

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

RC01 ARMED FORCES AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION CONFERENCE 5-9 JULY, STELLENBOSCH, SOUTH AFRICA

The International Sociological Association's Armed Forces and Conflict Resolution Research Committee (RC01) mission is to develop professional contacts between sociologists of armed forces and conflict resolution throughout the world; encourage the international exchange of research findings, theoretical developments, and methodologies in the sociology of armed forces and conflict resolution; promote the teaching of course materials dealing with armed forces and conflict resolution at undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate levels; and promote international meetings and research collaboration in the field of armed forces and conflict resolution. Although RC01 was established by sociologists, many of the members are from different disciplinary fields, whose research interests overlap with the military.

We are pleased to announce the forthcoming RC01 Conference, which will take place in Stellenbosch, South Africa 5-9 July 2020 at the Faculty of Arts and Social Science, Stellenbosch University See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CeYTDY0dyGI&t=120s> for an idea of the location and what to expect.

CONFERENCE THEME: CONFLICT RESOLUTION, POWER POLITICS AND POLITICAL POPULISM

The theme for this conference is **Conflict resolution, power politics and political populism**. At present, we see that global powers becoming more confrontational regarding economic, political and social issues. The rise of populism, increasing authoritarianism, xenophobia and racism is giving rise to new forms of insecurities and risks, often drawing the military into internal security roles. As these increase how is this affecting civil-military relations, militarisation, defence transformation and military/police relations? On the political level, international cooperation is losing importance and the classic power politics are back on the world stage. The political switch to (extreme) right wing party/populist governments in many countries leads to isolation and supports national unilateralism. How are these changes on the international state affecting the armed forces and cooperation between them? What is the impact on public opinion, the subjective sense of insecurity, increase in discrimination against minorities, increase in violence against women and minorities? With these developments, are nation states becoming stronger again, more inward looking? To what extent are multinational regimes losing their importance? While this is the conference theme, papers on related themes are invited on the following key themes:

- African security threats and armed forces
- Civil military relations, civil control and militarisation
- Cyber-security domain and the military
- Gender, race and culture
- Human resource management and defence transformation
- Military profession, institution and culture
- Military leadership, morale and cohesion
- Military and police relations
- Military veterans and society
- Media and public opinion
- Military families and welfare
- Military profession and military service
- Peacekeeping and multinational interagency operations

- Recruitment and retention
- Technological change and future war
- Violence, conflict resolution and security

SUBMISSION AND REGISTRATION DEADLINES

Abstracts for conference presentations should be a maximum of 200 words.

Abstracts for panel proposals should contain no more than four presentations (with a maximum of 200 words per presentation). The overall panel description, as well as the abstract and names of the presenters of each component presentation should be included.

Abstracts and panels can be uploaded on the RC01 Website platform from 18 November 2019.

Abstracts can be submitted via the following link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSepIbw_4yj6Gqks3rN2MBYK1ESgB56Oxp3j-B6_OQkbaYiWyA/viewform

Point of contact for inquiries on panels and/or papers is Prof. dr. Lindy Heineken lindy@sun.ac.za

Time line and important dates

Abstract submission open: 18 November 2019

Abstract and submission deadline: 17 February 2020

Acceptance decisions and draft programme: 23 March 2020

Deadline for early registration: 19 April 2020

Deadline for registration: 18 May 2020

Further information on the conference fees, travel arrangements, visa requirements and accommodation will be announced in January 2020. Please keep your eye on the **RC01 Website** (<https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/research-networks/research-committees/rc01-armed-forces-and-conflict-resolution/>), **Facebook Page** (<https://www.facebook.com/Armed-Forces-and-Conflict-Resolution-International-Sociological-Association-2276117495778434/>)