

**The UN Studies Working Group**  
NEWS – May 16, 2008

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Dear Friends and Colleagues,

With less than three weeks remaining until the 2008 ACUNS Annual Meeting, we very much look forward to meeting many of you in person soon. In the following, we will provide you with an update on our Bonn activities – starting with the seminar on UN Research and Teaching on June 4, followed by the working group meeting on June 5, and last but not least, the ACUNS conference – as well as further news concerning our portal and non-profit status.

Please enjoy the reading!

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**Bonn activities:**

**Seminar on UN Research and Teaching** on June 4 at the German Development Institute in Bonn. Attached please find the updated agenda and registrants list. We wish to thank all those who plan to make presentations to kick off our brainstorming sessions, and John Mathiason and Sylvia Karlsson for moderating sessions 2 and 3. We are also happy to report that we have made dinner reservations at the restaurant “Em Höttche” in downtown Bonn (June 3) and at the “Rheingarten”, a lovely *biergarten* near the Rhine River (June 4), and hope you will be able to join us.

For more information concerning the agenda and logistics, please visit our UN Studies Portal at: <http://www.unstudies.org/twiki/bin/view/Main/ProjectSeminarTeaching2008>.

**UN Studies Working Group meeting** on June 5 at the German Development Institute in Bonn. We invite all interested parties to join our working group meeting from 9:00am until 11:00am for an update on our projects. Kirsten Haack will report on the planned **Journal on International Organization Studies**, and looks forward to hearing your ideas (please also see: <http://www.unstudies.org/twiki/bin/view/Main/ProjectJIOSActionPlan2008>). Furthermore, we would like to discuss possible future activities and the overall direction of the group with you.

Besides our joint **workshop panel at the ACUNS 2008 Annual Meeting**, which is scheduled to take place on June 7 from 1:30pm until 3:00pm at the Gustav-Stresemann-Institute, we are arranging for a working group **presentation table** to display posters and flyers as well as to demonstrate our UN Studies Portal. If you have any UN-Studies material that relates to our working group, please consider to bring it along.

In this context, please note that we are well aware that the **promotion of our working group** has its limits. However, we thought it might be helpful to develop a more professional appearance. Besides concrete steps to formalize our group (see below), we thus hired a young designer to develop a more professional logo as well as outreach material such as posters and a flyer.

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## **Working group news**

**Non-profit status.** We are in the final stages of founding the UN Studies Association e.V. (a non-profit organization under German law) as formal successor of the working group. In the first place, this change of status will allow us to apply for funds.

**Re-launch of UN Studies Portal / terms of use.** We have successfully completed a server transfer and installed the latest Twiki version, which is easier to handle than the previous one. An updated tutorial can be found at: <http://www.unstudies.org/twiki/bin/view/Main/Tutorial>.

In addition, our online presence necessitates a set of rules concerning privacy and copyright issues as well as developing "terms of service". We are currently working with an internet lawyer on these issues. Please be assured that we will keep all formal and legal efforts to a minimum.

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We look forward to hearing your comments and ideas.

Best wishes,

Julia and Henrike

***Julia Harfensteller & Henrike Paepcke, Co-Chairs  
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