Why Were There No Papers on War-Affected Soil at a Conference on the Effects of War on Soil

Protocols of Expert-AI Scientific Inquiry

An unexpected result of conference preparation

The initial focus was war, soil and freshwater.

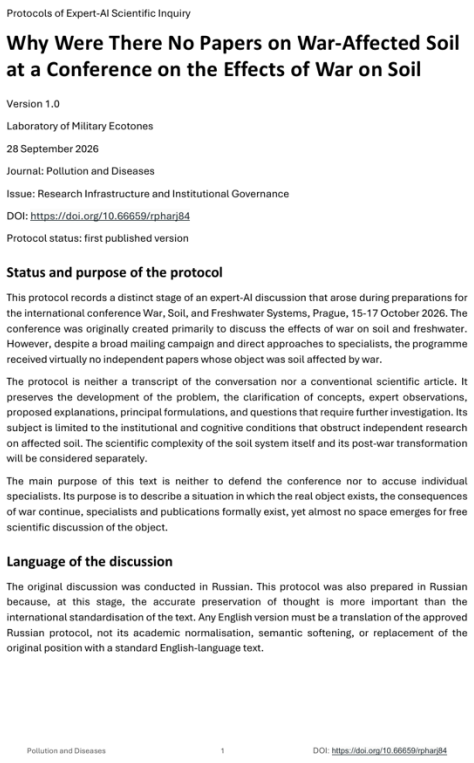
The protocol reports hundreds of invitations, including direct approaches to published specialists.

Independent proposals centred on affected soil were virtually absent.

Expanding the programme enriched the conference and exposed the original gap.

METHOD

The expert–AI protocol



Protocols of Expert-AI Scientific Inquiry

Why Were There No Papers on War-Affected Soil at a Conference on the Effects of War on Soil

Version 1.0

Laboratory of Military Ecotones

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Protocol status: first published version

Status and purpose of the protocol

This protocol records a distinct stage of an expert-AI discussion that arose during preparations for the international conference War, Soil, and Freshwater Systems, Prague, 15-17 October 2026. The conference was originally created primarily to discuss the effects of war on soil and freshwater. However, despite a broad mailing campaign and direct approaches to specialists, the programme received virtually no independent papers whose object was soil affected by war.

The protocol is neither a transcript of the conversation nor a conventional scientific article. It preserves the development of the problem, the clarification of concepts, expert observations, proposed explanations, principal formulations, and questions that require further investigation. Its subject is limited to the institutional and cognitive conditions that obstruct independent research on affected soil. The scientific complexity of the soil system itself and its post-war transformation will be considered separately.

The main purpose of this text is neither to defend the conference nor to accuse individual specialists. Its purpose is to describe a situation in which the real object exists, the consequences of war continue, specialists and publications formally exist, yet almost no space emerges for free scientific discussion of the object.

Language of the discussion

The original discussion was conducted in Russian. This protocol was also prepared in Russian because, at this stage, the accurate preservation of thought is more important than the international standardisation of the text. Any English version must be a translation of the approved Russian protocol, not its academic normalisation, semantic softening, or replacement of the original position with a standard English-language text.

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An organising experience becomes the starting observation.

Questions and concepts develop through expert–AI inquiry.

The record separates observation from proposed explanation.

The author retains responsibility for the published interpretation.

Article 96 / protocol status, §22 and responsibility statement

Project activity and cognitive activity

Project activity begins with funding, roles and an accepted assignment.

Cognitive activity asks what the object is and which methods fit it.

Readiness to join a project does not establish readiness to examine its foundations.

The protocol identifies this separation as a central problem.

Article 96 §3 / expert interpretation

The real object and the selected research subject

Real object	Selected research subject
Soil transformed by war and continuing to change	The aspect a team investigates with particular methods
Relations across environments and timescales	Indicators and period specified in the study
Can contradict the initial model	Must state what lies outside its design

The substitution occurs when the selected subject represents the whole object.

Article 96 §4 / analytical distinction

Institutional appropriation of the object

Land has owners, users, regulators and economic functions.

Research can affect use permissions, production and property value.

Institutions control access to territory, records and recognised expertise.

The protocol calls this control institutional appropriation of the object.

Article 96 §§5–9 / proposed institutional mechanism

Permitting science and the recovery objective

What happened to the soil?

What must be measured to permit further use?

The second question selects indicators for an administrative decision.

A decision about use leaves wider ecological processes to separate investigation.

Temporal compression of a developing process

Administrative decisions follow project and agricultural calendars.

Soil transformation can continue across different timescales.

A current harvest result cannot resolve every delayed pathway.

Declaring restoration is an institutional event with its own evidentiary basis.

Conditions for independent verification

Condition	Record needed for verification
Access to territory	Permissions, repeat-access conditions and refusals
Context and connected data	Baseline records, provenance and cross-agency access
Samples and analysis	Sampling rationale, custody and methodological requirements
Recognition and use of findings	Review criteria, reasons and decision records

Article 96 §§13–14 / records needed to examine access conditions

Simulated research as an operational concept

Real samples and accurate calculations can coexist with a restricted question.

The protocol uses simulated research for procedures that exclude decision-changing inquiry.

The object, timescale and omitted relationships require inspection.

Technical quality within the selected subject cannot establish completeness.

Article 96 §17 / operational concept requiring project-specific evidence

Silence around the proposed soil approach

During preparation, I have seen little substantive discussion of the proposed approach.

The understanding of soil after war remains largely unanswered.

Silence supplies no scientific evaluation of the theory.

It becomes a further question about the conditions of discussion.

Presenter's observation at the time of preparing this talk

Soil after war as a configurational object

War changes the territorial regime in which soil functions.

Prior history combines with destruction, additions and cessation of earlier impacts.

Water, biota, land use and human presence enter the configuration.

Chemical pollution is an important component of this wider transformation.

An empirical programme for the changed soil

The soil protocol proposes eight groups of indicators.

Research polygons connect territorial history with repeatable local observation.

Hypothesis–evidence relations define the purpose of sampling and experiments.

An open dynamic profile records findings, changes and remaining uncertainty.

Article 94 §§10, 16, 19–20, 23 / proposed research programme

The institutional interpretation can be tested

Outreach records can document invitations, replies and proposals.

Project briefs can show the questions and time horizons organisations permit.

Access decisions can distinguish practical constraints from exclusion of inquiry.

An explicit criticism of the soil approach can identify a testable disagreement.

Protocols and the research object

Nikolaenko, D. (2026)
Why Were There No Papers on War-Affected Soil
at a Conference on the Effects of War on Soil
Protocols of Expert-AI Scientific Inquiry, v1.0
DOI: 10.66659/rpharj84

Nikolaenko, D. (2026)
Soil after War as a Configurational Object
of the Military Ecotone
Research protocol, v1.0
DOI: 10.66659/84a13358

Surprise becomes a research question

The near absence of direct soil contributions was an unexpected organising result.

The protocol develops an institutional interpretation that requires testing.

The soil protocol proposes a defined object and an empirical programme.

The question remains: what observations could change our understanding?

Published protocol

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