

EUROPEAN SECURITY: RUSSIA'S ACTIONS AND POSSIBLE RESPONSES

World

Posted by:

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**On Tuesday 10 May 2016, at 09:00 – 12:30 At the Pikkuparlamentti Auditorium
Arkadiankatu 3, Helsinki**

The Finnish Institute of International Affairs and the University of Helsinki – Aleksanteri Institute have the pleasure of inviting you to a seminar: The Crimean operation in the spring of 2014 was in many ways a watershed for European security. It brought into focus Russia's ability to combine a full spectrum of means in securing what are seen as the country's core national security interests. The view of Russian military capabilities changed dramatically from being perceived as an inefficient, outdated and badly organised system into one which poses a serious threat to its neighbours, the whole of Europe, and global peace. The questions of how Russia constructs its policies, how they materialise, and what the possible responses should be will be discussed by leading international scholars and practitioners. The first part of the seminar will focus on what Russia does: what is strategic deception, and how does it work? How might insights from Soviet era research on propaganda and disinformation help in understanding the contemporary situation? Does Russia's propaganda narrative work as planned? The second part of the seminar concentrates on security trends: how much is new and how much is based on old practices implemented in a new way? How does Russia fit into European security and how should Europe respond to Russia? The seminar is a joint effort of two research projects. The Finnish Institute of International Affairs project on Russian strategic communication on the Ukraine crisis is funded jointly by the Finnish Ministry of Defence, FIIA, and the International Visegrad Fund. The Aleksanteri Institute's project "Russia and Hybrid warfare: definitions, scope, capabilities and possible responses" is funded from the government's analysis, assessments and research activities fund, coordinated by the Finnish Prime Minister's Office. The seminar also marks the launch of the FIIA Report "Russian Strategy of Deception and the Conflict in Ukraine" edited by Katri Pynnöniemi and Andras Rácz. Coffee will be served before the seminar starting at 08:30. The number of seats is limited. We will register your participation on a first-come first-served basis. Please arrive in time to the event due to possible delays at the security check. We kindly ask you to confirm your participation in the seminar at the very latest on Thursday 5 May by filling in the registration form through the link below: www.fiia.fi/en/registration/821 For further information, please contact: Sannamari Bagge, tel. +358 9 432 7711, sannamari.bagge@fiia.fi

Programme 08:30 – 09:00 Registration and coffee 09:00 – 10:30 What is Russia doing? Strategic deception about the Ukraine conflict Speakers: Katri Pynnöniemi, Senior Research Fellow, the Finnish Institute of International Affairs Strategic deception scheme and the language of distraction Andras Rácz, Senior Research Fellow, the Finnish Institute of International Affairs Channels of influence: lessons from the Visegrad region BG (ret.) Peter B. Zwack, Senior Russia-Eurasia Research Fellow, National Defense University, US What makes Russian strategic deception effective? Chair: Mika Aaltola, Programme Director, the Finnish Institute of International Affairs 10:45 – 12:15 How should we respond to changes in the European security environment, warfare and Russia? Speakers: Samuel Charap, Senior Fellow for Russia and Eurasia, the International Institute for Strategic Studies, US Is a new cold war inevitable? Facing the

strategic choices in relations with Russia Sir Hew Strachan, Professor of International Relations, University of Oxford, UK Civil-military relations and the making of strategy - the democratic dilemma Tor Bukkvoll, Senior Research Fellow, Defence Research Institute (FFI), Norway Russian military capability in the long run - How worried should we be? Sibylle Scheipers, Senior Lecturer, the School of International Relations, University of St.Andrews, UK Psychological and morale effects in warfare: the problems with winning hearts and minds Chair: Hanna Smith, Postdoctoral Researcher, the University of Helsinki & Aleksanteri Institute 12:15 & 12:30 Closing remarks