



Centre for
**Global
Cooperation
Research**

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Deutsches Institut für
Entwicklungspolitik


German Development
Institute

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International Center
for Conversion

13th Käte Hamburger Dialogue

Endless Peacebuilding? The Missions in Afghanistan and Mali

Organized by

Käte Hamburger Kolleg / Centre for Global Cooperation Research (KHK/GCR21)
German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE)
BICC (Bonn International Center for Conversion)

Concept note and programme

Monday 29th April 2019 (18:00-20:00)

Venue: NRW Representative Office in Berlin [Vertretung des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen in Berlin] | Hiroshimastraße 12-16, 10785 Berlin

The core idea of this event is to reflect ongoing peace operations in Afghanistan and Mali, which are both of high interest for European and German policy. Several thousand soldiers and policemen are seconded to stabilization missions in both countries. Both missions are at a crossroads: Increasing tensions between local demands and substantive interests of the intervening countries and the policy of the governments in Afghanistan and Mali question the missions' contributions to sustainable peace in both countries. This is why this Dialogue aims to focus on the question to what extent both missions appropriately take local structures into account and which goal/end they can realistically pursue.

Experiences from Afghanistan tend into a direction that an enormous investment of resources has been wasted – with a high number of casualties in particular on the side of the civilian populations. Most recent talks between the US and the Taliban point to a possible change of strategy -- that would put the approach hitherto implemented into question. The recent experiences in Mali show that the European policy agenda (e.g. counter-terrorism, migration regulations) strongly guides the goal-settings of the mission – neglecting the local political settings in Mali. On the other hand, local initiatives such as peace brokers in Bamako deserve more attention. Efforts by the UN to hire local staff and "nationalize" their mission could adapt the international intervention better to local circumstances.

Against this background, the Dialogue discusses on the examples of Mali and Afghanistan how peace missions should consider local politics in future in order to contribute to sustainable peace. Although the disappointing results of both missions could lead to the conclusion of an 'endless peacebuilding', we would like to ask if an approach which is more sensitive to local politics would be more effective.



Programme

- 17:30-18:00 Registration
- 18:00-18:05 Welcoming and Introductory Remarks:
Prof. Dr Tobias Debiel, Director of Institute for Development and Peace (INEF) and Co-Director of Käte Hamburger Kolleg / Centre for Global Cooperation Research
- 18:05-18:25 Lessons Learned from the Mission in Mali**
Keynote by Zahabi Ould Sidi Mohamed, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Reconciliation of Mali
- 18:25-18:40 Building Sustainable Peace in Afghanistan and Mali - Opportunities and Challenges**
Keynote by Clemens Hach, Head of Division Crisis Prevention, Stabilisation and Peacebuilding at the Federal Foreign Office of Germany
- 18:40-19:20 13th Käte Hamburger Dialogue
Endless Peacebuilding? The Missions in Afghanistan and Mali**
- Panellists:* Isaline Bergamaschi, Lecturer, Department of Political Science
Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB)
- Clemens Hach, Head of Division for Crisis Prevention, Stabilisation and Peacebuilding at the Federal Foreign Office of Germany
- Florian Kühn, Visiting Professor, Department of Social Sciences,
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
- Katja Mielke, Senior Researcher, BICC (Bonn International Center for Conversion)
- Zahabi Ould Sidi Mohamed, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Reconciliation of Mali
- Moderator:* **Julia Leininger**, Head of Research Programme 'Transformation of political (dis-)order', German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE)
- 19:20-19:50 Discussion with the Audience
- 19:50-20:00 Concluding Remarks by Conrad Schetter, Director for Research, BICC
- 20:00 End of the Dialogue and Get-together