



## 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

**Daniel Mittermaier**, University of the  
Bundeswehr Munich  
Martin Hofer

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

## CCEW SYMPOSIUM 2023

### *Crisis Early Warning: What's Next?*

#### 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

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