

Call for Papers

Workshop Title – Vernacular Security Studies: Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow?

Venue: Scarman House, University of Warwick, West Midlands, UK.

Date: 27 November 2023.

Convenors:

Lee Jarvis, Michael Lister, and Akinyemi Oyawale

It is nearly 20 years since the publication of Nils Bubandt’s influential article on ‘vernacular security’. The article became a vitally important conceptual and empirical intervention within critical security studies – not least by encouraging attentiveness to the everyday security discourse of non-elites. The years since publication have seen ever-expanding engagement with the concept, with new generations of scholars adapting and applying it for use in different geographical and thematic contexts. Through this work, the concept has travelled in diverse methodological and analytical directions, not least via contact with proximate theoretical frameworks - feminist, postcolonial, everyday security, and so forth.

To capitalise on this growing momentum, and to take stock of developments in vernacular security research, we are organising a workshop at the University of Warwick. The workshop represents an opportunity to reflect on and extend empirical and theoretical work, while pushing it in new directions. The workshop seeks to include critical engagement with the concept’s limitations and ambiguities, as well as suggestions for the travel of future research.

We therefore invite papers which address any of the following issues:

- The contexts, background, and influence of vernacular security research.
- The status, and diverse understandings, of vernacular security studies today.
- The conceptual, methodological, normative, and political contributions of vernacular security research.
- Connections to, and differences from, other ‘bottom up’ security research, such as everyday security studies, feminist scholarship, postcolonial, and decolonial work.
- Limitations, risks, blind spots, and silences within vernacular security research.
- Future directions for vernacular security research.

Please send 200-word abstracts to akinyemi.oyawale@warwick.ac.uk – **deadline 2 October 2023.**

Attendance at the workshop conference is free, refreshments will be provided.