September 20, 2018

Dear Madam or Sir,

To mark the 15th anniversary of Women in International Security Germany (WIIS.de) we host the international conference

**Is the future democratic?**

**Democracy, Security, Technology**

Anniversary Conference 15 Years WIIS.de

**Representation of the State of Bavaria**

Behrenstr. 21/ 22, 10117 Berlin

**Thursday, November 15, 2018**

10:00 – 18:30

(with subsequent informal reception)

The conference combines the idea of WIIS – to connect and promote women in international foreign and security policy – with the discussion of forward-looking security issues.

The participation at the conference is free, but prior registration is required for security reasons. Please use the following link to register until November 5, 2018:

[https://wiis.de/wiis15-conference-registration](https://wiis.de/wiis15-conference-registration)

Please find further information and the conference agenda attached. In case of any questions or requests, please contact Frau Jasmin Siebold at konferenz@wiis.de.

We are looking forward to your participation.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Armgard von Reden

Vorstandsvorsitzende WIIS.de
Anniversary Conference 15 Years WIIS.de

Is the Future Democratic?
Democracy, Security, Technology

Preliminary Program
(September 26, 2018)

Thursday, November 15, 2018
Representation of the State of Bavaria – Behrenstr. 21/ 22, 10117 Berlin

10:00 - 10:30 ARRIVAL AND REGISTRATION

10:30 - 10:35 Welcome

10:35 - 10:45 Opening

10:45 - 11:10 Keynote Speech

11:10 - 11:50 Women in International Security – Our View
What role do women play in international security and what challenges do they face in these #metoo times? What have we achieved, what should we be fighting for, and with whom (#heforshe)? We look ahead at our goals and challenges.

11:50 - 12:00 WIIS Global: Looking Ahead 15 Years
Why is WIIS more relevant today than ever? What are the great objectives and challenges for WIIS in 15 years?

12:00 - 12:20 Networking at Topic Tables

12:20 - 12:50 Tech-Talks: Threats and Opportunities of Digitalization on Democracy and Security
Three presentations by experts in the field on the latest technological advances and challenges shaping our world.

12:50 - 13:30 Discussion: Defense and Democracy in a Cyber World
Do conventional rules work in a world of unconventional tools? All of the age-old questions of state defense, competition between states, and security of our societies remain valid, but they are also being upended by new tools and new types of challenges. Through social media authoritarian regimes are sewing discontent and distrust in democracy. Our critical infrastructure can be crippled from an unknown actor at a desk a continent away. Yet the rewards of openness and cyber connectivity are undeniable. Tech and security experts discuss together how to rethink society and security in a world without borders.
13:30 - 14:30  BUFFETLUNCH

14:30 - 15:30  WIIS-Talks
Short talks by WIIS.de members on topics in
the nexus of security, democracy and technology

15:30 - 16:30  BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Breakout 1: The Future of Democracy – Illiberalism, Nationalism, Authoritarianism on the Rise? Challenges for our Democracies (in German)
How can we defend democracy in the digital age from undermining forces within and beyond our borders? A more connected world seems to have left many in our societies feeling detached and ignored. What changes when public exchange online replaces the town hall and the local community? How can societies work if every fact has an alternative? How are governments adapting to these new challenges, what are the next steps, and what role can and should tech giants play?

Breakout 2: The Future of Security – Opportunities and Obstacles of Inclusive Approach to Security (in English)
How can we make security more inclusive and how does technology change the game? Global connectivity and new tools can ease access to debate and open new channels of influence. At the same time, the lack of diversity in the technology space is arguably even worse than in the security space: will this make a more inclusive approach even more difficult to achieve? How do we include marginalized groups and perspectives, as well as non-traditional actors better to make us more secure? Technological change and digitalization provide excellent opportunities to bridge the gap between developed and developing countries. How can we assure that this potential can be used?

Breakout 3: The Future of Cyberwar – Robots, Drones, Nanotechnology (in English)
Major advances in robotics, drones, artificial intelligence (AI), nanotechnology, and other technologies are changing the game – potentially as much as the nuclear offset did in the last century. AI plays an important role in warfare and this role is rapidly evolving. In this context, the discussion on "killer robots" – lethal autonomous weapon systems – is integral. How is this going to influence the future of war? How does the relationship between military and private sector have to change, if the private industry is expected to drive the most relevant AI developments? How can we assure that political decision-makers are sufficiently informed about these topics? And where does Europe position itself in this discussion?
16:30 - 16:50  MEET THE SPEAKERS: NETWORKING COFFEE BREAK

16:50 - 17:50  The Future of the Transatlantic and European Security Alliances – Need for an Overhaul? (in German)
Can NATO remain a security anchor for Europe amidst a dramatically changing security landscape and a U.S. president who challenges the alliance’s purpose? (How) Does Europe react when the US-President doubts NATO’s raison d’être? Are we heading towards strategic autonomy for Europe?

17:40 - 18:20  Closing Speech

From 18:20  DIPS, DRINKS, AND (DEFENSE-)DISCUSSIONS

Confirmed Participation, amongst others, from
Dr. Katarina Barley, Federal Minister of Justice and Consumer Protection
General Lieutenant Hans-Werner Wiermann, German Military Representative to the NATO Military Committee and to the European Union
Thomas Silberhorn, Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Defense
Dr. Stefanie Babst, Head of the Strategic Analysis Capability for the NATO Secretary General and Chairman of the Military Committee
Dr. Almut Wieland-Karimi, CEO, Center for International Peace Missions (ZIF)
How to get there

Representation of State of Bavaria ("Landesvertretung Bayern"), Behrenstr. 21/22, 10117 Berlin

By train:

The closest train stations are Berlin Central Station (Berlin Hbf) for national and international connections, and train station Friedrichstraße for local connections. Arriving at Berlin Central Station, take the S-Bahn (S3/ Erkner, S5/ Richtung Straußberg Nord, S7/ Richtung Ahrensfelde, S75/ Wartenberg, S9/ Flughafen Berlin Schönefeld) to the S-Bahn stop Friedrichstraße. It is a 10 minutes walk from S-Bahnhof Friedrichstraße to the Representation of the State of Bavaria in Berlin. Alternatively, take the underground train U6/ ”Alt-Mariendorf” to the stop Französische Straße. From Französische Straße, it is a 2 minutes walk to conference venue.
By plane:

Arriving at Tegel Airport, take the bus TXL in the direction of “S+U Alexanderplatz via Hauptbahnhof”. Disembark at the bus stop “Unter den Linden/ Friedrichstr.” and walk via Friedrichstraße into Behrenstraße to your right (approx. 3 walking minutes).

Arriving at Schönefeld airport, take the regional train RB14 in the direction “Nauen Bahnhof” and disembark at the stop “Friedrichstraße”. It is an approx. 10 minute walk via Friedrichstraße to Behrenstraße and to the Representation of the State of Bavaria. Alternatively, you can take the S-Bahn S45 going into the direction of “Südkreuz Bhf” and disembark at the stop “Berlin Tempelhof”. There, you switch into the underground train U6 going into the direction of “Alt-Tegel”. Disembark at the stop “Französische Straße”. It is approx. 2 walking minutes from there to the conference venue.

By car:

If you arrive by car and plan to park close to the conference venue, please consider that it is difficult to find parking spots in Berlin Mitte. The Representation of Bavaria does not provide parking for our conference guests. We would recommend enquiring about parking opportunities with your hotel/accommodation or using public transport.

Travelling within Berlin:

The closest underground train stops are “U Französische Straße” (U6; approx. 2 walking minutes) and “U Stadtmitte” (U6, U2; approx. 7 walking minutes), as well as the S-Bahn stop “Friedrichstraße” (S3, S5, S7, S9; approx. 10 walking minutes).
**Hotels**

**Mercure Hotel & Residenz Checkpoint Charlie (****)**
Address: Schützenstraße 11, 10117 Berlin  
E-Mail: H3120-RE@accor.com  
Price (Single/night): €140,00 (incl. breakfast & taxes)  
Code: WIIS141118  
Telephone: +49 (0)30 206 320

**Albrechtshof Berlin (***)**
Address: Albrechtstraße 8, 10117 Berlin  
E-Mail: albrechtshof@albrechtshof-hotels.de  
Price (Single/night): €129,00 (incl. breakfast & taxes)  
Telephone: +49 (0)30 30886 512

**Hotel Allegra (***)**
Address: Albrechtstraße 17, 10117 Berlin  
E-Mail: allegra@albrechtshof-hotels.de  
Price (Single/night): from €79,00  
Telephone: +49 (0)30 30886 0

**Hotel M68 (**)**
Address: Mauerstraße 68, 10117 Berlin  
E-Mail: m68-hotel@t-online.de  
Price (Single/night): from €49,00  
Telephone: +49 (0)30 500 12 203

**Maritim proArte Hotel (****)**
Address: Friedrichstr. 151, 10117 Berlin  
E-Mail: reservierung.bpa@maritim.de  
Price (Single/night): €179,00 (incl. breakfast & taxes)  
Telephone: +49 (0)30 2033 4410