

FIIA 3/2018

NEWSLETTER

FIIA will take part in a Horizon 2020 project on differentiated integration in the EU. FIIA researchers have concluded books on the EU's Eastern Neighbourhood policy, post-truth in Finnish journalism and geo-economics and power politics in the 21st century.

EU IDEA – a new H2020 project on differentiation

As a member of a research consortium of 15 distinguished research institutes and universities, FIIA has secured funding from the EU's Horizon 2020 framework programme for a large scale research project examining differentiated integration in the EU. The project is coordinated by *Istituto Affari Internazionali* (IAI) in Rome, and it will run from 2019 to 2021.

The key assumption of this project is that the evolution of the EU's politics and policies has demonstrated that differentiation can no longer be treated as an anomaly in the integration process. This poses a set of questions to academic and policy-makers alike: whether, how much and what form of differentiation is not only compatible with but also conducive to a more effective, cohesive and democratic EU.

FIIA is taking the lead on Work Package 5, which will focus on differentiated integration in the field of foreign, security and defence policies. FIIA's contribution builds on the previous work carried out in the institute on the report *Multi-Speed Europe: Differentiated integration in the external relations of the EU* (2014) and it will enable FIIA to strengthen its profile in this field of EU studies.

Book projects at FIIA

Senior Research Fellow *Ryhor Nizhnikau* has written a book entitled *EU Induced Institutional Change*



The 5th Annual Helsinki Summer Session seminar "US and Russia: conflicting or converging views on the new global order?" with Andrey Kortunov, Heather A. Conley, Mark N. Katz and David Cadier on 21 Aug.

in Post-Soviet Space Promoting Reforms in Moldova and Ukraine (Routledge, 2018). The book analyses the role of the European Union in the process of institutional change in its Eastern neighbourhood.

Senior Research Fellow *Antto Vihma* has published, together with foresight analyst Hannu-Pekka Ikäheimo (Sitra) and journalists Olli Seuri (Yle) and Jarno Hartikainen (HS), a monograph entitled *Totuuden jälkeen* (Teos). The book is in Finnish and presents an analytical framework on post-truth, and five case studies focusing on Finnish journalism.

Senior Research Fellow *Mikael Wigell* and Programme Director *Mika Aaltola* together with Sören Scholvin (University of Hanover) have edited a book *Geo-economics and Power Politics in the 21st Century: The Revival of Economic Statecraft* (Routledge, 2018). Starting from the key concept of geo-economics, the book investigates the new power politics and argues that the changing

structural features of the contemporary international system are recasting the strategic imperatives of foreign policy practice.

Senior Research Fellows *Wolfgang Mühlberger* and *Toni Alaranta* are editing a volume entitled "Political Narratives in the Middle East and North Africa - Perceptions of Instability and Conceptions of Order" (Springer) that will be published in the recently established series "Perspectives on Development in the MENA Region" in mid-2019. Its purpose is to combine theoretical and empirical reflections on questions of order and disorder in the Middle East and North Africa with the concept of political narratives.

Maarit Feldt-Ranta new chair of FIIA Advisory Council

Following Susanna Huovinen's departure from the Parliament, the FIIA Advisory Council elected MP *Maarit Feldt-Ranta* as the new chair in its meeting on 5 September.

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

The Council's duties include monitoring the Institute's operations, societal impact and liaising with relevant FIIA stakeholders. The Council serves a four-year term of office, which commenced in June 2015. The composition of the FIIA Advisory Council can be found on the [FIIA website](#).

Staff News

[Agne Cepinskyte](#) will join FIIA as a TAPIR Fellow at the beginning of October. She holds a PhD from King's College London. Her research focuses on the protection of state and indigenous sovereignty in Norwegian and Russian Arctic Security Policy.

Senior Research Fellow [Mikael Wigell](#) will spend October-November as Visiting Scholar at the Changing Character of War Centre of University of Oxford.

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Finnish Journal of Foreign Affairs

The latest issue (3/2018) of [Ulkopolitiikka](#) (The Finnish Journal of Foreign Affairs) focuses on the issue of trust in international politics. [The main article](#) explains how and why trust amongst the EU member states has eroded – and what could be done to alleviate the situation.

Ulkopolitiikka has interviewed European Ombudsman [Emily O'Reilly](#), who discusses the challenges of her work. She strongly criticizes the Council of the European Union for the lack of transparency in its decision-making process.

Meanwhile, the Committee for Public Information has granted a State Award for Public Information to Managing Editor [Joonas Pörsti](#) for his book *Propagandan lumo*.

Ulkopolitiikka is available both as a printed journal and as an online version at www.ulkopolitiikka.fi which has undergone a complete facelift.

Recent publications

All FIIA publications are available on the Institute's [website](#).

FIIA Briefing Papers

[Russia's evolving gas relationship with the European Union: Trade surges despite political crises](#)
Marco Siddi

[Germany and European defence cooperation: A post-Atlantic turn?](#)
Niklas Helwig

[China and Russia in global governance: Long-term obstacles to cooperation](#)
Marcin Kaczmarek

[Xi Jinping thought and China's future foreign policy: Multipolarity with Chinese characteristics](#)
Jyrki Kallio

[The ICC and the RtoP in a post-interventionist world: Adapting to critique?](#)
Katja Creutz

FIIA Working Papers

[India and the geoeconomics of climate change: Global responsibility as strategic interest](#)
Emma Hakala

FIIA Comments

[Holy Rus challenged: The conflict between Churches in Ukraine has consequences for Russia, Ukraine and the Orthodox world](#)
Veera Laine

[Japan-Russia relations: The Kremlin has the upper hand](#)
Bart Gaens, Marcin Kaczmarek

[Pension reform in Russia: A test of the regime's resilience and citizens' patience](#)
Jussi Lassila

[The United States braces itself for the midterm elections](#)
Ville Sinkkonen

[The sustainability of the questionable US presidency](#)
Mika Aaltola

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