

Information and national security during international crises

7 November 2025, 18:00-20:00
Eurac Research | Conference Hall



Militarization is no longer limited to politics; it is spreading through the media and public discourse. In today's international crises, what counts is not just military strength, but the strategic use of information. This development affects both physical and digital realms and poses particular challenges for democratic societies. The conference explores the pivotal role of information in this process – drawing on the expertise of the two prominent scholars, Fabrizio Coticchia e Simone Tholens.



Fabrizio Coticchia is Full Professor of Political Science at the University of Genoa. He has been Jean Monnet Fellow at the European University Institute. His fields of research are Italian (and European) defense and foreign policy, party politics, military transformation and strategic narratives. His articles have appeared on *International Relations*, *Government&Opposition*, *Foreign Policy Analysis*, *European Political Science Review*, *Journal of European Public Policy*, and *International Peacekeeping*. His latest book: *Reluctant Remilitarisation: Transforming Defence and the Armed Forces in Germany, Italy and Japan After the Cold War* (Edinburgh University Press, 2023).



Simone Tholens is Associate Professor of International Relations at John Cabot University, and part-time Professor at the European University Institute/Robert Schuman Centre. Her main research interest are interventions, security assistance, bordering processes, and materiality of global war practices, as well as theories of contestation and practice. She has worked on these issues in the Middle East, Western Balkans and Southeast Asia. In her research, she combines critical approaches to security & conflict, with practice-based methodologies.

18:00	Introduction Harald Pechlaner , Head of the Center for Advanced Studies, Eurac Research
18:15-18:45	Public opinion, governments and reluctant remilitarization Fabrizio Coticchia , Full Professor of Political Science, Department of Political Science (DISPO), University of Genoa
18:45-19:15	Governing information flows during peace negotiations Simone Tholens , Associate Professor of International Relations at John Cabot University, and part-time Professor at the European University Institute/Robert Schuman Centre
19:15-20:00	Discussion and Q&A Moderation: Elisa Piras , Center for Advanced Studies, Eurac Research
20:00	Conclusion

The event will be held in English without simultaneous translation.
Please confirm your participation by 5 November 2025 using the following link: <https://eu.surveymonkey.com/r/Secres>

Organization

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