00  **Open Discussion: Perspectives of Civil Society in Russia and Ukraine**

Moderator:  
Tobias Debiel, KHK/GCR21, Germany

Discussants:  
Arsen Zhumadilov, Chief of the Office, Commissioner for Crimean Tatar’s Affairs office, President of Ukraine Office (apparatus), Crimean Institute for Strategic Studies, Ukraine  
Andrea Gawrich, University of Giessen, Germany,  
Hans-Joachim Heintze, Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany  
Ivan Preobrajensky, columnist and political scientist, news agency “Rosbalt”, Russia

List of Participants

- Markus Böckenförde, KHK/GCR21, Germany
- David Carment, Centre for Global Cooperation Research and Carleton University, Canada
- Oksana Danylenko, Kharkiv V.N. Karazin National University, Ukraine
- Tobias Debiel, KHK/GCR21, Germany
About the Centre

Käte Hamburger Kolleg / Centre for Global Cooperation Research is an interdisciplinary research institute of the University of Duisburg-Essen. The Centre provides a framework for internationally renowned fellows from different disciplines and world regions to pursue research on the opportunities and challenges of global cooperation amidst political-cultural differences in the world society.

Käte Hamburger Kolleg / Centre for Global Cooperation Research was co-founded by the German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE), the Institute for Development and Peace / Institut für Entwicklung und Frieden (INEF), and the Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities (KWI) in Essen.

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