



Berliner

09. – 11. September

Psychotraumakolloquium 2026

#MentalStark in der Zeitenwende – voneinander lernen, vernetzt handeln.

Note: This programme was translated automatically from the German version into English with the help of artificial intelligence (AI). AI can make mistakes – in case of doubt, the German programme applies. Subject to change. Programme as of 8 September 2026.

PROGRAMME

Berlin Psychotrauma Colloquium 2026

#MentalStark in the Zeitenwende – learning together, acting as a network

Dates: Wednesday, 9 to Friday, 11 September 2026

📍 Venue: Kaiserin-Friedrich-Stiftung, Robert-Koch-Platz 7, 10115 Berlin (Berlin-Mitte)

Programme as of: 8 September 2026 · Source: psychotraumakolloquium.bundeswehrsupport.de · Subject to change

About the Colloquium

The Berlin Psychotrauma Colloquium 2026 is held under the motto “#MentalStark in the Zeitenwende – learning together, acting as a network”. Against the backdrop of a changed security policy environment, the congress addresses the current challenges of psychotraumatological care in the context of national and collective defence. Its aim is to put people at the centre – those affected as well as those working in psychosocial care.

Key themes: The consistent integration of civilian and military care structures is at the heart of the event. The colloquium promotes interprofessional exchange and highlights the crucial interfaces between the Bundeswehr, the civilian health system and international partners.

- Experience of mental health and psychosocial support in the war in Ukraine, in close cooperation with GIZ.
- Discussion of forward-looking approaches, including artificial intelligence in the military and digital therapy support.
- Practice-oriented workshops on high-frequency EMDR therapy, Narrative Exposure Therapy and multimodal trauma therapy.
- The first presentation and kick-off of the Science and Innovation Award “Psychosocial Research & Application”.

The three congress days at a glance

Day	Date / time	Focus
Day 1	Wednesday, 9 September 2026 17:30 – 21:30	Opening, health-policy impulse and networking
Day 2	Thursday, 10 September 2026 08:30 – 20:00	Science, innovation and practice-oriented in-depth sessions
Day 3	Friday, 11 September 2026 08:30 – 14:00	Professional perspectives and closing keynotes

Programme at a Glance

Day 1 · Wednesday, 9 September 2026 · 17:30 – 21:30			
from 17:30	Admission and registration	1. Zwischengeschoß: Registrierung / Garderobe	
18:00 – 18:20	01. Opening and welcome	2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal	
18:20 – 18:50	02. Welcome address and impulse by the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Armed Forces of the German Bundestag	2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal	
following	03. Welcome addresses	2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal	
18:50 – 19:00	04. Short impulse	2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal	
19:00 – 19:45	05. Panel discussion	2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal	
following	06. Impulse lecture on development policy	2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal	
following	07. Get-together	Kaiserin-Friedrich-Stiftung	
Day 2 · Thursday, 10 September 2026 · 08:30 – 20:00			
08:30 – 09:00	Opening of congress day 2	Kaiserin-Friedrich-Stiftung	
09:00 – 10:30	08. Keynote lectures I	2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal	
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break	Kaiserin-Friedrich-Stiftung	
11:00 – 12:30	09. Keynote lectures II	2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal	
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch break	Kaiserin-Friedrich-Stiftung	
13:30 – 15:00	10. Panel Session I Psychosocial support in Ukraine in the military and civil society – learning from GIZ projects and Ukrainian partners	2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal	
13:30 – 15:00	11. Workshop 1 High-frequency EMDR therapy in the inpatient setting (part 1)	2. Obergeschoß: Seminarraum	
13:30 – 15:00	12. Workshop 2 MentalStark in basic military training	3. Obergeschoß: Terrassenzimmer	
13:30 – 15:00	13. Workshop 3 Multimodal trauma therapy	1. Obergeschoß: Bibliothek	
15:00 – 15:30	Coffee break	Kaiserin-Friedrich-Stiftung	
15:30 – 17:00	14. Panel Session II Future forum on AI, ethics and digital therapy support	2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal	
15:30 – 17:00	15. Workshop 1 High-frequency EMDR therapy in the inpatient setting (part 2)	2. Obergeschoß: Seminarraum	
15:30 – 17:00	16. Workshop 4 Psychoeducation, communication and relationship quality	3. Obergeschoß: Terrassenzimmer	
15:30 – 17:00	17. Workshop 5 Assessment course in social medicine	1. Obergeschoß: Bibliothek	
17:15 – 18:45	18. Highlight Panel Captivity as a prisoner of war: long-term psychotraumatological consequences, resilience and care perspectives	2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal	
19:00 – 20:00	19. Psychosocial Research & Application – Innovation Award	2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal	
Day 3 · Friday, 11 September 2026 · 08:30 – 14:00			
08:30 – 09:15	20. Keynote I Psychological support on deployments abroad – the example of UNIFIL	2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal	
09:15 – 10:00	21. Keynote II PREVENTS – suicide prevention for at-risk groups	2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal	
10:00 – 10:30	Coffee break	Kaiserin-Friedrich-Stiftung	
10:30 – 12:00	22. Panel Session III Best practice from general medicine and rehabilitation	2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal	
10:30 – 12:00	23. Workshop 6 Narrative Exposure Therapy in groups	3. Obergeschoß: Terrassenzimmer	
10:30 – 12:00	24. Workshop 7 Innovation in specialist nursing: NADA acupuncture, relaxation, aromatherapy care	1. Obergeschoß: Bibliothek	
10:30 – 12:00	25. Workshop 8 Psychopharmacotherapy and interactions	2. Obergeschoß: Seminarraum	
12:00 – 12:30	Break	Kaiserin-Friedrich-Stiftung	
12:30 – 14:00	26. Psychotropic substances in combat	2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal	
following	27. Outlook and farewell	2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal	

Key

 **Livestream** – this item is additionally broadcast via livestream. Items without this marking (in particular the workshops) take place on site only.

 **Venue** – level and room at the Kaiserin-Friedrich-Stiftung, Robert-Koch-Platz 7, given by the German name as signposted in the building: Zwischengeschoß = mezzanine, Obergeschoß = upper floor, Hörsaal = lecture hall, Seminarraum = seminar room, Bibliothek = library, Terrassenzimmer = terrace room, Registrierung / Garderobe = registration / cloakroom.

   **Country of the speakers** (Germany, Ukraine, Austria) and role (speaker, chair), where stated.

Day 1 · Wednesday, 9 September 2026

Opening, health-policy impulse and networking

Time: 17:30 – 21:30

Venue: Kaiserin-Friedrich-Stiftung, Robert-Koch-Platz 7, 10115 Berlin

from 17:30

Admission and registration

Venue: 1. Zwischengeschoss: Registrierung / Garderobe

This year the Berlin Psychotrauma Colloquium takes place at the Kaiserin-Friedrich-Stiftung für das ärztliche Fortbildungswesen (Kaiserin Friedrich Foundation for Continuing Medical Education) at Robert-Koch-Platz 7 in Berlin-Mitte – a venue with a long tradition of medical education, right next to the Charité.

18:00 – 18:20

01. Opening and welcome

 **Livestream** – broadcast online **Venue:** 2. Zwischengeschoss: Hörsaal

Welcome by the congress organisers, introduction to the congress motto and overview of the key topics.



Dr. Gerd-Dieter Willmund **Speaker**

Colonel (MC) Dr. Gerd-Dieter Willmund, Clinical Director, is the scientific director of the Berlin Psychotrauma Colloquium 2026. Under the guiding theme “#MentalStark in the Zeitenwende – learning together, acting as a network”, he leads through a programme that focuses on current challenges in psychotraumatological care, civil-military cooperation and interdisciplinary exchange. He looks forward to welcoming participants to Berlin and to discussing with them perspectives for networked, practice-oriented and resilient care.



Sergeant Major Frank Eggen **Speaker**

Sergeant Major Frank Eggen is chairman of the association Angriff auf die Seele – Psychosoziale Hilfe für Angehörige der Bundeswehr e. V. (“Attack on the Soul” – psychosocial support for Bundeswehr personnel and their families). The non-profit association is the organiser and co-organiser of the Berlin Psychotrauma Colloquium 2026.

18:20 – 18:50

02. Welcome address and impulse by the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Armed Forces of the German Bundestag

 **Livestream** – broadcast online **Venue:** 2. Zwischengeschoss: Hörsaal



Henning Otte, Parliamentary Commissioner for the Armed Forces of the German Bundestag **Speaker**

The Parliamentary Commissioner is appointed as an auxiliary organ of the Bundestag in exercising parliamentary oversight of the armed forces. His core tasks also include safeguarding the fundamental rights of service members and monitoring compliance with the principles of Innere Führung (leadership development and civic education). As the “soldiers’ advocate”, the Commissioner holds a special position within the parliamentary system – he is neither a member of the Bundestag nor a civil servant.

following

03. Welcome addresses

 **Livestream** – broadcast online  **Venue: 2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal**



Lieutenant General (MC) Ralf Uwe Hoffmann  **Speaker**

Deputy Commander of the Bundeswehr Support Command and Commander of the Bundeswehr Joint Medical Service.



Vice Admiral Dr. Thomas Daum  **Speaker**

Chief of the Cyber and Information Domain Service (CIR)

18:50 – 19:00

04. Short impulse

 **Livestream** – broadcast online  **Venue: 2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal**



Colonel Oleksandr Farmahei

Head of the Department of Psychological Support, Directorate for Physical and Mental Health, Ministry of Veterans Affairs of Ukraine

Colonel Farmahei has served in the military since the age of 18; he has been in combat since 2014 and is a veteran of military service; Doctor of Psychological Sciences, professor, clinical psychologist. His research focuses on psychodiagnostics, psychological training for operations under special and extreme conditions, and psychological counselling. He has authored scientific publications on the diagnosis of personality accentuations based on handwriting analysis, the psychological training of military personnel for combat operations, the use of psychoregulation techniques under extreme conditions, and the use of mental psycho-training methods in organising and conducting psychological training for operations under extreme conditions.

19:00 – 19:45

05. Panel discussion

 **Livestream** – broadcast online  **Venue: 2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal**

With representatives from the Bundeswehr, civilian hospitals and the medical service.

Chair: Colonel (MC) Dr. Gerd Willmund (Bundeswehr Hospital Berlin)

- Prof. Dr. Dr. Niels Bergemann (Military Medical Advisory Board, Federal Ministry of Defence)
- Colonel Oleksandr Farmahei (Ministry of Veterans Affairs, Ukraine)
- Colonel (MC) Dr. Helge Höllmer (Bundeswehr Hospital Hamburg)
- Prof. Dr. Burkhard Jabs (Dresden Municipal Hospital)
- Brigadier General (ret.) Uwe Nerger (Expert Commission of the State of Berlin for the Protection of Critical Infrastructure, Vice-President of the Reservists' Association of the German Bundeswehr, publisher of "loyal")

following

06. Impulse lecture on development policy

 **Livestream** – broadcast online  **Venue: 2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal**

following

07. Get-together

 **Venue: Kaiserin-Friedrich-Stiftung, Robert-Koch-Platz 7**

Day 2 · Thursday, 10 September 2026

Science, innovation and practice-oriented in-depth sessions

Time: 08:30 – 20:00

📍 Venue: Kaiserin-Friedrich-Stiftung, Robert-Koch-Platz 7, 10115 Berlin

08:30 – 09:00

Opening of congress day 2

📍 Venue: Kaiserin-Friedrich-Stiftung, Robert-Koch-Platz 7

09:00 – 10:30

08. Keynote lectures I

📶 Livestream – broadcast online 📍 Venue: 2. Zwischengeschoss: Hörsaal



Durchgeführt von:

giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Download on the congress website: Symposium Speakers & Organizations (DE / EN)



Inga Niere 🇩🇪 Speaker

What war does to a society – and what we can learn from Ukraine about resilience, cohesion and psychosocial support

Project lead “Gender-responsive approaches to mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) in Ukraine”, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Inga Niere is a social scientist specialising in development policy. For many years she has worked at the interface of international cooperation, crisis and conflict management and psychosocial support. She has held senior positions in Afghanistan, Iraq and Yemen, among other places. Today her particular focus is on how mental health and psychosocial support can be designed to be sustainable and socially embedded in crisis and conflict contexts.



Oksana Zbitnieva 🇺🇦 Speaker

The psychosocial situation in Ukraine and coping strategies

Head of the Coordination Centre for Mental Health at the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine

Oksana Zbitnieva holds degrees in philology and political science. She is an expert in social transformation, strategic communication and policy advice. She heads the Coordination Centre for Mental Health at the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Ukrainian non-governmental organisation “Barrier-Free”. Previously she held leadership positions in the media, the public sector and non-governmental organisations.



Dr. Valentyna Mazhbits 🇺🇦 Speaker

Strengthening medical and psychosocial care in Ukraine: the SOLOMIYA project

PhD, psychiatrist, psychotherapist and researcher in the Global Mental Health unit at Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, co-coordinator of the SOLOMIYA project

Valentyna Mazhbits completed her specialist training in psychiatry in Ukraine. Most recently she worked as a consultant psychiatrist and psychotherapist in large private clinics in Kyiv and for more than five years as a medical escort for the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The war brought her to Germany, where she has been a research associate at the Charité and co-coordinator of the SOLOMIYA project since mid-2022.

09. Keynote lectures II

 **Livestream** – broadcast online  **Venue: 2. Zwischengeschoss: Hörsaal**



Prof. Dr. Inga Schalinski  **Speaker**

Strengthening groups with facts from Narrative Exposure Therapy

Professor of Clinical Psychology and Trauma Therapy, Faculty of Human Sciences, University of the Bundeswehr Munich

The lecture provides insights into scientific findings from Narrative Exposure Therapy and their relevance for dealing with traumatic experiences. It focuses on potential re-sources, protective factors and group-related perspectives that can contribute to stabilising and strengthening those affected.



Prof. Dr. habil. Gerhard Schreiber  **Speaker**

Artificial intelligence in the military from an ethical perspective – opportunity or threat?

Professor of Social and Technology Ethics, Head of the AI Ethics Research Hub, Helmut Schmidt University / University of the Federal Armed Forces Hamburg

The lecture examines artificial intelligence in the military context from the perspective of social and technology ethics. It focuses on questions of responsibility, decision-making processes, opportunities and risks, as well as the normative limits of using AI-based systems in the security and defence policy environment.

10. Panel Session I

 **Livestream** – broadcast online  **Venue: 2. Zwischengeschoss: Hörsaal** · Track A



Durchgeführt von:
giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
 für Internationale
 Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Download on the congress website: Symposium Speakers & Organizations (DE / EN)

Psychosocial support in Ukraine in the military and civil society – learning for Germany from Ukrainian GIZ projects and Ukrainian partners.

Chair: Alena Mehlau (GIZ Lebanon) / Lieutenant Colonel (MC) Heinrich Rau (Bundeswehr Hospital Berlin)



Alena Mehlau **Chair**

Psychologist (Dipl.-Psych.), co-chair of the GIZ working group on mental health and psychosocial support, advisor at GIZ Lebanon

Alena Mehlau is a clinical psychologist and trauma-focused therapist. Since 2019 she has worked for GIZ as an expert in mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) in various roles, from advisor to project manager. Her work in the security sector began in 2013 with field research on security sector reform in West Africa on behalf of the Peace Research Institute Frankfurt (HSFK). In her subsequent role as trauma advisor for medica mondiale she contributed to preparatory training for UN missions at the Baden-Württemberg Police University, covering trauma sensitivity and gender-based violence. In her current role in the GIZ project Rawabet in Lebanon she is responsible, among other things, for capacity-building measures for units of the Lebanese Armed Forces, focusing on psychological aptitude assessment, stress management and trauma sensitivity.



Kseniia Voznityna **Speaker**

Founder and director of the Forest Glade rehabilitation centre for veterans in Ukraine

Kseniia Voznityna is a neurologist. She graduated from Kharkiv State Medical University. She is a leading expert in developing mental health rehabilitation services for veterans in Ukraine. She works as a trainer and is the author of manuals and publications on working with war-related trauma and on reintegrating veterans into society. Her specialist field is the research and treatment of post-concussion syndrome.



Olha Kukharukh **Speaker**

PhD, psychologist, psychotherapist (CBT) and expert in trauma-sensitive approaches (EMDR) and VR-assisted therapy

Olha Kukharukh holds a PhD in psychology and is a psychotherapist and expert in trauma-informed therapeutic approaches. She has authored training programmes on psychosocial support for military personnel, veterans and their families (e.g. within projects for the non-governmental organisation "Yarmiz") and is co-author of VR-assisted rehabilitation programmes.



Oleh Bereziuk **Speaker**

PhD, MD, head of the psychology department of the UNBROKEN rehabilitation centre in Ukraine, senior psychiatrist at the St. Leo the Great Mental Health Center

Oleh Bereziuk obtained his doctorate at Lviv National Medical University. He heads the psychology department of the UNBROKEN rehabilitation centre in Ukraine and is senior psychiatrist at the St. Leo the Great Mental Health Center. He also lectures at Lviv National Medical University and has several years of professional experience in the Lviv city administration and in the Ukrainian parliament.



Heinrich Rau **Speaker**

Lieutenant Colonel (MC) Heinrich Rau, senior physician, Bundeswehr Hospital Berlin

13:30 – 15:00

11. Workshop 1 | High-frequency EMDR therapy in the inpatient setting (1)

no livestream (on site only) **Venue: 2. Obergeschoss: Seminarraum** · Track B

High-frequency EMDR therapy in the inpatient setting (part 1)

Initial studies on intensive EMDR therapy point to positive effects such as rapid symptom reduction and a low drop-out rate during treatment. The first part of this workshop presents the theoretical background, the practical implementation at the Bundeswehr Hospital Hamburg and our experience from this work. Both EMDR in individual sessions and in groups will be covered.



Dr. Inga Kröger **Speaker**

Senior civil servant (Oberregierungsrätin) and licensed psychological psychotherapist (CBT), supervisor and self-awareness trainer (CBT) in accordance with PsychTh-APrV



Dipl.-Psych. Johannes Müller **Speaker**

Senior civil servant (Oberregierungsrat) and licensed psychological psychotherapist (CBT), supervisor and self-awareness trainer (CBT) in accordance with PsychTh-APrV

13:30 – 15:00

12. Workshop 2 | MentalStark in basic military training

no livestream (on site only) **Venue: 3. Obergeschoss: Terrassenzimmer** · Track C



Danny Nowak, German Army Command **Speaker**

Senior civil servant (Regierungsdirektor) and military psychologist, German Army Command

13:30 – 15:00

13. Workshop 3 | Multimodal trauma therapy

no livestream (on site only) **Venue: 1. Obergeschoss: Bibliothek** · Track D

The multimodal treatment concept of military-specific trauma therapy integrates modern methods of Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT), taking emotion regulation and cognitive reappraisal into account. Particularly in chronic courses, complex issues such as embitterment, moral outrage and the targeted handling of fear, guilt and shame are important as classic elements of conventional trauma treatment. Using exercises and case examples, the workshop invites participants to perceive traumatised service members in the full complexity of their emotions and cognitions and to integrate these accordingly into the process planning of therapy.



PD Dr. Christina Alliger-Horn **Speaker**

Senior civil servant (Regierungsdirektorin) and Head Clinical Psychologist, Bundeswehr Hospital Berlin

15:00 – 15:30

Coffee break · Venue: Kaiserin-Friedrich-Stiftung

14. Panel Session II

 **Livestream** – broadcast online  **Venue: 2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal** · Track A

Future forum on AI, ethics and digital therapy support

Chair: Prof. Dr. habil. Gerhard Schreiber, Dr. Dr. Fischer (Regierungsdirektor)



Lesia Sak  Speaker

AA1 – Scaling therapy – virtual reality in groups

PhD, MD, psychiatrist and psychotherapist, associate professor at Bogomolets National Medical University

Lesia Sak works as a psychiatrist at the Institute of Traumatology and Orthopaedics of the National Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine, caring for severely wounded Ukrainian soldiers. Her clinical work focuses in particular on PTSD and other psychiatric symptoms associated with severe polytrauma and repeated traumatic brain injury. She is an associate professor at the Department of Medical Psychology, Psychosomatic Medicine and Psychotherapy of Bogomolets National Medical University in Kyiv. Her research interests include innovative approaches to trauma treatment, such as virtual-reality-assisted exposure psychotherapy and multidisciplinary rehabilitation programmes for war-affected civilians and military personnel.



Judith Dittmer  Speaker

AA2 – The voice as a biomarker for mental health

Regional Managing Director Digital Health, MEDIAN Unternehmensgruppe B.V. & Co. KG



Dr. Laura Golenia  Speaker

AA2 – The voice as a biomarker for mental health

Group Head of Research, Medical Quality and Innovation



Daryna Taran  Speaker

AA3 – Adaptability in times of crisis: mobile multidisciplinary teams and equitable access to medical care

Psychologist, charitable foundation “Vesta”

Daryna Taran is a clinical psychologist working for the Ukrainian charitable foundation “Vesta”. She specialises in processing traumatic experiences and works with adults and adolescents, including veterans, service members and their family members. Her professional focus is on the psychological consequences of trauma, PTSD, complex forms of grief and loss, problems of emotion regulation and interpersonal relationships. In her work she applies EMDR as well as cognitive-behavioural, somatic and integrative approaches.



Madeleine Rischer M.Sc. et al.  Speaker

AA4 – Social robots in the care of patients with trauma-related disorders (HSU)

15:30 – 17:00

15. Workshop 1 | High-frequency EMDR therapy in the inpatient setting (part 2)

no livestream (on site only)  **Venue: 2. Obergeschoss: Seminarraum** · Track B

High-frequency group EMDR therapy (G-TEP) in the inpatient setting

Initial studies on intensive EMDR therapy point to positive effects such as rapid symptom reduction and a low drop-out rate during treatment. The first part of this workshop presents the theoretical background, the practical implementation at the Bundeswehr Hospital Hamburg and our experience from this work. Both EMDR in individual sessions and in groups will be covered.



Dr. Inga Kröger **Speaker**

Senior civil servant (Oberregierungsärztin) and licensed psychological psychotherapist (CBT), supervisor and self-awareness trainer (CBT) in accordance with PsychTh-APrV



Dipl.-Psych. Johannes Müller **Speaker**

Senior civil servant (Oberregierungsrat) and licensed psychological psychotherapist (CBT), supervisor and self-awareness trainer (CBT) in accordance with PsychTh-APrV

15:30 – 17:00

16. Workshop 4 | Psychoeducation, communication and relationship quality – a case study

no livestream (on site only)  **Venue: 3. Obergeschoss: Terrassenzimmer** · Track C

Understanding instead of escalating – effects of psychoeducational and communicative approaches on partnership and interaction, illustrated by a couples' seminar involving the partners of service members with deployment-related mental health injuries



Sonja Heinrich **Speaker**

Civil servant (Regierungsamtsrätin) and social worker, Centre for Military Mental Health (Psychotraumazentrum), Bundeswehr Hospital Berlin



Geraldine Dörholt **Speaker**

Captain (MC) and resident physician in psychiatry training, Bundeswehr Hospital Berlin

17. Workshop 5 | Assessment course in social medicine

no livestream (on site only)  **Venue: 1. Obergeschoss: Bibliothek** · Track D

The course begins with a brief presentation of the key procedures for the recognition of a consequence of service-related injury (Wehrdienstbeschädigung).

Mr Collier (Regierungsdirektor) will then present the investigation and assessment of the possible facts relevant to the recognition of a service-related injury, with a focus on the discussion of “conditions specific to military service”.

Colonel (MC) Krause will then address the specifics of the social-medical assessment of mental disorders in the military psychiatric context (latency between the harmful event and initial diagnosis, assessment of causality, designation of the condition, assessment of impairments to participation).

In a final section, specific questions to the assessor regarding particular benefits (including social participation and rehabilitation needs) will be discussed together.



Colonel (MC) Tony Krause **Speaker**

Deputy head of division and psychiatric medical examiner of the social and pension medical service for soldiers' compensation at the Federal Office of Bundeswehr Personnel Management, BAPersBw (VII 2.5).



Patrick Collier (Regierungsdirektor) **Speaker**

Head of the division for basic decisions and benefits for active service members under soldiers' compensation at the Federal Office of Bundeswehr Personnel Management, BAPersBw (VII 2.2).

18. Highlight Panel (German / Ukrainian)

 **Livestream** – broadcast online  **Venue: 2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal**

Captivity as a prisoner of war: long-term psychotraumatological consequences, resilience and care perspectives – meeting those affected



Prof. Dr. Dr. Niels Bergemann **Chair**

Honorary professor at Trier University and head of the DGPPN section on psychiatry and psychotherapy for deployed and emergency personnel



Iryna Holubetska **Speaker**

Psychologist at the UNBROKEN rehabilitation centre and art therapist at the St. Leo the Great Mental Health Center

Iryna Holubetska holds an MA in psychology from Lviv Polytechnic National University. She is a psychologist, art therapist and psychotherapist in training with experience in working with military personnel, civilians and survivors of captivity and torture. Her expertise lies in trauma-sensitive therapy with a focus on art therapy.



Andrii Herasymov **Speaker**

Active member of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, former prisoner of war

Andrii Herasymov comes from the Mykolaiv region of Ukraine. After graduating from the Mykolaiv College of Musical Arts, specialising in trumpet, he served as a soldier and in the military band of the 36th Marine Brigade. During the defence of Mariupol in 2022 he was taken prisoner by Russian forces and spent three years and one week in captivity, where he was subjected to both physical and psychological abuse. After his release he returned to Ukraine and resumed his military service.



Yevhen Taranenko **Speaker**

Former member of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, former prisoner of war

Yevhen Taranenko is a former member of the Ukrainian Armed Forces. After returning from Russian captivity in 2024, he was treated at St. Panteleimon Hospital in Lviv, which is part of the UNBROKEN network. Part of his rehabilitation also took place at the Lviv Habilitation Center HAB. He was discharged from military service in October 2025.

19:00 – 20:00

19. Psychosocial Research & Application – presentation of the Innovation Award

Livestream – broadcast online **Venue: 2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal**

Presentation and kick-off of the call for the Science and Innovation Award “Psychosocial Research & Application” of the Working Group on Psychosocial Medicine and Networks.

Informal exchange, followed by a get-together

Day 3 · Friday, 11 September 2026

Professional perspectives and closing keynotes

Time: 08:30 – 14:00

📍 Venue: Kaiserin-Friedrich-Stiftung, Robert-Koch-Platz 7, 10115 Berlin

08:30 – 09:15

20. Keynote I | Psychological support on deployments abroad – the example of UNIFIL, and special support measures within the UNIFIL mission (pre-deployment preparation, support in theatre, reintegration and return)

📶 Livestream – broadcast online 📍 Venue: 2. Zwischengeschoss: Hörsaal

The lecture provides an insight into the psychological support of Austrian Armed Forces personnel in the context of missions abroad. Using UNIFIL as an example, it presents the structures, measures and specific requirements of psychological support before, during and after deployment.

The Austrian Armed Forces' international operations base AUTINT in Götzendorf/Leitha is responsible for the psychological support of all Austrian service members before, during and after missions abroad. This begins with psychological pre-deployment preparation tailored to the respective area of operations (family, stress, communication, living together, leave, comradeship, sport, leisure activities, hygiene, rumours, sexual harassment, bullying, etc.). Service members are then accompanied by psychologists in the area of operations, and every service member has a personal final psychological debriefing after the deployment. For the UNIFIL mission, several specific check-out scenarios for returnees were designed and implemented (psychoeducation, stress questionnaire, personal interviews, etc.).



Col. HR Mag. rer. nat. Dr. phil. Georg Ebner 🇦🇹 Speaker

Colonel (Senior Military Specialist Service), Hofrat (court councillor), support psychologist at the Austrian Armed Forces' international operations base in Götzendorf

09:15 – 10:00

21. Keynote II | PREVENTS – suicide prevention for at-risk groups

📶 Livestream – broadcast online 📍 Venue: 2. Zwischengeschoss: Hörsaal

Suicide attempts are the strongest clinical risk factor for renewed suicidal behaviour. Although guideline-based treatment of mental disorders is a central pillar of care, it is often not sufficient to reduce the risk of further suicide attempts in the long term. Transdiagnostic, suicide-specific therapy services are therefore required. The lecture first explains the importance of suicide-specific interventions for people who have attempted suicide. It then presents RISE, a brief psychotherapeutic programme developed and tested specifically for people after a suicide attempt. The aim is to strengthen crisis competence and thereby reduce future suicidal behaviour. The lecture centres on the PREVENTS research project, which investigates the implementation potential and effectiveness of RISE in routine psychiatric care. An RCT design is used to test whether supplementing standard treatment with RISE can help reduce the risk of renewed suicidal behaviour.



Privatdozent Dr. phil. med. habil. Gerd Wagner 🇩🇪 Speaker

Head of the Suicidology Research Group, Department of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy, Jena University Hospital

10:00 – 10:30

Coffee break · Venue: Kaiserin-Friedrich-Stiftung

22. Panel Session III

 **Livestream** – broadcast online  **Venue: 2. Zwischengeschoß: Hörsaal** · Track A

Best practice from general medicine and rehabilitation – symposium/panel session
(Chair: Colonel (MC) Dr. Thomas Emser)

Dr. Emser, head of the Medical Support Centre (SanUstgZ) Stetten am kalten Markt, has structured a programme that combines both preventive and therapeutic models from military psychiatric practice.



Dr. Thomas Emser **Chair / Speaker**

Colonel (MC) and head of the Medical Support Centre Stetten am kalten Markt. Specialist in general medicine with additional qualifications in manual medicine and acupuncture



Prof. Dr. Burkhard Jabs

A. Dealing with suicidality in everyday unit medical practice

Dresden Municipal Hospital

Fundamentals of suicidology – risk factors for suicidal behaviour – distinguishing risk groups, risk situations and risk states – assessment of and acute measures for suicidality.



Captain Patrick Scheidt

B. Model project and resilience training

In his lecture, Captain Scheidt will present practical concepts for strengthening the mental resilience of service members, focusing on the model project and the resilience training from Cochem.



Dr. Jürgen Schottdorf

C. EMDR combined with acupuncture

Specialist in general medicine, in a group practice with several osteopathic therapists in Friedberg (Bavaria). After training in TCM with the DÄGfA, he trained in Japanese acupuncture with David Euler. Since 2012 he has been a course assistant and lecturer in acupuncture at Harvard Medical School and also teaches in Germany.

Dr. Schottdorf adds a complementary-medicine approach to trauma treatment to the panel. He will discuss combining the established EMDR technique (Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing) with acupuncture methods.



Team of Colonel (MC) Dr. Ursula Simon

D. Insights from Department VI at the Bundeswehr Central Hospital Koblenz

The panel is rounded off by a contribution from Colonel (MC) Dr. Ursula Simon, Clinical Director of Department VI at the Bundeswehr Central Hospital Koblenz. Together with members of her team, she will give insights into the work of Department VI in Koblenz.

10:30 – 12:00

23. Workshop 6 | Narrative Exposure Therapy in groups

no livestream (on site only)  **Venue: 3. Obergeschoss: Terrassenzimmer** · Track B

Narrative Exposure Therapy (NET) appears suitable as a stabilising, resource-oriented group procedure close to deployment (NETfacts) for acute psychological care after combat stress. The method does not pursue a trauma-confrontational approach but aims at the collective processing of distressing experiences and the strengthening of group cohesion. This workshop outlines the basic principles of NETfacts and works through them in the group using a practical example.



Dr. Isabell Schönsee  **Speaker**

Senior civil servant (Oberregierungsrätin), researcher in the Bundeswehr Medical Service and licensed psychological psychotherapist, Clinical Psychology, Bundeswehr Hospital Berlin

10:30 – 12:00

24. Workshop 7 | Innovation in specialist nursing: NADA acupuncture and relaxation techniques/aromatherapy care

no livestream (on site only)  **Venue: 1. Obergeschoss: Bibliothek** · Track C

The workshop offers a practical insight into innovative specialist-nursing approaches to the supportive care of patients. It focuses on complementary methods such as NADA acupuncture, relaxation techniques and aromatherapy care, which can be used in everyday clinical practice for stabilisation, resource activation and promoting well-being. The aim is to present and jointly reflect on the applications, limitations and practical experience of these nursing interventions.



Marek Giese  **Speaker**

Specialist nurse and head of psychiatric nursing, Bundeswehr Hospital Berlin



Tina Schmiedgen  **Speaker**

Sergeant Major and psychiatric specialist nurse, deputy ward manager, Bundeswehr Hospital Berlin



Janine Neumann  **Speaker**

Master Sergeant and psychiatric specialist nurse, Bundeswehr Hospital Berlin

10:30 – 12:00

25. Workshop 8 | Psychopharmacotherapy and interactions

no livestream (on site only)  **Venue: 2. Obergeschoss: Seminarraum** · Track D

The workshop examines key questions of psychopharmacotherapy and relevant drug interactions in psychiatric care. It focuses on various psychiatric disorders and clinical treatment contexts, including the specific requirements of service members and emergency personnel. In addition to expert input, the workshop provides space for practice-related questions and interdisciplinary exchange.



Prof. Dr. Dr. Niels Bergemann  **Speaker**

Honorary professor at Trier University and head of the DGPPN section on psychiatry and psychotherapy for deployed and emergency personnel



Prof. Dr. Kai Wohlfarth  **Speaker**

Chief Physician of the Department of Neurology and Interdisciplinary Early Rehabilitation, and Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology at HMU Erfurt

12:30 – 14:00

26. Psychotropic substances in combat **Livestream** – broadcast online  **Venue: 2. Zwischengeschoss: Hörsaal****Prof. Dr. Hubertus Himmerich**  **Speaker**

Specialist in psychiatry and psychotherapy, senior physician and researcher in the field of eating disorders, King's College London, Lieutenant Colonel (MC) of the reserve

following

27. Outlook and farewell **Livestream** – broadcast online  **Venue: 2. Zwischengeschoss: Hörsaal****Colonel (MC) Dr. Gerd-Dieter Willmund**  **Speaker**

Colonel (MC) Dr. Gerd-Dieter Willmund, Clinical Director, is the scientific director of the Berlin Psychotrauma Colloquium 2026.

**Sergeant Major Frank Eggen**  **Speaker**

Sergeant Major Frank Eggen is chairman of the association Angriff auf die Seele – Psychosoziale Hilfe für Angehörige der Bundeswehr e. V. ("Attack on the Soul" – psychosocial support for Bundeswehr personnel and their families). The non-profit association is the organiser and co-organiser of the Berlin Psychotrauma Colloquium 2026.

Venue & Getting There

Kaiserin-Friedrich-Stiftung für das ärztliche Fortbildungswesen (Kaiserin Friedrich Foundation for Continuing Medical Education)

📍 **Address:** Kaiserin-Friedrich-Stiftung, Robert-Koch-Platz 7, 10115 Berlin (Berlin-Mitte)

Web: kaiserin-friedrich-stiftung.com

The Berlin Psychotrauma Colloquium 2026 takes place at the Kaiserin-Friedrich-Stiftung on Robert-Koch-Platz in Berlin-Mitte – a venue with a long tradition of medical education, right next to the Charité. The listed Kaiserin-Friedrich-Haus (built 1904–1906 to designs by Ernst von Ihne), with its historic lecture hall, foyers and wood-panelled library, provides the setting for the lectures, panels and workshops.

Rooms: 1. Zwischengeschoss: Registrierung / Garderobe (1st mezzanine: registration / cloakroom) · 2. Zwischengeschoss: Hörsaal (2nd mezzanine: lecture hall) · 1. Obergeschoss: Bibliothek (1st upper floor: library) · 2. Obergeschoss: Seminarraum (2nd upper floor: seminar room) · 3. Obergeschoss: Terrassenzimmer (3rd upper floor: terrace room)

Getting there

- Underground: line U6, Naturkundemuseum station (approx. 3 minutes on foot)
- Tram: lines M5, M8, M10, Invalidenpark stop
- Bus: lines 123 and 240 (Robert-Koch-Platz stop) and 147 and 245 (Invalidenstraße stop)
- From Berlin Central Station (Hauptbahnhof): tram lines M5, M8 or M10 to “Invalidenpark”, or about 15 minutes on foot
- By car: possible in principle; only limited public parking, mostly subject to charges, is available in the vicinity

Organisers & Cooperation Partners



Angriff auf die Seele –
Psychosoziale Hilfe für Angehörige
der Bundeswehr e. V.



Psychotraumazentrum
der Bundeswehr



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співпраця з
німеччиною
DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

Durchgeführt von:



Bundesministerium für
wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit
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