

# About me



- ▶ Studied Physics at University of Bonn.  
Co-Fellows:
  - Stefan Söldner-Rembold (University of Manchester, ICL, DUNE and D0 spokesman).
  - Karl Jakobs (Uni Freiburg, spokesman ATLAS).
- ▶ Did my Phd at the Max-Planck-Institute in Munich.  
Co-Fellow:
  - Uli Katz (FAU/ECAP, Erlangen).
- ▶ Research at CERN between 1983 - 1989: Neutral Currents (in BEBC).  
Colleagues at CERN (among many):
  - Amanda Cooper-Sarkar
  - Andy Parker
  - Roger Jones
  - Donald Perkins
- ▶ Moved to Industry for an US/Israel company '*Fibronics*' and 'joined' the Internet development, in particular regarding networking and software development.  
Colleagues:
  - Orna Berry (now at Google).
- ▶ Lecturer and Professor of Computer Science since 2007 at the Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences (FRAUAS).

Member of the Munich '*Schwabinger Friedensinitiative*' (among others).

## About Military Research at our University

- ▶ The FRAUAS is potentially impacted for military research at Faculty 2: *Computer Science and Engineering*.
- ▶ In 2016, the 'Die Linke' deputy *Janine Wissler* requested an analysis ('kleine Anfrage') in the parliament to detail the state of military research at the Universities of the German federal state Hesse<sup>1</sup>: The result was: Negligible, and for our University none-existing (no wonder).
- ▶ However, at the FRAUAS a so-called '*Zivilklausel*' is **not** part of the University's foundation, unlike given at the Goethe University<sup>2</sup>.
- ▶ Public opinion tries to disfavour and remove the '*Zivilklausel*' from the Universities statute<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup><https://starweb.hessen.de/cache/DRS/19/5/03225.pdf>

<sup>2</sup>[https://www.thm.de/site/images/planung/Landtagsdrucksachen/2022/DS\\_20\\_6404\\_militaerische\\_Forschung\\_AW\\_HMWK.pdf](https://www.thm.de/site/images/planung/Landtagsdrucksachen/2022/DS_20_6404_militaerische_Forschung_AW_HMWK.pdf)

<sup>3</sup><https://www.faz.net/aktuell/rhein-main/region-und-hessen/sollten-unis-mit-ruestungskonzernen-kooperieren-18779548.html>,  
<https://www.faz.net/aktuell/rhein-main/region-und-hessen/zivilklauseln-an-hessischen-unis-bleiben-19623257.html>,  
<https://critica-zeitung.de/2022/03/23/rollback-gegen-die-zivilklausel-an-der-goethe-universitaet-frankfurt/>

## 'Dual-Use' Products and Research

- ▶ In 2022 the University's President informed us about '*Umgang mit sicherheitsrelevanter Forschung in Deutschland*' as presented in a position paper laid out by the German '*Kommissionen für Ethik sicherheitsrelevanter Forschung (KEFs)*' (Leopoldina<sup>4</sup>) – together with the '*Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft*' (DFG). This aligns with a guideline for 'Dual-Use' products which are subject of export controls<sup>5</sup> from the *German Government Board for Economy and Export Controls (BAFA)*.
- ▶ Here – we as researcher – are made directly responsible to comply with those rules. The University however, shall not be liable for any kind of potential consequences; which was disputed.  
(*Sie sind als Wissenschaftlerinnen und Wissenschaftler persönlich verantwortlich für die Einhaltung der Exportkontrollvorschriften rund um Ihre eigene Arbeit, eine Haftungsübernahme durch die Hochschule/ Hochschulleitung ist ausgeschlossen.*)
- ▶ As a consequence, we needed to
  1. inform the University about potential 'dual use' research, here in particular research in Artificial Intelligence (AI)
  2. potentially remove students and expel colleagues from such programs if they belong to 'banned countries' like Russia and Iran.

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<sup>4</sup><https://www.leopoldina.org/publikationen/detailansicht/publication/wissenschaftsfreiheit-und-wissenschaftsverantwortung-2014/>

<sup>5</sup>[https://www.bafa.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/Aussenwirtschaft/afk\\_aca\\_broschuere\\_handbuch.html?nn=8062116](https://www.bafa.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/Aussenwirtschaft/afk_aca_broschuere_handbuch.html?nn=8062116)

## About Exclusion of Students for Research given the Embargo list

As a matter of fact, we had one Phd student from Iran (and nationality) working on the above subject. However, the '*Handbuch Exportkontrolle*' provides some hints given the '*criticality*' of the research and the involved person, in particular if a person is living in the country being subject of the embargo.

### Summary:

- ▶ At FRAUAS no military research seems to be in reach and there is currently no pressure to include it.
- ▶ Impact on teaching and research however is significant reducing the free exchange of people and ideas.
- ▶ Research results including potential Dual-Use subjects may not be published on unrestricted channels.

↔ The University is suffering from the first step of *Antebellum* political activities; the second step – preparing the civil society for war – has not yet started.

### Disclaimer:

This draft expresses my own opinions and not necessarily those I am affiliated with, the Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences.

### Contact:

- ▶ <mailto:hoffmann-at-fehcom.de>
- ▶ <https://www.fehcom.net>