

Prof. Stefan Wolff
University of Birmingham, UK

In his speech, Prof. Stefan Wolff wants to put emphasis on the importance of micro level when this is related to conflict and resolution issues. Firstly, he referred to the international arrangements that govern socially, politically, economically relationships in the different segments of the divided societies. These kinds of arrangements are the key for stability, peace, democracy and prosperity, in terms of managing these relationships to constantly reproduce them and keep them stable and sustainable. In order to be achieved something like that, political will is considered as an important factor and it is called by Prof. Wolff as leadership.

The issue of leadership is crucial. Indeed, it is important in democracies to have leaders that are responsive to their followers: leaders don't have just to move around and ask people what they want but they must have skills, vision and determination to achieve. This is what actually people, in micro-level, want from their leaders. At the same time, leaders need to follow certain incentives that can prevent people from fighting or make people stop fighting. This kind of relationships must be covered by fair and just. But the question that according to Prof. Wolff arises is if that is so easy why societies don't have more peace.

In that sense the factor of international diplomacy is important so as to micro-level and macro-level issues can be specified. In most situations that we have violent conflicts proportionally we have people who are greedy, racists, or people who hate each other. Moreover, there is impulse in the sense that there is a lack of trust, of understanding. From that perspective, international diplomacy is the key that can make leaders understand how they can achieve these particular institutional arrangements. That can be proved stable over the long term and can create just and fair institutions. Subsequently, international diplomacy leads to prosperity and to these all great things that EU is talking about. Exactly from that perspective, Prof. Wolff believes that macro and micro are linked very much in the terms of prevention of conflicts. International diplomacy and institutions like ECMI and besides that the world who understand the diplomacy either is European Union, United Nations or third individual party states, can contribute to the battle against conflicts. That means that in order to understand why particular conflicts could have been prevented or will be prevented, the trinity leadership, diplomacy and institutional understanding is crucial. The ECMI plays a significant role in that direction.

Conclusively, Prof. Wolff points out the importance of micro level leadership which is considered as significant and plays an important role to reach conflict management and resolution. It is not the money or ingenuity that really leads people to peaceful and proper societies but the leaders. In that prospective we need to put emphasis on the micro level which is very crucial.