

11.-13.02.26

Wednesday, 11 Feb., 18h

**Public Keynote: Elke Schwarz**

**"Military AI, Risk Capital and the  
Making of War & Peace"**

University of Hamburg,  
Von Melle Park 6, Lecture Hall G



Thursday, 12 Feb.- Friday, 13 Feb.

**International Conference**

Warburg-Haus,  
Heilwigstr. 166, 20249 Hamburg

# **The Promises of Algorithmic Warfare - and Their World- Making Effects**

More info:



**Universität Hamburg**

DER FORSCHUNG | DER LEHRE | DER BILDUNG

**Wednesday, 11 February 2026, Location: Lecture Room G, Von-Melle-Park 6, University of Hamburg**

18 Uhr Keynote:

**Elke Schwarz**

**„Military AI, Risk Capital and the Making of War & Peace“**

*followed by dinner (on a pay-your-own basis) and networking*

*at Hala Mignon, Rutschbahn 17, 20146 Hamburg*

**Thursday, 12 February 2026, Warburg-Haus, Heilwigstraße 116, 20249 Hamburg**

Welcome and Introduction: Stephanie Schmidt and Susanne Krasmann

**10:00 – 12:00 Imaginaries, Promises, and Aesthetics of Military AI**

- Rupert Barrett-Taylor: “The Aesthetics of Control: Science Fiction, Military Desire, and the Silicon Valley War Imaginary”
- Jutta Weber & Larissa Lenze: “The Politics of Promises: On Technological Superiority and Mechanical Romance”
- Jens Hälterlein: “The Deceitful Promises of Military Swarming”

*Lunch break*

**13:00 – 15:00 Political Economies and Epistemologies of War**

- Christoph Marischka: “Algorithmic Warfare: When (Venture) Capital Defines Strategy”
- Klaudia Klonowska: “Experimentation on the Edge: How Forward Deployed Engineers Sustain AI Use in Defense and Security Contexts”
- Marijn Hoijtink: “New Sites of Defence Innovation in Europe. Experimentation in the wild and at scale”
- Erik Reichborn-Kjennerud: “The Artificial Worlds of Martial Epistemologies”

*Coffee break*

**15:30 – 17:30 Platforms, Simulation & Algorithmic Command Chain**

- Thomas C. Bächle & Christoph Ernst: “The Promise of Platformisation in Military AI”
- Sylvia Kühne: “The Algorithmic Narrative of War: The Role of LLMs and its Promise of Control in Military Wargaming”
- Ruben Stewart: “Digital Delegation: How AI Decision Support Systems Reshape Military Command”
- Benedikt Bussmann: “Hyperwar and the Dehumanisation of War”



**3001**

**Thursday Evening: 6:30 p.m.**

*Film screening + panel discussion*

*Kino 3001, Schanzenstr. 75*

*followed by dinner at Jill Neapolitan pizza,  
Bartelstr. 12*

**Welcome and Coffee**

**09:30 – 11:30      Government, Control and Responsibility in Algorithmic Warfare**

- Anja-Liisa Gonsior: “Is Soft Law the New Law? Exploring Discourses on Governance and Regulation of Emerging Disruptive Technologies in the Military Domain”
- Susanne Beck: “‘Impossibility Structures’ as a Means of Enabling ‘Meaningful Human Control’ in the Context of Drone Swarms?”
- Ishmael Bhila: “The Many Faces of Accountability: Tracing the Differences in the Conceptualisation of Accountability in the Governance of Autonomous Weapons Systems”
- Can Şimşek: “Governing the Algorithmic Battlefield: Law, Responsibility, and the Militarisation of Artificial Intelligence”

*Snack break*

**12:00 – 13:30      Resistance, Alternatives and Options**

- Nil Uzun: “Our Code Kills Kids”: Mapping Resistance to Military-Technological Power”
- Jürgen Altmann: “Human Control in AI Warfare at Machine Speed – Quadrature of the Circle?”
- Andreas Schüller: “AI and Future Warfare: Data, Targeting and Death”

**Closing Remarks**

**Organizers:**

Prof. Dr. Susanne Krasmann ([susanne.krasmann@uni-hamburg.de](mailto:susanne.krasmann@uni-hamburg.de))

Dr. Stephanie Schmidt ([stephanie.schmidt@uni-hamburg.de](mailto:stephanie.schmidt@uni-hamburg.de))

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