

Berlin Climate and Security Conference 2026

6 October 2026, Berlin and livestreamed

Preliminary Agenda Overview

Climate change continues to fundamentally reshape the international peace and security landscape. As the world confronts growing instability – driven by intensifying climate impacts, resource pressures, geopolitical realignments, and the erosion of multilateral norms – the need for integrated, cross-sectoral responses has never been more urgent. Climate change is intensifying existing conflicts and threatening to trigger new ones, driving up downstream economic costs as extreme weather events and environmental destruction undermine supply chains, critical infrastructure, and – ultimately – security, freedom, and prosperity. Rising defence expenditures risk crowding out investment in human security, climate resilience and sustainable development. It is therefore critical to reframe and rethink how hard security, human security, and climate action can be pursued together, reinforcing each other rather than in competition.

Since its inaugural edition in 2019, the annual Berlin Climate and Security Conference (BCSC) has established itself as the leading global forum connecting governments, international organisations, researchers, civil society, and practitioners working at the intersection of climate change, peace, and security. Building on the momentum of [BCSC–New York](#) – convened in April at the German Permanent Mission to the UN, –the eighth annual BCSC, themed "*A climate for security, freedom and prosperity*", will identify practical solutions to the defining climate security challenges of our time. The conference will aim to:

1. **Accelerate the integration of climate security risk into decision-making across sectors and governance levels** – bringing insights from BCSC–New York 2026 into dialogue with defence and security actors, civil society, researchers, the private sector, and finance communities, with a view to informing COP31, the UN Water Conference and other international fora;
2. **Build concrete coalitions and partnerships that bridge traditional divides** – between diplomacy, defence, and development; between multilateral commitments and national action; and between established and emerging actors – advancing cross-sectoral cooperation on energy security, the just transition, and climate-positive reconstruction in conflict-affected contexts;
3. **Generate actionable policy and financing recommendations that translate political will into delivery** – identifying practical pathways to mobilise finance in fragile contexts, connect climate security assessments to prevention and financing, and strengthen the capacity of a wide range of actors to integrate climate risk into their core mandates;
4. **Show that national security and human security need to be considered together**– making the case that investing in climate resilience, human security, and sustainable development strengthens hard security, and building the evidence base to shift political and institutional thinking accordingly.

AGENDA AND TOPICS OVERVIEW *

<i>Opening</i>	Welcome and opening
<i>Panel discussion</i>	Shrinking spaces, new levers: Turning climate adaptation into strategic advantage for stability, energy and defence
<i>Panel discussion</i>	The price of fragility: From climate risk to economic security and resilience
<i>Breakout sessions I</i>	• Climate disinformation, AI and security • Integrated climate, peace and security programming • Urban climate risks and opportunities for resilience • Anticipatory action and strategic foresight
<i>Panel discussion</i>	From rubble to resilience: The case for climate-positive post-conflict reconstruction in Syria
<i>Spotlight sessions</i>	• Nature and ecosystems as security infrastructure • Health, heatwaves and human security
<i>Breakout sessions II</i>	• Climate-induced fragility and terrorism • Global security and governance of Solar Radiation Modification • Climate investments and the geopolitics of climate risk • Energy security, supply chains and geopolitics
<i>Panel discussion</i>	The middle ground: How middle powers are driving climate security cooperation
<i>Closing</i>	Closing remarks
<i>Networking reception</i>	Light dinner and drinks

With world class climate, peace and security expertise in attendance, beyond the main conference day BCSC 2026 will also provide the opportunity for side events and strategic meetings and networking with groups such as the Climate for Peace Initiative, the Climate Security Expert Network, the Strategic Advisory Board of Weathering Risk, the Baku Climate and Peace Action Hub and the EU group of friends on climate & security.

In-person participation is by invitation only. All main conference sessions will be livestreamed. Additional livestreamed breakout sessions will be announced on the conference website.

BCSC 2026 will take place at the German Federal Foreign Office in Berlin. Further details will follow.

*Kindly note that the agenda is still preliminary and subject to change.
Please check the website for updates.