



The Finnish Institute of International Affairs and the Åland Islands Peace Institute with the support of the Constitutional Law Committee of the Parliament of Finland have the pleasure of inviting you to a seminar:

## THE PROSPECTS OF THE ÅLAND EXAMPLE AS A TOOL OF NORDIC PEACE MEDIATION: Tackling Identity Conflicts, Autonomy and Minority Rights

On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2012, at 10:00–12:00,  
At the Parliament Annex Auditorium (Pikkuparlamentti) ,  
Arkadiankatu 3, Helsinki

The global security environment has witnessed an increase in identity-based conflicts, in which the key dynamics of violence revolves around the collective and individual rights of minorities, mechanisms through which these rights can be mediated within a state, and arrangements through which their autonomy can be realised. The growing number of identity-related internationalised civil wars has generated an increasing demand for models of peace mediation, including the Åland Example. This seminar will present the results of the recent study conducted by the Åland Islands Peace Institute. The seminar will also examine the way in which the Åland Example and its components has been used in mediation mechanisms of the different Nordic countries and how its applicability can be further increased. The Nordic countries have a keen interest in exploring further their potential roles in international conflict resolution. Finland and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs adopted a mediation strategy in December 2011. What are the current priorities and issues as perceived by political leaders, diplomats and researchers in Finland and the Nordic region? What is the role of the Åland Example in these matters?

Opening remarks:

**Johannes Koskinen**, Chair of the Constitutional Law Committee, Parliament of Finland

**Britt Lundberg**, Speaker of the Åland Parliament

Roundtable:

**Dr. Kristine Höglund**, Associate Professor Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University Peace and Conflict Research

**Ambassador Kai Eide**, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway

**Dr. Sia Spiliopoulou Åkermark**, Associate Professor, Director of The Åland Islands Peace Institute

Comments:

**Elisabeth Naucclér**, Member of the Parliament of Finland, representing Åland Islands

Keynote speech:

**Erkki Tuomioja**, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Finland

Moderator:

**Dr. Teija Tiilikainen**, Director Finnish Institute of International Affairs

Coffee will be served before the seminar, starting at 09:30. We kindly ask you to confirm your participation at the latest on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> April by filling in the registration form through the link below:

**<http://www.fiia.fi/en/registration/442>**

For more information:

Ms Annina Aalto, tel. +358 9 432 7710, [annina.aalto@fiia.fi](mailto:annina.aalto@fiia.fi)