



CENTER FOR
WAR
STUDIES

CENTER FOR WAR STUDIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE



**TECHNOLOGY &
DIGITALIZATION
AS FORCES OF
CHANGE**

3 - 4 October 2019

**Meeting Room M, H, V
AGORA**

**DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC
MANAGEMENT**

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN DENMARK

SDU 

Day 1: 3 October 2019, Meeting Room M, V, H, SDU Odense

10:00: Registration opens

10:30 – 11:00: **Welcome** by the Head of CWS Olivier Schmitt and the organizers Amelie Theussen & Bugge Thorbjørn Daniel

11:00 – 12:45: **Panel 1 – The Changing Role of the Media**

The first panel investigates the impact of a variety of social media on war, the state, and international norms. It highlights the role of social media in war reporting in terms of imagery and perceptions, addresses disinformation campaigns and new recruitment strategies as part of new ways of hybrid warfare and explores the role of social media in the context of factfinding and accountability.

Chair: Chiara De Franco (SDU)

Participants: Ekatherina Zhukova (University of Copenhagen), Matthew Mahmoudi (University of Cambridge), Rune Ottosen (Oslo Met), Kevin Williams (Swansea University)

12:45 – 13:45: Lunch (only for invited conference participants)

13:45 – 15:30: **Panel 2 – Networks & the Cyber Domain: The Achilles' Heel of Society?**

This panel addresses the role of networks as tool and target of warfighting. It looks at the threat of cyberattacks, the regulation of cyberspace, and its fit with existing (legal) norms; but also addresses the modernization and adaptation of armed force to networked technology, as well as representations of these issues in popular culture.

Chair: Kerstin Carlson (SDU)

Participants: Stefan Soesanto (ETH Zurich), Tomáš Minárik (National Cyber and Information Security Agency of the Czech Republic), Dominique Routhier (SDU), Jan Lemnitzer (SDU)

15:30 – 15:45: Coffee break

15:45 – 17:15: **Panel 3 – The Role of Drones**

This panel zooms in on the role of drones in today's conflicts: their use as weapon of industrialized, Western states, but also a terrorist tool. It also takes into consideration the perceptions and imagery connected to drones in different societies and how these are connected with the drones' use; possibly also looking back at the emergence of aerial warfare.

Chair: Vincent Keating (SDU)

Participants: Dominika Kunertova (SDU), Caroline Kennedy-Pipe (University of Loughborough), Maaïke Verbruggen (VUB), James Rogers (SDU)

17:15 – 17:30: Coffee break

17:30 – 18:30: War Studies Network Meeting (by invitation only)

19:30 – : **Dinner in town** (only for invited conference participants)

Day 2: 4 October 2019, Meeting Room M,V,H, SDU Odense

9:00 – 10:45: **Panel 4: Artificial intelligence & Automation**

In this panel the focus lies on automation processes, the development of artificial intelligence and the question of what the consequences are of taking the human out of the loop. 'Killer robots' are a hotly debated issue, both in academic circles and popular culture, but even less lethal versions of artificial intelligence have a potentially huge impact on existing norms, for example regarding accountability, and the strategies and boundaries for the use of force.

Chair: Amelie Theussen (SDU)

Participants: Kenneth Payne (King's College London), Frederik Rosén (SDU), William Merrin (Swansea University), Andreas Immanuel Graae (SDU), Matthijs Michiel Maas (University of Copenhagen)

10:45 – 11:00: Coffee break

11:00 – 12:45: **Panel 5: The Role and Nature of the State, Sovereignty, and International Institutions**

The final panel takes a look at all the changes addressed in the previous panels and their consequences for the modern state system. It focuses on the question of how these technological developments affect and change the nature of the state, and fundamental international principles such as sovereignty. It links back to the impact of social media, the threat of drones, and the vulnerability of networks and assesses their impact on governance, domestic institutions, democratic processes and international institutions and cooperation. It will also aim to include a historical view on how previous significant technological changes have affected the nature and role of the state.

Chair: Trine Flockhart (SDU)

Participants: Annegret Bendiek (SWP), David Galbreath (University of Bath), Sten Schaumburg Müller (SDU), Karen Lund Petersen (University of Copenhagen), Stéphane Taillat (Saint-Cyr)

12:45 – 13:00: Coffee break

13:00 – 14:00: **Lunch with closing interdisciplinary discussion** led by organizers Amelie Theussen & Bugge Thorbjørn Daniel (SDU)

Afterwards: Graduation ceremony for the Master of International Security and Law

The Center for War Studies (CWS) was established in 2012 as a high profile and high-quality research pole dedicated to the multidisciplinary study of war.

War is the most dramatic event in human affairs, and its prevention, conduct and consequences define and shape human societies. The enormous importance of studying and understanding war therefore stems from its destructive and transformative nature.

As an academic field of research, war studies is focused on the changing character of war and its relation to peace. It is essentially problem-driven and multidisciplinary, borrowing from various disciplines in the social sciences and the humanities in order to better understand the dynamics of war and peace, without losing sight of the societal relevance of research.

At CWS, our vision is to shape and contribute to the major debates on the past, present and future of war, and its impact on societies. We bring together academics from political science, law, history and culture in order to illuminate the multiple dimensions of war and peace, thus creating one of Europe's largest and most diverse research environment dedicated to this issue. We proudly go outside of the ivory tower and bring our research on war to the heart of societal debates, through engagement with military institutions, political authorities and the public. Our research also informs our educational programs, notably the Master of International Security and Law (MOISL). Hence, through research excellence and societal relevance, we advance the understanding of the fundamental issue of war and peace.

This annual conference is organized by the Center for War Studies and supported by the Department of Political Science, the Department of Law, and individual CWS researchers.

www.sdu.dk/CWS



@CWSWarStudies
#CWSconf2019