



# Peace Ethics Colloquy

## Ukraine and Russia: An Intercontinental Peace Ethical Conversation

Conference 2024 in Berlin  
February 19<sup>th</sup>–20<sup>th</sup>

Organized by  
the European Academy on Religion and Society (EARS)  
and the Berlin Institute for Public Theology (BIPT)

<https://europeanacademyofreligionandsociety.com>  
<https://www.theologie.hu-berlin.de/de/professuren/institute/bipt>

Please register until 13<sup>th</sup> February at [bettina.schoen@hu-berlin.de](mailto:bettina.schoen@hu-berlin.de)



## About the Colloquy

### Ukraine and Russia: An Intercontinental Peace Ethical Conversation

Depending on the global, but also the European context, peace ethical perspectives on the Russian-Ukrainian war differ considerably. While many Northern, Western, Middle and South Eastern European states – among them Poland, Finland, the Baltic states, but also Great Britain, France, Italy or Germany – stress the illegitimacy and illegality of Russia's invasion in Ukraine according to international law, some European (among them Hungary) and many states in the global South and East take a very different stance. Thus, important international agents like South Africa, China or India have abstained from voting on UN resolution A/RES/ES-11/1 (March 2nd, 2022) and also the renewed resolution A/ES-11/L.7 (February 23rd, 2023); Brazil's president Lula da Silva claims neutrality in the conflict. South African officials understand Russia as a long-standing ally and the conflict as a recalibration of the global order - and they don't stand alone with that view.

Thus, an intercontinental public theological and interdisciplinary conversation on peace ethics that takes decolonial perspectives into account without giving up claims of universal validity of human rights issues is called for. The workshop aims to bring together theologians, political scientists and peace ethicists from three continents in Berlin for an engaging conversation.

# Schedule

## Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup>

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- 11.00 – 12.00 h *Arrival and Finger Food*
- 12.00 – 12.30 h *Welcome Address*
- 12.30 – 14.00 h Panel I: The Geopolitical Situation  
**Trying to Fight a Limited War. The War in Ukraine and the International Political Economy of War**  
Dr. Philipp Münch • Zentrum für Militärgeschichte und Sozialwissenschaften der Bundeswehr Potsdam
- Prospects for Peace in the Russo-Ukrainian War**  
Dr. Jonas J. Driedger • Frankfurt University & Peace Research Institute Frankfurt
- 14.00 – 14.15 h *Coffee/Tea*
- 14.15 – 16.00 h Panel II: Peace Ethical Perspectives  
**Resistance, Otherwise**  
Prof. Dr. Nancy Bedford • Garrett Evangelical-Theological Seminary Evanston
- A Politics of Peace and Justice? Walter Wink's Engagement with Matthew 8:38–42 as an Ethics of Peace in the Presence of War**  
Prof. Dr. Dion Forster • Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
- Just Peace and Revisionist Just War Approaches – Striking a Balance between Contingent Pacifist Conceptions**  
Nicole Kunkel • Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
- 16.00 – 16.30 h *Coffee/Tea*
- 16.30 – 18.00 h Panel III: A German View on Peace Ethics after 2007  
**Peace Ethics Reloaded? New Perspectives on Peace Ethics within the Evangelical Church in Germany (EKD)**  
Dr. Friederike Krippner • Evangelische Akademie zu Berlin
- Nonviolence and the Legitimate Use of Force from a Virtue-Ethical Perspective. Recent Developments in the Peace Ethics of the Catholic Church in Germany**  
Prof. Dr. Andreas Trampota • Institut für Theologie und Frieden, Hamburg
- 19.00 h *Conference Dinner*

## Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>

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- 9.00 – 10.30 h Panel I: A South African View  
**“What have You to do with Peace?” (2 Kgs 9:17–19): The Complexities of War and Peace and the Ethics of Compromise**  
Dr. Funlola Olojede • Stellenbosch University
- Balancing Act: South Africa's Reconciliatory Diplomacy Amidst the Russia-Ukraine Conflict**  
Dr. Demaine Solomons • University of the Western Cape
- 10.30 – 11.00 h *Coffee/Tea*
- 11.00 – 12.30 h Panel II: A Latin American View  
**“Love Your Enemies” (Matt 5:44). Does Peace Ethics Make Sense, Even in Times of War?**  
Prof. Dr. Erico Hammes • Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Paraná
- Ecumenical Lessons from the War against Ukraine: Passionate Protest and Loving Patience.**  
Prof. Dr. Rudolf von Sinner • Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Paraná
- 12.30 – 13.30 h *Lunch Break*
- 13.30 – 15.00 h Panel III: Peace Ethics after the Ukraine Conflict  
***Ius post bellum* and Lessons from Donbas**  
Margaryta Khvastova & Dr. Alex Leveringhaus • University of Surrey
- “Justice and Peace will Kiss” (Ps 85:10). Christian Peace Ethics: Delusional in a Multipolar World?**  
Prof. Dr. Torsten Meireis • Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
- 15.00 – 15.15 h *Coffee/Tea*
- 15.15 – 16.15 h **Taking it from There: The Challenges Theology and Morality Meet**  
Prof. Dr. Matthias Smalbrugge • Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam