

The Collaborative Research Centre “Dynamics of Security” (SFB/TRR 138) and the Anthropology of Peace, Conflict, and Security (APeCS) network of the European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA) are organizing the joint, interdisciplinary conference:

**Peace, conflict, and security in times of existential crises:
Critical, interdisciplinary, and public engagements**

21–22 March 2024, Marburg, Germany

Call for papers

Panel 4. Studying security, studying up. Examining methodological challenges and interdisciplinary opportunities

Convenors:

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This panel seeks to address the following questions: what does it mean to study security by studying up? What does this entail methodologically? What can we learn from these challenges, and about the limits of disciplinary frameworks? Can interdisciplinary approaches offer new opportunities? In a world of turmoil, there is a constant sense we move from one crisis into the other, or that we face one threat after the other. This perpetual sense of crisis and threat has had the consequence that security has become an important societal framework to explain social life. In turn, it also has become an important mode of governance by both governmental and non-governmental actors. We believe therefore it is crucial to look at centers of power, to the discourses, the practices and the actors who compose it to better grasp the ways security is made and rendered valuable. Security is understood here as a field encompassing various domains such as, but not exclusive to, migration, policing, climate mitigation and economy.

For this panel, we invite papers that offer an empirical reflection upon the challenges faced when studying security ‘up’. We particularly look for multidisciplinary contributions that are grounded reflections based upon past or ongoing research. We seek discussants to reflect on the relevance of studying up in times of crisis. Questions such as: what is the added value of studying security up in times of crisis? How do we

experience the methodological limitations and challenges while studying up? How have interdisciplinary approaches enable alternative methodological tools? Beyond that, we invite papers that address these questions from a theoretical approach or scholars that are grappling with these questions yet are still in the process of designing their research. Our aim is to foster a collective exchange about the challenges and opportunities of studying security 'up' from an interdisciplinary vantage point.

Abstract proposals of up to 300 words, accompanied by titles, names, bios of up to 100 words, and affiliation and contact details of authors should be sent to the convenors by **the 2nd of October 2023**. We expect to notify the selected participants by the 16th of October.

We also remind you that (limited) funding will be available to precarious scholars on a reimbursement of real costs basis. Also, for scholars from the Global South in need of a visa, the organisers can issue letters of invitation.