
2024 PaCE Conflict Forecasting Workshop

7-8 March 2024

TRiSS Seminar Room, 6th Floor, Arts Building, Trinity College Dublin

Hotel Accommodation: Trinity City Hotel, Pearse St, Dublin 2, D02 FW96

Contact numbers: Thomas Chadeaux (+353) 89 427 3458, Jemimah Bailey (+353) 87 417 2334

Presentations: 20 minutes Q&A: 10 minutes

Wednesday, March 6

18:30

*Welcome drink and finger food at Lennan's Yard
(Meet at entrance to Arts Building, Nassau Street, at 18:20)*

Thursday, March 7

08:30

*TRiSS Seminar Room, 6th Floor, Arts Building, Trinity College Dublin
Registration, tea/coffee & mingling*

09:00

Introduction to the workshop and PaCE
The PaCE Team

Panel 1: Conflict Prevention

09:30

A Joint Public/Private Conflict Forecasting Platform with Seerist.
David Muchlinski, Georgia Institute of Technology

10:00

If You Only Have a Hammer: Optimal Dynamic Prevention Policy
Hannes Mueller, Institute for Economic Analysis, Barcelona

10:30

Counterfactual Coercion: Could Harsher Sanctions Against Russia Have Prevented the Worst?
Gerald Schneider, University of Konstanz

11:00

Tea, coffee & mingling

Panel 2: Evaluating forecasts

- 11:15** Evaluating and Scoring in Conflict and Violence Forecasts
Patrick Brandt, University of Texas
- 11:45** Exploring the Sensitivity of Optimal Transport Paths in Conflict Forecast Evaluation
Michael Colaresi, University of Pittsburgh
- 12:15** Echoes of Conflict: Quantifying Redundancy in Casualty Time Series
Thomas Chadeaux, Trinity College Dublin

12:45 *Lunch (TRiSS Room)*

Panel 3: New Data Sources

- 13:30** Improving Computer Vision Interpretability: Transparent Two-level Classification for Complex Scenes
Nils Weidmann, University of Konstanz
- 14:00** Listening to the Wind of Change: Using Wikipedia Page Changes to Measure and Predict Contentious Politics
Christian Oswald, University of the Bundeswehr, Munich
- 14:30** High Resolution Conflict Forecasting with Spatial Convolutions and Long Short-Term Memory
Ben Radford, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

15:00 *Tea, coffee & mingling*

Panel 4: New Methods

- 15:15** Implications of Large Language Models for Political Conflict Forecasting
Philip Schrodt, Parus Analytics
- 15:45** Integrating Spatio-temporal Diffusion into Statistical Forecasting Models of Armed Conflict via Non-parametric Smoothing.
Daniel Racek, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich

16:15 *Tea, coffee & mingling*

Panel 5: Discussions with Policymakers

- 16:30** Outcomes and measures of interest, with:
Fionnuala Gilsonan, Director of the Peace and Stability Unit in the Department of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Ireland
Stanislav Vidovič, Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia in Ireland

19:00

*Dinner at Dunne & Crescenzi Restaurant
14-16 Frederick St S, Dublin, D02 RK68*

Friday, March 8

08:45

*TRiSS Seminar Room, 6th Floor, Arts Building, Trinity College Dublin
Tea/coffee & mingling*

Panel 6: Accounting for Uncertainty

09:00

A Hurdle Random Forest Armed Conflict Prediction Model Accounting for Uncertainty: The SHURF Model Applied to the VIEWS Forecasting Problem.

Håvard Hegre, Uppsala University and Peach Research Institute Oslo

09:30

Models for Probabilistic Conflict Forecasting with Applications to Anticipatory Action.

Vito D’Orazio, West Virginia University

10:00

Conformal Prediction of Armed Conflict.

David Randahl, Uppsala University

10:30

Tea, coffee & mingling

Panel 7: Severity and Escalation

11:00

Predicting Civil Conflict Escalation using Protest Sequences

Hannah Frank, Trinity College Dublin

11:30

Predicting the Severity of Civil Wars: The Case for Actor-centric Approaches

Nils Metternich, University College London

12:00

The Underreported Death Toll of Wars: A Probabilistic Reassessment from a Structured Expert Elicitation

Paola Vesco, Uppsala University and Peach Research Institute Oslo

12:30

Lunch (TRiSS room)

Panel 8: Migration

13:30

Temporal Patterns in Migration Flows

Thomas Schincariol, Trinity College Dublin

14:00

Going with the Flow? On Predicting Conflict-related Migration.

Maxine Leis, Uppsala University

14:30

Wrap-up