



Programme

Public Evening Event

**Between Fake-News and Informing -
Social Media in War Reporting**

as part of the Dresden Forum for International Politics 2024

Frauenkirche Dresden

18 April 2024, 19:00 hrs

Languages

German/English (simultaneous interpretation)



Freistaat
SACHSEN

BACKGROUND

Social media is omnipresent. Through it, we gain easy, almost unfiltered access to a nearly infinite array of information from every corner of the globe, including crisis and war zones, which—thanks to algorithms—appear on our small or large screens. Social media can serve as a source of independent information, thus contributing to informing individuals and societies. However, it is also utilized to disseminate fake news, manipulate public opinion, or even incite violence. Conflict parties intentionally sow doubt and foster discord, spread by algorithms and bots that exert influence beyond the digital realm. In autocratic regimes, social media is often not only a symbol of freedom, but also a tool of oppression. The rapid development of artificial intelligence will further exacerbate this issue. „Deep fakes“—realistic forgeries—have already become a part of our daily lives and are a popular tool in the information war.

In this context, we aim to discuss how social media and artificial intelligence influence our perception of wars and conflicts, the role of fake news and disinformation campaigns, and the roles traditional media should play. How can we critically and responsibly manage the flood of information without becoming victims of new forms of warfare?



19:00 hrs Musical Prelude

19:05 hrs Welcoming

Pastor Markus Engelhardt

Stiftung Frauenkirche Dresden

Viola Klein

Deputy Chairperson of the Executive Committee

Development and Peace Foundation (sef:), Bonn

19:15 hrs Impulse

Prof Dr Natascha Zowislo-Grünewald

Professor, University of the Bundeswehr Munich

19:25 HRS

PANEL DISCUSSION

BETWEEN FAKE-NEWS AND INFORMING - SOCIAL MEDIA IN WAR REPORTING

Chair

Alexandra Gerlach

Journalist and Author

Michael Beyer

Head of the Tel Aviv Studio, ZDF („Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen“, public-service television broadcaster)

Prof Dr Natascha Zowislo-Grünewald

Professor, University of the Bundeswehr Munich

Nico Lange

Senior Fellow, Munich Security Conference

Oliver Schenk

State Minister for Federal Affairs and Media

20:35 hrs Closing Remarks

Viola Klein

Deputy Chairperson of the Executive Committee

Development and Peace Foundation (sef:), Bonn

20:40 hrs Musical Farewell