



In partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

**M. Sc. Global Sustainability Science**  
**Pia Sophie Schwanenberg**

Will present her scientific paper

**Forces for Future – A Vision of the Bundeswehr as a Sustainability  
Change Agent**

Wednesday, July 15th, 2020  
8am AZ time (5pm German time)

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:  
<https://asu.zoom.us/j/93764618396>  
Meeting-ID: 937 6461 8396  
Password: 841730

Faculty, students, and the general public are invited.

Supervisory Committee:  
Prof. Arnim Wiek (ASU)  
Prof. Thomas Schomerus (Leuphana)

**Abstract**

**Purpose** – The paper aims to develop and illustrate a detailed vision of the Bundeswehr as a sustainability change agent in 2025 based on a thorough sustainability assessment of the current state and the identification of the Bundeswehr’s unused potential for sustainability.

**Design** – Following a backcasting approach the paper creates a sufficient understanding of the current state as a basis for developing and constructing a

desirable sustainable future state. The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) function as criteria for the sustainability assessment and define the normative framework guiding the development of the vision.

**Findings** – The Bundeswehr's mission and tasks must be re-interpreted in the light of current circumstances and sustainability challenges. The Bundeswehr's mission, tasks and operations align with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. The Bundeswehr already contributes to the achievement of many SDGs. The Bundeswehr holds great potential to drive the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals as a sustainability change agent.

**Originality/Value** – Taking a comprehensive approach to sustainability this paper is adding transformative sustainability research on the Bundeswehr to the so far rather descriptive-analytical scientific discourse focused around security threats induced and intensified by climate change.