



Call for Papers and Participants

13th ERGOMAS Conference in Ra'anana, Israel, June, 8-12 2015

The European Research Group on Military and Society (ERGOMAS) is organizing a conference on the topic of research on military and society hosted by the Open University of Israel in Ra'anana Israel (15 miles from Tel Aviv). Conference dates are 8-12 June 2015.

The theme of the conference will be *From Diversity Management to Conflict Regulation* (see below for additional detail). More detailed information on ERGOMAS, the Working Groups, and eventually further information about the conference can be found at the ERGOMAS website: <http://ergomas.ch/> .

From Diversity Management to Conflict Regulation

The management of diversity is one of the major themes at the core of the current scholarship on intercultural encounters within the armed forces. It refers to the formal and informal rhetoric and practices for dealing with the needs and demands of groups that are socially defined as distinct. This scholarship deals with the arrangements and practices that shape shared organizational values and structures to enable the military to "handle" – that is integrate, separate, enclose or exclude – distinct groups defined by such criteria as ethnicity, race, gender, sexual orientation or religion (to mention the main ones). Much attention has been devoted to how diversity impacts the functioning of the military as a cohesive organization, its needs for representativeness and legitimacy, the need to enhance intercultural competence and its role as a statist mechanism for social mobility.

However, less attention is devoted to intergroup tensions and even conflicts which emerge from the ranks. Violence against women in many western militaries, tensions between Christian and Muslim soldiers in the U.S. Army, conflict between religious soldiers and women soldiers in the Israeli military, Muslims' attack on a British soldier who served in Afghanistan - are only a few cases in point. Studies of diversity management leave less space for the analysis of intergroup conflicts and the relations between such conflicts and the more collaborative aspects of interorganizational diversity.

The next Biennial ERGOMAS Conference will focus both on the conflictual aspects of diversity and how they are related to the collaborative or shared aspects of military life. We encourage discussions on some of the following topics:

- Why and how conflicts emerge within the ranks
- The tools used by socially distinct groups to achieve their interests and goals
- The ways in which formal mechanisms or informal arrangements emerge to handle potential and actual conflicts
- The linkage between internal and external conflicts and the diffusion of external civilian authorities (such leaders of religious or other social movements) into the military to create alliances with groups of troops



- The impacts of conflicts on the cohesiveness, representativeness, professionalism and legitimacy of the military
- The ways in which separation versus exclusion mitigate or intensify conflicts`
- The tensions between diversity and the imposition of rules and codes of conduct
- Tensions arise from diversity related to military personnel vis-à-vis defense civilians and contractors and citizens vis-à-vis non-national citizens in the armed forces
- Diversity and cultural issues in multinational collaborations
- The role region/place as a potential basis for tension
- The military's functional or dysfunctional role in feeding as much as mitigating these conflicts

We encourage discussion in these areas, as well as other key topics of research in the military and society domain. Please submit abstracts for papers by email for consideration to **both** the appropriate working group coordinator (see below for list of ERGOMAS Working Groups) and to the Secretary General (Irina.Goldenberg@forces.gc.ca). Please submit panel proposals (including book discussions) no later than **1 Dec 2014**; please submit all other presentation proposals no later than **10 January 2015**. If you would like to propose a panel that might fall outside regular working groups, please direct it to the secretary.

Yagil Levy (Chair)

David Mason (Treasurer)

Irina Goldenberg (Secretary General ; Irina.Goldenberg@forces.gc.ca)

ERGOMAS Working Group	Working Group Leader	Email
Morale, Cohesion and Leadership	Franz Kernic	kernic@hotmail.com
Public Opinion, Mass Media and the Military	Marjan Malesic	marjan.malesic@fdv.uni-lj.si
Women in the Military	Marina Nuciari	marina.nuciari@unito.it
Military Profession	Giuseppe Caforio	gcaforio@fastwebnet.it
Civilian Control of the Military	David Kuehn	david.kuehn@ipw.uni-heidelberg.de
Warriors in Peacekeeping	Maren Tomforde	marentomforde@suedsinn.de
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Recruitment and Retention	Tibor Szvircev Tresch	tszv@zugernet.ch
The Blurring of Military and Police Roles	Marleen Easton	marleen.easton@hogent.be
Violence and the Military	Karl Ydén	karl.yden@chalmers.se
Veterans and Society	Gielt Algra	g.e.algra@veteraneninstituut.nl
Military Conflict Management and Peace Economics	Ashu Pasricha	ashu.p2@gmail.com



ERGOMAS AWARDS

ERGOMAS will award two prizes at its biennial conferences, starting at the next conference in June 2015 in Israel.

ERGOMAS AWARD FOR BEST BOOK

ERGOMAS will award a prize for the best book in the domains of armed forces and civil-military relations, published in the two calendar years since the previous conference (i.e., 2013 & 2014). The Award Committee will consider books in either English or French in the studies of armed forces and civil-military relations, in the areas covered by ERGOMAS' working groups and related areas. Only research monographs (but not a collection of articles), will be considered. Only books by ERGOMAS members will be considered. The Committee will accept self-nominations, or nominations by individual scholars or publishers. Three hard copies of the nominated books should be sent directly, a copy to each of the members of the award committee:

Professor Rene Moelker (Chair)
Gastakker 116
4817 XD Breda
Netherlands

Dr. Maren Tomforde
TBD

Dr. Ashu Pasricha
Department of Gandhian and Peace Studies
Panjab University,
Chandigarh, 160014
India

Deadline for submission- 15 January 2015.

PRIZE FOR BEST GRADUATE PAPER

ERGOMAS will award prize for the best paper written by a graduate student and submitted and accepted for presentation at the 2015 conference. Papers should be written in article format in English and should not exceed 10,000 words (including footnotes and endnotes). Full papers should be submitted electronically to the Chair of the award committee, Professor Rene Moelker (rene_moelker@yahoo.com).

Deadline for submission- 15 March 2015.