



## Draft Concept Note for Cooperation Agreement:

### *International Peace Institute*

### *and Central European University*

The *International Peace Institute* (IPI) is an independent, international not-for-profit dedicated to managing risk and building resilience to promote peace, security, and sustainable development. To achieve its mission IPI employs a mix of policy research, strategic analysis, publishing, and convening. In Austria, IPI Vienna (*Internationales Friedensinstitut*) holds the legal status of a “Quasi-International Organization.”

*Central European University* (CEU) is a graduate institution of advanced research and teaching, dedicated to socially and morally responsible intellectual inquiry in support of building open and democratic societies that respect human rights and human dignity.

In support of their common interests, IPI and CEU are exploring a possible cooperation agreement. Activities would revolve around three components: 1) Strategic Outreach and Facilitation, 2) Research and Academics, and 3) Events.

### **Activities**

- Strategic Outreach and Facilitation
  - As CEU seeks to establish a presence in Vienna, IPI is well positioned to assist in the following ways:
    - IPI has a long standing relationship with the Austrian government. It has organized annual events in Vienna since 1970 and has high-level contacts in the Austrian Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defense, and the Executive branch. IPI would **work to facilitate good relations between CEU and the Austrian government.**
    - IPI has offices located in central Vienna, steps away from the Austrian Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs, and the headquarters of the Organization for Security Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). IPI could **provide space and administrative support** for an advance team from CEU in Vienna as it works to establish the University’s presence in Austria.
    - IPI Vienna holds legal status in Austria as a “Quasi International Organization,” which carries considerable **legal, political, and financial benefits.** These could be leveraged to support CEU’s mission.

- IPI recently signed an **MOU with the Council of Europe**, an international organization with 47 member states, headquartered in Strasbourg. High-level contacts throughout the organization and among its membership expands IPI's outreach potential across Europe.
- Research and Academics
  - As a research-based think tank with established roots in the multilateral system, IPI could work to support the **development of academic programming in Vienna**, in particular corresponding to CEU's established programs in the following:
    - Human Rights
    - International Relations
    - Political Science
    - Public Policy
  - In addition, as a practical policy-oriented "Do-Tank" IPI would be well-positioned to **develop a Training Course or an Advanced Certificate Program connected to the International Organizations in Vienna** where IPI has well-established high-level contacts. Possible partner institutions include the OSCE and the United Nations, in particular the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Atomic Energy Agency, which are headquartered in Vienna.
- Events
  - IPI is an experienced and respected convener in Austria. In addition to regular convening at its offices, IPI recently organized the **47<sup>th</sup> annual Vienna Seminar**, in partnership with the Austrian Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defense. This year's topic was mass migration: "Moving Forward Together: Addressing Human Mobility." For the past four years, IPI has convened the annual **Salzburg Forum at Schloss Leopoldskron** on topics related to peace, security, and threats to the open society. Based upon this experience IPI could host co-branded events with CEU at IPI premises in Vienna or at other venues easily accessed in the vicinity. These could include the following:
    - High-level Invited Speakers Events or Lectures
    - Expert-level Roundtables
    - Multi-day Seminars

In today's global environment, no institution can stand alone. Partnerships are critical to the advancement of the global common good. As two institutions with common interests and distinct comparative advantages, the International Peace Institute and Central European University pursue partnerships as essential components of their missions. This concept note serves to develop such a partnership together.

Encl:

- 1) 2016 Salzburg Forum agenda and list of participants.
  - **“Open Societies Under Attack: The Return of Ideology”**
- 2) 2017 Salzburg Forum agenda and list of participants.
  - **“Mapping the New Geopolitics: Prisoners of Geography or Lords of the Land”**