

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 F



Thursday, 12 Feb.- Friday, 13 Feb.

International Conference

University of Hamburg,
Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1, ESA East Wing,
Room 221

11.-13.02.26

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

More info:



Universität Hamburg
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Wednesday, 11 February 2026, University of Hamburg, Von-Melle-Park 6 (Philturm),
Lecture Room F

6:00 p.m. 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, Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1, East Wing (ESA East 221),
Room 221

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*

Friday, 13. February 2026, Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1, East Wing (ESA East 221),
Room 221

	Welcome and Coffee
09:30 – 11:30	Government, Control and Responsibility in Algorithmic Warfare <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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”
<i>Snack break</i>	
12:00 – 13:30	Resistance, Alternatives and Options <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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)

Dr. Stephanie Schmidt (stephanie.schmidt@uni-hamburg.de)

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