

Dr Joris Van Bladel holds a PhD in Russian studies (Groningen, The Netherlands). His research was basically focused on Russian military reform (and especially the 'soldiers' question). He was also affiliated with Chris Donnelly who acted as the personal advisor on Russian affairs to the general-secretary of NATO. Joris Van Bladel's research is currently focused on the question of (1) how new types of conflicts are influencing the military organization and vice versa. Studying organizational change, organizational culture and organizational learning in a national and international context provide the tools for a comparative analysis; (2) Peacekeeping: its failures and successes, decision-making in peace operations and the different perspectives on the concept of peacekeeping in the Eurasian region; (3) the announced changes in Russian foreign and defense policy.