



National Center for Policy Research (NCPR)

2nd Issue

NEWSLETTER

March 2008

The Meeting with Miss. Nadja Milanova

There was a meeting with Miss. Milanova, the Program coordinator & Information Officer of the Public Diplomacy Division of NATO to visit the joint NCPR and NATO's Training Program in Research Methodologies, Project Management & Working Skills on the 14th of Jan 2008 at the NCPR and she appreciated the program.

In the meeting, that Miss. Milanova had with the Director of NCPR Dr. Noor Ebad, ideas were exchanged for further cooperation of NATO with NCPR in future.

Miss Milanova had a meeting with the chancellor of Kabul University on January 15th. They discussed about the establishment of a Video Telecom Center on the Kabul university's ground by financial support of NATO in near future.

End up of the Joint Training Program of NCPR and NATO

The closing ceremony of the Training Program in Research Methodologies, Project Management & Working Skills was launched by opening speech of Dr. Abdul Rahman Ashraf's, the Chancellor of Kabul University on 31st of January 2008 at the NCPR's conference room. The participants were The Voice President of Kabul University for Academic affair, Deans of the Law and Political

Sciences, and Social Sciences Faculties of Kabul University, the Acting director of CPHD, the Director of Scientific Research Center of Kabul University and other respected guests. The program was ended by handing over the certificates to the trainees of the program by his Excellency Chancellor of Kabul University, and the Director of NCPR.

NATO MANFRED WÖRNER AWARD 2008

This award in honour of the former secretary general of NATO "Manfred Wörner" was previously given to the young students of other universities of NATO countries.

However, in 2008, the award would be given to the young lecturers & students of Kabul University particularly Faculties of Law and Political Sciences, Economics, Social Sciences and Journalism.

On the basis of signed agreement on the 15th January 2008, the NATO in cooperation with NCPR has launched this contest in the Kabul University.

The aim of this contest is to encourage the young Afghans to present their creative & innovative ideas through project proposal, research proposal, concept paper and essay concerning construction and development of Afghanistan.

The respective faculties were informed about the terms and conditions, and the list of 27 applicants along with their creative proposals were sent to the NATO Diplomacy Division on 2nd of March 2008. Nine top proposals were selected by NATO. The selected applicants will have a travel in April 08 to Bucharest, and after the completion of their projects they will also be honoured 1000 Euro as Manfred Wörner Award at the end of October 2008.

Research projects of the National Center for Policy Research

The research projects of 2007 of the NCPR; "The Causes of Political Instability and Possible Options for its Improvement" related to Department of Law & Political Science, "The Causes of Poverty and possible ways of Reducing It" related to Department of Economics, and "The Crisis of Social Trust" related to Department of Social Sciences, passed the forth stage (data analyses). The researchers are now involved in report extraction of quantitative data and qualitative information assembled via interview with the specialists. The final report of the projects would be published in the mid of 2008.



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Catalogue of Studies Workshops

The Departments of NCPR; Department of Law and Political Sciences, Department of Economics and Department of Social Sciences held the workshops for opting the topics of the research projects of 2008 at the National Center for Policy Research conference room, respectively on the 11th, 13th and 18th of Feb 2008. The lecturers of related field, scholars, academic personalities, and members of the governmental & non-governmental organizations participated in the workshops. They discussed about the suggested topics (10 topic each department) through the catalogue of studies, and voted for the topics. One topic per department that gets the highest votes would be the research topic of the related department of NCPR in 2008.

Steering Committee of the National Center for Policy Research

The meeting of the Steering Committee was held on 11th of February 2008 at NCPR office. It was decided to arrange a Memorandum of Understanding between NCPR and Steering Committee members to be signed. The meetings generally would be held quarterly at NCPR.

Official Journey of NCPR's Director to Brussels and Berlin

The Dehli branch of Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS), had organized a journey of the heads of research centers of SAARC countries to Brussels and Berlin. During this official journey from 2nd to 9th of March 2008, the heads of research centers visited the Members of European Assembly, European Commission and European Parliamentarians in Brussels. They attended a seminar organized by German Institute for International and Security Affairs in Berlin. The Director of NCPR Dr. Noor Ebad, left Kabul for new Dehli on the 1st of March 2008. He traveled to Bochum on the 10th of March and along with Dr. Babak Khalatbari the Country Director of Konrad Adenauer Stiftung in Afghanistan and Pakistan had signed an agreement of Scholarship between Bochum University and the National Center for Policy Research. This scholarship is for the lecturers of Economics Faculties of Afghanistan sponsored by World Bank. According to this, the NCPR will assist and guide them on the conducting of research on chosen topics of their Master Thesis.

Report of Roundtable on "Afghanistan in 2007"

The roundtable on "Afghanistan in 2007" report held for thirty scholars of Kabul University, Kabul Medical University, University of education, Poly Technic university, Academy of Sciences of Afghanistan, some scholars from Ministry of Foreign Affairs, CPUA, ACSOR and some from Asia Foundation and other organizations. The report briefed by utilization of power point program. The participants were asked to express their views and give feedback on the report. The feedback considered helpful for further surveys to be conducted by Asia Foundation.

