

14th Annual Foreign Policy Conference

High-Tech Wars

Challenges to peace and security in times of drones, robots and digital warfare

Thursday, June 20, 2013, 2 – 7 pm

Friday, June 21, 2013, 9 am – 3 pm

Beletage of the Heinrich Böll Foundation, Schumannstraße 8, 10117 Berlin

Conference languages are German and English

Simultaneous interpreting will be provided.

Live stream

A live stream of the conference will be available on our website: <http://www.boell.de/stream>

Project management and information

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Background

Wars are military conflicts between states and armed groups. In future, combat operations will be increasingly dominated by machines and algorithms. Unmanned weapons systems are already changing the nature of warfare. At present, the development and deployment of these new technologies is not adequately covered by an international regulatory framework. We are thus facing a new era in security policy and the threat of a new arms race in digital warfare and automated weapons systems.

Parallel to this development, the security landscape has been evolving. The old balance of mutually-assured destruction between NATO and the Soviet bloc has been replaced by asymmetric wars in which all sides are using unconventional methods of engagement. States are increasingly being confronted by non-state actors. Recent military operations have thus been characterized by a steadily mounting asymmetry of the conflict parties. At the same time, the rapid progress of digital technology is opening new possibilities of intervention and destabilization that are capable of paralyzing a state without a shot being fired. The start and end of a war would then no longer be clearly discernible, and the perpetrators of cyber warfare or drone attacks no longer easily identifiable.

At its 14th Annual Foreign Policy Conference, the Heinrich Böll Foundation seeks to address the challenges posed to peace-oriented security policy by these new technologies. It will evaluate the current state and perspectives of the new weapons systems, and explore the issue of containing them in international political and legal frameworks to prevent a new arms race and the escalation of conflicts. At present, life-or-death decisions are still made by humans, not drones. Nevertheless, the possibilities and desired limitations of new weapons systems must be debated before international law is overrun by the new technologies.

Day 1 – Thursday, June 20, 2013

1:30 pm Registration

2:00 pm Welcome and introduction
Ralf Fücks, President, Heinrich Böll Foundation, Berlin

2:15 pm Presentation
Wars of the future: a view of the new world of high-tech warfare
via video link

Peter W. Singer, Senior Fellow and Director, 21st Century Defense Initiative,
The Brookings Institution, Washington, D.C.

2:30 pm Discussion:
**The state of robotics, digitization and cyber warfare:
what new military scenarios arise from the new technologies?**

Prof. Peter Dombrowski, Chair, Strategic Research, U.S. Naval War College,
Newport

Dr. Yabin Liang, Institute for International and Strategic Studies, Party School of the
Central Committee of the C.P.C., Beijing

Dr. Marcel Dickow, Security Policy Research Group, German Institute for International
and Security Affairs, Berlin

Prof. Noel Sharkey, Professor of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics, University of
Sheffield

Omid Nouripour, MP, Security Policy Spokesperson, Alliance 90/The Greens
Parliamentary Group, Berlin

Dr. Niklas Schörnig, Senior Research Fellow, Peace Research Institute Frankfurt
Chair: **Dr. Sylke Tempel**, Editor-in-Chief, Internationale Politik, Berlin

4:30 pm Coffee break

5:00 pm Presentation
New combat systems and ethics of war

Prof. Herfried Münkler, Chair, Department of Political Theory, Humboldt-Universität
zu Berlin

- 5:30 pm** Discussion:
Ethical and security policy dimensions of the new technologies
- Prof. Daniel Statman**, Department of Philosophy, Haifa University
Prof. Armin Krishnan, Military researcher and Author, Professor of Security Studies,
University of Texas, El Paso
Prof. Herfried Münkler, Chair, Department of Political Theory, Humboldt-Universität zu
Berlin
Ralf Fücks, President, Heinrich Böll Foundation, Berlin
- 7:00 pm** Informal conclusion with wine and snacks

Day 2 – Friday, June 21, 2013

- 8:30 am** Registration
- 9:00 am** Welcome
Steffen Heizmann, Director, International Division, Heinrich Böll Foundation, Berlin
- 9:05 am** Panel discussion
**Challenges of new military technologies from international law and disarmament
policy perspectives**
- Dr. Jürgen Altmann**, Technische Universität Dortmund and Deputy Spokesman,
International Committee for Robot Arms Control
Daphne Eviatar, Law and Security Program, Human Rights First, Washington, D. C.
Prof. Claus Kreß, Director, Institute for International Peace and Security Law,
Universität zu Köln
Chair: **Dr. Niklas Schörnig**, Senior Research Fellow, Peace Research Institute
Frankfurt
- 10:30 am** Coffee break
- 11:00 am** **Parallel forums**
In-depth discussion of specific aspects of new technologies and future deployment sce-
narios
- Forum 1 Law
International law, arms race and disarmament regime

Philipp Stroh, Lawyer, Project Team Member, Institute of Public Law, International Law and European Law, Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen

Wolfgang Richter, Colonel (ret.), Security Policy Research Group, German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Berlin

Chair: **Dr. Jürgen Altmann**, Technische Universität Dortmund and Deputy Spokesman, International Committee for Robot Arms Control

Forum 2 Cyber

Cyberwar and cyberspace – the fifth sphere of warfare?

Dr. Yabin Liang, Institute for International and Strategic Studies, Party School of the Central Committee of the C.P.C., Beijing

Dr. Sandro Gaycken, Institute of Computer Science, Freie Universität Berlin and Advisor to the German Foreign Office, Berlin

Chair: **Christian Wussow**, Advisor, Alliance 90/The Greens Parliamentary Group, Berlin

Forum 3 Technology

How do new forms of conflict and technology influence each other?

Prof. Noel Sharkey, Professor of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics, University of Sheffield

Prof. Armin Krishnan, Military Researcher and Author, Professor of Security Studies, University of Texas, El Paso

Chair: **Dr. Niklas Schörnig**, Senior Research Fellow, Peace Research Institute Frankfurt

12:30 pm Lunch break

1:30 pm Discussion:
Summary and outlook: on containing high-tech weapons in international political frameworks

Agnieszka Brugger, MP, Disarmament Policy Spokesperson, Alliance 90/The Greens Parliamentary Group, Berlin

Danny Rothschild, Major General (Res.), Founder, Netacs (Security) Ltd, Herzliya

Ambassador Rolf Nikel, Federal Government Commissioner for Disarmament and Arms Control, Berlin

Dr. Micah Zenko, Douglas Dillon Fellow, Center for Preventive Action, Council on Foreign Relations, New York

Chair: **Dr. Henning Riecke**, German Council on Foreign Relations, Berlin

3:00 pm End of conference