



HYBRID THREATS AND CIVILIAN CRISIS PREVENTION: BUILDING RESILIENCE IN A FRAGMENTED WORLD



The conference language is English (with simultaneous translation into German).

The conference will be held in person at the Federal Ministry of Defence (BMVg) in Berlin and online.

Please register [HERE](#) by Monday, September 15th, 2025 for onsite participation, and September 29th, 2025 for online participation and choose which sessions(s) you would like to join.

Thursday, 9th of October 2025
9 a.m. – 5.30 p.m.
at the Federal Ministry of Defence (BMVg)
and online

Location:

Federal Ministry of Defence (BMVg)
Stauffenbergstraße 18 | 10785 Berlin

The Advisory Board to the Federal Government for Civilian Crisis Prevention and Peacebuilding

By bringing together expertise on crisis prevention and peacebuilding from both civil society and academia, the Advisory Board supports the Federal Government in these areas. It is appointed for four years and comprises twenty experts from academia, foundations, and civil society organizations. It follows the implementation of the Federal Government's guidelines on "Preventing Crises, Resolving Conflicts, Building Peace" published in 2017. The Advisory Board fosters constant exchange between the Federal Government and civil society. It publishes positions on overarching strategic questions. In addition, it develops contributions on pertinent issues.

The global situation is worsening: the Russian war against Ukraine has destroyed the peace order that has existed since the end of the Cold War. Around the world, we are witnessing a shift away from a rules-based order and joint peacekeeping towards the "law of the jungle". Growing authoritarianism and polarization are threatening multilateralism, international cooperation, collective security, democracy and the rule of law. Increasingly, hybrid threats are also coming to the fore – for example in the form of disinformation campaigns, cyber attacks, sabotage or the

targeted undermining of social cohesion. Such threats combine state and non-state actors, military and non-military means and have a cross-border impact. They aim to destabilize democratic societies, make international conflict resolution more difficult and impair the ability for civil crisis prevention and peacebuilding.

The need for international and national capabilities for conflict management, crisis prevention and peacebuilding is increasing. Only the ability to defend itself and the capacity for peace together can guarantee security for Germany and fulfill the mandate of the Basic Law to serve peace in the world.

In order to strengthen the civilian components of international crisis management and peace engagement and to bring together key players in this field, the Federal Government's Advisory Council on Civilian Crisis Prevention and Peacebuilding organizes the annual Berlin Peace Dialogue. The Advisory Council is also celebrating its 20th anniversary this year.



PROGRAMME AND SCHEDULE

Master of Ceremonies:

Nora Müller, Member of the Advisory Board, Director of the International Politics Division & Director of the Berlin Office, Körber Foundation

9:00 AM

WELCOME & OPENING

Welcome by the Federal Ministry of Defence

Welcome by the Advisory Board

- PD Dr Julia Leininger and Bodo von Borries, Co-Chairs of the Advisory Board

9:30 AM

KEYNOTE

Boris Pistorius, Federal Minister of Defence, tbc.

10:30 AM

COFFEE BREAK

11:00 AM

KICK-OFF-PANEL: WHAT DO HYBRID THREATS MEAN FOR INTEGRATED SECURITY?

Key Questions:

- How can hybrid threats be defined across different sectors? What characteristics qualify this threat profile?
- What options for detecting controlled and ongoing disinformation campaigns are already in use and what are their limits?
- What significance does it have for early crisis detection that cyber is increasingly playing a role as part of the toolkit of states for malicious activities outside of armed conflicts (espionage, sabotage)?
- What impact does the increase in hybrid threats against us and our international partners have on the German government's international engagement in its foreign, security and development policy?

Panelists:

- Prof Dr Peter Neumann, Professor of Security Studies at King's College London
- Major General Tilo Maedler, Chief of Staff German Joint Forces Command, Berlin
- Dr Konstantin von Notz, Member of the German Parliament for Alliance 90/The Greens and part of the Parliamentary Control Committee
- Prof Dr Susanne Fischer, Federal University of Applied Sciences for Public Administration Department of Intelligence Services
- Ambassador Dr Julia Monar, Federal Foreign Office (AA), tbc.

Facilitation:

Dr Jana Puglierin, Member of the Advisory Board & Head of the Berlin Office of the European Council on Foreign Relations

12:30 AM

LUNCH BREAK

1:30 PM

PARALLEL WORKSHOPS

1. HYBRID THREATS BETWEEN UKRAINE AND THE WESTERN BALKANS – REPERCUSSIONS TO THE EUROPEAN SECURITY ORDER

Panelists:

- Dr Oleksandra Keudel, Associate Professor at the Kyiv School of Economics
- Anastasia Pociumban, Research Fellow at German Council on Foreign Relations
- Prof Dr Andreas Heinemann-Grüder, Fellow at GPPi
- Philipp Schweers, European Union Partnership Mission in Moldova (EUPM)
- Tim Prange, Federal Foreign Office (AA)

Facilitation:

Lieutenant General (ret.) Rainer L. Glatz, Member of the Advisory Board & Former Commander of the Bundeswehr Operations Command

2. DISINFORMATION, CIVIC SPACE AND PEACE – ANSWERS FROM POLITICS AND PRACTICE

Panelists:

- Emma Baumhofer, Independent Consultant, Digital Peacebuilder and Facilitator
- Carly Rosenthal, Social Media and Fundraising Manager at Combatants for Peace
- Levinia Addae-Mensah, Executive Director at West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP)
- Prof Dr Daniela Schwarzer, President of the ifa – Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen, tbc.



**Facilitation:**

Nicole Rieber, Head of Unit Peace Education at Berghof Foundation

3. HYBRID THREATS OF CLIMATE DISINFORMATION AND DENIAL**Panelists:**

- Nikki de la Rosa, Trustee and Senior Adviser at the Council for Climate and Conflict Action Asia (CCAA)
- Dana Schran, General Director at Climate Action Against Disinformation Network
- Dr Katja Muñoz, Research Fellow at German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP)

Facilitation:

Dr Kira Vinke, Member of the Advisory Board & Head of Center for Climate and Foreign Policy at the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP)

4. PEACEBUILDING UNDER SIEGE – THE IMPACT OF HYBRID THREATS ON LONG-TERM PEACE IN THE SAHEL**Panelists:**

- Dr Boubacar Haidara, Senior Researcher at Bonn International Centre for Conflict Studies (bicc)
- Fatima Al Ansar, Director at Tilwate Peace Network
- Dr Beatriz de León Cobo, Independent Consultant on Security in Sahel and West Africa region & Director of the Sahel-Europe Dialogue Forum expert group
- Will Brown, Senior Policy Fellow – Africa at European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR)
- Sandra Sebastian, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Facilitation:

Milena Berks, Member of the Advisory Board & Senior Advisor and Researcher at the Bonn International Centre for Conflict Studies (bicc)

Melissa Li, Research Fellow at the Global Public Policy Institute (GPPI)

3:30 PM**COFFEE BREAK****4:00 PM****CLOSING PANEL:
CONFRONTING HYBRID THREATS:
IMPLICATIONS FOR FUTURE CIVIL
CRISIS PREVENTION****Panelists:**

- Prof Dr Anita Gohdes, Member of the Advisory Board & Professor of International and Cyber Security at Hertie School
- Alexander Mauz, Member of the Advisory Board & Chairman of Pro Peace and Representative of the Consortium for the Civil Peace Service (ZFD)
- Lieutenant General (ret.) Rainer L. Glatz, Member of the Advisory Board & Former Commander of the Bundeswehr Operations Command

Facilitation:

PD Dr Julia Leininger, Co-Chair of the Advisory Board & Head of the Department 'Transformation of political (dis)order' at the Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS)

5:15 PM**CLOSING REMARKS**

PD Dr Julia Leininger and Bodo von Borries, Co-Chairs of the Advisory Board

5:30 PM