



"AUSTRIAN CENTRE FOR PEACE" (FORMERLY: ASPR) 40TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE IN SCHLAINING ENDED

2-day conference "Peace Work in Transformation", ceremonial act and film screening brought about 150 guests to the "Peace Castle" ("Friedensburg").

Today, Wednesday (October 5), the celebrations for the 40th anniversary of the foundation of the Austrian Study Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution ended. The institution used the anniversary to change its name to "**Austrian Centre for Peace**" (ACP). This name is intended to better reflect the broad range of activities of the organization in the fields of conflict resolution, training as well as research and to make them even more visible internationally in the future. About 150 guests joined the program at the "Peace Castle" ("Friedensburg Schlaining") which consisted of an anniversary celebration on Monday, a 2-day-conference on Tuesday and Wednesday, and a film screening of the award-winning documentary "Dear Future Children" on Tuesday.

President Norbert **Darabos** and Director Moritz **Ehrmann** said: "In the current situation, unfortunately it is hard to speak about peace – while, paradoxically, it is all the more necessary. The 'Austrian Centre for Peace' has experienced exciting days with many supporters, friends and partners. Our conference focus on **peace and security in Europe, climate crisis and peace, and technology change and peace** made for very lively and inspiring discussions. In the future we want to create even more impact as an Austrian peace actor."

Advisory Board established, Christian Strohal appointed Chairman

A newly established Advisory Board with 13 distinguished personalities convened in Schlaining for the first time on Oct 3 for its inaugural meeting. Its members are:

Fatuma Ahmed **Ali** (Associate Professor of International Relations at the United States International University - Africa in Nairobi), Emil **Brix** (Director of the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna), David **Deng** (human rights lawyer specializing in South Sudan), Annika **Hansen** (Head of Analysis at the Center for International Peace Operations IF in Berlin), Mary **Kaldor** (Professor Emeritus of Global Governance and Director of the Conflict Research Program at The London School of Economics and Political Science), Angela **Kane** (Senior Fellow at the Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation and Vice President of the International Institute for Peace in Vienna), Olivia **Lazard** (Fellow at Carnegie Europe), Bettina **Muscheidt** (Ambassador of the European Union to Nicaragua), Jan **Pospisil** (Associated Professor at the University of Coventry), Werner **Wintersteiner** (Founder and former Director of the University Center for Peace Research and Peace Education at the Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt), Cindy **Wittke** (Head of the Political Science Research Group at the Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies) and Hossam **Zaki** (Deputy

Secretary General of the Arab League). The Chairman/Chairman is Christian **Strohal**, former Head of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) in Warsaw and Special Representative for the 2017 Austrian OSCE Presidency.

Photos of the anniversary events can be accessed here:

<https://tinyurl.com/42fcacaj>

Here are the links to the ACP's appearances on popular platforms:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/acpschlaining/>

<https://www.facebook.com/ACP.Schlaining>

https://twitter.com/ACP_Schlaining

https://instagram.com/acp_schlaining

About the ASPR/ACP: The Austrian Study Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution (ASPR) was founded in 1982 and is located at Schlaining Castle in southern Burgenland; another location is in the federal capital Vienna. With the 40th anniversary in October 2022, the name change to "Austrian Centre for Peace" (ACP) was completed. The ACP is organized as a non-profit,

independent, non-partisan association and focuses its work on the core areas of science, education and conflict transformation. The ACP currently employs around 25 people. The organization contributes to the dialogue on current peace policy issues through research, specialized conferences and publications. It is also involved in peace education and training programs for civilian experts deployed in crisis regions, and holds an annual Peace Forum.

The ACP is a meeting place where peace negotiations are organized and accompanied; however, it is also active in mediating between conflict parties in the crisis regions themselves. For its work, the ACP has received the title of "Peace Messenger" from the UN and the "Peace Education Award" from UNESCO, among others. www.ac4p.at

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