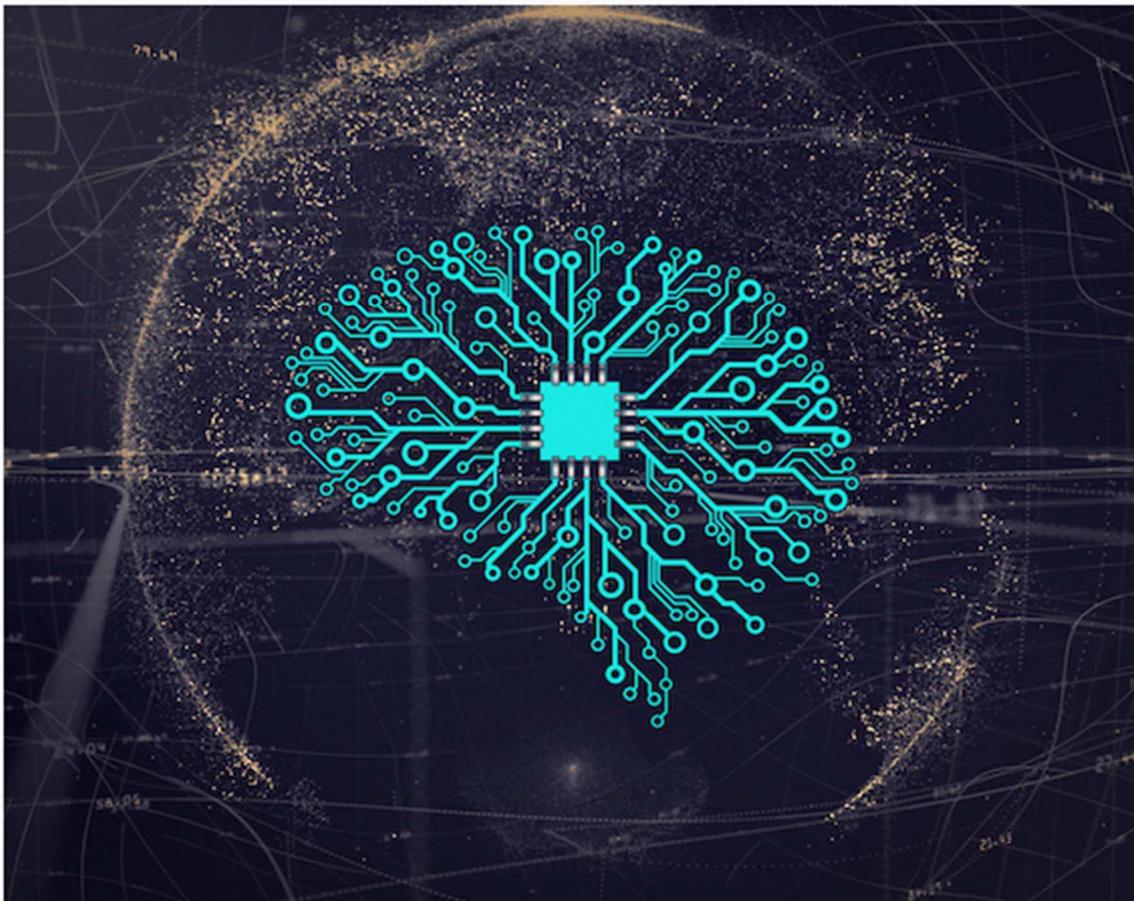


Call for papers - AEGES conference 2-3 December 2021

Grenoble Alpes University

Innovation(s), war and peace

AEGES is organizing its 2021 conference at Grenoble Alpes University. In view of the evolution of the health situation, an alternative solution to the face-to-face conference may be considered and the conference may take place on a hybride mode.



The theme of innovation has been flourishing over the last decade, especially in military matters. The terms "disruptive technology", "rupture", "technological change", are only a few avatars commonly used in the field of defense. Nevertheless, innovation brings with it a lot of different questions, touching as much on the place of technology - and in particular new digital

technologies such as cyber or artificial intelligence - in the contemporary management of war and peace, as on the question of the robotization of conflicts - that is to say, the increasingly marked tendency to entrust robots with tasks that have usually been assigned to humans since the end of the Cold War - or even the question of social innovations and decisional engineering that the management of contemporary armed conflicts requires. More prosaically, technological, social, doctrinal and cultural innovation aims above all to anticipate the problems that the actors of current armed conflicts encounter on the ground, and not to seek a technological revolution for the sake of technology alone.

More precisely, this conference invites contributors to think about the notion of innovation in a plural and multidisciplinary sense, and to use it to analyze both wars - those of the 21st century as well as those of past centuries - and peace. Indeed, when we go back to the etymology of the term innovation, we see that it is composed of the prefix *in* (in) and *novare*, i.e. to make new, to renew. Innovation thus designates the introduction of something new in a given field of action in terms of use, belief or practice. Here, innovation is conceived through four prisms that can be used to analyze contemporary armed conflicts in their broadest sense (conduct, planning, decision-making process, doctrine...) but also the exit from these conflicts and attempts to build peace. Moreover, innovation, and especially artificial intelligence for defense, raises many economic, legal, social and ethical issues. Thus, contributions are invited to address one of the following four axes (or to cross several of them):

Innovation **in the scientific and technological sense**, namely what the introduction of technology, and in particular of new technologies such as cyber or artificial intelligence, has changed in the conduct of war and peace in the 21st century;

- innovation **in the cognitive sense**, which covers the doctrinal as well as the ideological and even social aspects of innovation in the analysis of war and peace;

- Innovation **in the methodological sense**, i.e., how to study armed conflicts and peace with innovative methodological tools, which includes the advent of *big data*, for example, or the increasing digitization of documents to shed light on decision-making processes or archives.

- innovation **in the sense of social and professional practice**, and the impact of decision engineering on the conduct of war and peace;

By way of illustration, innovation, from the perspective of war and peace, maintains dialectical relations with the law in particular, since, on the one hand, innovation allows legal rules to evolve and, on the other hand, the law has the vocation of framing innovation, as a social fact. With the exception of intellectual property law (the innovative nature of patents) and, to a lesser extent, competition law (the costs and benefits of innovation), the relationship between law and innovation remains largely unexplored and unexploited. This observation is fully valid in the fields of war and peace. Similarly, the use of new technologies in commissions of inquiry and post-conflict prosecutions (treatment of open sources, weight of satellite evidence and digital investigations...), or the reflection on the nature of innovation and the social construction of technologies as developed in the sociology of innovation, are all avenues to be explored for contribution proposals. Similarly, a questioning of the conceptions of historical time underlying the representations of innovation, or the spatialization of innovation in geography, will be encouraged. More broadly, the colloquium aims to question both the meaning and the practice of innovation in the conduct of war and peace in all social science

disciplines (political science, philosophy, sociology, history, geography, economics, law, etc.).), but also invites practitioners to share their analyses, and to cross-reference the contributions of different disciplines.

Proposals for contributions **of up to one page** with a title, abstract, five keywords, **and a biographical sketch** of no more than a few lines are due by **June 25, 2021**.

Contributions from young researchers are strongly encouraged.

The address for sending contributions is:

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Scientific committee of the conference: Delphine Deschaux-Dutard, Thierry Garcia, Thomas Hippler, Julien Malizard, Sarah Cassella, Adrien Schu.