

# ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2022

PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE FRANKFURT / MEMBER OF THE LEIBNIZ ASSOCIATION

## Conference theme

Trust is a central but often underestimated resource in international relations. It requires great efforts to build trust among individuals and institutions, but it is difficult to control and easily broken. Trust is an important prerequisite for resolving conflicts and at the same time conflict is a process where trust can be formed. The war in Ukraine is an example of how trust can be destroyed in a short time, in international relations and in the international order.

The 2022 PRIF Annual Conference “ConTrust: Trust in Conflict – Peace Politics under Conditions of Uncertainty” will debate and analyze the topic of trust and its relation with peace politics from a multitude of perspectives. The conference will explore questions of what enables the building and solidification of trust between different actors and in institutions, and how trust and conflict relate to each other.

Based on the project “ConTrust”, a joint research initiative between PRIF and Goethe University, it will be argued that even in constellations of conflict, certain conditions can enable trust to be built. The concept will be examined not only with a focus on different regional perspectives, but also with a view towards the role of (international) organizations and the important part trust plays in arms control settings.

Organization: Prof. Dr. Nicole Deitelhoff  
(Executive Director of the Peace Research Institute Frankfurt)

To register for the livestream, please send an e-mail to  
[annualconference@hsfk.de](mailto:annualconference@hsfk.de).



## CONTRUST: PEACE POLITICS AND TRUST IN CONFLICT

**23 MARCH 2022 · FRANKFURT/MAIN ·  
ONLINE**

Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (PRIF)  
Baseler Straße 27–31 · 60329 Frankfurt  
[www.prif.org](http://www.prif.org)

#prif22

# PROGRAM

## Wednesday, 23 March 2022

11:00	<b>Arrival / Welcome</b>	15:15 - 16:45	<b>Temporal Dynamics of Trust in Conflict</b> (Organized by Hanna Pfeifer and Irene Weipert-Fenner) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inter-Elite Trust Before and After Revolution in Tunisia (Jasmin Lorch)</li><li>• Social Trust in Syria Before and After Civil War (Abdalhadi Alijla)</li><li>• Political and Social Trust in the MENA Over Time (Niels Spierings)</li><li>• Temporality and Dynamics of Trust in Conflict: Illustrations From the MENA (Irene Weipert-Fenner / Hanna Pfeifer) Discussant: Jonas Wolff</li></ul>
11:15 - 12:45	<b>Arms Control Between Trust and Verification</b> (Organized by Christopher Daase) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Trusting Science. The Discourse on Technical Expertise and the Chemical Weapons Convention (Una Jakob / Christopher Daase)</li><li>• Trusting Experts. The Role of Groups of Governmental Experts (GGE) in Arms Control (Anna Ferl)</li><li>• Trusting Artificial Intelligence. AI and New Ways of Verification of Arms Control (Niklas Schörnig)</li><li>• Trusting Your Neighbor. Social Preconditions for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (Simone Wisotzki) Discussant: Maria Rost Rublee</li></ul>	16:45 - 17:00	<b>Coffee Break</b>
12:45 - 13:30	<b>Lunch Break</b>	17:00 - 18:30	<b>Trust in Institutions, Coronavirus Deniers, and the Far Right</b> (Organized by Julian Junk and Daniel Mullis) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Alternative News and the Infodemic - Eroding Trust and Fueling Anger during the COVID-19 Crisis (Lena Frischlich)</li><li>• Belief in COVID-19 Related Conspiracy Myths and Support for Containment-Measures (Jonas Rees / Andreas Zick)</li><li>• Covid19 and the Far Right: A Case Study From Saxony, Germany (Daniel Mullis / Paul Zschocke) Discussant: Charlotte Heath-Kelly</li></ul>
13:30 - 15:00	<b>Dealing with Crises: How International Institutions Enable or Disable Trust</b> (Organized by Nicole Deitelhoff) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Establishing Trust and Distrust When States Leave International Organizations (Ben Christian / Dirk Peters)</li><li>• Dialogue Forums of International Organizations: Enabling Trust or Cooptation of Civil Society Critics? (Melanie Coni-Zimmer / Nicole Deitelhoff / Diane Schumann)</li><li>• Enabling Trust - IHFFC Activities Other Than Formal Inquiries (Thilo Marauhn) Discussant: Bernhard Zangl</li></ul>	18:30 - 19:00	<b>Closing Panel on the War in Ukraine</b> (Jointly organized by the PRIF team)
15:00 - 15:15	<b>Coffee Break</b>	19:15	<b>Reception</b>