

10th Meeting of the Brussels Dialogue on Climate Diplomacy

Addressing the Security Implications of Climate Change

Tuesday, 14 May 2019

Permanent Representation of the Netherlands to the European Union

4-10 Avenue de Cortenbergh, 1040 Brussels

Addressing the security implications of a changing climate requires an all-of-government and an all-of-society approach. This meeting will highlight the implications and examine how the military and defence community can play an important role in an integrated approach.

Panellists

General Tom Middendorp, (Ret) is the Chair of the [International Military Council on Climate and Security](#) (IMCCS). Previously, he served as the Netherlands Chief of Defense for five and a half years and after 38 years of serving his country. As the Chief of Defense he was the most senior military advisor to the Minister of Defense, responsible for the readiness, the international cooperation and the modernization of the Dutch Armed Forces, as well as the planning and execution of its military deployments. He commanded troops at all levels, led a large multinational taskforce in the south of Afghanistan and was involved in over twenty different military missions as the Director of Operations. General Middendorp has extensive operational and strategic experience in building unity of effort with different nations, governments, companies and many other stakeholders in order to deal with a wide range of security risks. He organized two large Future Forces Conferences where he introduced an ecosystems approach to security and offered "Defense" as a testbed for innovation, resulting in many promising new initiatives. His current occupation as an independent senior expert on defense and security allows him to continue his work on the impact of climate change on the security environment and on the role the military can play in addressing climate change.



Shiloh Fetzek is Senior Fellow for International Affairs at the [Center for Climate and Security](#) and Research Coordinator for the [International Military Council on Climate and Security](#) (IMCCS). Shiloh leads international programs at the Center, and chairs the primary collaborative forum for international cooperation on climate change and security, the Climate and Security Working Group-International (CSWG-I). She has published widely with the Center, including as author of "[The Alliance in a Changing Climate: Bolstering the NATO Mission Through Climate Preparedness](#)," and "[Climate, Coffee and Security](#)" and co-author of "[Europe's Responsibility to Prepare: Managing Climate Security Risks in a Changing World](#)," among many others. She is a security analyst focusing on climate change and environment, based at international affairs and security think tanks since 2007. She previously led

climate security research projects at the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) and the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI) in London, and was Senior Research Associate for Environment, Climate Change and Security at International Alert.

Tobias von Lossow is a Research Fellow at [Clingendael's Sustainability Research Unit](#). His areas of expertise include water conflicts, water diplomacy, hydro-politics and climate change impacts on water with a regional focus on Africa and the Middle East. His recent work focuses on the role of water in armed conflicts and fragile post-conflict settings, in particular the weaponization of water by the so-called Islamic State (IS). Since 2012 Tobias von Lossow is a lecturer at the Freie Universität Berlin (FU) and a member of the Advisory Council of the [Next Generation Leaders Program at the Arizona State University](#) (ASU) and the McCain Institute. He is a member of the "Water and Conflict in the Middle East Project" of Georgetown University, Qatar (2017-2019) and of the "Water Security in the Middle East Research Group" of EuroMeSCo and IPCRI (2019-2020). Previously, he worked at the Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP) / German Institute for International and Security Affairs in Berlin. Recent publications include "[More than infrastructures: water challenges in Iraq](#)", "[The River Congo - Africa's Sleeping Giant](#)", "[The multiple crisis. Perspectives on water scarcity in the Euphrates and Tigris basin](#)" and "[The Rebirth of Water as a Weapon: IS in Syria and Iraq](#)".

