

New impetus for research on climate change, peace and conflict

PRIF and TU Darmstadt appoint Tobias Ide

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On 1 December 2025, political scientist Tobias Ide will take over as head of the Transnational Politics programme area at PRIF – Leibniz Institute for Peace and Conflict Research in Frankfurt. At the same time, he will take up the professorship in 'Peace and Conflict Research: Transnational Actors', which has been jointly established by the Technical University of Darmstadt and PRIF. With Ide's appointment, PRIF is further expanding its research in the field of climate, ecology and conflict. At the same time, PRIF and TU Darmstadt are deepening their long-standing cooperation.

Tobias Ide will head the Transnational Politics programme area [at PRIF](#), which researches the conflict dynamics of cross-border phenomena such as climate change, terrorism and technological change. His work focuses on climate change and security, the importance of the environment for peace processes, transnational rebel groups and the role of education in conflict contexts. Due to his expertise, he will also take on the deputy leadership of the research group 'Ecology, Climate and Conflict' at PRIF.

Tobias Ide is no stranger to the institute: he was already a visiting fellow there in July 2025. At the same time as taking on his leadership role at PRIF, Ide will also assume the professorship 'Peace and Conflict Research: Transnational Actors' as part of an institutional cooperation between PRIF and TU Darmstadt.

'I am very much looking forward to my new role in my old home state of Hesse,' says Tobias Ide. "PRIF is one of the leading institutes for peace and conflict research in Europe, and there is a great deal to be done in this field. Just think of the various wars around the world or the increasing polarisation of society. The influence of transnational aspects such as climate change and extremist networks in particular needs to be better understood,' said Ide, outlining his future field of activity. Ide also has high expectations for his professorship at TU Darmstadt: 'TU Darmstadt is very well established in the fields of environmental policy, conflict dynamics and energy transition, and I am very much looking forward to working with them."

Professor Dr Tanja Brühl, President of TU Darmstadt, explains: "I am delighted that Tobias Ide, an internationally renowned colleague, is joining our university to strengthen our peace and conflict research. As a second joint appointment, it also deepens the cooperation between TU Darmstadt and the PRIF – Leibniz Institute for Peace and Conflict Research as a non-university partner in the long term. I am convinced that Tobias Ide's innovative research not only perfectly complements the profile of the Department of Social Sciences and History, but also opens up a wide range of new avenues for interdisciplinary questions on security policy challenges, for example in our research field of Energy & Environment."

