

SEPTEMBER 6, 2024 (FRIDAY)

11:00 - Opening

Impulse and Welcome by the Conference team

11:30 - Civilian-based Defence: an Overview of the State of the Art

1. State of the Art - Brian Martin, PhD

Emeritus professor, University of Wollongong, AUS

2. Reflecting on my personal development -

Jørgen Johansen, M.A.

Activist, Publisher of Irene Publishing

3. What do we know from Civil Resistance and Protest Research? - N.N.

13:00 - Lunch

14:00 - Three Panels

1. Recent Experiences with Social Defence

Social Defense and Mutual Aid: Learnings from Sudan - Julia Kramer, MA

Project consultant Civil Peace Service (ZFD) at KURVE Wustrow e.V.

Ukraine - Felip Daza Sierra

PhD Candidate at Université Science Po Paris and spokesperson at International Institute for Nonviolent Action (NOVACT)

Guardias: Autonomous Community Protection Systems in Colombia - Maria Cárdenas Alfonso

PhD Candidate at Goethe Universität Frankfurt/Main

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2. Integrating the Defense Debate into Broader Contexts: Prevention, Conflict, and Transformation

Dr. Martin Arnold

IfgK (Institute for peace work and non-violent conflict resolution)

François Marchand

Founding member of IRNC (Institut de recherche sur la Résolution Non-violente des Conflits)

Lukas Mengelkamp

PhD Candidate at the University of Marburg and Researcher at the Institute for Peace Research and Security Policy at the University of Hamburg

3. Conflict Transformation and Social Defence

Anne Dietrich, M.A.

IfgK (Institute for Peace Work and Nonviolent Conflict Transformation)

Eli McCarthy, PhD

Lecturer at Georgetown University, USA

Karen Kennedy, PhD

University of New England, AUS

16:00 - Break

16:30 - Exchange between the Panels

17:30 - Panel & Workshops

1. Historical Examples

Dr. Barbara Müller

IFGK (Institute for Peace Work and Nonviolent Conflict Resolution))

Kevin Kaisig

PhD Candidate at Universidad de Granada

CIVILIAN-BASED DEFENCE PUT TO THE TEST

CURRENT ISSUES AND PRACTICAL CHALLENGES

Preliminary Program

September 6, 11:00-21:00

&

September 7, 9:00-16:00



IN COOPERATION WITH:

**Bielefeld University of Applied Sciences
(HSBI),
Faculty of Health**

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2. Self-Organized Workshops

Participants are invited to propose workshops

19:00 - Dinner

20:00 - Talk: Security without Weapons: Rethinking Violence, Nonviolent Action, and Civilian Protection - Lessons for Theory and Practice of Social Defence

Molly Wallace, PhD

Professor at Loughborough University Institute of Advanced Studies, UK

21:00 - Open Evening

SEPTEMBER 7, 2024 (SATURDAY)

9:00 - Three Panels

1. Reorganising and limiting Military Defence

Wilhelm Nolte

Former professional soldier, lector for peace research and former Secretary of the German Association for Peace and Conflict Studies

Prof. Dr. phil. Hans-Heinrich Nolte

Emeritus Professor at Leibnitz University of Hannover

Alexandre Christoyannopoulos, PhD

Reader in Politics and International Relations at Loughborough University, UK

Jan Stehn

Nonviolent activist, trainer and resource person

SEPTEMBER 7, 2024 (SATURDAY)

2. Protection from Repression

Dr. Christine Schweitzer

Director of Federation for Social Defence

Julia Nennstiel

PhD Candidate at Aarhus University

3. Organizing Resistance & Addressing Modern Warfare: The Relevance of CBD in the Era of Hybrid Warfare, Automated Weapons, and AI

Kurt Jaeger

Forum Computer Scientists for Peace and Social Responsibility

Jochen Neumann

Co-Director of KURVE Wustrow e.V.

11:00 - Break

11:30 - Plenary on discussions in various Countries and Research Desiderata

All speakers may contribute short inputs before the plenary is opened up for contributions from everyone.

13:00 - Lunch

14:00 - Final Plenary: Unity Through Diversity: Integrating Varied Research Traditions for Future Progress

Reflections and Evaluations from a Conference Observer

16:00 End of Conference

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The Conference aims to revive the discussion around nonviolent methods for dealing with state aggression and conflict resolution. Specifically, the focus is on the concept of Civilian-Based Defence (CBD) and its potential applications to contemporary issues. The conference seeks to critically examine how non-violent methods can ensure people's agency in violent settings.

Moreover, for CBD to be taken seriously, it is crucial to engage in a critical debate about its weak points and the challenges it faces, particularly in the context of hybrid warfare tactics and authoritarian backlash.

By addressing these issues, the conference hopes to provide a comprehensive understanding of the role of nonviolent resistance in modern conflict scenarios and explore the practical implications and effectiveness of CBD in maintaining peace and security. The conference welcomes all individuals interested in the subject. However, please note that the event has an academic focus, and we strongly recommend participants register only if they are already familiar with the subject of CBD. **Furthermore, we are charging a €50 participation fee.**

To apply, please send your application via email to: conference@soziale-verteidigung.de

Depending on funding approval, the conference will be held either online or in a hybrid format at the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Bielefeld (HSBI).