



### IFAIR 2015 Projects, Members, Growth

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Young Initiative on Foreign Affairs and International Relations (IFAIR) e.V.

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[www.IFAIR.eu](http://www.IFAIR.eu)  
[Wikipedia-Article](#)

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Dear IFAIR-family, dear supporters, partners and friends,

Ukraine, Euro-Crises and Syria – to name but a few – shaped the political landscape of a year of crises in 2015. International Relations were at the center of public attention, and will be for the years to come. IFAIR is proud to have taken part in some of the large foreign policy debates during the past year. In IFAIR's fifth year since its foundation, we realized more projects than ever before and were able to continuously increase our professionalism. Your enormous interest and participation was a strong testimony to our main goal: To let the young generation participate in the world of foreign affairs. We would like to thank everyone that supported us during the last year and made our work possible.

#### Our Highlights 2015

- Number of members increased by 26 % to a total of 121.
- 3.650 people follow our activities on Facebook ([in a brand-new design](#)).
- Our Open Think Tank grew to 350 submissions and was visited 49.003 times.
- [EU-ASEAN Perspectives](#) has established itself successfully as a cornerstone of EU-ASEAN relations and presented its final report in June in Brussels to representatives of the EU and ASEAN member embassies.
- The [Trilateral Peace Talks – Germany, Russia, Ukraine](#) in May were a beacon of understanding in the midst of the Ukraine-crisis.
- 15 of our members talked to former Undersecretary of State Dr. Born at our [camp-side-talk](#) about careers in foreign affairs and current events.
- Our [Core Team](#) grew by four competent and dynamic new members: Hanna Elten, Ravenna Sohst, Johannes Klein and Florian Winkler.
- With donations and project funding of over 9.000,- EUR, multiple non-monetary donations, voluntary work and two strategy meetings (Berlin and Munich) in 2015, IFAIR has reached a new level of professionalism as an organization.



### Further Info on Three of Our Key Projects

#### *Impact Group : [“EU-ASEAN Perspectives” – Part 2](#)*

*Project Partners: European Institute for Asian Studies, EU Centre in Singapore, Hanns Seidel Foundation.*

In March, 20 students and young professionals from South East Asia and Europe met online for a workshop to discuss current issues of EU-ASEAN relations. This led to a policy paper which a core



delegation presented to representatives from politics, diplomacy, science and civil society during a delegation trip to Brussels in June. The paper was taken up and discussed by several public institutions and governments in the EU and ASEAN region afterwards. (Pic: Project leaders Nelly Stratieva (2. from right), Lukas Rudolph (1. from right) and Kilian Spandler (2. from left) present the final report to representatives of EU and ASEAN members at our closing event in Brussels)

#### *Impact Group : [“Trilateral Peace Talks”](#)*

*Project Partners: Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Hertie Foundation, Foundation West-Eastern Encounters*

In May, IFAIR brought 30 young academics and actors from civil society from Germany, Russia and the Ukraine together in Berlin for the “Trilateral Peace Talks”. The four-day event aimed at an intense exchange between the participants. Topics were the current crises



in Ukraine, but particularly trying to work on common ground regarding origins, media coverage and possible solutions for the crisis. The results were presented to the public in an innovative format at BMW-Stiftung Herbert Quandt in Berlin. (Pic: Some participants in front of the Berlin wall during the cultural program)



*Impact Group: [“Arms Trade”](#)*

*Project Partner: Chair for Empirical Political Research and Policy Analysis, University of Munich*

In the midst of the debate on German arms support to the Peshmerga, IFAIR discussed arms trade in February in cooperation with University of Munich with



experts – among others – from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) and the Bonn International Center for Conversion (BICC). IFAIR-member Lukas Hafner on the panel had qualified before through a competitive essay challenge that IFAIR had organized. (Pic: Crowded lecture room at University of Munich)

### Finances and Members



(Pics: Recently our core team was joined by Hannah Elten, Johannes Klein, Florian Winkler and Ravenna Sohst (left to right))

In 2015 we welcomed 25 new members among our ranks; of those three are non-German nationals living in Germany and six live abroad (EU/non-EU). This is a sign of growth of our network on a global scale. In total, IFAIR now has 121 regular and 16 honorary members. Our core team grew to a number of 16, leaving us with ever more capacity for new projects. It is our members that make our work possible. Finally, IFAIRs finances represent the appreciation of our work through third parties in 2015:

<b>Earnings in EUR</b>	<b>Expenditures in EUR</b>
Member contributions	
Donations	
Specific Project Funds	
<i>Total</i>	

**What will happen in 2016?**



- The following Impact Groups are ongoing or will commence in 2016:

### [EU-ASEAN – Part III](#)

In the third edition of our successful format for dialogue “EU-ASEAN Perspectives”, participants from all over Europe and South East Asia will shed light on the topic of migration from different points of view. In summer, a delegation visit to South East Asia is planned for the first time.

### [UN Parliament](#)

The Impact Group “UN Parliament” organizes a simulation for students under the title *Model UN Parliamentary Assembly Preparatory Committee* as well as a scientific symposium dealing with *Democratization of World Politics or Continuation of Hegemonic Structures? The Idea of a World Parliament*.

### [LACalytics](#)

The Impact Group “LACalytics” initiates an interregional program that connects young experts and students from Latin America, the Caribbean and the European Union through a commonly written and published policy paper. In October 2016 the results will be presented to and discussed with the public at a closing conference.

### [German-Russian Student Exchange: A Culture of Remembrance](#)

Under the slogan “Memory as a Tool of Change: Lessons learned from Germany”, IFAIR invites a group of Russian students to Berlin to discuss with their German exchange partners about remembrance and responsibility regarding totalitarian regimes of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

- All current and new members are invited to participate in the above projects (contact via links to project-sites above) or bring in their own ideas for projects. Furthermore, IFAIR will have multiple openings to join as regional director in 2016. Finally, our Open Think Tank will continuously invite to submit articles for IFAIR.eu or our columns at Diplomatic Magazine or The European.

We wish you all a successful 2016 and hope to see you again soon!

IFAIR’s executive board

**Malvin Oppold, Hanna Pfeifer, Alexander Pyka,  
Lukas Rudolph and David Schlutz**



### **A special thanks to our donors and partners**

Our work only got possible in cooperation with our project partners and through the support of our donors and members. Our partners are mentioned in detail on the project pages on our website. At this occasion, IFAIR would like to particularly thank the following individuals and organizations that – among several others – made our work in 2015 possible:

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- EU Center in Singapore
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