



**Euro-ISME's 11th Annual Conference
18, 19 and 20 May 2022 (with a social event on May 17)**

at Ludovika University, Budapest, Hungary

Announcement and Call for Papers

Conference theme:

**‘Is Military Ethics Keeping Pace with the Changing Character
of Warfare?’**

‘The character of warfare is changing.’ Is a statement that has been made many times. Although it might now be almost a cliché, it remains nevertheless fundamentally true in various ways: The distinction between peace and war is occasionally elusive, weaponry is changing while military tactics are evolving as well. In addition, the traditional boundaries of the physical battlefield are becoming blurred or sometimes even erased altogether. This has important implications for the well-being and safety of civilian populations, humanitarian workers and both combatants and non-combatants.

As an Association dedicated to the study, teaching and practice of military ethics, EuroISME must, as a consequence, question whether the scope and definition of military ethics is keeping pace with changes to conflict. The definition of military ethics needs to be sufficiently flexible to ensure that it remains relevant to the broader issues of human security as well as to a more narrowly defined tradition of military ethics.

Implicit in the term ‘military ethics’ is the assumption that it is a subject of primary concern to the military. For historical reasons there is also an assumption that military ethics encompasses what is now referred to as the kinetic aspects of warfare. The decision to commit to the kinetic phase of conflict, how weapons are used, their impact not only on the enemy, but also on civilian populations, are regulated by the Laws of Armed Conflict, as well as military codes of conduct and the laws and customs of war. All these elements remain important.

However, the changing nature of conflict means that continued use of the term ‘military ethics’ might no longer be sufficiently accurate to describe the ethical framework that is necessary to set the ethical boundaries for behaviour in contemporary conflicts. Cyber warfare, space warfare

and information warfare are all modern phenomena which might not even involve a military engagement in the traditional meaning of the term; rather it might involve civilians only. The proliferation of private military corporations and paramilitary intelligence organisations further distorts the boundaries between military and non-military conflict ethics.

We also now understand ‘security’ to mean long term economic security and good governance, not merely the absence of armed conflict. The elimination of the pending threats to domestic and international security, even by non-military means should also be regarded as a matter of military ethics in broader sense of the term. The current pandemic has added a further developing dimension to this picture.

These are some of the issues which we shall be exploring during our 2022 conference. It will be an opportunity for experts and advocates from a broad range of specialisations (for example, technology, humanitarian, political and social scientists) as well as those more directly concerned with conventional military ethics to exchange ideas, fuel debate and seek better outcomes.

The chaotic withdrawal from Afghanistan in August shows just how complex modern conflicts can be. Decisions at the highest political level had a direct impact on the situation on the ground, which led directly to a hasty and dangerous evacuation. A technologically and numerically inferior foe provoked the departure of some of the most technologically advanced and well equipped forces in the world.

Huge ethical questions flow from this. For example, such as whether the sacrifices of Allied forces and the Afghan people over a 20 year period were worth it. What responsibilities do those same allies have for those Afghans who worked alongside them but could not be evacuated in time? Will the potential humanitarian and international terrorism consequences outweigh any possible short term gains? Does this mark an end to the concept of ‘nation building’ (an end to the concept of ‘Empire Lite’ as Michael Ignatieff might call it) and the end of what some have called the ‘just war frenzy’?

The Conference – Practical Facts

Languages and interpretations



The main conference language will be English. However, simultaneous interpretation will be possible in the main auditorium. Translations are not possible in the break-out rooms. If authors of submissions wish to make use of such facilities, they should make this clear when they submit. The number of time-slots available in the main auditorium is, as you will appreciate, limited. Any power point slides should be in English!

Dates and venue

On the eve of the conference, Tuesday May 17th, 2022 we will have a social event including an informal reception for all conference participants and their partners. We aim to offer you details thereof at a later stage.

The actual conference will begin on Wednesday morning May 18th, and will end on Friday May 20th. The venue is the Ludovika University of Public Service, in Budapest, who will host this event.

Please note that the conference day will run from approximately 0900-1800 hrs. Central European Time on Day 1 and Day 2 and from approximately 0900-1300 hrs. on

Day 3. The ceremonial dinner and awarding of the students' prize is likely to take place on the evening of Day 2.



Details of the Call for Papers & deadline

All members of EuroISME's audience are invited to submit a paper on the above-mentioned conference theme. Given the increasing number of submissions which EuroISME receives for its annual conferences, and also given limitations of time & space, our policy for submissions is as follows. The following submissions are welcomed:

- **Professional submissions.** This concerns submissions of both the military (active or retired), academics or those otherwise professionally engaged with the topic. The submissions should be 850-1000 words (that is two or three pages) in length. These submissions need to give:
 - 1) The relevance of the proposed topic;
 - 2) a definition of the research problem; and
 - 3) a summary of conclusions.

For academics, we appreciate a description of the research method. Professional submissions will be given priority if the number of submissions received exceeds the number of time-slots available.

- **Full panel submissions.** We define a panel session as a time-slot of 90 minutes. A panel has preferably 3, though a maximum of 4, presentations, to be followed by some 20 minutes for questions and answers. In practice, this implies that with three presentations, each presenter has 20 minutes (15 minutes with 4 presentations). A full panel submission will contain the submissions of each of the panellists *plus* the title of the full panel and the Point of Contact on behalf of that panel. A full panel submission should be made by means of a comprehensive email, which includes all the presentation which will be made in that panel. Preference will be given to panels where the panellists come from two or more countries. At request, EuroISME

can assist in seeking a moderator or a presenter for a near-complete panel proposal. Here too, the authors are invited to publish with EuroISME's book series.

- **Brief submissions.** Submissions of 250-350 words will be welcomed by the Programme Committee in much the same way as in previous years. If however, the number of submissions received is greater than the number of time-slots available, a preference will be given to professional submissions.
- **Student's submissions.** EuroISME specifically invites cadets, midshipmen and civilian students (Executive Masters or Academic Masters) to submit. This may concern: a submission on a research which has been recently concluded, or on-going research, for which the author would appreciate input from the audience, including experienced professionals. Thus we hope to stimulate the involvement of students in the study and application of military ethics. To this effect, the Programme Committee plans to organise a poster session during the conference. During this session, each selected student will receive 10 minutes to present his/her research to the plenary. Subsequently, each student will be offered a space or corner in the conference hall, where they can – literally with the poster which summarises their research –engage interested members of the audience and solicit their advice. Student's submissions should be 250 words in length. The authors are strongly encouraged to have a sheet of paper, perhaps from a flip-over, (approx. size A2) plus crayons or markers in various colours available during the conference. Providing sufficient interest exists, a member of EuroISME's Board of Directors will arrange an informal meeting with the students concerned.

All submissions should be made in the English language, unless specific prior agreement has been made with the chairman of the Programme Committee, Dr. Ted van Baarda whom you can contact at <director.tvbaarda@euroisme.eu>.

All submissions should contain, at the top of the front page: the name, rank and/or title of the author(s), plus the institution to which they are affiliated, plus contact details. They will also state in which category of submission the author intends to fit.

Submissions on other topics of military ethics than the conference theme are, in principle, also welcome. However, submissions which are on-topic will be prioritised.

Given the uncertainties with COVID-19 and inter-continental travel, we aim to make available, for the main auditorium, the possibility of presenting by video-link. The number of time-slots for a video-link is limited. Should you need this facility, then please indicate this when you make your submission.

The deadline for submissions remains February 1st, 2022. You will find the portal where you can upload your submission here [\[add link\]](#).

Publications

In a change of policy, our aim is to publish the most salient papers within one year of the conference. The authors of the submissions are invited to submit the full version of their manuscript to the conference volume in EuroISME's book series, after the conference. The volume will be published by Martinus Nijhoff publishers. Moreover, papers which need to be published quickly on an open-access basis, can be published in EuroISME's Occasional Papers series, which you will find here

<<https://www.euroisme.eu/index.php/en/publications/euroisme-occasional-papers>>

Registration

Details on how to register will be announced during the early spring of 2022. Thus, the procedure on how to submit a paper needs to be distinguished from the actual registration for the conference.

Conference fees and payments

As is customary with EuroISME's conferences, our conference fees are set at a not-for-profit level. They include the lunches, coffees, teas, etc. The conference fees include the overhead, since preparations for an annual conference habitually begin more than one year beforehand. The conference fees will be:

€ 290 for non-members;

€ 250 for members;

€ 100 for graduate and under-graduate students when they submit a scan of their student's card upon registration.

These prices include neither the ceremonial dinner (with the awarding of the students' prize during the evening) nor the cruise. The ceremonial dinner will cost € 85 and the social event will cost approximately € 25.

Assistance with travel costs

EuroISME has a limited budget available for prospective presenters at our conference, who cannot attend for financial reasons. Details concerning the application for financial assistance can be found here [\[include a link\]](#). Applicants shall bear in mind that all applications must be made before the deadline for submissions expires: 1 February 2022. Applicants will be informed of the decision by EuroISME whether the application has been accepted.

Visa

Hungary is a member of the Schengen Area. Conference participants from outside the Schengen Area who need a formal invitation from EuroISME in order to apply for a visa, are advised to contact Ms. Ivana Gošić. Because the application for a visa may take time, participants are advised to ask for a formal invitation from EuroISME no later than 5 weeks in advance.

All participants are urged to check the COVID-19 regulations in their country of origin concerning possible restrictions on international travel. If necessary, EuroISME will provide link to any regulations of the Hungarian government in the spring of 2022.

Information package and joining instructions

When the dates of the conference draw nearer, all conference participants who have registered will receive an information package plus joining instructions. This will include information on your transfer from Budapest international airport to the city centre.