

Vienna, 1 October 2009

**The United Nations Information Service (UNIS) Vienna**

in cooperation with

**the Diplomatic Academy Vienna**

and

**the Academic Council on the United Nations (ACUNS) – Vienna Liaison Office**

invite you to the launch of

the publication

**“Can the United Nations be Taught?”**

on

**Thursday, 8 October 2009, 12:00 hours**

at

**Vienna International Centre (VIC)**

**UNIS Multimedia Room, G0545**

The Proceedings of a Colloquium on Innovative Approaches to Teaching about the United Nations, which was held on 22 November 2008 in the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna, have now been published in a special edition of the "Favorita Papers", the book series of the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna.

The compendium provocatively titled “Can the United Nations be Taught?” comprises over forty contributions of senior UN officials, well known academics and students from Australia, Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, as well as the United States, exploring possibilities on how the United Nations as a subject can best be addressed in the field of higher education.

Besides innovative teaching initiatives about the UN system (active learning techniques, simulations, computer based learning), the contributors furthermore address the complexity of teaching and the intricacies of the learning process, which, as an ultimate goal, should bring about a better understanding of UN operations in the real world.

**Welcome remarks**

by

**Maher Nasser**

Director, United Nations Information Service (UNIS) Vienna

**Speakers**

**Thomas Stelzer**

Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs  
UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)

**Gerhard Reiweger**

Deputy Director, Diplomatic Academy of Vienna

**Michael Platzer**  
Vienna Liaison Officer, Academic Council on the United Nations (ACUNS)

**Axel Wuestenhagen**  
Former Director of UNIC Bonn and UNIS Vienna  
Author of the survey "Teaching about the United Nations at Austrian Universities and Post-Graduate  
Institutions"

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Recipients of this invitation who do not hold a valid VIC grounds pass are kindly requested to register  
by sending an e-mail to [maria.naderhirn@unvienna.org](mailto:maria.naderhirn@unvienna.org).

Media representatives please register by writing to [press@unvienna.org](mailto:press@unvienna.org).

Deadline for registrations: Tuesday, 6 October 2009, 16:00 hours

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