



CCEW SYMPOSIUM 2023

Crisis Early Warning: What's Next?

Program Day 1 | Mon, October 23

Please schedule sufficient time to report your valid identity card/passport to the guard upon arrival.

Registration | from 12.45 pm

Welcome Address | 1.30 pm

Eva-Maria Kern

President, University of the Bundeswehr Munich

Opening Speech | 1.45 pm

Carlo Masala

Head of Project CCEW

Keynote I | 2 pm

Benedikt Zimmer

State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Defence

Panel I: Novel Approaches to Forecasting

2.15 pm – 3.45 pm | Room: Festsaal

Chair Maxine Leis, Uppsala University

Improving Transparency: Two-level
Classification for Protest Coding from Images

Stefan Scholz, University of Konstanz

Nils Weidmann, University of Konstanz

Zachary Steinert-Threlkeld, University of
California

Eda Keremoglu, University of Konstanz

Bastian Goldlücke, University of Konstanz

Listening to the wind of change: Using
Wikipedia page changes to measure and
predict contentious politics

Christian Oswald, University of the
Bundeswehr Munich

Simply the best: Using tree-based ensembles
to estimate probability distributions of future
conflict

Tobias Bohne, University of the
Bundeswehr Munich

Martin Hofer, Central Office for Information
Technology in the Security Sphere

Daniel Mittermaier, University of the
Bundeswehr Munich

Break | 3.45 pm – 4.15 pm

Panel II: Disentangling Conflict Prediction

4.15 pm – 5.45 pm | Room: Festsaal

Chair Sonja Häffner, University of the
Bundeswehr Munich

Predicting uncertainty in stages: Using a
semiparametric hierarchical hurdle model for
predicting distributions of conflict fatalities

Cornelius Fritz, Penn State

Marius Mehrl, University of Leeds

Christoph Dworschak, University of York

Direction Augmentation in the Evaluation of
Armed Conflict Predictions

Johannes Bracher, Karlsruhe Institute of
Technology

Lotta Rütter, Karlsruhe Institute of Tech-
nology

Fabian Krüger, Karlsruhe Institute of Tech-
nology

Sebastian Lerch, Karlsruhe Institute of
Technology

Melanie Schienle, Karlsruhe Institute of
Technology

Forecasting Conflict Dynamics: A Systems
Dynamics Ontology Approach for Early Warning

Miguel Wahle, Karlsruhe Institute of
Technology

Break | 5.45 pm – 6 pm



Policy Panel I: From Data to Action: Broadening the Crisis Assessment

6 pm – 7 pm | Room: Festsaal

Moderator Nanténé Coulibaly, ECOWAS

Part. **Carlo Masala**
Head of Project,
Center for Crisis Early Warning

Part. **Kristina Jonek**
Vortragende Legationsrätin 1.Klasse,
Federal Foreign Office

Dinner | 7 pm – 9.30 pm

Room: Goldener Auerbach Keller

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Program Day 2 | Tue, October 24

Please schedule sufficient time to report your valid identity card/passport to the guard upon arrival.

Welcome Coffee | 9 am – 9.30 am

Opening Speech | 9.30 am

Tim Tepel

Head of Development, University of the
Bundeswehr Munich

Panel III: Regional Approaches in Crisis Early Warning

9.45 am – 11.15 am | Room: Festsaal

Chair Melanie Sauter, University of Oslo

Artificial Intelligence and Biased Conflict
Fatality Estimates

Christoph Valentin Steinert, University of
St. Gallen
Daniel Kazenwadel, University of
Konstanz

What Drives State-led Internet Shutdowns?
Utilizing A Machine Learning Approach for
Prediction and Factor Exploration

Fabiola Schwarz, Technical University of
Munich

Weapon Technology and Civilian Targeting:
Evidence from the Russian War against Ukraine

Julius Koch, University of Hamburg
Max Schaub, University of Hamburg

Break | 11.15 am – 11.30 am

Policy Panel II: Reach for the Stars: Outer Space in Crisis Early Warning

11.30 am – 12.30 pm | Room: Festsaal

Moderator Lisa Storck, European Parliament

Part. **Thomas Spangenberg**
Head of Unit Space Security,
Federal Ministry of Defence

Part. **Regina Peldszus**
Policy Officer (Space),
European External Action Service

Lunch | 12.30 pm – 1.30 pm

Room: Festsaal



Panel IV: Diversifying Approaches for Predicting Political Violence

1.30 pm – 2.30 pm | Room: Festsaal

Chair Christoph Dworschak, University of York

Why do rebel groups transition to suicide terrorism in some cases, and not in others?

Hannah Frank, Trinity College Dublin
Thomas Chadeaux, Trinity College Dublin

The Promises and Pitfalls of Using Text as Data for Crisis-Early Warning: A Comparative Assessment of NLP Methods for Conflict Prediction

Julian Walterskirchen, University of the Bundeswehr Munich
Sonja Häffner, University of the Bundeswehr Munich

Break | 2.30 am – 2.45 am

Panel V: Translating Data into Action

2.45 pm – 4.15 pm | Room: Festsaal

Chair Hannah Frank, Trinity College Dublin

Getting Data Ready for Policy: Designing a Climate-Conflict-Vulnerability Index

Melchior Reihlen-Börgers, Federal Foreign Office
Daniel Mittermaier, University of the Bundeswehr Munich

How accurate are forecasts on geopolitical events from human collectives? Evidence from a real-money prediction market

Oliver Strijbis, University of Zurich and Franklin University Switzerland

Predicting the impact of armed conflict: a call for action

Seth Caldwell, UN OCHA Centre for Humanitarian Data
Paola Vesco, Uppsala University

Closing Remarks | 4.15 pm – 4.30 pm

Vanessa Gottwick,
Team Lead Conflict Research Section,
University of the Bundeswehr Munich

Hosted by



Kompetenzzentrum
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