

Milton Wolf Seminar 2011
**Picking Up the Pieces: Fragmented Sovereignties and Emerging
Information Flows**
Vienna, Austria, March 23-25

2011 ESSAY CONTEST

OVERVIEW

The [Diplomatic Academy Vienna](http://www.da-vienna.ac.at) (www.da-vienna.ac.at) in partnership with the [Center for Global Communication Studies](http://www.asc.upenn.edu) at the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Pennsylvania ([http://www.asc.upenn.edu/](http://www.asc.upenn.edu)) will host a conference from March 23-25, 2011 in Vienna, Austria, organized by the [American Austrian Foundation](http://www.aaf-online.org) (www.aaf-online.org). The conference will bring together a diverse group of individuals representing multiple perspectives and nationalities. Panelists include distinguished print and television journalists, media development practitioners, diplomats, and academics.

The conference is organized around the theme: **Picking Up the Pieces: Fragmented Sovereignties and Emerging Information Flows**. The purpose of the conference is three-fold:

- (1) To identify how different actors attempt to influence the domestic media and communications landscapes of closed and transitional states in service of diplomatic and/or development goals
- (2) To investigate the implications of rapid changes in the available communication technologies for these efforts, and
- (3) To bring together students, scholars and practitioners from around the world to participate in seminars and break out sessions designed to identify current problems and possible solutions to the challenges raised by these activities.

The conference organizers have launched an essay competition to identify motivated and thoughtful students of international relations, development studies, communication, journalism, law, and related fields who will enrich the conference proceedings. The top seven essay writers will win a stipend of up to \$1500 each to attend the 2010 Milton Wolf Seminar. Stipends *must* be used to cover the contest winners' travel costs to Vienna and accommodation at the official seminar hotel.

Vienna, Austria's historic capital city provides an ideal location for the seminar because it is also home to a broad array of media actors, multilateral organizations, and international NGOs.

The preliminary conference agenda can be found on the [AAF](#), [CGCS](#) and the [Diplomatic Academy](#) websites.

ESSAY QUESTION

Under what conditions and with what methods should a country or multilateral organization intervene in the media and communications space of another?

SOME FURTHER GUIDANCE

Successful essays should demonstrate originality, cogently address the different debates and perspectives on the issue, and incorporate particular examples that illustrate the challenges, opportunities, and ethical concerns related to international efforts to influence the media and communications environments in closed and transitional states. Essays should consider the diplomatic, legal, development, or ethical issues involved with external efforts to shape domestic media and communications spaces. Essays may focus on efforts targeting the media, or internet and mobile technologies, or both.

Before formulating your entry, you may want to peruse existing reports and analysis on media interventions such as:

- Reports by the [Center for International Media Assistance](#)
- Mark Frohardt and Jonathan Temin. 2003. [Use and Abuse of Media in Vulnerable Societies](#). Washington, DC: USIP.
- Monroe E. Price and Mark Thompson, eds. 2002. *Forging Peace: Intervention, Human Rights and the Management of Media Space*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press. This edited volume includes chapters on Cambodia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Rwanda, Kosovo and East Timor. It includes analysis of different forms of media intervention with a particular focus on the legal issues involved.
- Amelia Arsenault and Shawn Powers. 2010. [Media Development: A Review of the Literature](#). Washington, DC: InterNews Media Map Project.

ELIGIBILITY

The essay competition is open to all currently enrolled full-time graduate students (MA, PhD, or JD) in international relations, communication, development studies, law and related fields. This is an open call. Graduate students of all nationalities and from all universities may apply.

The top seven essay writers will win a stipend of up to \$1,500 each to attend the 2011 Milton Wolf Seminar. Stipends *must* be used to cover the contest winners' travel costs to Vienna and accommodation at the official seminar hotel.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

All essays must be approximately 1,500 words in length (2,000 max). They should be typewritten in English, and double-spaced.

Please email all entries in the form of an MS Word or MS Word compatible file to The Center for Global Communication Studies (cgcs@asc.upenn.edu) with the email subject line: Milton Wolf Essay Contest.

DEADLINE: 23.59 EST, January 21, 2011.

For questions, write to Libby Morgan: lmorgan@asc.upenn.edu

SPONSORS:

The Milton Wolf Seminar and Essay Contest are underwritten by the [American-Austrian Foundation](#).