



Forschungsverbund
Militär, Krieg und Geschlecht/Diversität
Research Network Military, War and Gender/Diversity



ZMSBw
Zentrum für Militärgeschichte
und Sozialwissenschaften der
Bundeswehr

Third International MKGD-ZMSBw Conference

Sexual Violence in Militaries and Wars: Comparative and Long-Term Perspectives

Wednesday to Friday, January 20 to 22, 2027

At the Bundeswehr Centre for Military History and Social Sciences, Zeppelinstraße 127/128, 14471
Potsdam, House 12, Hans-Meier-Welcker-Saal

Program

Hosts

- Research Network Military, War and Gender/Diversity (MKGD)
- Bundeswehr Centre of Military History and Social Sciences, Potsdam (ZMSBw)
- In cooperation with:**
- University of the Bundeswehr Munich, Department of Social Sciences and Public Affairs (UniBwM)
- Leibniz Institute for Contemporary History, Munich-Berlin (IfZ)
- Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe, Leipzig (GWZO)
- Military History Working Group (Arbeitskreis Militärgeschichte, AKM)
- Working Group on Historical Women's and Gender Studies (AKHFG)

Registration

A registration for the conference on Thursday and Friday, January 22 and 23, 2026, is necessary until: **Monday, January 4, 2027.**

Entry to the public keynote on Wednesday, 20 January 2027 is free; but a registration until January 15, 2027 necessary.



A registration form you will find on our conference website:

<https://mkgd.hypotheses.org/upcomingconference>

Please send the registration form to: Nils Birk, MA (NilsBirk@bundeswehr.org)

The conference fee is 25 EUR (for coffee and lunch breaks) and has to be paid in cash during the registration on site.

If you have any questions, please contact: NilsBirk@bundeswehr.org

Aims of the Conference

The third international conference organised by the Research Network on Military, War and Gender/Diversity (MKGD) and the Bundeswehr Centre of Military History and Social Sciences (ZMSBw) will examine the issue of sexual violence perpetrated by military and paramilitary forces, taking a comparative approach across regions and time periods. Our aim is to explore conflicts in Europe, North America and beyond from the early modern period to the present day.

Wednesday, January 20, 2027

4:00–4:30 AM: Registration for Conference Participants

4:30–5:45 PM: Welcome Reception for Conference Participants

6:00–7:30 PM: Public Keynote

Welcome: Colonel Dr Frank Hagemann (Commander of the ZMSBw, Potsdam, Germany)

Prof. Dr Elizabeth Wood (Franklin Muzzy Crosby Professor of the Human Environment and Professor of Political Science, International and Area Studies at Yale University, USA):

Sexual Violence during War: Comparative Perspectives

Moderation: Prof. Dr Karen Hagemann (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA)

7:30–8:30 PM: Public Reception

Thursday, January 21, 2027

8:30–9:15 AM: Registration and Welcome Coffee

9:15–9:45 AM: Welcome and Introduction

- **Colonel Dr Frank Hagemann** (Commander of ZMSBw, Potsdam, Germany)
- **Prof Dr. Karen Hagemann** (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA/ MKGD)

9:45–10:45 AM: Introduction: Sexual Violence in Militaries and Wars: Comparative and Long-term Perspectives

- **Dr Regina Mühlhäuser** (Hamburg Institute for Social Research, Germany)

Moderation: Lt.Col. Dr Friederike Hartung (ZMSBw, Potsdam, Germany)

10:45–11:15 AM: Coffee Break

11:15 AM–1:15 PM: **Panel 1: The Legal Framing of Sexual Violence in Armed Conflicts**

Moderation: Prof. Dr Isabelle Deflers (University of the Bundeswehr, Munich, Germany)

- **Dr Sandra Suárez** (Universidad de Murcia, Spain / Manchester Metropolitan University, United Kingdom)
Rape and Military Justice in Sixteenth-Century Spanish Armies: Evidence from Military Trials
- **Dr Anastasia Hammerschmied** (University of Münster, Germany)
The prohibition and conceptualisation of wartime sexual violence in nineteenth-century international law
- **Dr Tereza Juhászová** (Charles University Prague, Czech Republic)
Prosecution and Perceptions of “Ordinary” Sexual Violence in First World War Hungary
- **Prof. Dr Maria Fritsche** (Heeresgeschichtliches Museum Wien, Austria)
A Crime with no Name? Sexual Violence of Men against Men in the Ranks of the Wehrmacht

1:15–2:15 PM: Lunch Break

2:15–4:15 PM: **Panel 2: Military Cultures of Sexual Violence**

Moderation: PD Dr. Anke Fischer-Kattner (University of the Bundeswehr, Munich, Germany)

- **Prof. Dr Valerie Toureille** (CY Cergy-Paris University, France) and **Prof. Dr Ariane Boltanski** (Université de Caen Normandie, France)
Scenarios and Semantics of Gendered Violence in Renaissance France (14th 17th Centuries)
- **PD Dr Christin Pschichholz and Prof. Dr Gundula Gahlen** (Deutsche Hochschule der Polizei, Münster, Germany)
Looting and Rape: Cultures of Military Violence during the Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars in the Austrian, French, British, and Prussian Armies
- **Prof. Dr Jana Lipman** (Tulane University, USA)
It doesn’t always happen to someone else”: Sexual Violence and the All-Volunteer Force, 1973–1983
- **Dr Kim Bootsma** (Netherlands Defence Academy, The Netherlands)
Incidents or Structural Problem? Discursive Responses to Sexual Violence in the Dutch Armed Forces, 1980–1985

4:15–4:45 PM: Coffee Break

4:45–6:15 PM: **Panel 3: Sexual Violence in Civil Wars**

Moderation: Prof. i.R. Dr Christa Hämmerle (University of Vienna, Austria)

- **Prof. Dr Linda Conolly** (Maynooth University, Ireland)
Undeservedly Forgotten: Women, War and Violence in Ireland, 1919–1923
- **Sabina Mompó Toribio, MA** (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain)
Prosecuting Sexual Violence during the Spanish Civil War: Was the Francoist Military Justice protecting its soldiers?
- **Katerina Acheimastou, MA** (European University Institute, Florence, Italy)
(Her)Stories of Silence: Sexual Violence in the Greek Civil War, 1944–1949

7:00 PM: Conference Dinner

Friday, January 22, 2027

9:30–11:00 AM: Panel 4: Sexual Violence as Instrument of an Ethnic, Nationalist and/or Genocidal Project

Moderation: Prof. Dr Elissa Mailänder (Sciences Po Paris, France)

- **Prof. Dr Susan Grayzel** (Utah State University, USA) and **Prof. Dr Lisa Todd** (University of New Brunswick, Canada)
Investigating Atrocity: Re-Evaluating First World War 'Colour Books' as Evidence of Sexual Violence in Africa and Europe
- **Prof. Dr Emily Gioielli** (Worcester Polytechnic Institute, USA / Södertörn University, Sweden)
Are You Jewish?": Sexualized and Sexual Violence Against Men and Boys in Hungary's War after War, 1919–1921
- **Dr Lydie Thollot** (IDRAC Business School, France)
From Social Order to War Strategy: The Continuum of Gender-Based Violence in Kosovo, 1998–1999

11:00 AM–11:30 PM: Coffee Break

11:30 AM–1:30 PM: Panel 5: Questions of Recognition and Recollection

Moderation: Prof. Dr Isabel Heinemann (Ludwig-Maximilians University Munich, Germany)

- **Prof. Dr Amandine Lauro** (Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium)
Sexual Violence Against Men and Colonial Military Justice in the Belgian Congo, 1908-1960
- **PD Dr Anne-Laure Briatte** (Sorbonne Université, France)
Raped Women in Defeated Germany in 1945: The Mechanisms of Second Victimization
- **Dr Jakub Gałęziowski** (University of Warsaw, Poland)
Postwar Sexual Violence and Its Consequences: Former Polish Forced Laborers, Displaced Persons, and Their Children
- **Prof. Dr Yonson Ahn** (Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, Germany)
Representing Sexual Violence and Trauma: The Comfort Women Memorial Art in South Korea and Beyond

1:30–2:30 PM: Lunch Break

2:30–4:00 PM: Panel 6: Sexual Harassment and Violence in NATO Armed Forces Today

Moderation: Prof. Dr Karen Hagemann (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA)

- **PD Dr Nina Leonhard** and **Dr Markus Steinbrecher** (ZMSBw, Potsdam, Germany)
Sexual Misconduct in the Bundeswehr: Extent, Correlates, and Organizational Handling
- **Lt Col. Dr Lena Kvarving** (Norwegian Defense University College, Oslo, Norway)
Sexual Violence in the Norwegian Armed Forces: Results of the 2020 and 2024 Reports
- **Prof. Dr Matt Fossey** (Anglia Ruskin University, United Kingdom)
Sexual Violence In NATO Forces: A Comparative View from the 2024 NATO_Task Group Report

4:00–4:30 PM: Coffee Break

4:30–6:00 PM: Final Discussion

Moderation: Prof. Dr Maren Röger (Leibniz Institute for History and Culture of Eastern Europe, Germany)

- **Prof. Dr Maren Lorenz** (Ruhr University Bochum, Germany)
- **Dr Gerhard Kümmel** (ZMSBw, Potsdam, Germany)
- **Prof. Dr Kirsten Campbell** (Loughborough University London, United Kingdom)

6:00–6:15 PM: Closing Remarks & Farewell

- **Prof. Dr Karen Hagemann** (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA / MKGD)
- **Prof. Dr Alaric Searle** (Senior Scientist and Head of Research, ZMSBw, Potsdam, Germany)

7:00 PM: Joint Dinner

Program Committee:

Organizers:

- PD Dr Anne-Laure Briatte (Sorbonne University)
- Prof. Dr Isabelle Deflers (University of the Bundeswehr Munich)
- Prof. Dr Karen Hagemann (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)
- Dr Gerhard Kümmel (ZMSBw, Potsdam)

In cooperation with:

- Prof. Dr. Isabel Heinemann (Leibniz Institute for Contemporary History, Munich-Berlin)
- Prof. Dr Maren Lorenz (Ruhr University Bochum)
- Prof. Dr Elissa Mailänder (Sciences Po Paris)
- Prof. Dr Maren Röger (Leibniz Institute for History and Culture of Modern Europe)

Organisational assistant at the ZMSBw: Captain Nils Birk MA, email: NilsBirk@bundeswehr.org

The sponsoring institutions of the conference are:

- Bundeswehr Centre of Military History and Social Sciences, Potsdam
- In cooperation with:
 - Initiative Europe (Alliance Sorbonne Université)
 - Leibniz Institute for Contemporary History, Munich-Berlin
 - Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe, Leipzig
 - Military History Working Group
 - Ruhr University Bochum
 - University of the Bundeswehr Munich, Department of Social Sciences and Public Affairs
 - Working Group on Historical Women's and Gender Studies

The organizers would like to thank the sponsors for their support!