

Panel 8:
NIG Annual Work Conference 2015,
5-6 November, Nijmegen
<http://www.utwente.nl/nig/research/conference/>

Trending Topics in Safety and Security Research: Integrated, Resilience, Risk Management, and Leadership

Safety and security are core functions of the nation state. Consequently, the government pays ample attention to these issues. Academics and government, however, are currently emphasizing a number of topics related to safety and security, including:

- risk management – e.g., how to avoid risk, how much avoiding risk should cost, and how to shift risk away to citizens and corporations
- resilience – e.g., how to bounce back after crisis and how to facilitate resilience
- integrated policy approach – that is, the realization that a single government organization cannot deal with a complex/wicked problem such as safety and thus the need to work together with other (non-)governmental organizations in networks at different levels of government (e.g., safety houses, integrated safety policy, safety regions, security management)
- leadership – e.g., how can leaders best manage a crisis, how does the accountability process work, and how can leaders facilitate learning in their organization following a crisis?

Intriguing topics which sometimes are still a bit vague and difficult to understand. For instance, how do networks actually effectively and efficiently work together in order to facilitate safety and if one of the partners in the network changes drastically (e.g. police reorganization) how does that affect the whole network? Does the government spend its money wisely considering the critique of the risk regulation reflex? Is there indeed a tendency to create policies and protocols to which leaders can refer to as an excuse when things do go wrong? What is resilience? Is resilience actually something which can be achieved and if so, at what cost?

These and many more questions drive this panel. The aim of this panel is therefore to allow researchers to present their ideas and research on these topics related to safety and security management in order to improve our understanding of the concepts of risk management, resilience, integrated policy approach, and leadership. Consequently, we welcome a broad variety of conceptual and/or empirical papers ranging from the brainstorm stage to papers about to be submitted.

Considering the panel's aim and focus, this panel's theme is connected to three of the four NIG themes: multi-actor governance in complexity (most notably the integrated policy approach and network approach to safety and security), political institutions and democracy (such as leaders' accountability following crises), and public management (as safety and security are one of the core functions of government).

Lastly, since Ruth Prins, one of the chairs of this panel, is an editor for the journal *Tijdschrift voor Veiligheid*, a special issue will be considered for this journal depending on the contributions.

Panel chairs:

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Questions about this panel can be directed to Ruth Prins (r.s.prins@cdh.leidenuniv.nl).

PANEL proposals have to meet the following requirements:

- A description of the proposed theme for the panel (max. 800 words, in English)
- A description of the linkage between the panel and a subtheme of the NIG research programme (max. 200 words, in English)
- The type of papers (and topics) you would expect to be submitted for your panel
- A tentative list of senior members who will be invited for submitting a paper. **NIG wants to stimulate the participation of its senior members (either as paper presenter or as discussant) and the participation of seniors is therefore an important criteria for the acceptance of proposals.**
- There should be at least two organizers (one of them preferably being a senior member) from two different institutions for a panel; the proposal should mention your names, affiliation and address information.