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...where peace begins



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MIASA Conference

**“Dealing with conflict, preparing for sustainable peace:
Current research and its policy implications”**

11–12 December 2024

Venue: ISSER Conference Centre, University of Ghana

PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 11 December 2024

9:00 – 9:20 a.m. | Welcome notes

- Grace Diabah and Mamadou Diawara, MIASA
- Emma Birikorang, KAIPTC
- Afua Boatemaa Yakohene, LECIAD
- Provost, College of Humanities, UG

9:20 – 9:30 a.m. | Introduction to the conference theme and presentation of the program

- Julia Grauvogel, GIGA

9:30 – 10:15 a.m. | Keynote by Dr Aderemi Ajibewa, Ambassadorial Fellow, National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies, Nigeria and former Director of Political Affairs at the ECOWAS Commission

Moderated by Emma Birikorang, KAIPTC

10:15 – 11:00 a.m. | Keynote by Dr Jana Krause, Professor at the University of Oslo

- Moderated by Christof Hartmann, INEF, University of Duisburg Essen

11:00 – 11:30 a.m. | Coffee Break

11:30 – 12:30 p.m. | Policy panel “Preparing for sustainable peace in Africa: international and domestic approaches”

- Aderemi Ajibewa, NIPSS and formerly ECOWAS
- Mohamed Gibril Sesay, University of Sierra Leone
- Tim Glawion, Arnold-Bergstraesser-Institute
- Moderated by Julia Grauvogel, GIGA

Room: ISSER Conference Hall

12:30 – 1:30 p.m. | Lunch

1:30 – 3:00 p.m | Panel session 1 (two parallel panels)

Panel 1: Addressing violent extremism and building interreligious peace

- Theodora Benesch and Julia Köbrich: Messengers and Messages for Interreligious Peace
- George Amoh: Building Resilience for Inter-faith Coexistence and Social Cohesion: A study of Ghana’s Peace Council
- Faith Agnes Akinyi Ondeng: Counter-Narrative Design Strategies against Youth Radicalization in Northern Kenya: A Case Study of Isiolo Sub-County

Chair and discussant: Jana Krause (jana.krause@stv.uio.no)

Room: ISSER Seminar Room NB 11

Panel 2: African regional organizations and ad hoc coalitions

- Michael Aeby: African Union Support to Implement Comprehensive Peace Agreements and Transitions
- Mona Saleh: Unpacking ECOWAS-Donor Relationships through the Lens of Practice Theory
- Mariana Llorens Zabala: Safeguarding Civilians: Understanding the Multinational Joint Task Forces Approach to the Protection of Civilians

Chair and discussant: Afua Boatemaa Yakohene (ayakohene@ug.edu.gh)

Room: ISSER Conference Hall

3:00 – 3:30 p.m. | Coffee Break

3:30 – 5:00 p.m | Panel session 2 (two parallel panels)

Panel 3: Local approaches to peacebuilding

- Barbara Asamoah: Local Ownership in Stabilization and Peacebuilding Efforts in the Sahel
- Victor Doke: The Bawku Conflict is on Hibernation: What are the Roles Played by Civil Society Organizations Against Recurrence of Violent Armed Clashes
- Lydia Amoah: Asante Customary Courts and the use of duab (imprecation) as a Peacebuilding Mechanism in Kumasi

Chair and discussant: Gordon Crawford (ac1221@coventry.ac.uk)

Room: ISSER Seminar Room NB 11

Panel 4: Fostering peace in a changing climate

- Idowu Ayodeji: Climate Change, Gendered Livelihoods, and Conflict Dynamics in Nigeria
- Rahima Moomin: Climate Change, Gender and Conflict
- Bochra Laghssais: Resilience and Peacebuilding: Amazigh Women's Grassroots Strategies in the Context of Climate Change in Morocco

Chair and discussant: Julia Grauvogel (julia.grauvogel@giga-hamburg.de)

Room: ISSER Conference Hall

5:30 – 8:00 p.m. | Reception at MIASA building

Thursday, 12 December 2024

9:00 – 10:00 a.m | “Policy panel 2 “Countering violent extremism in a changing climate”

- Roselyn Fosuah Adjei, Forestry Commission of Ghana
- Mutaru Mumuni Muqthar, WACCE
- Emmanuel Wendsongre Ramde, WASCAL
- Moderated by Naila Salihu, KAIPTC

Room: ISSER Conference Hall

10:00 – 10:30 a.m. | Coffee Break

10:30 – 12:00 noon | Panel session 3 (two parallel panels)

Panel 5: The rise and evolution of violent extremism

- Salma Abdalla: The Rise and Response to violent extremism in Sudan
- Abosede Omowumi Babatunde: Takfirism: The imperceptible factor in Boko Haram Jihadist Movement in Northern Nigeria
- Mohammed Bashiru: Building Resilience Against Violent Extremism Through Alternative Narratives

Chair and discussant: Julia Köbrich (julia.koebrich@giga-hamburg.de)

Room: ISSER Conference Hall

Panel 6: Civil-military relations and the role of armed forces

- Linda Zusong Arezak and Afua Boatemaa Yakohene: Gendered Language in the Ghana Armed Forces
- Francis Atta Kwabena: Coup-proofing the democratic state in times of crisis: Posing the ideology question in civilian-military relationships in West Africa

Chair and discussant: Tim Glawion (tim.glawion@abi.uni-freiburg.de)

Room: ISSER Seminar Room NB 11

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. | Lunch Break

- Protection

Chair and discussant: Emma Birikorang (emma.birikorang@kaiptc.org)

1:00 – 2:30 p.m. | Panel session 4 (two parallel panels)

Panel 7: Unarmed Civilian Responses to Armed Conflict in Africa: Challenges and Prospects

- Rosemary Kabaki: Unarmed Civilian Protection: the state-of-the art
 - Gordon Crawford and James Kiven Kewir: Unarmed Community Self-Protection and Adaptive Peacebuilding in Cameroon's 'Anglophone' Conflict
 - Zainab Nuhu: Gendering Safe Spaces: Roles of women as protectors in conflict and fragile areas
 - Elias O. Opongo: Activism Against Police Brutality in Kenya: Assessment of Unarmed Civilian
- Chair and discussant: Emma Birikorang (emma.birikorang@kajptc.org)

Room: ISSER Conference Hall

Panel 8: External responses to armed conflict and domestic perceptions

- Youssef Cherif: Libya, an Internationalized African Problem: Challenges, Successes, and Failures of African Peacebuilding
- Tim Glawion: Peacekeeping intervention and popular perceptions of security in the Central African Republic
- Abdul-Gafar Tobi Oshodi: China and terrorism in West Africa: The case of Niger and Nigeria

Chair and discussant: Christof Hartmann (christof.hartmann@uni-due.de)

Room: ISSER Seminar Room NB 11

2:30 – 3:00 p.m. | Closing remarks by program committee

3:00 – 3:30 p.m. | Coffee break