

Research-to-Policy-Dialogue

10th November, 2026 – 09:00-15:30, Berlin

Conflict Risks and Civil Responses in a Changing World: Autocratization, Violent Conflict and Global Security

The global autocratization trend remains unabated, while violent conflicts are on the rise, both within and between states. Are these two trends interrelated and, if so, how? And what does this imply for international security as well as civil conflict prevention and management? This also raises the questions how different future-oriented instruments such as conflict-prediction, forecasting and strategic foresight can guide policy making, and what role they can play in conflict prevention and management.

On 10 November 2026, we will explore these questions with leading academics, policymakers and practitioners, discussing cutting-edge research – both from within IDOS and wider academia – and reflecting on its policy implications. The exchange is hosted by the conflict-cluster within the IDOS project “Protecting Democracy in Times of Polarization and Autocratization”, which analyses the current wave of autocratization, its causes and consequences, and international responses.

The Research-to-Policy-Dialogue will bring together experts from academia and policy making to discuss policy relevant research, its implications for current trends in the international peace and security landscape as well as identify ways forward for civil crisis prevention and management.

Programme

08:30 - 09:00	Arrival
09:00 - 09:15	Welcome
09:15 - 10:15	Expert panel: The current rise of authoritarianism and its implications for global security and civil conflict management Ivan Briscoe (Senior Director for Policy, International Crisis Group) Prof. Tobias Bunde (Hertie School of Governance, Berlin) Livia Leu (Ambassador of Switzerland to Germany) Volker Oel (Director General for Reconstruction and Stability, MENA, Sahel, Horn of Africa, Eastern Europe, BMZ) Franziska Schirmer (Director for Humanitarian Assistance and Stabilisation, Foreign Federal Office)

10:15 - 10:45	Coffeebreak
10:45 - 12:15	Content session I: Empirical insights on autocratization and armed conflict Prof. Ursula Daxecker (Max Planck Institute for Political and Social Science) Dr. Charlotte Fiedler & Dr. Karina Mross (IDOS) Prof. Murat Somer (Özyeğin University, Istanbul)
12:15 - 13:15	Lunch
13:15 - 14:45	Content session II: Looking ahead: Prediction, forecasting & scenario building Dr. Karina Mross (IDOS) & Dr. Christoph Dworschak (Universität der Bundeswehr, München) Dr. Kristina Petrova (University of Mannheim) Dr. Henning Riecke (BAKS) Dr. Christopher Wiggins & PD Dr. Julia Leininger (IDOS)
14:45 - 15:30	Concluding, interactive reflection
15:30 - 16:00	Informal exchange over coffee