



Programme

Virtual Challenges Annual Forum 2021

Climate and Environmental Security in Peace Operations

1-3 December 2021, Berlin

Day 1

*Live streamed
sessions:*

14:00–14:15
**(Berlin time
/GMT+1)**

Welcome

Miguel Berger, State Secretary of the German Federal Foreign Office
Almut Wieland-Karimi, Executive Director | Center for International
Peace Operations (ZIF)
Pernilla Rydén, Director | Challenges Forum International Secretariat
(CFIS)

14:15–14:45

Keynote Speech: Climate Projections 2030/40 & their Potential Impact on Peace and Stability

Janani Vivekananda, Head of Programme Climate Diplomacy and
Security | adelphi

14:45–15:15

High-level Opening

Moderator: Almut Wieland-Karimi, Executive Director | ZIF
Jean-Pierre Lacroix, Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations |
United Nations
Miroslav Jenča, Assistant Secretary-General for Europe, Central Asia
and the Americas, Departments of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs
and Peace Operations | United Nations
Ann Linde, Minister for Foreign Affairs | Sweden (video message)

15:15–15:45

Keynote Speech: Climate Security and Peacebuilding

Ilwad Elman | Elman Peace and Human Rights Center

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15:45–16:15

Coffee Break

16:15–17:45

Panel Discussion: Integrating Field Perspectives into Planning and Policy-making

Next to the available general UN guidance for missions and operations as well as the recently established inter-agency UN Climate Security Mechanism, progress on climate and environmental security has also been driven by the field. In the case of the EU, the recent Climate Security and Defence Map as well as the Green Deal provide future pathways for comprehensive action. Examples and lessons from Peacekeeping and Special Political Missions as well as EU missions and activities in the field can help enhance planning and policy-making.

Moderator: Elissa Jobson, Director of Global Advocacy | International Crisis Group

Annette Weber, EU Special Representative for the Horn of Africa | European External Actions Service (EEAS)

Sandi Arnold, Chief of Mission Support | UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK)

Samuel Gahigi, Political Director | UN regional office for Central Africa (UNOCA)

Hazel De Wet, Director, Civil Affairs Division | UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)

Ngozi M.T. Amu, Team Leader - Senegambia Cluster and Research/Analysis | UN Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS)

Florian Krampe, Director of the Climate Change and Risk Programme | Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)

17:45–18:15

Virtual Welcome Reception for Uruguay hosted by CFIS

The live streamed sessions will be available on the [Challenges Forum Youtube account](#)



Day 2

*By registration
only:*

14:15–14:30

Welcome and Introduction of Working Groups

Pernilla Rydén, Director | CFIS

14:30–17:00

Working Groups (*incl. Coffee Break*)

1. Analysis: Integrating climate risks into analysis and planning

Peace operations need to understand how climate change is impacting them and their security and peace context. Identifying climate-related security risks and then assessing the scale of their impact lays the foundation for prioritizing actions that need to be taken. It can also help to mainstream these risks into the wider mandates of peace operations to deliver a more conflict-sensitive response.

Moderator: General (Ret.) Liu Chao, Senior Research Fellow | China Institute for International Strategic Studies (CISS)

Key Experts: Lukas Rüttinger, Senior Adviser | Adelphi

Molly Kellogg, Gender, Climate and Security Advisor | UN Environment Program (UNEP)

2. Opportunities: Developing a people-centred approach to climate security

People, not states, need to move into the focus of climate security approaches to stress that this is about protecting vulnerable populations and making sure hardships and grievances exacerbated by the changing climate do not turn into security issues. Peace operations should equally look at both conflict risks and climate change vulnerability, thus addressing and transforming the underlying structures and drivers of insecurity within countries.

Moderator: Cassandra Stuart Clark, Acting Deputy Director, Senior Peacekeeping Advisor | U.S. Department of State

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Key Experts: Mohamed Osman Mohamoud, Founder and Chief Executive Officer | Sadar Development and Resilience Institute, Somalia
Chris Hodder, Environmental and Climate Security Adviser | UN Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM)

3. Partnerships: Exploring new avenues for collaboration

Partnerships are key, not only but especially on climate and environmental security. Public-Private Partnerships could help foster local development of sustainable energy or waste management. Partnerships with civil society and local peacebuilders would enable the inclusion of local knowledge and ownership. Moreover, it is important to align efforts by UN, EU, AU and other international actors by establishing closer partnerships through joint agreements and coordination mechanisms.

Moderator: Fonteh Akum, Executive Director | Institute for Security Studies (ISS) South Africa

Key Experts: Alex Hopkins, Research Associate | The Stimson Centre

17:00–17:15

Closing

Pernilla Rydén, Director | CFIS

17:15-17:45

Virtual Mix and Mingle



Day 3

*By registration
only:*

14:00–14:15

Welcome & Introduction to Day 3

Almut Wieland-Karimi, Executive Director | ZIF

14:15–15:30

Climate and Environmental Security in Peace Operations – a Working Group-inspired Discussion

Facilitators: Adam Day, Director of Programmes | United Nations
University Centre for Policy Research

Janani Vivekananda, Head of Programme Climate
Diplomacy and Security | Adelphi

Madalene O'Donnell | Policy, Evaluation and Training Division, UN
Department of Peace Operations, United Nations

Alexandra Fong, Chief | Policy and Guidance, Policy and Mediation
Division, UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, United
Nations

15:30–16:15

Virtual Mix and Mingle/Coffee Break

*Live
streamed
sessions:*

16:15–17:30

Panel Discussion: Reflecting Climate and Environmental Security in UN Security Council Mandating

The UNSC can address climate and environmental risks as part of its general response to conflict situations, for example through the inclusion or mainstreaming of these issues in Security Council mandates for peacekeeping operations or special political missions. Since 2018, mandates for Mali, Somalia, Darfur and Sudan do include wording and calls for action. A UNSC resolution on Climate Security is in the making. What other opportunities are feasible?

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Moderator: Jean-Marie Guéhenno, Challenges Forum Patron | Director, Kent program on conflict resolution at Columbia University; member of UN High-level Advisory Board on Mediation

H.E. Geraldine Byrne Nason, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations in New York

H.E. Antje Leendertse, Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations in New York and Co-Chair of the UN Group of Friends on Climate and Security

Karim Soumana, Counselor | Permanent Mission of the Republic of Niger to the United Nations in New York

Paul Romita, Managing Editor and lead author of recent report on “The UN Security Council and Climate Change” | Security Council Report.

17:30–17:40

Closing remarks

Johanna Gårdmark representing the Chair of the Challenges Forum Partner Meeting, Folke Bernadotte Academy Director-General

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