

ANNA-KATHARINA FERL, PH.D.

Stanford University, Center for International Security and Cooperation
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RESEARCH INTERESTS	Artificial Intelligence & Autonomous Weapons Systems, Technology & War, Science and Technology Studies, International Law	
ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS	Stanford University Center for International Security and Cooperation <i>Postdoctoral Fellow</i> ¹	2024-2026
	Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (PRIF) Department of International Security <i>Associate Fellow</i>	2024-
	Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (PRIF) Department of International Security <i>Doctoral Researcher</i>	2019-2024
EDUCATION	Goethe University Frankfurt (Germany) Ph.D. Political Science (<i>summa cum laude</i>)	2024
	- Dissertation: “<i>Knowledge Production in Arms Control: Legalisation, Imagination, and the Regulation of Autonomous Weapons Systems.</i>” - Advisors: Christopher Daase, Ingvild Bode	
	Goethe University Frankfurt (Germany) MA, International Studies/Peace and Conflict Research	2019
	University of Münster (Germany) BA, Politics and Economics	2015
FELLOWSHIPS AND RESEARCH STAYS	Stanford University , Stanford AI Alignment Group <i>AI Governance Fellowship</i>	2024
	University of Southern Denmark , Center for War Studies <i>Guest Researcher</i>	2023
	Cornell University , Reppy Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies <i>Guest Researcher</i>	2023
	German Federal Foreign Office <i>Research Fellow</i>	2020

¹ Four months of maternity leave (February-June 2026)

PEER- REVIEWED ARTICLES	2026. Apocalyptic imaginaries: Risk and regulation in discourses of military AI and nuclear weapons. <i>Contemporary Security Policy</i> 47(2), 324–353. (with Jana Baldus). 2026. Trust in Artificial Intelligence: Producing Ontological Security through Governmental Visions. <i>Cooperation and Conflict</i> 61(2) 473-502. (with Stefka Schmid and Bao-Chau Pham). 2024. Imagining Human Control: Autonomous Weapons and the (De-) Legitimisation of Future War. <i>Global Society</i> Vol. 38 (1), p. 139-155.
BOOK REVIEWS	2022. Fighting Machines: Autonomous Weapons and Human Dignity by Dan Saxon. Book review. <i>Ethics & International Affairs</i> 36(4).
WORKS IN PROGRESS	‘With Great Power Comes Great Responsibility’: Deconstructing Responsibility in Military AI and Nuclear Weapons Stewardship. The Limits of Legalization: International Law and the Regulation of Autonomous Weapons. Beyond Technical Expertise: What Counts as Expertise in and around the United Nations Arms Control Forums? (with Ingvild Bode). Military Innovation and Experimentation: Artificial Intelligence and Additive Manufacturing Shaping Practices of Warfare (with Liska Suckau).
POLICY WRITING	2024. Beyond the Code. Unveiling Gender Dynamics in AI and Cybersecurity for International Security, <i>PRIF Spotlight</i>, 2, Frankfurt/M. (with Clara Perras). Lurz, Alexander/Baldus, Jana/Daase, Christopher/Ferl, Anna-Katharina/Jakob, Una/Lambach, Daniel/Lehmann, Tobias/Perras, Clara/Hoffberger-Pippan, Elisabeth/Reinhold, Thomas/Schmidt, Hans-Joachim/Schörnig, Niklas/Tkocz, Maximilian/Wisotzki, Simone. 2023. Die rüstungskontrollpolitischen Initiativen Deutschlands – eine Erfolgsgeschichte? (Germany's arms control initiatives - a success story?), <i>Greenpeace-Study</i>, 1.12.2023. 2023. Das Problem mit der KI. Oder: Warum Rüstung mitunter so schwer zu fassen ist" (The problem with AI. Or: Why armament is sometimes so hard to grasp), in: <i>Wissenschaft und Frieden</i>. Dossier 97: Rüstungskontrollatlas. Bales, Marius/Brzoska, Michael/Ferl, Anna-Katharina/Hansel, Mischa/Jakob, Una/Kütt, Moritz/Mutschler, Max M./Meier, Oliver/Schörnig, Niklas/Silomon, Jantje/Wisotzki, Simone/Wulf, Herbert (2021) Rüstungsdynamiken: Keine Rüstungskoooperation ohne europäische Rüstungsexportkontrolle (No arms cooperation without European arms export controls), in: <i>Friedensgutachten 2021</i>, pp. 94-115. 2020. Ein Schritt vor, zwei Schritte zurück? Zum Stand der Genfer Gespräche (One step forward, two steps back? The state of the Geneva Talks about LAWS), in: <i>Wissenschaft und Frieden</i>. Dossier, 90.
BLOGPOSTS	Meier, Oliver/Brzoska, Michael/Ferl, Anna-Katharina/Hach, Sascha/Bayer, Markus/Mutschler, Max M./Prem, Berenike/Reinhold, Thomas/Schmid, Stefka/Schwarz (2022) Matthias: Für eine umfassende, globale und aktive Abrüstungs- und

Rüstungskontrollpolitik (For a comprehensive, global and active disarmament and arms control policy), [49security](#), 10.11.2022.

A New Hope? The U.S. Election and Prospects for Arms Control, [PRIF Blog](#), 30.10.2020, (with Sascha Hach).

Digital diplomacy: The debate on lethal autonomous weapons systems in Geneva continues under unprecedented circumstances, [PRIF Blog](#), 29.09.2020.

The death of Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi: Yet another targeted killing? [PRIF Blog](#), 31.10.2019.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE	Technology, Agency, and Power: AI and Changing Human-Machine Relations <i>Stanford University, Instructor</i>	Fall 2025 Spring 2025
	International Security: Antagonistic Approaches in Competition <i>Goethe University Frankfurt, Co-Instructor</i>	Winter 2021/22
	Current Issues in Peace and Conflict Studies <i>Goethe University Frankfurt, Co-Instructor</i>	Summer 2020
	Introduction to International Relations <i>University of Muenster, Teaching Assistant</i>	Summer 2014
CONFERENCES	British International Studies Association (BISA)	2023, 2024
	European International Studies Association (EISA)	2021, 2022, 2025
	European Association for the Study of Science and Technology (EASST)	2022
	International Studies Association (ISA)	2022-2025
INVITED WORKSHOPS & TALKS	Technological Complexity and Risk Reduction Workshop, Europea Leadership Network, <i>online</i> .	2026
	German Historian Society Conference, <i>Bonn</i> .	2025
	Early Career Workshop, <i>European International Studies Association</i> .	
	Research Seminar, <i>Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University</i> .	
	Social Science Reading Group, <i>Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University</i> .	
	Stanford Existential Risk Initiative Conference, <i>Stanford University</i> .	2024
	Threats and Opportunities? Arms Control and Emerging Technologies, <i>Arms Control Negotiation Academy (ACONA)</i> .	2023
	Reading Group, <i>University of Southern Denmark, Center for War Studies</i> .	
	Reppy Graduate Conference, <i>Cornell University</i> .	
	The Algorithmic Turn in Security and Warfare, <i>University of Southern Denmark, Center for War Studies</i> .	2022
	Annual Conference, <i>Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (PRIF)</i> .	

	Workshop for the General Staff Course, <i>German Armed Forces</i> .	2021
	Capstone Seminar of the First Armoured Brigade, <i>German Armed Forces</i> .	
	Women, Peace and Security and the Future of Disarmament, <i>Women in International Security (WIIS) Austria</i> .	2020
	Capturing Technology. Rethinking Arms Control, <i>German Federal Foreign Office</i> .	
	Autonomous Weapons Systems and Gender, <i>Campaign to Stop Killer Robots</i> .	
GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS	Stanford University, Center for International Security and Cooperation Postdoctoral Fellowship.	2024-26
	University of California, Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation Postdoctoral Fellowship, (<i>declined</i>).	
	Travel Grant, <i>International Studies Association</i> .	2024
	Travel Grant, <i>German Academic Exchange Service</i> .	
	Travel Grant, <i>Graduate Academy of Goethe University Frankfurt</i> .	2023
	Travel Grant, <i>Graduate Academy of Goethe University Frankfurt</i> .	2022
SERVICE	<i>Conference & Workshop Organisation</i>	
	Organizer, Stanford Existential Risk Initiative 2026 Symposium, <i>Stanford University (with over invited 20 speakers & 100 participants)</i> .	2026
	Organizer, Stanford Existential Risk Initiative 2025 Symposium, <i>Stanford University (with over 20 invited speakers & 100 participants)</i> .	2025
	Co-Convener, Perspectives on Arms Control Workshop, <i>German Federal Foreign Office & PRIF</i> .	2024
	Convener, Workshop on Ethical and Legal Questions of Brain-Computer Interfaces, <i>German Federal Foreign Office</i> .	2021
	Co-Convener, Perspectives on Arms Control Workshop, <i>German Federal Foreign Office & PRIF</i> .	
	<i>To the Department</i>	
	Convener, <i>Weekly Writing Retreats</i> , CISAC Stanford University	2026
	Convener, <i>Weekly Writing Retreats</i> , CISAC Stanford University	2025
	Co-Convener & Mentor, <i>Undergraduate Mentoring Program in International Security</i> , CISAC Stanford University.	
	Elected Representative for Doctoral Researchers, PRIF.	2021-22
	Board Representative for Student Assistants, PRIF.	2020-21
	<i>Reviewer</i>	
	<i>AI & Society, Global Society, Journal of Pacifism and Nonviolence, International Studies Quarterly, Critical Military Studies, International Security</i>	

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Bridging the Gap International Policy Summer Institute, <i>Washington DC</i> .	2026
	International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts (ISODARCO), <i>Italy</i> .	2025
	CGSR-CISAC Fellowship Conference, <i>Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory</i> .	
	Postdoc Teaching Workshop, <i>Stanford University</i> .	
	Doing Interpretive Research, <i>Methods Excellence Network, University of Aarhus</i> .	2022
	Ethnographic Research, <i>Graduate Academy of Goethe University Frankfurt</i> .	2021
	Qualitative Content Analysis with MaxQDA, <i>Graduate Academy of Goethe University Frankfurt</i> .	2020
	Learning how to Teach Peace and Conflict Research (Pedagogical Certificate in Teaching), <i>Peace Academy Rhineland-Palatinate</i> .	
	EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament E-Learning Course Certificate, <i>EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Consortium</i> .	2019
COMPUTING	RStudio, Stata, MaxQDA, LimeSurvey, Zotero	
LANGUAGE	German (native), English (research proficiency), French (basic), Spanish (basic)	
REFERENCES	<i>Available upon request</i>	