Contemporary forms of protest in the Euro-Asian space: challenges for social science, psychology and humanities research

Young Science Forum
Conference funded by the Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Hamburg

Young Researchers Group/Conference Committee:

Dr. Elena Kropatcheva, Dr. Daniela Pisoiu,
Dr. Sebastian Schiek (Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg, IFSH)

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Dr. Anja Franke-Schwenk (Christian-Albrechts University of Kiel, Collegium Philosophicum)

23-24 October 2014
Beim Schlump 83, 20144 Hamburg, 2nd Floor

About:
A wave of various protest movements has swept over the Euro-Asian space, raising many questions about the reasons for their emergence, their character, impact, and prospects in the local and wider regional perspectives. The events in Ukraine are only the most recent manifestations of a fundamentally new generation of protest movements which have taken shape in the last fifteen years. Given the sheer increase in visibility, they heavily influence national and international politics. The most visible of these new types of protest movements is the Salafi-jihadi movement, which has emerged not only in Western European states, but also in Central Asia and the Caucasus.

A second type is the new generation of right-wing extremism, which has also emerged in Eastern European countries, and has played a major role in the recent events in the Ukraine. Finally, social protest has occurred on a larger scale in the form of the so-called "color revolutions" in the Ukraine, Georgia and Kyrgyzstan.

All these types of protest remain under-studied, especially in a comparative perspective. This conference aims to focus the efforts of young researchers working on social movements, protest, and political violence from different disciplinary perspectives on the handling of empirical and theoretical challenges in this field: the similarities and differences between the 'old' and the 'new' protest movements; the motivation of individual actors; and the impact of the socio-cultural and political context on the shape and manifestations of protest movements.

Furthermore, the conference aims to identify synergies and interdisciplinary approaches for future cooperation.

Thursday, 23.10.2014
14:00-15:30
Introduction and Keynote

Prof. Dr.-Ing. habil. Prof. E.h. Edwin Kreuzer
(President of the Academy of Sciences and Humanities in Hamburg)

Prof. Dr. Michael Brzoska (IFSH)

Prof. Dr. David Canter (Director of the International Research Centre for Investigative Psychology, University of Huddersfield)

15:30-16:00
Coffee Break

16:00-17:45
Session 1:
Comparison, continuity and change:
(Coordinator: Dr. Elena Kropatcheva)

Chair: Prof. Dr. Frank Golczewski, University of Hamburg, Department of History

1. Inna Melnykovska, Research Fellow, Freie Universität Berlin: "Maidan-2004 and Maidan-2013-2014 in comparison: actors, agendas, strategies and actions"

2. Nico Prucha, PhD Researcher, University of Vienna: "Comparing Al Qaeda and the RAF: rhetoric, framing, grievances"

3. Mykola Makhortykh, PhD Candidate, University of Amsterdam: "The Propaganda Will be Tweeted: Social Media and Protests in Eastern Ukraine"
Friday, 24.10.2014

8:00-10:00

Session 2: Individual agency
(Coordinator: Dr. Daniela Pisoiu)

Chair: Dr. Stephan Hensell, University of Hamburg, Department of Political Science


2. Robert Pelzer, Dipl.-Soz., Dipl.-Krim., Technische Universität Berlin: "Clandestine violence between collective action and individual proba- tion of meaning in life"

3. Dr. Kiran Sarma, NUI Galway, Department of Psychology: "Indicators of transitioning of non-violent actors into terrorism: A systematic re- view of research that can guide screening, assessment and the identification of high-risk indi- viduals (GENESIS)"

4. Milan Obaidi, PhD Researcher, European University Institute, Department of Political and Social Sciences: “We Reject Your Values and Your Actions’: Muslim Support for Anti-Western Violence as a Function of Symbolic and Realistic Threat

5. Dr. Donna Youngs, University of Huddersfield, Associate Director, International Research Centre for Investigative Psychology: "Psychological Pathways to Islamic Radicalisation: The Personal Construct Systems of 49 Convicted Indian Terrorists"

10:00-10:30

Coffee Break

10:30-12:30

Session 3: Socio-cultural and political context:
(Coordinator: Dr. Sebastian Schiek)

Chair: Dr. Jörn Happel, University of Basel, Department of History

1. Dr. Sebastian Schiek and Dr. Anja Franke-Schwenk, University of Hamburg, IFSH, and Christian-Albrechts University of Kiel, Collegium Philosophicum: "The effects of socio-political context on the uprisings in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan"

2. Dr. Philipp Kuntz, University of Bochum, Institute for Diaspora and Genocide Research: "Two Tales of Revolutionary Surprise: Popular Upris- ings in Closed and Open Dictatorships"

3. Áron Szele, PhD Candidate, Central European University, Department of History: "Rebellion, Violence and the Far Right in Contemporary Hungary"

4. Nino Khelaia, PhD Candidate, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Department of Social Sciences: "Social Movements, Ideologies, and Demo- cratisation: The case of Georgia"

5. Dr. Tatiana Golova, University of Magdeburg, Institute for Sociology: "Tactical repertoires of Russian radical right in the context of pro- democracy protests"

12:30-13:30

Lunch and networking session

13:30-14:00

Wrap-up

Registration until 17.10.2014 with Ms. Reem Ahmed at:
ahmed@ifsh.de