



ULKOPOLIITTINEN INSTITUUTTI  
UTRIKESPOLITISKA INSTITUTET  
THE FINNISH INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS OF FINLAND

The Finnish Institute of International Affairs (FIIA) and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland have the pleasure of inviting you to the seminar:

# CONTROLLING BORDERLANDS?

*New Perspectives on State Peripheries in Southern  
Central Asia and Northern Afghanistan*

**Wednesday 15 December, 2010 at 9:00–12:30**  
**Finnish Institute of International Affairs,**  
**Kruunuvuorenkatu 4, 2nd Floor, Helsinki, Finland**

Approaches to Central Asia and Afghanistan tend to revolve around issues of Soviet legacy, geo-political interests, or resource and security concerns. All too often the focus is on state-level policies rather than taking local and inter-regional dynamics into consideration. However, it is the on-the-ground and localised dynamics that influence political stability and border security. Central Asia is indeed a context of insurgency, the narcotics trade, and complex ethno-nationalisms.

This seminar, therefore, has as its primary focus the implications the ethno-political currents have both on the strategy of international actors and the Central Asian states themselves. The fraught political boundaries between the Central Asian states will be taken as the starting point from which the contemporary issues that have ramifications for policy makers outside the region will be discussed. The region is seeing an increased presence of non-traditional actors such as NATO and the OSCE, and the seminar seeks to focus on how the interaction between different localised groups is influenced by the emergence of these new geo-political forces and interests.

The seminar will mark the launch of a FIIA Report compiled by Dr. Steven Parham.

Coffee will be served before the seminar, starting at 8:30. For catering purposes, we kindly ask you to confirm your participation at the latest on Monday 13 December by filling in the registration form through the link below:

**<http://www.upi-fiia.fi/en/registration/326/>**

**For further information, please do not hesitate to contact:**

Annica Moore tel. 358 206 111 710, annica.moore@upi-fiia.fi

Kukka-Maria Kuisma tel. +358 206 111 718, kukka-maria.kuisma@upi-fiia.fi



## PROGRAMME

9:00–10:45

### SESSION 1 : Local and regional perspectives on Central Asian borderlands

Opening and Chair:

**Teija Tiilikainen**, Director,  
Finnish Institute of International Affairs

Speakers:

**Kristian Berg Harpviken**, Director,  
Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), Norway

**Steven Parham**, Author of the FIIA Report: *Controlling  
Borderlands?*

**Tuula Yrjölä**, Roving Ambassador for Central Asia,  
Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland

Discussion



Teija Tiilikainen



Kristian Berg Harpviken



Steven Parham

10:45–11:00

Coffee



Tuula Yrjölä

11:00–12:30

### SESSION 2: Implementation of state power in the border regions of southern Central Asia

Chair:

**Matti Nojonen**, Programme Director,  
Finnish Institute of International Affairs

Speakers:

**Zlatko Zigic**, Sub-Regional Coordinator for Central Asia;  
Chief of Mission, International Organisation for Migration  
(IOM) Missions in Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic,  
Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan

**Kimmo Kiljunen**, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's special  
representative for Central Asia, Member of Parliament,  
Finland

**Kerstin Kronvall**, Journalist, Finnish Broadcasting  
Company (YLE)

Discussion



Matti Nojonen



Zlatko Zigic



Kimmo Kiljunen

Concluding Remarks:

**Tuula Yrjölä**, Roving Ambassador for Central Asia,  
Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland



Kerstin Kronvall

12:30

Light buffet lunch