

The UN Studies Working Group
NEWS – September 18, 2007

Dear members of the working group,

Last Thursday, the ACUNS 2008 Planning Team met in Bonn to further discuss the various workshop panel ideas of what promises to be a very interesting conference. Besides our proposed panel to feature the working group's activities, we are hoping to organize an additional seminar on research and teaching prior to the ACUNS conference. For more information, please see our update on projects below.

Beforehand, an official note concerning the group's governance: Following the working group's last online conference on July 6, 2007, members unanimously agreed that Julia Harfensteller and Henrike Paepcke act as co-chairs of the working group.

We would like to thank you for your confidence, and look forward to working with you to make our joint project a success.

Next meeting / forthcoming events:

September 20: online briefing on wiki-based online portal. We will introduce the main features of our new portal to members in a first training session on September 20 – and in additional sessions, if requested. As explained in our last newsletter, the portal will serve as a main communication and collaboration tool to develop and exchange new ideas, as well as to build and share knowledge. For example, we are hoping that you make use of the portal to discuss and advance the project ideas mentioned below.

October: next working group online meeting. We have decided to hold our next online meeting in mid-October. This way, you will get the opportunity to learn more about the wiki portal and add new or comment on existing content before we will continue our joint discussion on concrete projects, the group's proceedings and next steps.

Project updates:

Workshop panel at ACUNS 2008 annual meeting: We have submitted a first proposal for a workshop panel at the 2008 ACUNS annual meeting in Bonn (June 4-6, 2008). For the full proposal, please go to: <http://www.unstudies.org/twiki/bin/view/Main/ProjectACUNS2008>. The official submission is due in early December.

As explained in the proposal, the panel is supposed to present activities and projects that are embedded in the working group's overall agenda. Please note that we will thus consider and discuss possible panel presentations based on their relevance to the working group. We will be happy to discuss with you ways to integrate your work in the group's framework.

Seminar on research and teaching prior to the ACUNS 2008 conference. We have drafted an outline of a possible seminar on research and teaching about the UN (methods, tools, contents). This seminar could take place in Bonn on June 3 and 4, before the official beginning of the ACUNS conference. The outline will be soon available on our wiki portal.

Please contact us with any suggestions or questions you may have.

Best wishes,

Julia and Henrike