

December 19, 2008

European Space Policy Institute hosts joint conference with Secure World Foundation and International Academy of Astronautics on fair and responsible use of space



Panel from left to right: Niklas Hedman, Richard Tremayne-Smith, Gerard Brachet, Ciro Arevalo, Ray Williamson (SWF Executive Director and moderator). **Photo: ESPI.**

The [European Space Policy Institute](#) (ESPI) hosted a workshop called "The Fair and Responsible Use of Space: An International Perspective" on November 20-21 in Vienna, Austria. The workshop, jointly sponsored by [Secure World Foundation](#) (SWF) and the [International Academy of Astronautics](#) (IAA), was attended by invited international experts with diverse backgrounds to give presentations and discuss how an equitable and responsible utilization of space can be achieved.

Workshop objectives included descriptions of the current space security situation, identification and analysis of key challenges to the achievement of fair and sustainable uses of space, and formulation of proposals for action.

Ben Baseley-Walker, SWF Legal and Policy Consultant, presented on "[The 'Paris Group' and the Way forward](#)," a "bottoms-up" approach to international space security. Agnieszka Lukaszczyk, SWF space policy consultant, gave a talk on involving the [world's youth regarding international space matters](#), a subject that draws on her experiences as Executive Office with the Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC). Dr. Ray Williamson, SWF Executive Director, moderated a panel that summarized the presentations, which focused on current questions regarding the fair and responsible uses of space, space traffic management and other on-orbit rule-based issues, and ways to achieve global engagement on space matters.

Dr. Kai-Uwe Schrogl, ESPI Director, presented a policy perspective entitled *Ten Steps to Achieve the Fair and Responsible Use of Outer Space*, which incorporated discussions from the workshop. Following an editorial review, the "10 Steps" will be published in 2009. Proceedings of the workshop will also be published next year in the series *Studies in Space Policy*.

Williamson was pleased with the workshop's organization and outcome, saying "it was clear from the rave responses I heard about the quality of the talks that our partnership with ESPI and IAA pulled off a significant success. The interaction among participants after each group of talks was excellent."

Stimson Center and SWF Sponsor Space Security Workshop in Bellagio, Italy

The [Henry L. Stimson Center](#)'s Space Security Project convened a three-day workshop at the Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Conference Center in Italy from November 11-13, 2008. Co-sponsored with SWF, the workshop was attended by diplomats from Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Russia and the United States. Also participating were representatives from the Obama and McCain presidential campaigns. SWF Executive Director Dr. Ray Williamson served as co-moderator while Agnieszka Lukaszczyk, SWF Space Policy Consultant participated as a recorder.

According to an executive summary of the workshop issued by the Stimson Center this month, the workshop attendees agreed to pursue three initiatives:

- ◆ An agreement to enter into negotiations on a treaty that would seek to ban the testing and use of destructive methods against space objects.

News Bits

The Secure World Foundation website has been updated with a new page highlighting presentations and publications written by SWF staff members, as well as interviews conducted in which they were a part. Please visit the new page [here](#).

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SWF Technical Consultant **Brian Weeden** and Communications Director **Phil Smith** recently returned from the Space Security and Defense Conference in Las Vegas. This 2-day event brought together leaders from the U.S. military and the corporate world to discuss securing space assets and fixing the space acquisition process. Weeden gave a presentation entitled "[Protecting America's Space Assets Through Denial Deterrence](#)".

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Papers presented at the European Space Policy Institute's (ESPI) workshop "The Fair and Responsible Use of Space: an International Perspective", held November 20-21 in Vienna, Austria, co-sponsored by the Secure World Foundation and the International Academy of Astronautics (IAA) are now available [online](#). Selected international experts from various backgrounds gave presentations and engaged in discussions with the audience. Among them was **Dr. Ray Williamson**, SWF Executive Director; **Ben Baseley-Walker**, SWF Legal and Policy Consultant; **Agnieszka Lukaszczyk**, SWF Space Policy Consultant; **Theresa Hitchens**, SWF Partner; and **Dr. Richard Tremayne-Smith** and **Gerard Brachet**, both SWF Advisory Committee Members.

- ◆ Pending the completion of such a treaty, states participating in the negotiations would agree to pledge not to test or use destructive methods against space objects.
- ◆ An agreement to enter into negotiations on a Code of Conduct including transparency and confidence-building measures with preambular language outlining a common vision for the peaceful uses of outer space in which weapons are not deployed.

Though the views expressed by workshop participants are non-attributable to allow for a free exchange of ideas, several key points related to the three initiatives were debated. Among them was a general consensus that space has been “militarized” for decades, but not yet “weaponized.” This distinction is important as the two terms are often interchanged, even among space professionals. Naturally, this discussion lead several participants to conclude that space-based weapons are the most pressing threat, while others viewed ground-based, anti-satellite (ASAT) weapons testing capable of generating orbital debris as being the most critical. Despite disagreement on type and scope, all seemed to agree that a diplomatic route aimed at mitigating these threats is desirable.

In the end, while recognizing that governmental representatives had not bound their respective nations or candidates to any particular agenda, they agreed to present the workshop’s ideas to their constituencies for consideration.

SWF represented at United Nations/European Space Agency Regional Workshop in Nairobi, Kenya

Agnieszka Lukaszczyk, SWF Space Policy Consultant, chaired and presented at the [United Nations/Kenya/European Space Agency \(ESA\) Regional Workshop on Integrated Space Technology Applications for Monitoring Climate Change Impact on Agricultural Development and Food Security](#), which took place in Nairobi, Kenya, December 1-5, 2008.



Workshop group photo. Lukaszczyk is in the third row, third from right. Photo: Kenya Meteorological Department.

The workshop’s primary objectives were to use integrated space technologies such as remote sensing and geographic information systems (GIS), navigation and positioning, telecommunications and satellite meteorology in applications that could contribute to the prevention and mitigation of global climate change induced issues.

The specific issues focused on during this workshop were twofold:

- ◆ Prediction, monitoring and early warning of climate related disasters and environmental hazards such as flood, drought, and desertification; and
- ◆ Improvement of regional food security such as sustainable agricultural development, land use and land cover change.

This workshop aimed at raising awareness of national and regional decision makers and professionals on the potential utilization of space technology applications, to exchange experience and to the benefits of initiating practical pilot projects. Lukaszczyk presented a talk titled “[Building Appropriate Institutions to Support the Use of Earth Observations for Human Security](#).” In addition, she chaired a technical session entitled “Global and Regional Collaborations and Initiatives.”

Secure World Foundation technical consultant **Brian Weeden** participated in the 3rd Annual International Association for the Advancement of Space Safety (IAASS) Conference, held October 21-23 in Rome, Italy. The conference brought together international experts in safety from the aerospace world to discuss problems and solutions.

In addition to co-chairing three sessions on Space Traffic Control and Management, Weeden moderated a panel discussion on the technical feasibility of international civil space situational awareness. Bringing together technical experts from the United States, Europe, Russia and China, the discussion was very valuable, with all parties expressing both interest and providing thoughtful insight.

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[Space Situational Awareness: Europe Takes Important Step](#) - Partners within the European Space Agency are moving forward on developing a space situational awareness system, a step that could lead to an international civil system for global space traffic management.

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[Asteroid Threats to Earth: UN Officials Briefed on Need for Global Response](#) - A new report flags the need for global decision-making to respond to the threat of Near Earth Objects (NEOs). The findings of a two-year long effort are being briefed to officials within the United Nations, as well as leaders in various space agencies around the world.

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For past issues of our newsletter, please go [here](#).