BICC-Annual Report 2010 presents current work of the peace and conflict research think-tank

In its Annual Report 2010, published today, BICC (Bonn International Center for Conversion) is presenting the current main areas of work of the peace and conflict research think tank, which conducts projects in the fields of global arms control, security in post-conflict societies, migration and security as well as natural resources and conflict.

“BICC works at the nexus between peace and development. This is reflected in our innovative approaches based on applied research and concrete practical projects,” explains Peter J. Croll, Director of BICC.

Croll outlines the goals of BICC: “BICC intends to actively contribute to conflict resolution and prevention and, as an internationally renowned think tank, provides consultancy services to decision-makers.”

In consequence, the project reports in this Annual Report include the following topics:

Global arms control:
- BICC continues with its critical appraisal of German arms exports on the basis of the EU Code of Conduct. (www.ruestungsexport.info)
- The Global Militarization Index (GMI) illustrates the significance of state military apparatuses compared with society as a whole, and serves as an objective tool for analysis and policy advice.

Security in post-conflict societies:
- The role of private security providers is targeted by a research project on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).
- On behalf of the German Foreign Office and the German Bank for Reconstruction (KfW), BICC offers advice to the South Sudan Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission (SSDDRC) in the reintegration of former combatants into civilian life.
- A research project focuses on wartime rape in El Salvador, Cambodia, Sierra Leone and Bosnia.
Migration and security:
- BICC is a member of a transatlantic study team funded by the German Marshall Funds examining climate-induced migration.
- The transnational engagement of African migrant organizations in North Rhine-Westphalia is examined in another research project.

Natural resources and conflicts:
- BICC has been conducting field research by studying the Chad-Cameroun Oil Pipeline and the influence of resource exploitation on the local conflict dynamics.

“We also look into how much conversion we will be seeing in the years to come,” Croll adds. Within the framework of the upcoming structural reform of the Bundeswehr, local communities and the Länder must face not only economic effects but also challenges in town planning and development.

Finally, the BICC Annual Report gives an overview of the economic situation of the center. It also contains an extensive list of publications by BICC and its staff.


Further information:
Susanne Heinke, BICC Press Spokesperson, Phone: +49 228 911 96 44, pr@bicc.de