
Call for Papers and Participants

12th ERGOMAS Conference in Madrid, Spain, June 4-7, 2013

The European Research Group on Military and Society (ERGOMAS) organizes a conference on research on military and society hosted by the Facultad de Ciencias Políticas y Sociología, Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia in Madrid, Spain, between June 4th and 7th. The theme of the conference will be:

Civil-military relations in an age of austerity

Most European societies are currently experiencing significant budgetary restraint and, in many cases, unprecedented cuts in expenditure. This austerity, which is unlikely to be short-lived, is affecting all aspects of public expenditure including defence. Other countries, including the United States, are also facing difficult budgetary choices, while growth is currently slowing even in those areas where it has recently been strong. What are the likely consequences of these economic pressures? How will they affect the future size and roles of military forces? What implications do they have for the balance between regular and reserve forces? How will they impact on future missions, including decisions about involvement in expeditionary and peace keeping activities? And might the rhetoric of austerity, or economic prudence, sometimes be invoked to justify changes of strategic focus that also have other origins? What are the implications of force downsizing for the professional self-image of military personnel, and for morale and unit cohesion? It is often said that unemployment is the best recruiting sergeant. What are the implications of the economic downturn for recruitment and retention? How might the socio-cultural diversity of service members be affected? Is budgetary stringency likely to impact on the services available to military families, to wounded personnel or to veterans more generally? Is the prospect of enhanced levels of social unrest likely to have implications for the relationship between policing and military roles? There is some evidence of a growth of right-wing political movements in a number of states. What implications might these have for civilian control of the armed forces?

In keeping with this theme, and the financial pressures on colleagues and institutions in a number of countries, the aim will be to deliver a stimulating and high quality conference at an economical cost. Further details on registration, fees, traveling directions etceteras, will be available in due course.

Please submit abstracts for papers by email for consideration to the working group coordinators (see below) and to both the secretary (rene_moelker@yahoo.com) and your working group coordinator. We want these abstracts or papers not later than **1 februari, 2011**. If you want to propose a panel that might fall outside regular working groups, please also direct at the secretary.

José Olmeda (Chair)

David Mason (Treasurer)

René Moelker (Secretary rene_moelker@yahoo.com)

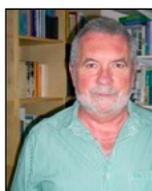
Website: More detailed information on ERGOMAS working groups and other topics covered by the conference will gradually be put at our website: <http://www.ergomas.ch>

Chairperson



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WG "The Military Profession"



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WG "Morale, Cohesion and Leadership"



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WG "Civilian Control of the Armed Forces"



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WG "Warriors in Peacekeeping"



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WG "Violence and the Military"



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Secretary General

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WG "Public Opinion, Mass Media and the Military"



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WG "Military Families"



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WG "Gender and the Military"



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WG "Blurring of Military and Police Roles"



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WG "Recruitment and Retention"



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