

# Science4Peace Forum



All infos on: [Science4Peace Webpage](https://science4peace.com/Public-Events/Entries/2024/6/science4peace-discussion-on-civil-clause-at-desy.html)

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## Civil Clause



- Civil clause (German: Zivilklausel) is a voluntary commitment by academic institutions to engage exclusively in civil (i.e. non-military) research. ([link](#))
  - *The idea originates in Japan: In 1950, the Science Council of Japan established that its members will refuse to participate in military-related research projects. Such a declaration was repeated in 1967, and in 2017.*
  - *In Germany, Universität Bremen was the first to put a Civil Clause in effect. Its resolution no.5113 from 1986 declared:*
    - *Any participation of science and research with military use or purpose must be rejected by the academic senate. In particular the civil clause demands that members of the university reject research projects and funding which could serve weapon technology.*
- Workshop on Civil Clause 16-17 March 2024 - Frankfurt ([link](#))

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## Civil Clause



- Around 70 universities in Germany have already given themselves civil clauses, voluntary commitments to research, teach and study solely for peaceful goals and civil means and thus contribute to a truly civil world, including the MIN Faculty at the University of Hamburg.
- Infos from [Ethics Commission](#) of TU Darmstadt:
  - *“... it is the Ethics Commission’s duty to evaluate whether the proposal submitted complies with the Zivilklausel. If you are planning a research project that could come into conflict with the Zivilklausel, you should submit an application to the Ethics Commission well in advance.”*
  - [Checklist](#) for Civil Clause (see next slide)
  - [Tips fo completing checklist](#) for Civil Clause



## The Zivilklausel of TU Darmstadt

“Research, teaching and studies at Technische Universität Darmstadt exclusively pursue peaceful goals and serve civilian purposes; research, particularly relating to the development and optimization of technical systems, as well as studies and teaching are focused on civilian use.”

1. Does the research proposal refer exclusively to pure research?

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Yes

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No

If „Yes“, proceed to question 5 – If „No“:

2. Is the research proposal governed by peaceful objectives?

(The maintenance, use and exploitation of non-violent means for settling potential conflicts are not compromised; there is no risk of usage in support of personal or structural force.)

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Yes

☐

No

If „Yes“, proceed to question 5 – If „No“:

3. Does the project exclusively serve civilian purposes (this also includes civilian use of force by law and order agencies)?

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Yes

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No

If „Yes“, proceed to question 5 – If „No“:

4. If military purposes are pursued, advantaged or not ruled out in the context of application-related optimisations (dual use): Are these purposes other than those in the interests of protection, supply, intelligence/surveillance or immedi-

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Yes

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No

5. Is the project set up so that optimisation options/application scenarios are geared to peaceful objectives?

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Yes

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No

6. Is the contracting entity a military or military-related institution, or a company or an arms-related area of business within a more broadly-based company in the field of defence technology?

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Yes

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No

7. Is there a risk of incipient structural dependence (financial, higher education policy-related) on the relevant research funding that could compromise the scope not to comply with wishes expressed by the contracting entity, which are of relevance to the *Zivilklausel*?

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Yes

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No

8. Could the publishing of research results be delayed, completely or partially prohibited, or subject to certain conditions for reasons of military secrecy?

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Yes

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No

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Further Infos on Civil Clause



- Discussion of CivilClause practice in contrast to the politics of the “turning point” with Christoph Marischka from the *Militarization Information Center* and Gunnar Jeremias from the *Center for Natural Science and Peace Research* (ZNF) at the University of Hamburg

## **"Wissenschaft zwischen Zeitenwende und Zivilklausel" 6. Nov 2023**

- further infos: <https://kritische-min-studierende.de/veranstaltungen/>
- Civil Clause Congress March 2024, Frankfurt: [link to declaration](#)
- Science4Peace Forum
  - **14 April 2024** discussion on Civil Clause
  - **29 Nov 2023** Humanitarian Impacts of Nuclear Weapons Use in Northeast Asia: Implications for Reducing Nuclear Risk in the Region by Prof Tatsujiro SUZUKI

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Separation of civil and military research



**ICAN**  
PARTNER

- [position paper](#) of the German Ministry of Education and Research BMBF
  - The possibilities for better integration of **military and civil research** are to be addressed
  - Exchange and cooperation between **civil and military research institutions is to be intensified** in order to put knowledge relevant for research security and German research capabilities on a broader footing and to strengthen inter- and transdisciplinary cooperation.
  - whether the various types of **civil clauses** are still appropriate in view of the changed geopolitical conditions and how civil clauses can be designed so that they take adequate account of the increasingly difficult differentiation of research in view of multiple possibilities for its use.



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Separation of civil and military research



**ICAN**  
PARTNER

- Referee Report 2024 of Expert Commission Research and Innovation:
  - remove strict divide between military and civil research
  - support of spillover and dual use
  - examples: DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) in US and military unit 8200 in Israel (participating in Gaza war)

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Civil Clause at CERN and DESY



- CERN statement of civil research in [CERN constitution](#) :
  - Article 2: *"The Organization shall have no concern with work for military requirements and the results of its experimental and theoretical work shall be published or otherwise made generally available."*
- DESY: Statement on research in ["Guiding Principles statement"](#)
  - *"Our research pursues goals that are peaceful and serve civil society"*



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DESY research



- Staff meeting Jun 17, 2024:
  - *Directory sees DESY's responsibility to contribute to the defense of our democratic system and starts an internal process with the aim of developing a common position of the laboratory.*
  - In the three areas of "national resilience, national militarism (Wehrhaftigkeit) and national robustness" DESY can play a role, and possibly provide the use of DESY equipment for military research (PETRA IV).

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Questions - general



- Didn't we always have an issue with Dual-Use ?
- Opening explicitly for military research means a significant change !
- Does present political situation require a change of research policy and opening for military research ?
  - why is a change needed ?
  - who wants what and in which interest ?
  - Pacifism: a Defense: see discussion in [S4P Forum Jan 25, 2022](#)
- Is military research (even for defense) to be performed at public international and national institutions ?
- Peaceful role of science: science is building bridges – Science For Peace idea
  - Science and peaceful research (not military research, but sometimes together with military) has led to Arms Control and Arms Control Treaties
  -

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## Questions - DESY



- Discussion in public as well as among employees is necessary:
  - DESY [ethics commission](#) must be involved: not yet even informed !
  - Is really a change in DESY [“Guiding Principles statement”](#) *"Our research pursues goals that are peaceful and serve civil society"* necessary ?
    - Dual use was always an issue, why explicitly allowing military research ?
  - Similar procedures as at Universities with Civil Clause possible ?
    - see [Checklist](#) for Civil Clause from TU Darmstadt to be send to ethics commission ?
  - DESY directorate must explain political intentions:
    - is funding at risk, if not opened for military research ?
    - is additional funding expected ?
    - who makes pressure on DESY to change policy ?
    - ....



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Next steps



- Need to form a group of people at DESY following and engaging in this discussion:
  - S4P Forum can help and will support, take responsibility
  - Activities must come from active DESY persons !

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AOB



- AOB

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- Science4Peace Webpage: <https://science4peace.com/>
  - Science4Peace Fund
    - source can be used to support with a small amount scientists
    - donations can be made online with PayPal



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Organization



- Science4Peace Webpage: <https://science4peace.com/>
  - Science4Peace Fund: ZOOM account and web page independent of any institution
- Please check <https://science4peace.com/> for further infos:
  - collection of links to statements from research institutions
  - public events (like this one, with slides)
  - any other further infos
- For discussions on Science4Peace matters, please use (and register) at our Signal channel ([Signal registration](#))