



# 1<sup>st</sup> Peace & Conflict Talk (PaCT)

It's war again in Europe. For almost a month Russian troops have been occupying Ukrainian territory, destroying infrastructure, apartments, houses. People are dying every day. Communication breaks down. Talking about peace seems almost cynical in the face of violence, and yet no alternative remains. If the much-vaunted "change of era" (Zeitenwende) is characterized solely by military solutions, then concepts of peace become obsolete. What has developed now bears the stamp of history, and that also means that the war will shape the future, the future of Ukraine, but also of Russia, Europe, and many other states.

Research and science, as we do it, cannot and should not be silent, especially not when only military expertise is talking. Peace, conflict, and violence research may have an attitude. In some statements this becomes clear.

Peace research has concepts of peace, of peace solutions, of peacekeeping measures. What can we propose? How do we interpret the situation? We will not have a quick solution to the problem, but maybe we are interested in it, and to give a little time and space for an understanding of what is happening. That's the idea of this open meeting for all interested researchers who want to participate.

*What is happening right now?*

*Where do we see causes of war, where ways at least to ceasefire?*

*What do we know about possible interventions?*

These are questions we would like to discuss openly at the 1st Peace & Conflict Talk.

Let's take 90 minutes of mutual exchange and time to raise voice against the war and for peace.

24<sup>th</sup> of March 2022

1 - 2.30pm (s.t.)

[click here for meeting link](#) \*

meeting-ID: 951 5773 6774

password: 776920

We are honored that following inputs provide a basis for discussion:

- **M.A. Mariya Krutkova** (Psychology/IKG, Bielefeld): A personal view of the situation.
- **Prof. Dr. Andreas Vasilache** (Political Science/IR, Bielefeld): The Russian invasion as historicist radicalization: What follows for the West?
- **Prof. Dr. Ulrich Wagner** (Social Psychology, Marburg): A letter to Putin - What we know and can convey.
- **Prof. Dr. Herbert Wulf** (requested, Sociology, Bonn/BICC): Dynamics of escalation and deescalation

Moderated by *Dr. Kerstin Eppert & Prof. Dr. Andreas Zick* (IKG, Bielefeld)

\* *Take NOTE: The event is recorded for internal purposes (follow-up, text selection for interviews). Verbal contributions will not be disseminated without consent.*