

PRESS RELEASE
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International Conference \ **Networks of Organised Violence**

More information:
SUSANNE HEINKE

*Head of Public Relations
Leiterin Presse- und Öffentlichkeitsarbeit*

+49 228 911 96-44, Fax -22
pr@bicc.de

On 28 October 2015, BICC is organising its annual academic conference at the University Club, Bonn, Germany. Researcher from all over the world will present and discuss their findings on networks of organised violence.

Current developments in organised violence and warfare can be interpreted in such a way that networks are gradually replacing the territory as the foundation of organised violence. Examples include the military approach of “network-centric warfare”, the mobilisation of and the interrelations between militant groups (e. g. Taliban, al-Qaeda), and the intermingling of the military and civilian spheres.

The first panel will deal with “**New Forms of Multidimensional Warfare**” and intends to explore how non-state armed groups pose a challenge to the legal and practical monopoly over the legitimate use of force within a given territory. The second, “**Networks of Military Technology**” will examine the crucial role that military technology has always played in defining the face of warfare, while the following panel “**Blurring of the Frontline: Shifting Alliances and Actors**” will address the dynamic interactions of actors. The concluding session will focus more broadly on the topic of “**Networks of Organised Violence: A Challenge to Generating Sustainable Peace**”.

The conference will be opened by **Stephan Conermann**, Vice President for International Affairs, University of Bonn, and **Conrad Schetter**, Director for Research, BICC. **Kristian Berg Harpviken**, Director, PRIO, Peace Research Institute Oslo, will give the keynote speech.

The conference’s language is English. Please find the programme of the conference at

https://www.bicc.de/fileadmin/Dateien/pdf/events/2015/FLYER_Networks_of_organised_violence_2015_1021.pdf.