



doing democracy

connecting academia and civil society across borders

KoSiD – Local Security Dialogues

Institute for Conflict Management, Dr. Christian Hochmuth/ Laura Gerards Iglesias

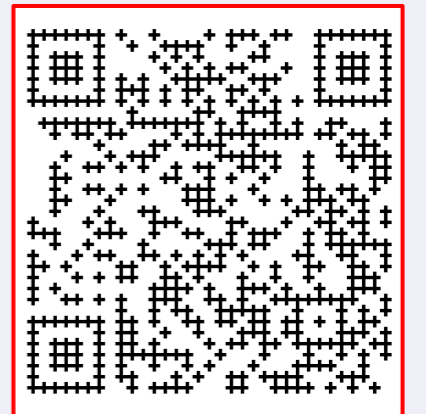


Civic Education
Political Participation | Community Building

Delete the topic(s) that are non-applicable to your organization.

Short (Research) Profile & Mission

The Institute for Conflict Management at European University Viadrina promotes interest-based conflict resolution through research, teaching, and practice. It supports dialogue and transformation processes across diverse societal contexts. The Institute combines academic insights with practical application. Its activities include longstanding research projects such as the Impact Hub for the German Foreign Office, the new Master's program Conflict and Democracy (M.A.) and certificate programs like ViAPACS. It further conducts various regional dialogue formats and international workshops on peace mediation.



Current (Research) Project

KoSiD – Local Security Dialogues

Topic: social conflicts in local municipalities

Problem: people often talk about or against one another, but rarely with one another in a solution-orientated manner

Objective: to address conflicts related to public security through dialogue processes (to develop a nuanced understanding of the issues and needs); to explore and contextualise conflicts of interest related to public security

Scope: one-year pilot project in three local authorities in Brandenburg, funded by Brandenburg Ministry of the Interior

Impact: development of new courses of action for dialogue processes and efficient conflict management

Current (Research) Project

KoSiD Cottbus Brunschwigpark

Problem: escalating conflict over the use of Brunschwigpark with no agreed solution

Objective & Approach: facilitation through Local Security Dialogues as a structured dialogue process

Method: participatory conflict analysis; analysis of interests and needs & facilitated discussion on an equal footing

Expected outcome: development of consensus-based options for action for the local authority

Framework: close local involvement and academic support and evaluation

Questions to Academia

- What additional research questions and perspectives should we include to explore the topic more comprehensively?

Questions to Civil Society

- How can NGOs, civil society actors, and public administration collaborate constructively in concrete conflict situations to develop viable and broadly accepted solutions?
- Where do you see the limits of non-partisan (multi-partial) engagement by NGOs, and at what point do they become actors within the conflict themselves?

Questions to (Political) Decision-Makers

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- What kind of presentation of results and framing of questions would best enable you to transfer insights from a project like KoSiD/B to your own conflict cases?
- From your perspective, what are the limits of a format like KoSiD/B when addressing concrete municipal conflicts? What risks or potential points of failure do you see?