

Call for papers

EWIS workshop on Informational Warfare (i-Warfare) and Strategic Communication in the Contemporary Security Environment and its Applications

The workshop will be held at the *6th European Workshops in International Studies (EWIS)* in Krakow, 26-29 June 2018).

Deadline: 13 January 2019

Convenor: Holger Mölder (Tallinn University of Technology)

Theme

Information warfare seems to play a major role in the present-day post-truth security environment, which quite often reflects ongoing status conflicts between international actors, produces culture of fear, enhances the impact of populist movements and introduces emotional responses to the decision-making process of states. The contemporary conflict does not only involve actual fighting in military fronts, but takes place in human minds and relies on virtual weapons like strong emotions (e.g. fear, anger, and honor) or manufactured and reproduced myths and beliefs. We could enter into a new stage of international relations characterized by a global information warfare, which may appear in various forms of hybrid conflicts manifesting the tradition of Hobbesian perpetual war. This workshop will examine its influence to global and regional politics as well discuss on methodology and theoretical approaches, characterized by the increasing role of transnational communication in international relations.

The purpose of the workshop is to promote critical approaches to ongoing scholarly discussions on information warfare and strategic communication related to international actors. Interdisciplinary and intertheoretical approaches are welcome. Topics eligible for the workshop include, but are not restricted to:

- New theoretical and methodological approaches in exploring i-Warfare.
- Historical roots, sources, foundations and tools (e.g. otherization, conspiracy theories, character assassination, fake news, image-building) of modern information warfare;
- Relationship between global information warfare and ongoing status conflicts including the increasing impact of fear, insecurity and political extremism;
- Increasing role of various hybrid threats including the role of cyber security, social media and Internet, strategic communication and public relations targeted by the modern information warfare;
- Information warfare and regional security (e.g. post-Soviet space, Middle East);
- Concepts and methods of counter i-Warfare.

Submission

Please submit your abstract (up to 200 words) by January 13, 2019. In case you have further questions about the workshop, please do not hesitate to be in touch. The point of contact is Holger Mölder holger.molder@taltech.ee.