



BOOKLET

May 8-9 2023

International conference:

#ReimaginingPeace2023: New agendas for research in times of conflict

1 Conference program

Monday 8 May 2023 (13.30 – 18.00) – Peace research in times of conflict

12.00: Registration & light lunch

13.30: Welcome by Nils Duquet (Flemish Peace Institute)

13.45 – 15.00: Thematic break out groups (Every attendee selects 1 session)

Session A: Climate & Conflict (room Schelp)

Chair: Halvard Buhaug (PRIO)

Speakers:

- Ingrid Boas (Wageningen University)
- Nina von Uexkull (Uppsala University and PRIO)
- Cedric de Coning (Norwegian Institute of Foreign Affairs)

Session B: Feminist peace research (room Van Dyck)

Chair: Élise Féron (Tampere Peace Research Institute)

Speakers:

- Itziar Mujika Chao (University of the Basque Country)
- Swati Parashar, (University of Gothenburg)
- Punam Yadav (University College London)

15.30 – 16.45: Thematic break out groups (Every attendee selects 1 session)

Session C: Arms proliferation & disarmament (room Van Dyck)

Chair & introduction: Michal Smetana (Peace Research Centre Prague)

Speakers:

- Diederik Cops (Flemish Peace Institute)

- Moritz Kütt (Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy, Hamburg)
- Anna Nadibaidze (University of Southern Denmark)

Session D: Global crisis & local peace (room Schelp)

Chair: Velma Šarić (Post-Conflict Research Center)

Speakers:

- Tiffany Fairey (King's College London)
- Marko Kljajić (University of Wisconsin – Madison)
- Maarten Van Alstein (Flemish Peace Institute)

17.00 – 18.00: Keynote speech by Mary Kaldor (London School of Economics)

18.00 – 20:00: Networking & walking dinner

Tuesday 9 May 2023 (9.00 – 15.30) – Europe Day: Peace research for policy and innovation

9.15 – 9.30: Welcome by Liesbeth Homans, Speaker of the Flemish Parliament

9.30 – 10.15: Interactive panel discussion- Emerging technologies: impact on peace and security?

Moderator: Sibylle Bauer (SIPRI– Stockholm International Peace Research Institute)

Panelists:

- Lode Dewaegheneire (Stop Killer Robots)
- Frank Kuhn (Peace Research Institute Frankfurt)

10.30-11.15: Interactive panel discussion on post-conflict peace-building: lessons for policy and civil society

Moderator: Keith Krause (Geneva Graduate Institute)

Panelists:

- Charline Burton (Search for Common Ground)
- Owen Greene (University of Bradford)

11.30-12.15: Interactive panel discussion on Europe and peace in the world

Moderator: Ursula Schröder (IFSH – Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg)

Panelists:

- Marko Lehti (Tampere Peace Research Institute)
- Lisa Musiol (International Crisis Group)

12.30 -13.30: Light lunch

13.30 – 15.30 : Next Generation Peace Research

Young researchers Ondrej Rosendorf, Amara Thiha, Sara Hadley and Karen van Loon present new solutions.

15.30 – 15.45 : Closing remarks

3 Welcome by Nils Duquet

Dear attendee,

*In times of war, thinking, talking and exchanging ideas about peace is very much needed. Exactly that was one of the observations of a group of representatives of twelve peace institutes that gathered informally in September 2022, here in Brussels. The idea of an **informal peace research network** was born and the group agreed a conference could help kickstart the idea. Eight months later we are gathering here at the Flemish Parliament to think and talk about a broad range of topics within peace research.*

*On Monday 8 May, the focus lies on **peace research** in times of conflict with interactive sessions on proliferation and disarmament, local peace, climate and conflict and feminist peace research, among others. The conference will conclude on Monday with a keynote address by Prof. Mary Kaldor, world-renowned for her work on new wars, global civil society and human security.*

*On Tuesday 9 May – Europe Day – we will focus on **peace research for policy and innovation** with sessions on emerging technology and arms control, peacebuilding and, of course, the place of Europe in all of these challenges. The conference will conclude with young researchers offering new solutions to issues in peace research.*

*Such a richly packed programme – with more than 30 international researchers and practitioners – is only possible thanks to the help of our **partners** at Tampere Peace Research Institute, Post-Conflict Research Center Sarajevo, Peace Research Center Prague and Peace Research Institute Oslo. We also would like to thank all speakers and everybody who helped organise this conference. We hope this conference provides you with new ideas and insights on a whole range of diverse aspects of peace research.*

*But we also hope that you will share your own thoughts with us. After all, a crucial goal of this conference is to **facilitate networking and information exchange** among stakeholders within the broad field of peace research. So please do not hesitate – during the Q&A rounds for example – to signal your questions or concerns to the panellists, to other attendees or to me and my colleagues from the Flemish Peace Institute (we are recognisable by our fluorescent badge). Or post your thoughts on social media with the hashtag **#ReimaginingPeace2023**.*

In the meantime, I am very much looking forward to exchanging views with many of you in person and I wish you a very interesting conference.



Nils Duquet is director of the Flemish Peace Institute. He has been working at the Flemish Peace Institute since 2006 and has authored more than 50 policy-oriented and academic publications on arms trafficking and gun violence in Europe, domestic gun policies and European arms export controls.

4 Breakout sessions May 8

Session A: Climate & conflict (13h45 – 15h00, room Schelp)

Abstract

In this panel, we will take a critical look at some security implications of climate change, including forced migration and mutually reinforcing connections between climate impacts and conflict risk. We will also explore the potential for climate-related security challenges to be addressed within the UN Security Council.

Panel



Halvard Buhaug (chair) is Research Director at the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) and Professor of political science at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology. His research concerns how climate change affects peace and security. He also contributed to the recent IPCC Sixth Assessment Report.



Ingrid Boas is an Associate Professor and research coordinator at the Environmental Policy Group of Wageningen University (Faculty of Social Sciences). Since 2007 she conducts research on the subject of environmental change and human mobility, focusing on the everyday, trans-local and geopolitical realities characterizing this relation.



Nina von Uexkull is Associate Professor of Peace and Conflict Research at Uppsala University and Associate Senior Researcher at the Peace Research Institute Oslo. Her main research focuses on the impacts of climate change and the energy transition on armed conflict and human security.



Cedric de Coning is a research professor with the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI) and a senior advisor for ACCORD. His research draws on complexity theory to deepen our understanding of how social-ecological systems adapt under pressure, and he applies this perspective to international and regional conflict resolution initiatives and the climate-peace nexus.

Session B: Feminist peace research (13h45 – 15h00, room Van Dyck)

Abstract

As the world faces the devastating effects of wars, pandemics, climate change, displacement and hunger related deaths and suffering, there has never been greater need to centre conversations about feminist approaches to peace. Feminist peace analysis enables innovative spaces to rethink multiple kinds of peace(s), justices, and violences, as well as other injuries, erasures, marginalisations, and their entanglements. In this panel, we centre questions that have been marginalized in conventional peace and conflict research, and engage with multiple feminisms, as well as with diverse policy and activist interventions.

Panel



Élise Féron (chair) is a Docent and a senior research fellow at the Tampere Peace Research Institute (Tampere University, Finland). Her research interests include feminist peace research, conflict-generated diaspora politics, and the multiple entanglements between conflict, violence and peace.



Itziar Mujika Chao teaches at the Department of Political Science and is member of the Hegoa Institute for International Cooperation and Development Studies, University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU). Her research focuses on gender politics of conflicts, civil resistance, post-conflict peacebuilding and development, and feminist activism.



Swati Parashar is Professor in Peace and Development at the School of Global Studies, Gothenburg University, Sweden. Her research interests include feminism, postcolonialism, conflict, peace and development in South Asia and East Africa. She is one of the co-editors of the Routledge Handbook of Feminist Peace Research. She is also one of the co-editors in chief of the International Feminist Journal of Politics.



Punam Yadav is Associate Professor of Humanitarian Studies and Co-director of the Centre for Gender and Disaster at the Institute for Risk and Disaster Reduction. She is also the Co-Investigator of GRRIPP project. As an emerging leader in the field of Feminist Peace Research, Dr Yadav has made outstanding contributions to scholarship by theorising the process of social change through a gender lens. One of the unique contributions of Dr Yadav is that she brings conflict into the conversation of disaster and sees disaster as a continuum.

Session C: Arms proliferation & disarmament (15h30 – 16h45, room Van Dyck)

Abstract

This breakout session will explore the complexity of contemporary dynamics concerning the key issues in the area of weapon proliferation and disarmament. First, we will discuss the concerns about the further spread of nuclear weapons and the challenges to the idea of nuclear abolition in an era of renewed great power competition. Second, we will unpack the issue of conventional arms exports and their consequences for prominent regional conflicts outside of European borders. Third, we will debate the strategic, political, and ethical aspects of the development of A.I.-powered lethal autonomous weapon technology and the prospects for its international regulation.

Panel



Michal Smetana (chair) is an Associate Professor at the Institute of International Studies of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, Head of the Peace Research Center Prague (PRCP), and Head Researcher at the Experimental Lab for International Security Studies (ELISS).



Diederik Cops is a senior researcher at the Flemish Peace Institute. Since 2016 he works in the 'arms, peace and violence' research cluster of the institute, in which he conducts research on various aspects of the international arms trade and on strategic trade controls.



Moritz Kütt is a senior researcher with the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg. His research focuses on technical aspects related to the elimination of nuclear weapon programs, including escalation dynamics, fissile material control and disarmament verification.



Anna Nadibaidze is a Ph.D. Research Fellow in International Politics at the Center for War Studies, University of Southern Denmark. She is also a researcher for the European Research Council funded AutoNorms project, which examines the relationship between the development of autonomous weapon systems and international norms.

Session D: Global crisis & local peace (15h30 – 16h45, room Schelp)

Abstract

Humanity is confronted with many crises that are truly global in scale: from the aftermath of a worldwide pandemic and climate change to deep global inequalities, geopolitical tensions, and interstate and civil wars, to name a few. These crises not only have effects on a global scale, but they also impact and uproot very local contexts, such as families, schools, and communities in urban neighbourhoods and villages. From the perspective of artistic pedagogies, multimedia, and memorialization, this session will focus on how peace researchers can help in multiplying peace-making practices on the local level.

Panel



Velma Šarić (chair) is a researcher, journalist, peacebuilding expert, and human rights defender from Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. She has over 20 years of work experience in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Western Balkans and is currently the Founder and President of the Post-Conflict Research Center and Founder and Editor-in-Chief of Balkan Diskurs.



Tiffany Fairey is a Research Fellow in the Department of War Studies at King's College London and her research focuses on arts-based, visual and creative peacebuilding. Her current project Imaging Peace is a multi-country study of community engaged peace photography. She is co-founder of PhotoVoice and author of forthcoming, Handbook of Peace Photography.



Marko Kljajić is a PhD student studying comparative politics and international relations at UW-Madison. Broadly, he is interested in the political psychology of polarization and reconciliation in the aftermath of civil conflict. In particular, he is interested in the role that collective victimhood beliefs have on intergroup dynamics and political mobilization.



Maarten Van Alstein is a senior researcher at the Flemish Peace Institute. With a background in modern history and political science, Maarten's research focuses on peace education, conflict transformation and the politics of memory.

5 Keynote Speech by Mary Kaldor

Abstract

Has the war in Ukraine changed the way we look at war and peace? Do we need to rethink our security structure, our military investments and maybe even NATO's mission? And what are the implications for peace research? In this keynote speech, prof. Kaldor offers guidance for our thinking in times of conflict.

Biography



Professor Mary Kaldor is Professor Emeritus of Global Governance and Director of the Conflict Research Programme at The London School of Economics and Political Science. She has pioneered the concepts of new wars and global civil society. Her elaboration of the real-world implementation of human security has directly influenced European and national governments. She is the author of many books and articles including *New and Old Wars: Organised Violence in a Global Era* (3rd edition, 2012), *International Law and New Wars* (with Christine Chinkin, 2017) and *Global Security Cultures* (2018).

6 Interactive panel discussions (May 9)

Interactive panel discussion- Emerging technologies: impact on peace and security? (9h30 – 10h15, room Schelp)

Abstract

Current developments in emerging technologies are moving at rapid pace, spreading across geographies, stakeholders and actors, and increasingly driven by the private sector and academia. Most if not all of those developments have both civilian/peaceful uses but also the potential for military application or for misuse such as human rights violations. This raises broader questions about consequences for peace and security, and about technology governance. What are the implications of this for peace research, both in the natural and the social sciences? How can this research connect to the work of civil society organisations? And what are key issues and questions that are currently addressed, and which areas are underexplored?

Panel



Sibylle Bauer (moderator) is Director of Studies, Armament and Disarmament at SIPRI, with responsibility for SIPRI's work on arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation for nuclear, biological and chemical weapons; dual-use and arms trade control; emerging technologies; and arms production, arms transfer and military expenditure. She is also the current Chair of the EU Nonproliferation and Disarmament Consortium.



Lode Dewaegheneire After an operational career as a helicopter pilot at the Belgian Air Force, Lode Dewaegheneire has been active in disarmament for two decades. He was military advisor for humanitarian disarmament at the Defence staff and Senior Verification Coordination Officer at the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. Lode is currently military advisor for the NGO Mines Action Canada, member of the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots. Lode holds a master's degree from the Royal Military Academy, Brussels and a master's degree in international relations from the Université de Liège.



Frank Kuhn is the project coordinator for the recently established Cluster for Natural and Technical Science Arms Control Research (CNTR) at PRIF. His research interests include nuclear deterrence, arms control and non-proliferation, as well as military technology and military strategy.

Interactive panel discussion on post-conflict peacebuilding: lessons for policy and civil society. (10h30 – 11h15, room Schelp)

Abstract

This panel discussion will assess critically the state of the “international peace architecture” and international peacebuilding policies and practices. It will focus on how peacebuilding has evolved over the past two decades, some challenges and successes, and the role of new actors in efforts to build political order in conflict affected and fragile states. What lessons do these experiences hold for the future of peacebuilding, and what new ideas or frameworks might be brought forward in a period when multilateralism is in crisis, and when violent conflicts have increased in scope and intensity?

Panel



Keith Krause (moderator) is Professor of International Relations at the Graduate Institute in Geneva, and Director of its Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP). His research concentrates on concepts of security and political violence, as well as post-conflict peacebuilding and security governance.



Charline Burton is the Executive Director of Search for Common Ground, a peacebuilding organization active in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia. A Belgian national, Charline spent 10 years working in Africa. She came to peacebuilding from a career in the public sector and media, working as a journalist, at the United Nations and Enabel.



Owen Greene is Professor of International Security and Development, and Director of Research and Innovation, at the Dept of Peace Studies and International Development, University of Bradford, UK. He is an internationally recognized expert on issues relating to violence, security, development, environment and peacebuilding in fragile and conflict affected area; peace and security-building in conflict affected areas; and non-proliferation and security and justice sector reform issues. In this context, he has worked closely with and for many governments, international and regional organisations. He is a co-founder or board member of several NGOs and NGO networks in these areas.

Interactive panel discussion on Europe and peace in the world (11h30 – 12h15, room Schelp)

Abstract

The Russian war against Ukraine has disrupted long taken for granted expectations about the durability of peace on the European continent – and about Europe’s continuing ability to foster peace abroad. This panel investigates the changing role of Europe in promoting peace in the world and it discusses how peace research can contribute to designing better policies for peace. The panel will discuss how the EU can cope with authoritarian contestation within Europe and globally in the field of peacebuilding and what the future role of the EU in dealing with crises and promoting peace in the wake of the war in Ukraine can plausibly be.

Panel



Ursula Schröder (moderator) is a professor of political science and the director of the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at Universität Hamburg, Germany. Her research focuses on international peacebuilding and security assistance, European peace and security, climate change and security as well as security politics in democratic states.



Marko Lehti is a Research Director of Tampere Peace Research Institute (TAPRI) and an Academic Director of master’s programme in Peace, Mediation and Conflict Research (PEACE) both at Tampere University, Finland. Lehti’s current research focusses on peace mediation, agonistic peacebuilding, multilateralism, and changing global order.



Lisa Musiol is head of EU Affairs, she manages Crisis Group’s relations with the European Union and leads the organisation’s European advocacy, liaising with EU and member state policymakers in Brussels and EU capitals. She closely follows developments in EU foreign policy and analyses the implications for the conflicts and crises covered by Crisis Group. She works with Crisis Group staff across regional and thematic programs to formulate and advocate for EU policies that put conflict prevention, mitigation and resolution at their core.

7 Next Generation Peace Research (May 9) (13h30 – 15h30, room Schelp)

Abstract

In the Next Generation in Peace Research Session we give the floor to four young peace researchers to discuss their work, challenge established views in the discipline, or present innovative methodologies. After presenting their ongoing research projects, they will engage in dialogue with four senior peace researchers, as well as with the audience. Thus, we hope to establish open spaces for discussion where young researchers can test their ideas in a constructive setting, and where researchers can inspire each other and share insights and questions.

First Session

Researcher



Ondrej Rosendorf is a Ph.D. candidate in the International Relations program at the Institute of Political Science, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, and a researcher at the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg (IFSH). He is also affiliated with the Peace Research Center Prague (PRCP). Ondrej's research focuses on the ethical and strategic implications of emerging technologies, public and elite attitudes to the use of military force, and informal international institutions. He has previously published in the *Journal of Experimental Political Science*, *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, *Peace and Conflict*, *Survival*, and *Contemporary Security Policy*.

Discussant



Halvard Buhaug is Research Director at the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) and Professor of political science at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology. His research concerns how climate change affects peace and security. He also contributed to the recent IPCC Sixth Assessment Report.

Researcher



Karen van Loon is a Junior researcher at EGMONT – Royal Institute for International Relations where she co-organizes the Deterrence and Arms Control Conversations. Her research interests include arms control, non-proliferation and disarmament, the Arctic and Russia's foreign policy.

Karen previously worked as a research associate at the University of Antwerp. She is an experienced educator and capacity-building specialist. She has an MA in International Relations and Diplomacy from the University of Antwerp and an MA and BA in Eastern-European Languages and Cultures from the University of Ghent.

Discussant



Sibylle Bauer is Director of Studies, Armament and Disarmament at SIPRI, with responsibility for SIPRI's work on arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation for nuclear, biological and chemical weapons; dual-use and arms trade control; emerging technologies; and arms production, arms transfer and military expenditure. She is also the current Chair of the EU Nonproliferation and Disarmament Consortium.

Second Session

Researcher



Amara Thiha is a Doctoral Researcher at PRIO, participating in the POPAGANDA project, and a Ph.D. candidate (ABD) in Sociology at the University of Coimbra, Portugal. He studied History and Informatics from Uppsala University and Örebro University in Sweden. With over eight years of experience, Amara has expertise in research and program management, focusing on Ceasefire Negotiation and Monitoring, Security Dialogue, Conflict Monitoring, Foreign Policy Analysis.

Discussant



Marko Lehti is a Research Director of Tampere Peace Research Institute (TAPRI) and an Academic Director of master's programme in Peace, Mediation and Conflict Research (PEACE) both at Tampere University, Finland. Lehti's current research focusses on peace mediation, agonistic peacebuilding, multilateralism, and changing global order.

Researcher



Sara Hadley is a researcher at the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg (IFSH). Her doctoral research focuses on the use of satellite imagery for the documentation of human rights abuses, conflict and violations of humanitarian law. In particular, she explores how satellite imagery analysts interpret satellite imagery and navigate interpretational uncertainty. Prior to joining IFSH, she was a researcher at the European Space Policy Institute (ESPI) in Vienna

Discussant



Keith Krause is Professor of International Relations at the Graduate Institute in Geneva, and Director of its Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP). His research concentrates on concepts of security and political violence, as well as post-conflict peacebuilding and security governance.

9 Organising partners

Flemish Peace Institute (hosting partner)



The Flemish Peace Institute was established in 2004 as a paraparliamentary institution at the Flemish Parliament. The Institute's areas of interest include arms trade and use; the development and production of weapons, as well as export control; radicalisation; dealing with polarisation in the classroom; urban violence; and commemorating victims of violence.

www.flemishpeaceinstitute.eu

Tampere Peace Research Institute

tapri 50

Half a Century of
Peace Research
in Tampere



Tampere Peace Research Institute (TAPRI) is a multidisciplinary and international research centre whose mission is to conduct high quality research on the causes of war, on non-violent resolution of conflicts, and on conditions for peace. In accordance with the present research agenda, the focus of TAPRI's research is peaceful change.

<https://research.tuni.fi/tapri/>

Peace Research Center Prague



Peace Research
Center Prague

Peace Research Center Prague is an interdisciplinary Center of Excellence, funded by Charles University. Their common analytical and normative focus is on the prevention, management, and transformation of conflicts in world politics. Their mission: to advance theoretical and empirical knowledge in peace and conflict studies, to build a permanent platform for collaborative interdisciplinary research and to provide an opportunity for junior scholars to develop their academic career. <https://www.prcprague.cz/>

Peace Research Institute Oslo.



PRIO | Peace Research
Institute Oslo

The Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) conducts research on the conditions for peaceful relations between states, groups and people. Researchers at PRIO seek to understand the processes that bring societies together or split them apart. They explore how conflicts erupt and how they can be resolved; they investigate how different kinds of violence affect people; and they examine how societies tackle crises – and the threat of crisis. They document general trends, seek to understand processes, and inform concrete responses. <https://www.prio.org/>

Post-Conflict Research Center Sarajevo



POST-
CONFLICT
RESEARCH
CENTER

The Post-Conflict Research Center Sarajevo (PCRC) is dedicated to fostering a culture of peace and preventing violent conflict in the Western Balkans by creating, implementing, and supporting evidence-based, multidisciplinary, and innovative approaches to peace education, creative multimedia, conflict prevention, post-conflict research, human rights, and transitional justice.

<https://p-crc.org/>