The Economics of War and Peace

Forum for Economic Dialogue, November 16, 2015

The world is facing a resurgence of violent conflicts – from civil wars in Africa and the Middle East, to global terrorism, to an East-West conflict in the Ukraine many believed had vanished with the end of the Cold War.

At this year’s Forum the analysis of economic drivers for, and economic consequences from, current conflicts take center stage. Panel sessions include “The economics of war and peace”, “The economics of terrorism”, and “Russia and the West – an economic perspective”. In addition to these sessions, the Forum will feature keynote speeches by Mohamed ElBaradei, Didier Burkhalter, and Steven Pinker.
Program

Monday, November 16, 2015,
Kaufleuten Klubsaal, Pelikanplatz, 8001 Zurich

9.00 a.m. Door opening

9.30 a.m. Welcome address
Prof. Fabrizio Zilibotti, Scientific Director of the UBS International Center of Economics in Society

9.45 a.m. Opening lecture: On War and Peace
Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei, Nobel Peace Prize Winner

10.45 a.m. Coffee break

11.15 a.m. Morning session: The Economics of War and Peace
Ambassador Wolfgang Ischinger, Chairman of the Munich Security Conference
Ambassador Livia Leu, State Secretary for Economic Affairs SECO, Switzerland
Prof. Edward Miguel, University of California, Berkeley
Chair: Prof. Hans-Joachim Voth, University of Zurich

12.45 a.m. Lunch

2.00 p.m. Afternoon session: The Economics of Terrorism
Prof. Ethan Bueno de Mesquita, University of Chicago
Tim Harford, Financial Times
Prof. François Heisbourg, Chairman of the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS)
Chair: Prof. David Dorn, University of Zurich
3.15 p.m. Coffee break

3.45 p.m. Keynote lecture
Didier Burkhalter, Federal Councillor and Swiss Foreign Minister

4.30 p.m. Panel discussion: Russia and the West – an Economic Perspective
Prof. Sergey Karaganov, Dean, School of World Economics and International Affairs, National Research University, Moscow, and Honorary Chairman of the Council for Foreign and Defense Policy, Moscow
Prof. Vaira Vike-Freiberga, President of the Club de Madrid and former President of Latvia
Moderator: Dr. Martin Meyer, Neue Zürcher Zeitung

5.30 p.m. Reception

6.00 p.m. Introduction
Prof. Ernst Fehr, Director of the UBS International Center of Economics in Society

6.10 p.m. Zurich Lecture of Economics in Society: The Past, Present, and Future of Violence
Prof. Steven Pinker, Harvard University

7.30 p.m. End of event
Welcome address and introduction to the keynote speech

Prof. Ernst Fehr
Ernst Fehr is Professor of Microeconomics and Experimental Economics at the Department of Economics at the University of Zurich and Director of the UBS International Center of Economics in Society. He is also Vice Chairman of the Department of Economics and Global Distinguished Professor at New York University.
Ernst Fehr’s research interests include social and biological foundations of human motivation, the effects of social and economic incentives on human behavior, and the optimal design of contracts and institutions.

Prof. Fabrizio Zilibotti
Fabrizio Zilibotti is Professor of Macroeconomics and Political Economy at the Department of Economics at the University of Zurich and both Scientific Director and Deputy Director of the UBS International Center of Economics in Society. He is co-editor at Econometrica and president-elect of the European Economic Association.
His research interests include economic growth and development, political economy, macroeconomics, financial economics, and the Chinese economy.
Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei
For the past two decades, Nobel Laureate Mohamed ElBaradei has played a key role in the most high-stakes conflicts of our time. Unique in maintaining credibility in the Arab world and the West alike, Dr. ElBaradei has emerged as a singularly independent, uncompromised voice.

From 1997 to 2009 he was the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). ElBaradei and the IAEA were jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2005. During his tenure at the IAEA, ElBaradei employed diplomacy to deal with nuclear rows over Iraq, North Korea and Iran, and insists that even in the most difficult situations, progress can be made.

A prominent voice for peace, freedom and democracy in the Arab and Islamic worlds, he played a leadership role in the Arab Spring of 2011 and was asked to take on the responsibility of interim Vice President of Egypt, a position from which he resigned in 2013. ElBaradei has received many global awards for his work as a public servant and as an advocate of tolerance, humanity and freedom.
Morning session

The Economics of War and Peace

Ambassador Wolfgang Ischinger
Ambassador Ischinger is Chairman of the Munich Security Conference (MSC), and former Deputy Foreign Minister (State Secretary) of Germany, 1998 to 2001. From 2006 to 2008, he was the Federal Republic of Germany’s Ambassador in London and from 2001 to 2006 in Washington, D.C. In 2007, he represented the EU in the Troika negotiations on the future of Kosovo. In 2014, he served as the Special Representative of the OSCE Chairman-In-Office promoting national dialogue in the Ukrainian crisis. He currently chairs the OSCE “Eminent Persons Panel on European Security” which is mandated to offer recommendations on how to build a more resilient architecture of European security.

Ambassador Livia Leu
Ambassador Livia Leu is Head of the Bilateral Economic Relations Division at the Swiss State Secretariat for Economy and Delegate of the Federal Council for Trade Agreements since August 2013. From 2009 to 2013 she was Swiss Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran. Prior positions include head of Policy Division for Africa/Middle East in the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, 2006 to 2008, deputy head of Mission at the Swiss Embassy in the Arab Republic of Egypt, 1998 to 2002, counsellor at the Swiss permanent observer mission at the UN in New York, 1994 to 1998. Livia Leu is a career diplomat in the Swiss Foreign Service. She was trained as a lawyer and admitted to the Bar of Zurich.
Prof. Edward Miguel
Edward Miguel is the Oxfam Professor of Environmental and Resource Economics and Faculty Director of the Center for Effective Global Action at the University of California, Berkeley, where he has taught since 2000.
Edward’s main research focus is African economic development, including work on the economic causes and consequences of violence; the impact of ethnic divisions on local collective action; interactions between health, education, environment, and productivity for the poor; and methods for transparency social science research.

Prof. Hans-Joachim Voth
Hans-Joachim Voth holds the Chair in Economics of Development and Emerging Markets at the University of Zurich and is an affiliated professor at the UBS International Center of Economics in Society. He is a research fellow at CEPR, a joint managing editor of the Economic Journal, and also serves as an associate editor of the Quarterly Journal of Economics.
Voth is an economic historian. His research interests include: origins and persistence of culture over the long run, long-run growth and development; sovereign debt in historical perspective; financial crises.
Afternoon session

The Economics of Terrorism

Prof. Ethan Bueno de Mesquita
Ethan Bueno de Mesquita is Professor, Deputy Dean for Research & Strategic Initiatives, and Director of the Center for Policy Entrepreneurship at the University of Chicago’s Harris School of Public Policy. Before coming to Chicago Harris, Bueno de Mesquita taught in the department of political science at Washington University in St. Louis and was a Lady Davis Fellow in political science and visiting fellow in the Center for the Study of Rationality at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He is an applied game theorist whose research focuses on political violence – especially terrorism, insurgency, and rebellion – and on democratic accountability.

Prof. David Dorn
David Dorn is Professor of International Trade and Labor Markets at the University of Zurich and an affiliated professor at the UBS International Center of Economics in Society. He is also a research fellow at CEPR, CESifo and IZA, a member of the editorial board of Review of Economic Studies, and an associate editor of the Journal of the European Economic Association. Prof. Dorn’s research interests include international trade, technological development, labor markets, and spatial patterns of economic activity.
Tim Harford
Tim is an economist, journalist and broadcaster. He is author of the million-selling “The Undercover Economist”, a senior columnist at the Financial Times, and the presenter of Radio 4’s “More or Less”. Tim has spoken at TED, PopTech and the Sydney Opera House and is a visiting fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford. He is Economics Commentator of the Year 2014, winner of the Royal Statistical Society journalistic excellence award 2015, and also won the Society of Business Economists writing prize 2014–2015.

Prof. François Heisbourg
François Heisbourg is chairman of the council of the Geneva Centre for Security Policy and of the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies. He is special advisor of the Paris-based Fondation pour la Recherche Stratégique. His career has included positions in government (member of the French mission to the UN, international security adviser to the Minister of Defence), industry (vice president of Thomson-CSF, i.e. the present-day Thales; senior vice president strategy at Matra Défense Espace, today part of EADS), and academia (professor of the world politics course at Sciences-Po Paris, director of the IISS). He has sat on a number of national and international blue-ribbon bodies (most recently, the French Defence and national security White Paper, the International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, the International Commission on the Balkans, the EU Commission’s group of personalities on security research and development).
Keynote Lecture

Didier Burkhalter
Federal Councillor and Swiss Foreign Minister
Didier Burkhalter obtained a degree in economics from the University of Neuchâtel. Before his move into politics, he held a number of posts in the academic world and the private sector. In 1991 he was elected to the executive (town council) of Neuchâtel, which he chaired for three legislative periods. In 2003 Mr. Burkhalter was elected to the National Council, and to the Council of States in 2007. During this time he served on a number of parliamentary committees and also was a member of the Swiss delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Didier Burkhalter was elected to the Federal Council on 16 September 2009 and appointed as the head of the Federal Department of Home Affairs (FDHA), a post he held until 31 December 2011. Since 1 January 2012 Mr. Burkhalter is head of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA). In 2014 Mr. Burkhalter assumed the presidency of the Swiss Confederation and held the chairmanship of the OSCE.
Panel discussion

Russia and the West – an Economic Perspective

Prof. Sergey A. Karaganov
Sergey Karaganov is Dean of the School of International Economics and Foreign Affairs of the National Research University Higher School of Economics. He is the author and editor of more than 28 books and around 500 articles on the problems of international economy, foreign policy, national security strategy, and Russia’s foreign and security policy. Positions include: Member of the Academic Council of the MFA of Russia (since 1991), Member of the Academic and Advisory Council, Russian Security Council (since 1993), Member of the Council for the Development of Civil Society and Human Rights under the President of Russia (since 2004). He was one of the founders of the Institute of Europe of the USSR (Russian) Academy of Sciences. He was the founder and now serves as the Honorary Chairman of the Presidium of the Council on Foreign and Defense Policy. In December 2014 Sergey Karaganov was appointed to “High-level Panel of Eminent Persons on European Security as a Common Project” under the OSCE.

Dr. Martin Meyer
Martin Meyer is a Swiss journalist, publicist, essayist and author. In 1974 he started his career at the Neue Zürcher Zeitung as editor for the Feuilleton, and became editor-in-chief of the Feuilleton in 1992. In addition to his work as a journalist Martin Meyer has written and published several books, among others about Ernst Jünger, Thomas Mann, Switzerland and Europe, “Ende der Geschichte?” and the debates about “Krieg der Werte.” Recently he published a biography about Albert Camus. Meyer is corresponding member of the Deutsche Akademie für Sprache und Dichtung and received an honorary Ph.D. of the University of St. Gallen.
Panel discussion

Russia and the West – an Economic Perspective

Prof. Vaira Vike-Freiberga

Vaira Vike-Freiberga is President of the Club de Madrid and former President of Latvia (1999–2007). She was instrumental in achieving membership in the EU and NATO for her country and was Special Envoy on UN reform. She was vice-chair of the reflection group on the long-term future of Europe, and chaired the high-level group on freedom and pluralism of media in the EU in 2011–2012.

She is a member, board member or patron of 30 international organizations, including the European Council on Foreign Relations and two high-level groups on European security and defense, as well as five academies.

From 1965 to 1998 Prof. Vike-Freiberga pursued a professorial career at the Department of Psychology of the Université de Montréal. She has published extensively and is much in demand as speaker.
Zurich Lecture of Economics in Society

The Past, Present, and Future of Violence

Prof. Steven Pinker
Steven Pinker is Harvard College Professor and Johnstone Family Professor of Psychology at Harvard University. His research on visual cognition and the psychology of language has won prizes from the National Academy of Sciences, the Royal Institution of Great Britain, the Cognitive Neuroscience Society, and the American Psychological Association. Steven Pinker is one of the world's leading authorities on language and the mind. His popular and highly praised books include “The Better Angels of Our Nature: Why Violence Has Declined”, “The Stuff of Thought”, “The Blank Slate”, “How the Mind Works”, and “The Language Instinct”. He has been named Humanist of the Year, and is listed in *Foreign Policy and Prospect* magazine’s “The World’s Top 100 Public Intellectuals” and in *Time* magazine’s “The 100 Most Influential People in the World Today.” His latest book is “The Sense of Style: The Thinking Person’s Guide to Writing in the 21st Century”.

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*Image of Prof. Steven Pinker*