

Spring School: THE EUROPEAN DIMENSION OF SOFT SECURITY

Content and programme: Since the end of the Cold War the debate on security has been lively and controversial. In the last decade the general attitude toward security has been characterised by a broader focus on people, while the traditional "narrow" approach was concerned only with state and national security. The military and state-centred view was challenged by the attempt to widen the security agenda. The greater role played by cultural, economic and environmental issues has expanded the analysis to other types of threats for individuals. Consequently "soft security", with non-military elements, enhanced its importance in the literature. Europe prides itself with a fresher, more innovative approach when it comes to security threats than, say, the US.

The programme (the precise content of which is subject to further fine-tuning between the participating institutions) is likely to include topics - taught by academics and practitioners - such as:

- The European dimension of security- (EU/international) Peace-keeping and nation-building
- Stabilization and reconstruction- Conflict and public health- Dispute settlement (focus on energy and procurement)- Human rights and the internal market
- Transnational conflict and policing
- EU enlargement and neighbourhood policy

In terms of activities and skills the spring school is likely to include:

- Taught seminar sessions- Meetings and exchanges with practitioners
- Visits to relevant sections/committees of the European Parliament and Commission
- EU simulation game

In total 20 students from Bologna, Prague and Mainz will get together **between 11-22 April**. Travel and hotel expenses will be paid by the spring school organization. About seven students from the University of Mainz (Political Science) will be selected for the programme.

You can **apply until 7 February electronically to marie.demel@googlemail.com**

- sending a short statement of motivation (please include information as to when you are likely to start your Magisterarbeit and on which topic you envisage to write it)- a Curriculum Vitae (which should also list the grades obtained so far)