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## MIASA Conference

**“Dealing with conflict, preparing for sustainable peace:  
Current research and its policy implications”**

11–12 December 2024

Venue: ISSER Conference Centre, University of Ghana

### PROGRAMME

#### Wednesday, 11 December 2024

##### 9:00 – 9:20 a.m. | Welcome notes

- Grace Diabah and Mamadou Diawara, MIASA
- Emma Birikorang, KAIPTC
- Afua Boatemaa Yakohene, LECIAD
- Provost, College of Humanities, UG (tbc)

##### 9:20 – 9:30 a.m. | Introduction to the conference theme and presentation of the program

- Julia Grauvogel, GIGA

##### 9:30 – 10:15 a.m. | Keynote by Dr Aderemi Ajibewa, Ambassadorial Fellow, National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies, Nigeria and former Director of Political Affairs at the ECOWAS Commission

Moderated by Emma Birikorang, KAIPTC

##### 10:15 – 11:00 a.m. | Keynote by Dr Jana Krause, Professor at the University of Oslo

- Moderated by Christof Hartmann, INEF, University of Duisburg Essen

11:00 – 11:30 a.m. | Coffee Break

**11:30 – 12:30 p.m. | Policy panel “Preparing for sustainable peace in Africa: international and domestic approaches”**

- Aderemi Ajibewa, NIPSS and formerly ECOWAS
- Mohamed Gibril Sesay, University of Sierra Leone
- Tim Glawion, Arnold-Bergstraesser-Institute
- Moderated by Julia Grauvogel, GIGA

Room: ISSER Conference Hall

12:30 – 1:30 p.m. | Lunch

**1:30 – 3:00 p.m | Panel session 1 (two parallel panels)**

*Panel 1: Addressing violent extremism and building interreligious peace*

- Theodora Benesch and Julia Köbrich: Messengers and Messages for Interreligious Peace
- George Amoh: Building Resilience for Inter-faith Coexistence and Social Cohesion: A study of Ghana’s Peace Council
- Faith Agnes Akinyi Ondeng: Counter-Narrative Design Strategies against Youth Radicalization in Northern Kenya: A Case Study of Isiolo Sub-County

Chair and discussant: Jana Krause (jana.krause@stv.uio.no)

Room: ISSER Seminar Room NB 11

*Panel 2: African regional organizations and ad hoc coalitions*

- Michael Aeby: African Union Support to Implement Comprehensive Peace Agreements and Transitions
- Mona Saleh: Unpacking ECOWAS-Donor Relationships through the Lens of Practice Theory
- Mariana Llorens Zabala: Safeguarding Civilians: Understanding the Multinational Joint Task Forces Approach to the Protection of Civilians

Chair and discussant: Afua Boatemaa Yakohene (ayakohene@ug.edu.gh)

Room: ISSER Conference Hall

3:00 – 3:30 p.m. | Coffee Break

**3:30 – 5:00 p.m | Panel session 2 (two parallel panels)**

*Panel 3: Local approaches to peacebuilding*

- Barbara Asamoah: Local Ownership in Stabilization and Peacebuilding Efforts in the Sahel
- Victor Doke: The Bawku Conflict is on Hibernation: What are the Roles Played by Civil Society Organizations Against Recurrence of Violent Armed Clashes
- Lydia Amoah: Asante Customary Courts and the use of duab (imprecation) as a Peacebuilding Mechanism in Kumasi

Chair and discussant: Gordon Crawford (ac1221@coventry.ac.uk)

Room: ISSER Seminar Room NB 11

*Panel 4: Fostering peace in a changing climate*

- Idowu Ayodeji: Climate Change, Gendered Livelihoods, and Conflict Dynamics in Nigeria
- Rahima Moomin: Climate Change, Gender and Conflict
- Bochra Laghssais: Resilience and Peacebuilding: Amazigh Women's Grassroots Strategies in the Context of Climate Change in Morocco

Chair and discussant: Julia Grauvogel ([julia.grauvogel@giga-hamburg.de](mailto:julia.grauvogel@giga-hamburg.de))

Room: ISSER Conference Hall

**5:30 – 8:00 p.m. | Reception at MIASA building**

## Thursday, 12 December 2024

### 9:00 – 10:00 a.m | “Policy panel 2 “Countering violent extremism in a changing climate”

- Roselyn Fosuah Adjei, Forestry Commission of Ghana
- Mutaru Mumuni Muqthar, WACCE
- Emmanuel Wendsongre Ramde, WASCAL
- Moderated by Naila Salihu, KAIPTC

Room: ISSER Conference Hall

10:00 – 10:30 a.m. | Coffee Break

### 10:30 – 12:00 noon | Panel session 3 (two parallel panels)

#### *Panel 5: The rise and evolution of violent extremism*

- Salma Abdalla: The Rise and Response to violent extremism in Sudan
- Abosede Omowumi Babatunde: Takfirism: The imperceptible factor in Boko Haram Jihadist Movement in Northern Nigeria
- Mohammed Bashiru: Building Resilience Against Violent Extremism Through Alternative Narratives

Chair and discussant: Julia Köbrich ([julia.koebrich@giga-hamburg.de](mailto:julia.koebrich@giga-hamburg.de))

Room: ISSER Conference Hall

#### *Panel 6: Civil-military relations and the role of armed forces*

- Linda Zusong Arezak and Afua Boatemaa Yakohene: Gendered Language in the Ghana Armed Forces
- Francis Atta Kwabena: Coup-proofing the democratic state in times of crisis: Posing the ideology question in civilian-military relationships in West Africa

Chair and discussant: Tim Glawion ([tim.glawion@abi.uni-freiburg.de](mailto:tim.glawion@abi.uni-freiburg.de))

Room: ISSER Seminar Room NB 11

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. | Lunch Break

**1:00 – 2:30 p.m. | Panel session 4 (two parallel panels)**

*Panel 7: Unarmed Civilian Responses to Armed Conflict in Africa: Challenges and Prospects*

- Rosemary Kabaki: Unarmed Civilian Protection: the state-of-the art
- Gordon Crawford and James Kiven Kewir: Unarmed Community Self-Protection and Adaptive Peacebuilding in Cameroon’s ‘Anglophone’ Conflict
- Zainab Nuhu: Gendering Safe Spaces: Roles of women as protectors in conflict and fragile areas
- Elias O. Opongo: Activism Against Police Brutality in Kenya: Assessment of Unarmed Civilian Protection

Chair and discussant: Emma Birikorang (emma.birikorang@kaiptc.org)

Room: ISSER Conference Hall

*Panel 8: External responses to armed conflict and domestic perceptions*

- Youssef Cherif: Libya, an Internationalized African Problem: Challenges, Successes, and Failures of African Peacebuilding
- Tim Glawion: Peacekeeping intervention and popular perceptions of security in the Central African Republic
- Abdul-Gafar Tobi Oshodi: China and terrorism in West Africa: The case of Niger and Nigeria

Chair and discussant: Christof Hartmann (christof.hartmann@uni-due.de)

Room: ISSER Seminar Room NB 11

**2:30 – 3:00 p.m. | Closing remarks by program committee**

3:00 – 3:30 p.m. | Coffee break