

Dr. Kristin Ven Bruusgaard

[Kristin Ven Bruusgaard | LinkedIn](#)

@kbruusgaard

APPOINTMENTS/PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2022 – current Director, Norwegian Intelligence School,
Norwegian Intelligence Service

2021 – 2023 Deputy Leader, Norwegian Government-appointed Defence Commission

2019 – 2022 Postdoctoral Fellow, Oslo Nuclear Project,
Department of Political Science, University of Oslo

2018 – 2019 Nuclear Security Postdoctoral Fellow,
Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC), Stanford University

2017 – 2018 Stanton Nuclear Security Predoctoral Fellow, CISAC, Stanford University

2014 – 2018 Research Fellow, Norwegian Institute for Defense Studies (IFS), Oslo, Norway

2011– 2014 Senior Security Policy Analyst, Norwegian Armed Forces

2009-2011 Security Policy Analyst, Norwegian Armed Forces

2008 Intern, Congressional Research Service, Foreign Affairs and Trade Division,
U.S. Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

2006 – 2008 Junior Researcher, Norwegian Defense Research Establishment (FFI), Kjeller, Norway

2007 Guest researcher, Carnegie Moscow Center, Moscow, Russia

2004 Stagiaire, Royal Norwegian Delegation to the European Union, Brussels

2002 Intern, NATO HQ Office for Information and Press, Brussels

EDUCATION

2014-2018 Ph.D in Defense Studies, King's College London
Dissertation: "Russian Nuclear strategy after the Cold War"

2007-2009 M.A. Security Studies, Georgetown University
Certificate in Eurasian, Russian & Eastern European Studies

2004-2005 NCO officer training/Russian language officer training
Norwegian Defense Intelligence & Security School (FSSES)

2000-2003 B.A. (Hons) Politics and International Studies, Warwick University

1999-2000 Diploma de Estudios Hispánicos, Universidad de Barcelona

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2020 Journal of Strategic Studies 2020 Amos Perlmutter Prize

2019-2023 Oslo Nuclear Project Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of Oslo

2018-2019 MacArthur Nuclear Security Postdoctoral Fellowship, Center for International Security
and Cooperation (CISAC) Stanford University

2017-2018 Stanton Nuclear Security Predoctoral Fellowship, CISAC, Stanford University

2017 UK Ministry of Defence Doctrine, Concepts and Development Centre Commission

2016-2017 Norwegian Defence University College Equal Opportunities Fellowship

2009 Norwegian Defence Research Establishment (FFI) Publication Prize

2009 Academic Achievement Award, Security Studies Program, Georgetown University

2008-2009 Security Studies Program Scholarship, Georgetown University

2007-2009 2-year Fulbright scholarship, Georgetown University

2005 Dress sword for Best Cadet, Norwegian Defense Intelligence and Security School (FSSES)

2005 Best Cadet in Military Subjects Award, FSSES

2002 Fred Hirsch Award for Academic Excellence in International Politics, Warwick University

PUBLICATIONS

Works in progress

Russian Nuclear Strategy after the Cold War (Book manuscript)

The risks of exaggerating Russian nuclear ambitions, Book chapter *Atomic Backfires* (MIT Press)

Why Go First: Distinguishing Strategies of Nuclear First Use in Great Power Conflict (Article, co-authored with Fiona Cunningham)

Auditing Deterrence Strategy: NATO, Russia, and European Security (Article draft)

Peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven (2021), "Chapter 10 The Stickiness of Strategy: Soviet and Russian Nuclear Doctrine", in Nuno Monteiro and Fritz Bartels (Eds.) [*Before and After the Fall: World Politics and the End of the Cold War*](#) (Cambridge University Press)

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven (2021), "Russian Deterrence Strategy and European Security", in Pentti Forsström (Ed.) [*Russian concept of deterrence in contemporary and classic perspective*](#), Finnish National Defense University, Department of Warfare, Series 2: Research Reports No. 11.

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven og Målfrid Braut-Hegghammer (2021), «Kap. 19 Rolfs strategiske forskningsgjerning: Fra Nordområdene til Net Assessment», i Helge Ø. Pharo et al (Red.) *Historiker, strateg og brobygger. Festskrift til Rolf Tamnes 70 år* (Oslo: Pax Forlag)

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven (2021), "[Russian nuclear strategy and conventional inferiority](#)", *Journal of Strategic Studies*, Vol. 44 Issue 1 (winner of the 2020 Amos Perlmutter Prize)

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven and Jackie A. Kerr, (2020) "Old and New Sources of Crisis Instability in the New Information Ecosystem", in Harold Trinkunas, Herb Lin and Ben Loehrke (Eds.) [*Three Tweets to Midnight. Effects of the Global Information Ecosystem on the Risk of Nuclear Conflict*](#), Hoover Institution Press

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven (2018), "[Russia and strategic competition with the United States](#)", in *Current Russia Military Affairs: Assessing and Countering Russian Strategy, Operational Planning and Modernization*, Dr. John R. Deni (Ed.), U.S. Army War College Strategic Studies Institute

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven (2016) "[Russian Strategic Deterrence](#)", *Survival*, Vol. 58 Issue 4

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven (2014) "[Crimea and Russia's Strategic Overhaul](#)", *U.S. Army War College Quarterly Parameters* Vol. 44 Issue 3

Åtland, Kristian & Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven, (2009) "[When Security Speech Acts Misfire: Russia and the 'Elektron' Incident](#)", *Security Dialogue* Vol. 40 Issue 3

Select policy pieces, op eds and book reviews

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven (2022), The myth of Russian De-escalation, Chatham House (forthcoming)

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven, (2022) invited columnist for Norwegian business daily Dagens Næringsliv

[Kronikk: Winter is coming | DN](#)

[Kronikk: Natos våpentunge fremtid | DN](#)

[Kronikk: Vinn eller forsvinn i Ukraina? | DN](#)

[Kronikk: Ønsker vi Putin presset opp i et hjørne? | DN](#)

[Kronikk: Bør Norge søke å berolige et ekspansjonistisk Russland? | DN](#)

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven (2022) [Blir risikoen for russisk atomvåpenbruk større jo lenger krigen i Ukraina varer? \(aftenposten.no\)](#)

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven (2022), [As Russia struggles in Ukraine, will Putin break the nuclear taboo? | Kristin Ven Bruusgaard | The Guardian](#)

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven (2022); [Understanding Putin's Nuclear Decision-Making - War on the Rocks](#), War on the Rocks, 22. march

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven (2021), ["Anti-nuclear sentiment the Continued Relevance of Nuclear Deterrence"](#) in Christian Ruhl, John Gans and Michael C. Horowitz (Eds.) Policy roundtable Transatlantic Relations, *Texas National Security Review*

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven (2021), [«Russiske kjernefysiske styrker»](#), Bokomtale, *Nordisk Østforum* 35; 117-119

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven (2020), ["The nuclear umbrella is necessary for credible security"](#), (in Norwegian), *Aftenposten*, 17 November

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven (2020), ["Russia's new nuclear strategy"](#) (in Norwegian), *Ukens Analyse*, The Norwegian Atlantic Committee, 16 June

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven (2020) ["Russia killed arms control. Why does it want to save New START?"](#), *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, February 5

Braut-Hegghammer, Målfrid, Kristin Ven Bruusgaard and Even H. Larsen (2020), [«Faren for atomkrig er reell. Hvordan kan Norge møte utfordringene? Oslo Nuclear Project»](#), Op. Ed, *Aftenposten*, February 20

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven (2019), "Russland som regional utfordrer/Russia as a Regional Challenger" (in Norwegian), in [Truslene – Konseptene – Ressursene – Alliansen](#), *IFS Insight* 11-12/2019

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven and Målfrid Braut-Hegghammer (2019), ["Dangerous treaty collapse"](#), Op.ed. *Dagens Næringsliv*, 6 February

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven (2018), ["Here's why U.S. tactical nukes are a bad idea"](#), *The National Interest Online*, 10 December

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven (2018), ["The Russian Rogue in the New Nuclear Posture Review"](#), in Frank Gavin (Ed.) Policy Roundtable on the Trump Administration's Nuclear Posture Review, *Texas National Security Review*

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven (2018) ["Deterrence in the High North"](#) *The Norwegian Atlantic Committee Security Brief*, 3-2018

Bruusgaard, Kristin Ven (2017), ["The myth of Russia's lowered nuclear threshold"](#), *War on the Rocks*

TEACHING

University of Oslo

STV1020 Political Analysis (Lecturer)

STV1212 Nuclear Weapons and International Conflict (Lecturer, Course convener)

STV2230 International Security Policy (lecturer)

INTER3090 Bachelor thesis (Seminar leader)

STV4225B Strategy and Security Policy (lecturer, Course convener)

STV4252 Politics and Strategy in the Nuclear Age (Lecturer)

PhD supervisor (3 PhD students), MA thesis supervisor (10 MA students), MA examiner (5 MA students)

Norwegian Defence University College (Forsvarets Høgskole)

Seminar leader and MA thesis advisor, Lecturer in nuclear weapons, Russian Nuclear Strategy, Russian Grand Strategy, Military Strategy and Military Doctrine, Countering Hybrid Threats

Guest lectures at NATO School Oberammergau, Princeton University, Finnish Defense University, Harvard University, University of California San Diego PPNT Nuclear Boot Camp, Swedish Defense

University, University of St. Andrews, US Naval Postgraduate School Monterey, University of California Berkeley, Stanford University, Kings College London

OUTREACH

Select international media and podcasts

Interviews and commentary to range of international news outlets, including NHK Japanese Public Broadcaster, Polish Newspaper Rzeczpospolita, Al Jazeera, Finnish National Broadcasting, Swedish Dagens Nyheter, Agence France Presse, BBC Evening News, Danish Dagbladet Information, RFI France, France24, and several Norwegian outlets: Dagbladet, VG, Aftenposten, Dagsavisen, NRK, NTB, TV2.

[A new nuclear era | The Economist](#), 25. May 2022

[Stream Russia's invasion of Ukraine by Ploughshares Fund | Listen online for free on SoundCloud](#) Press the Button, 5. March 2022

[How to avoid a nuclear war – POLITICO](#) 11. March 2022

[Machiavelli in the Ivory Tower: Episode 03: Nuclear Escalation and the War in Ukraine: A Conversation with Dr. Kristin ven Bruusgaard on Apple Podcasts](#)

Select academic outreach

European Initiative on Security Studies WMD Panel chair, July 2022

UK Defence Academy/ King's College Deterrence Conference, June 2022

Norwegian Atlantic Committee Leangkollen Conference, May 2022

US Naval Postgraduate School Deterrence Seminar, December 2021

MIT Security Studies Seminar Series, March 2021

Keynote speaker, Finnish National Defense University Annual Russia Seminar 2021

NATO Early Career Nuclear Strategists Workshop, 1 July 2020

CISAC and The Europe Center Seminar, Stanford University, 30 June 2020

Managing the Atom Seminar Series, Harvard University, 3 June 2020

Los Alamos National Laboratory/Woodrow Wilson Center Conference, 8 November 2019

IFS Seminar: How will we defend Norway? 23 September 2019

Launch event Oslo Nuclear Project, UN NPT Review Conference Side Event, 3 May 2019

Stimson Center panel debate, 20 March 2019

Inaugural Theory and Practice of Security Conference, Georgetown University, 19 March 2019

Sandia National Laboratory Bay Area Speaker Series, Livermore, 29 January 2019

Center for Nonproliferation Studies, Middlebury Institute for International Affairs, January 2019

CSIS Center for Strategic and International Studies Russia series, Washington, DC, 16 November 2018

UCSD IGCC/Governor Jerry Brown of California Workshop, Sacramento, 27 November 2018

Norwegian Army Summit, Oslo, 18 September 2018

STRATCOM Academic Alliance Speaker, 17 April 2018

CISAC Social Science Seminar, Stanford University, 18 January 2018

Lawrence Livermore Annual Deterrence Symposium, 15 November 2017

US State Department Bureau of Intelligence and Research, January 2017

Strategic Weapons in the 21st Century, Washington, DC, 26 January 2017

SERVICE AND APPOINTMENTS

Deputy leader, Government appointed Norwegian Defence Commission, 2021-2023

Affiliate, Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University

Board Member, Department of Political Science, University of Oslo 2019-2022

Chair of the CISAC Nuclear Reading Group 2018/2019, Stanford University

Manuscript and book reviewer, *International Security*, *Security Studies*, *SIPRI Journal*, *Journal of Strategic Studies*, *Nonproliferation Review*, *U.S. Army War College Quarterly Parameters*, *Nordisk Øst-Forum*

Member International Studies Association and American Political Science Association

Member of Russian Academy of Sciences ISKRAN-University of Maryland CISSM Working Group

Moscow Engineering and Physics Institute/Stanford University Young Professionals Nuclear Forum

LANGUAGES Norwegian (mother tongue), Russian (intermediate level), Spanish, German