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Conference attendees in the main hall of Bintumani Conference Centre, Freetown.

26th IPRA Conference in Sierra Leone Ends on a High Note

By Senthan Selvarajah

The International Peace Research Association (IPRA) successfully held its 26th General Conference on 'Agenda for Peace and Development: Conflict Prevention, Post-Conflict Transformation, and the Conflict, Disaster Risk and Sustainable Development Debate' in collaboration with the 10TH Dealing With Disasters Series, Northumbria University (UK) and Sakarya University (Turkey) and the University of Sierra Leone at the Bintumani Conference Centre in Freetown, Sierra Leone from November 27 to 1st December 2016.

The conference, which was hosted by the University of Sierra Leone, brought together peace researchers, experts, activists, representatives of civil society organisations and community based organisations, social activists and human rights activists from all over the world. More than 300 participants took part in the conference from 82 countries to present academic papers and share their ideas, research findings, experiences and practices.

The conference also aimed at fostering links between researchers, policy makers, activists, civil society organisations, human rights activists and the media to better address the issues of just peace in the world.

The conference grand opening ceremony took place on Sunday November 27th following registration of participants and three parallel pre-conference workshops facilitat-

ed by the Risk and Conflict, Conflict-sensitive journalism, Practice-based peace Working Groups. The conference was officially declared open in a statement by the Vice President of Sierra Leone Honourable Victor Bockarie Foh.

The Deputy Vice Chancellor of University of Sierra Leone Professor Thomas Gbamanja presided over the inaugural event while the welcome speech was delivered by the Vice Chancellor of the University of Sierra Leone Professor Ekundayo Thompson. The IPRA Secretaries General Dr Ibrahim Seaga Shaw and Dr Nesrin Kenar, the World Bank Country Director Parminder P.S. Brar, Dr Guan Yi, CEO, Shanxi Zhuoao Organisation, Xian, China, Professor Andrew Collins, Director, Disaster and Development Network, Northumbria University addressed the inaugural day event.

Most of those who addressed the event congratulated the Secretaries General Dr Ibrahim Seaga Shaw and Dr Nesrin Kenar for conducting the conference successfully, in a brave way, despite several challenges. This 26th Conference has the distinction of being the conference held in an African country for the second time in the history of IPRA, the first time in West Africa.

In his statement, IPRA Secretary General Dr Ibrahim Seaga Shaw said the main idea of the conference on AGENDA FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT "is to bring peace

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Dignitaries at the opening ceremony for the IPRA 26th IPRA General Conference

researchers from all over the world to explore the 'hidden narratives' of conflict, which the founder of peace research, Johann Galtung refers to as 'invisible' structural and cultural forms of violence in his ABC conflict triangle, and which are often ignored in research and policy interventions to address the challenges of peace and development." Dr Shaw, who is also Senior Lecturer in Media and Politics at Northumbria university in the UK, said the aim of the conference is to shift the focus of peace researchers and policy makers from more dramatic challenges of peace and development such as wars, terrorism, civil wars, disasters, to those less visible issues such as global poverty, discrimination, marginalisation, human trafficking, forced migration, which if not addressed, or prevented, could lead to more dramatic challenges of global peace and development.

Dr Shaw provided a brief background about IPRA, including its history and affiliation with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) where IPRA has five permanent representatives, as well as UNESCO and International Social Science Research Council.

He said when he campaigned to be IPRA Secretary General at the IPRA 24th General Conference in Japan in 2012, "it was on the basis of bringing the conference to Africa for the second time in the 52nd year history of IPRA (the last time was in Durban, South Africa in 1998), and to his home country, Sierra Leone, which went through one of Africa's bloodiest civil wars in the 1990s, and which recently, according to UN Secretary General Banki Moon, made the transition from a post-conflict country to one of development, thus making it the best African candidate to host the 26th IPRA conference. Dr said when he announced this plan, including at the 25th IPRA conference in Istanbul, some of his IPRA colleagues were not sure, especially given the Ebola outbreak in 2014-2015; however, he said through hard work and support from his colleague co-secretary General Dr Nesrin Kenar, and members of the conference organising team, especially those in Sierra Leone led by Mrs Memunatu Pratt and Mrs Bernadette Cole, as well as support from local and international organisations, he was able to pull it through as planned.

In her statement, Dr Shaw's co-secretary general, Dr Nesrin Kenar emphasized why it is appropriate to hold that conference in Sierra Leone given the country's recent history of conflict despite the challenges encountered. She said the conference theme was a very good follow up to the IPRA conference held in 2014 in her country Turkey which focused on the search for universal peace. She said organising this conference in Freetown and the one in Turkey in the past four years of their term has made IPRA to be more global which is important for the international credibility of the organisation.

In his statement, the World Bank Sierra Leone Manager, Parmendrar Brar, expressed appreciation to IPRA for choosing Sierra Leone as the host of this important global peace conference. He said despite some challenges, including the recent civil war and Ebola outbreak, Sierra Leone has made progress as one of the fastest growing economies in Africa and sees this global peace conference as a boost of confidence in the country as destination for foreign investment and tourism.

The Sierra Leone Police Band provided music during the opening ceremony, which was closed with a Cocktail Reception and light entertainment by the Sierra Leone National Dance Troupe supported by the University of Sierra Leone in partnership with World Bank Sierra Leone.

During the conference IPRA announced Dr Guan Yi, a member of All-China Youth Federation and CEO of Shanxi Zhuoao Organisation and chairman of China Zhuoao Group and China Shandong Huidong Group as IPRA Peace Ambassador to China to promote its aims, objectives and programmes. In his statement at the Opening Ceremony, Dr Yi said: "Peaceful development for China and the world needs healthy and well-intentional interactions between China and other countries. And I am very glad and couldn't resist but to restate again, that the 2016 IPRA conference indeed makes this effort in peace and development happening via bridging the network of communication among people from about over 100 countries."

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For more on the opening ceremony visit this You Tube video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=93baLHdRmzY>. It is also available on the IPRA web site www.iprapeace.org

In all, seven thematic plenary and about 40 commission break-out sessions presented by 20 IPRA commissions were held during mornings and afternoons of the remaining three and half days where over 300 peace researchers, peace practitioners and Human Rights activists from 82 several countries of the world representing all continents delivered their research papers. The World Bank Sierra Leone also organised a session on 'Conflict, Security, and Governance' with speakers including its Country Manager, Parmendrar Brar. Further, several training workshops, including one for local journalists on peace journalism, were also conducted while one sightseeing tour was organized.

Financial assistance for the travel and accommodation grants for the Peace Researchers from various countries, particularly the Global South, was provided by IPRA Foundation, TIKKA, Shanxi Zhuoao Organization, African Peacebuilding Network and the British Academy.

The 4 days long conference came to an end on the 1st of December followed by a special Sight-seeing of cultural and touristic sites, including the Peace Museum and the Sierra Leone Special Court

Participants were asked to complete conference feedback forms. The feedback is being analysed and the final version of both documents, together with the public feedback, will be available soon on the IPRA website. However, the preliminary results of the feedback indicate that majority of the participants were very satisfied with the conference. Most of them said that the decision to hold the conference in Sierra Leone was absolutely timely and very appropriate. They said they found the people of Sierra Leone friendly, helpful and hospitable. To quote a participant "The conference was well promoted in the country, and locals were quite welcoming to the researchers. I appreciate the efforts to give us a sense of security as guests". "Choosing a post conflict country as the venue helped contextualise peace matters" said another participant.

Participants also said they were very satisfied with the quality of the presentations delivered during this conference and conference organisational arrangements.



IPRA Secretaries General Dr. Ibrahim Seaga Shaw and Dr. Nesrin Kenar as well as Professor Memunatu Pratt of University of Sierra Leone

In an email message to outgoing IPRA Secretary General Dr Ibrahim Seaga Shaw, IPRA Foundation Treasurer, Rachel Trueblood had this to say: "Congratulations on what everyone agrees was a most wonderful conference! All our travel grantees have given me glowing reports of the conference. All of them feel it was extremely important for their careers and they all met many new people with whom they will stay in contact. Great work!"

Nevertheless, few participants expressed dissatisfaction over the room arrangements for the commission sessions. One of them said, "it was a good experience. I enjoyed myself but most importantly I learnt a lot. There is room for improvement though, especially with room assignment, microphone facilities etc." "Sierra Leone is perfect location for IPRA but time management and arrangement of commissions were rather disorganised" opined another participant.

IPRA Institute formation announced

During the closing ceremony outgoing Secretary General presented a brief report, including a provisional financial statement, where he announced that he and his outgoing co-secretary general Dr Kenar are setting up an IPRA Institute as an autonomous body to support the work of IPRA . ■



IPRA Council members and others in front of the main hall

Professors Ursula and Kodama elected as new Secretaries General of IPRA

Professor Ursula Oswald Spring from Mexico and Professor Katsuya Kodama from Japan were elected as Secretaries Generals of IPRA for 2016 – 2020 at the IPRA Administrative Meeting on the 30th of November, the last but one day of the IPRA conference held in Sierra Leone in 2016.

New members were also elected from all the five regions of the world to serve in the IPRA Governing Council for 2016-2018. The Executive Committee of IPRA also will be announced soon.

The newly elected Secretaries Generals Professor Ursula Oswald Spring and Professor Katsuya Kodama praised and thanked Dr Ibrahim Seaga Shaw and Dr Nesrin Kenar for their excellent work during their term of office and for excellently organizing the conferences in 2014 and 2016 in Turkey and Sierra Leone, respectively.

They pledged that they will undertake several activities to further strengthen IPRA during their term.

Meanwhile, applications have been sent from many countries for holding the IPRA's 27th conference in 2018. These applications will be reviewed and the announcement will be made soon as to, in which country the conference will be held, in 2018.

Prof. Dr. Úrsula Oswald Spring works at National University of Mexico on climate-induced migration, adaptation and resource conflicts. She is the first MRF-Chair on Social Vulnerability at UNU-EHS and a lead author of IPCC. She was



Prof. Katsuya Kodama & Prof. Ursula Oswald Spring, Secretaries Generals for 2016 – 2020

President of IPRA and Secretary General of CLAIP, where she is now Honorary President.

She was also the first Minister of Environment in Morelos. She has written 50 books and more than 392 scientific articles and book chapters. She is co-founder of the Peasant University of the South, coordinated the water research in Mexico and advise women, indigenous, peasants, and environmental groups.

Katsuya Kodama, PhD, is Director General, Social Contribution Institute/ President, Smart World, Ltd. Kodama was born in Hiroshima in 1959 as son of a survivor of Hiroshima.

He earned a Masters degree by researching on survivors of Hiroshima from Hiroshima University in 1984 and PhD by researching on non-violent movements from Lund University, Sweden in 1990. Has worked for Mie University from 1990 till 2015. He was Professor in Peace Studies and Vice-President of Mie University. He served as Secretary General of the International Peace Research Association from 2000 to 2004 and from 2010 to 2012. Served as Vice-President of International Social Science Council at UNESCO from 2006 to 2010.

Currently he is the Director General of Social Contribution Institute as well as the President of SmartWorld, Ltd, and the editor of e-Journal "SmartWorld". He was awarded Nonviolence Award for International Peace in India in 2012.

Celebrating Centre Resolution Conflicts (CRC)'s work in both DRC and UK



The Centre Resolution Conflicts (CRC) Community Event in Bradford

This year (2016) Centre Resolution Conflicts (CRC) is celebrating 23 years of activities in the insecurity-torn DR Congo's north-eastern provinces of North-Kivu and Ituri. Founded in 1993, CRC has been working for inter-community conflict resolution and peace building since then in very risky conditions. The evidence is that five of local peace builders have been killed so far among six million victims of the DR Congo war (known as First African World War) who are sleeping in silence and total impunity.

In the other side of the sea, CRC-UK is celebrating 10 years of work since CRC leaders fleeing the DR Congo settled as refugees in the UK and started the work in Bradford District and West Yorkshire.

To commemorate all these achievements –as modest as they may appear– several activities are planned in both Bradford and DR Congo. At the end of November 2016 CRC's leader, Ben Mussanzi wa Mussangu, took part in the International Peace Research Association (IPRA) Conference 2016 organised for the first time since the existence of IPRA on the African soil of Freetown in Sierra Leone. His paper entitled Learning from spiritual & emotional support for peace builders – case of Centre Resolution Conflicts (CRC), DRC

will be presented within Religion, Spirituality and Peace Commission. The paper was about the emotional support CRC has provided once a year or two for peace builders of CRC/ DR Congo working in dangerous conditions of the war-torn DR Congo in the last ten years (2005-2015). For the next ten years CRC is planning for Peacebuilders of the DRC and Africa's Great Lakes Region a unique training programme, Africa Peace Institute (API).

As a reminder, two decades ago (in 1993) Centre Resolution Conflicts (CRC) was found in Nyankunde as a positive answer to violence. On that day at a Sunday Service the biblical message "You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8) became real, after being connected to a personal experience of a radiographer who since then has become a dedicated peacebuilder.

Initially CRC's aim was to resolve the endemic conflict over lands in Ituri, north-eastern region of Zaire/DR Congo. In the meantime over six millions will be killed and many other millions displaced internally or gone as refugees.

Today the job is not finished as long as the last step 'Ends of the world' is not reached yet. However, CRC's leaders in both DRC and UK are highly committed to keep spreading the good news of peace in a so broken world: we are born to live and work together. For more details: www.cr-conflict.org

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Opinion article:

Conflicts and disasters: an integrated debate for peacebuilding and development

Rodrigo Mena, Dorothea Hilhorst, Samantha Melis

Disasters are a devastating force of both nature and society and require a special focus in conflict-affected societies, taking into account that 30% of the worst disasters between 1995 and 2004 have occurred in conflict-affected societies and a staggering 90% of conflict areas have experienced one or more natural disasters (1). Conflicts and disasters both find their roots in socio-political contexts and complex processes (2–4). Socio-political processes produce unequal exposure to risk by contributing to the vulnerability to disasters of certain groups in society. These inequalities are entrenched in power relations operative in every society (5). Conflict can compound vulnerability and further weaken the response capacities of people and institutions.

There is also evidence that disasters either positively or negatively affect conflict situations and peacebuilding agendas. The Asian tsunami of 2004, for example, showed that while the conflict in Sri Lanka rapidly increased following the event, the tsunami accelerated the peace process in Aceh, Indonesia (6–8). A body of literature has been developed around the idea of disaster diplomacy exploring how disaster-related activities can induce cooperation between parties in conflict, either nationally or internationally (9,10). This idea has also entered humanitarian policy that seeks to use disaster events as opportunities to 'build back better' (11,12).

Aid, despite usually being labeled as external to a system, is embedded in its context. Aid affects and is affected by the complex governance arrangements found in disaster and conflict areas (13,14). The nexus of disaster and conflict and the (effectiveness of) responses of international and country-based actors is, therefore, largely dependent on the type of conflict situation where the disaster occurs.

However, until recently there has been little political or scholarly attention on the nexus between conflict and disaster. International Humanitarian Law focuses exclusively on conflict, whereas the guidelines on disasters, such as the Sendai Framework for DRR, implicitly assume that there is a functioning government to deal with disaster response. As a result, disaster response policies are ill-equipped to deal with disaster situations where the government is incapable or unwilling to act. Academic attention for conflicts and disasters

has also been disjointed, raising different questions and focusing on different solutions (peacebuilding and disaster risk reduction, respectively). This separation persists despite large commonalities in causes and effects of the two phenomena (15–17).

Understanding how the interaction of state/non-state actors and aid agencies shapes and is shaped by disaster response in different conflict settings may be a way to push forward action to mend this illusory disconnection between conflicts and disasters. It is in everyday practices, negotiations and interactions between multiple actors that disaster response and conflicts reveal their common socio-political fabric, the effects of the disaster on the politics of conflict and vice versa, and how conflict affects the vulnerabilities and responses to disaster. The last IPRA 2016 conference in Sierra Leone was a relevant step forward in addressing this gap in peace research and building a more integrated conflict and disaster debate, for a sustainable and more peaceful development.

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Latin American Congress of Peace Research & General Assembly of CLAIP

Úrsula Oswald Spring, President of the X Congress of CLAIP

The Tenth Congress of the Latin American Council for Peace Research (CLAIP) had 225 participants from almost all countries of Latin America and 50 young students and peace activists. This X Congress with the general theme of “New Socio-environmental Risks for Peace and Human Rights in Latin America and the Caribbean” commemorated the 40 years anniversary of this regional association. CLAIP was founded in 1977 in Oaxtepec, Morelos, Mexico, when thousands of prominent scholars had found political refuge in various scientific institutions in Mexico. It was Professor José Luis Ceceña Gámez who then organized the congress of the International Peace Research Organization (IPRA) and hundreds of Latin Americans founded CLAIP, the regional organization of IPRA. Most founding members were refugees from different military dictatorships in Latin America.

With the return of democracy in the region, most scholars returned to their home countries or accepted public office in international organizations. During these 40 years we were pleased to appoint Prof. Dr. Rodolfo Stavenhagen as Honorary President of CLAIP, who was the Special Rapporteur of the rights of indigenous people at United Nations and a tireless fighter in favour of rights of all humans, especially indigenous, peasants and voiceless people. We all deplore his passing away in November 2016.

The CLAIP congress addressed five central themes:

1. Human rights, inequality and development in Latin America and the Caribbean
2. Education, communication and interculturality in Latin America and the Caribbean
3. Territory, extractivism and conflicts in Latin America and the Caribbean
4. New threats to security in Latin America and the Caribbean
5. Social movements, emergent groups and civil resistance in Latin America and the Caribbean

As keynote speakers the congress was addressed by distinguished lecturers: Abel Barrera, an Anthropologist of the Tlachinollan Human Rights Centre of the Guerrero Mountain, discussed the negative linkages between the drug war, human right violations and the indigenous organization in one of the most violent regions of Mexico. Heroin production and trafficking, exploitation of gold mines and organized crime linked up with the historical violence of the local mestizo warlords, who for hundreds of years had exploited the indigenous peoples, producing misery, corruption, violence,



National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM)



Inauguration of the Tenth Congress of CLAIP, Posgrado UNAM, 11th of January 2017

resulting in a lack of a state of law and the use of military and public forces. However, Guerrero has been key in publicizing the issue of human rights in various cases and in the most emblematic case of Ayotzinapa, without neglecting the fact that there is a long tradition of struggle and resistance in the state as the Community Police that has been a successful project, which is based on their own community justice standards. Throughout this process the international outlook has been important, but more international cooperation is still needed. Prof. Dr. Francisco Rojas (Chile, Costa Rica), Rector of the United Nations University of Peace in Costa Rica discussed the right to peace (“peace is constructed with human security”) that is realized in the framework of human security in the framework of five phases (cold war, post-cold war, unilateralism, financial crisis and new geopolitics) for security in Latin America and the Caribbean taking associated concepts into account such as traditional wars, human security, responsibility to protect.

Prof. Dr. Pablo González Casanova (Mexico), former Rector of the National Autonomous University of Mexico and a key thinker on the theoretical development of democracy in Latin America, reviewed the different phases of war in the twentieth century and in the early twenty-first century. He analysed the challenges of this new phase of corporate capitalism by a small global oligarchy and their “legitimized” dictatorships: Those “in the shadow” are linked to organized crime, terrorism, arms and human trafficking, and their business is linked to national governments and global finance. “In the light” are the small and medium entrepreneurs, workers, specialists, academics, women, and young people, who are trying to survive in an unequal and violent society. He suggested to think about another organization of social, economic, cultural and personal life. Prof. Dr. Howard Richards (USA, Chile) discussed elements of an economy of solidarity as a key to justice, peace, sustainability and equity. He argued that the organization of this congress with very limited resources was a collective effort, where everybody applied the principle of an economy of solidarity or gift economy to come to Mexico from all over the world and to discuss constructively that “another world is possible”. He insisted in the physical dependence of human life on the accumulation of capital, and hence the need for a system of accumulation. As a logical consequence, a legal framework is supposed to con-

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... Latin American Congress of Peace Research

strain the market system. However, a governable economy, and therefore social justice, peace and sustainability should be less dominated by the need to accumulate capital. Globally, many family or small businesses mainly serve to survive and not to accumulate, which represents an alternative model to the accumulation of capital.

We enjoyed also five panels of experts, where the general themes of the congress were discussed in depth in interaction with the participants. Finally, five former Secretary Generals of CLAIP were present, who addressed the challenges of peace and security in Latin America and the Caribbean in the 21st century. In chronological order, these were Prof. Dr. Nielsen de Paula Pires (Brazil), Federal University of Integration of Latin America (UNILA); Amb. Luis Alberto Padilla, Institute of International Relations for Peace (IRIPAZ) in Guatemala; Prof. Dr Úrsula Oswald Spring, Mexico, from the Regional Centre of Multidisciplinary Research of the National University of Mexico (CRIM/UNAM); Dr. Laura Balbuena González, Department of Social Sciences of the Catholic Pontifices University of Peru and Executive Director of the Observatory of Gender in her country; and Dr. Diana de la Rúa Eugenio, Argentina, who is the General Director of Respuesta para la Paz in Argentina (ARP: Reponse for Peace)

In the afternoon there were hundreds of interventions on the five themes by the participants of the X Congress of CLAIP. Due to the war against drugs and the ensuing violence in Mex-

ico, more than 50 young students and academics joined the congress. They were networking during the whole conference, who contrasted the theoretical knowledge with their practical experience in their very violent cities all over Mexico. They finally contributed their conclusions and commitment to peace and security not in the traditional academic way, but with songs and dances (rap) used by the young generation. These young women and men will strengthen CLAIP and represent a generational change, which is urgent due to the new threats and insecurity existing in the subcontinent.

In the General Assembly of CLAIP with the participation of more than 60 members, Dr. S. Eréndira Serrano Oswald took over as new Secretary General. She has been elected two years earlier in Guatemala and collaborated in the organization of the present congress. The next CLAIP conference in 2019 will be held at the Federal University of Integration of Latin America (UNILA) in Foz do Iguacu in Brazil. All the keynote speeches and panels of experts were recorded and we hope that we can upload them soon on this webpage www.crim.unam/claip.

These four days of reflections, networking, and discussions (UNAM does not allow alcohol?) strengthened personal relationships and contributed to new friendships. They are crucial for the future collaboration among researchers, activists and people concerned with peace and security in Latin America and the Caribbean. ■



Participants at the CLAIP Conference during the session at UNAM-Posgrado



New generations working for peace



Secretaries General of CLAIP: Eréndira Serrano Oswald; Nielsen de Paula Pires; Úrsula Oswald Spring; Luis Alberto Padilla; Laura Balbuena; Diana de la Rúa



Wab Kinew at the PJSa 2016 Opening Plenary

Peace Studies and Indigenous Knowledge:

PJSa 2016 in Canada

By Matt Meyer

In many ways, it would be simplest to summarize the 2016 Peace and Justice Studies Association (PJSa) conference with the single word: **KIIZHEWAADIZID**.

This word, in the First Nations language of Ojibwe common to the indigenous peoples of British Columbia, Canada, translates roughly to “living a life of love, kindness, sharing, and respect, reflects not only the fundamental ideals of peace research and studies but also a vital dialectic necessary for survival in these 21st Century times. If we cannot figure out how to respect one another across borders and within our existing borders, and how to share the ever-limited and often-squandered natural resources which surround us, we will surely not be able to live as we have in the past.

Our very planet, and so many conflict situations in every corner of the globe, shout that message out to us clearly enough. PJSa keynote speaker Wab Kinew, however, didn’t shout at all, but used humor and humility to describe the ways in which post-colonial dynamics still effect modern North American life.

“Let them burn the sky,” Kinew asserted – retelling an ancestral story of faith and renewal: we have in our memory, in our spiritual and intellectual legacy, all that we need to build a just new world. In addition to being one of Canada’s foremost journalists, Kinew is a youth leader and award-winning hip hop artist, and serves as Vice President of Indigenous Affairs at the University of Winnipeg. He was but one of many First Nations presenters at the 2016 PJSa conference, as our Canadian associates deepen the work to build strong connections to the aboriginal peoples of our land. The land surrounding our hosting institution – the Mir Center for Peace at the University of Selkirk – was historically occupied by the Sinixt nation, who now sardonically refer to themselves as “extinct peoples” echoing recent official government designations. But the Sinixt, in good attendance at the conference, spoke of the their ongoing

environmental, feminist, educational, and political work – and thankfully seem to be far from finished with leaving their mark on local and national Canadian society.

It’s been almost a decade since PJSa committed to building an organization which was not U.S.-centric in words and deeds, and 2016 saw several advances in these areas. Our now-consistently successful objective of holding at least every third annual conference in Canada has been strengthened by the creation of the Peace and Conflict Studies Association of Canada (PACS-Can), an affiliated group designed to further develop growing interest in the field. During our time together at Selkirk, that included partnering with the long-time community of war resisters and pacifists known as the Doukhobors, who hosted our closing ceremony which included a rousing presentation by Guatemalan Congressional leader Sandra Moran, an outspoken lesbian feminist who has championed international human rights; on an ongoing basis, that includes PJSa’s structural ties and commitment to the Ferguson-based Truth Telling Project, a leading part of the Movement for Black Lives.

After eight years of great service, PJSa Executive Director Randall Amster also handed the ED baton to Michael Loadenthal, a sociologist and long-time activist based in Ohio and Washington DC. “As peace and justice studies in North America grows,” noted Loadenthal, “and the need for actual peace and justice work increases all around us, so too will PJSa branch out and flourish.”

Newsletter Editorial Board:

- Dr. Ibrahim Seaga Shaw
- Professor Ursula Spring Oswald
- Professor Katsuya Kodama

Editor: Mr. Senthana Selvarajah

Post-conflict Northern Sri Lanka

Evaluating the significance of local cultural resources and practices in restoring cultural integrity and re-building livelihoods in post-conflict northern Sri Lanka - Proposed project for the USIP South and Southeast Asia grant 2016

Dr. Chandima Daskon - National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies New Zealand

The importance of culture has been widely debated in the context of post-conflict scenarios, particularly in relation to peace-building and reconciliation processes. This debate includes consideration of how best to approach so-called 'unity-in-diversity' objectives by taking the complexity and diversity of cultural values into consideration. The local cultural context is potentially significant in playing a key role in promoting peaceful social change through advocacy, knowledge sharing and networking that can strengthen empathy, tolerance and conflict prevention.

The proposed project will investigate the significance of local cultural resources and practices in restoring cultural integrity and rebuilding livelihoods in a post-war context. Drawing upon evidence from field-based research in northern Sri Lanka, the project will specifically explore the extent to which cultural resources such as, cultural values, landscape, heritage sites, artefacts and traditional skills, and different cultural practices, including arts, crafts, music and drama, can be utilised to reinstate community identities and cultural harmony that have been shattered by prolonged civil war. It is argued that the local cultural context offers many valuable possibilities for establishing secure spaces for dialogue and critical thinking of human rights and community reconstruction strategies.

Jaffna is one of the major regions in northern Sri Lanka which was devastated by three decades of civil war ending in 2009. During the conflict period, individuals, families and communities have been affected both physically and psychologically, with multiple displacements, and the loss of family, friends, homes, employment and other valuable resources. In recognising the significance of the local cultural context in restoring community identity, and in strengthening mutual understand-

ing and respect among communities, the project will specifically investigate the role of culture in rebuilding livelihoods in war-torn communities. The proposed project will;

- Examine how local cultural resources and cultural practices might be utilised to make a significant contribution to reinstating cultural integrity, livelihood development and social justice in the Jaffna region.
- Identify specific cultural groups and their strategies of non-violent resistance, and work towards creating opportunities for 'building bridges' across differences, addressing the legacies of past violence, and imagining a new future.
- Explore both government and non-governmental agency approaches to local cultural resources and creative practices, and in legitimising culture as an effective tool for rebuilding livelihoods, promoting positive social change and sustainable peace, and, finally
- The research will identify policy recommendations which could help to shape livelihood reconstruction and sustainable development, both in Jaffna and more widely in other post-conflict situations.

The proposed project aims to work closely with a number of civil society organizations and local communities particularly in Jaffna, in order to restore community strengths, livelihood strategies and, more importantly, cultural integrity through a culturally sensitive approach. In this regard, the proposed project will recognise the significance of both cultural resources and cultural practices in the region as significant driving forces in the post-conflict reconstruction and development process. ■



Returning home to rebuild livelihoods : © International Committee of the Red Cross

Yes to Development - No to Environmental Degradation

By Ravi P Bhatia, Educationist and Peace Researcher (Co Convenor of RSP Commission)

The emphasis of many developing economies including India today is on economic growth and development. The underlying assumption is that if there is adequate growth and development, jobs will be created and economic and social disparities will be reduced. This will lead to satisfying the basic human needs of food, shelter, health care and education of poor and vulnerable people.

The Indian government is focussed on all round development and increasing job opportunities. There is an extreme shortage of jobs for the existing job seekers who are mainly young people. Provision has also to be made for an additional about ten million youngsters who are expected to swell the job market annually. For this purpose the government is simplifying procedures for land acquisition, boosting FDI and FII among other measures. It is promoting development both in rural and urban centres in all critical areas especially manufacturing. One of its distinctive mottoes is “Make in India” which will help promote manufacturing and service sector, create jobs and boost exports.

Wherever the Prime Minister is going on his overseas trips – China, Korea, Australia, Germany, USA, he is encouraging and urging his counterparts to invest in India, to bring investments and to help in boosting the Indian economy.

However with economic growth as the main focus of our development the question of sustainability of the environment is generally overlooked. What does this concept mean? This concept has several dimensions – economic, social, our relation with nature and its biodiversity etc. When we want to have development we must ensure that we are aware of the impact on the environment or the ecosystem in general – the air, the rivers and water bodies, forests and all living beings – plants, birds, animal, fish etc. All parts of this ecosystem are interrelated and any harm to one has an impact on the other parts also. If deforestation takes place on a large scale its adverse effect will be experienced by flora and fauna, by worsening air quality and so on.

In 1987 the United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development released the report Our Common Future, commonly called



the Brundtland Report. The report provided one of the most widely recognised definitions of sustainable development. “Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

The UN Millennium Declaration of 1992 laid stress on sustainable development, including economic development, social development and environmental protection. It defined sustainable development as a systems approach to growth and development for managing natural and social capital for the welfare of their own and future generations.

Mahatma Gandhi was also critical of affluent people’s habit of over consumption and wastage and its adverse impact on the environment. He often said: “Nature produces enough for peoples’ needs but not for their greed”; “Characteristic aspect of modern civilization is an indefinite multiplicity of wants”, etc. Thus, let us have development and create jobs but not at the expense of our environment and biodiversity. ■

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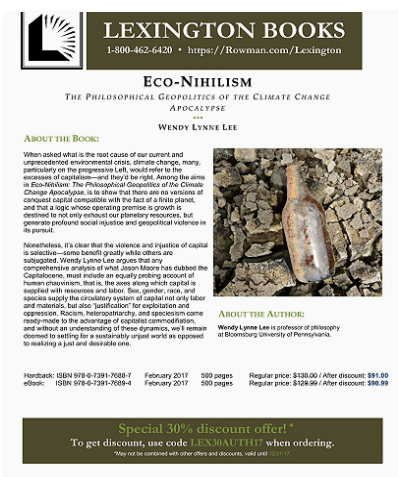
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Publications

Eco-Nihilism: The Philosophical Geopolitics of the Climate Change Apocalypse

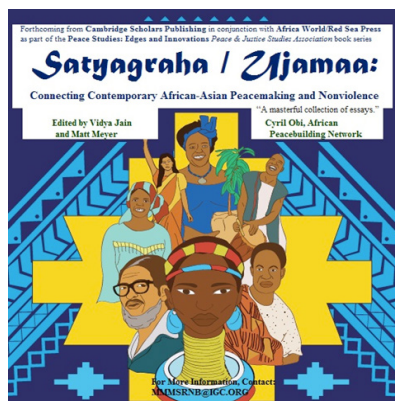


Eco-Nihilism: The Philosophical Geopolitics of the Climate Change Apocalypse
Wendy Lynne Lee, Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, USA Forthcoming:
Spring 2017, Lexington Press (Division of Rowman and Littlefield).

Cormac McCarthy's 2006 novel, *The Road*,¹ tells the story of a dying father's heroic effort to protect his child from starvation, violence, and disease as they struggle to cross the devastated landscape of a post-apocalyptic America. We don't know what's happened to bring about so tragic a circumstance, but we're drawn to the stark images McCarthy evokes and, though we deny that such a tragedy could befall us, we can imagine it.

For Syrian refugees, Niger Delta villagers, Northwest Kenyan pastoralists, Chukchi Sea coastal fishermen, Ecuadorian rainforest dwellers, Mexican fishermen, Pennsylvania farmers, indigenous Sengwer, the citizens of Kiribati Island's thirty-two atolls, and many more, fables like *The Road* reek of a reality already poisoned nearly beyond repair and foreshadow future crises—environmental, economic, geopolitical, social, and moral—for which the prospect of recovery seems little more than fiction.

Satyagraha/Ujamma: Connecting Contemporary African-Asia Peacemaking and Nonviolence



Growing out of a PANPEN-supported conference of the Africa Peace Research and Education Association conference held in 2015 in Abuja, Nigeria, the new book features PANPEN members Yash Tandon (whose essay specifically focuses on the development of PANPEN and our Cape Town meetings), Moses Monday John (writing on developments in Southern Sudan), Ousseina Alidou (writing, with Matt Meyer, on revolution and nonviolence), Bernadette Muthien, Patrick Bond, Sixte Vigny Nimuraba, and a reprinting of the Eco-socialist Horizons call to action which was debuted and discussed in Cape Town at the WRI and PAN-PEN meetings.

In addition, long-time WRI members and friends Michael Mazgoankar and Rajiv Vora are featured in the book, which contains an introductory poem by Dream-wolf which also served to introduce our Cape Town conference.

The Mandate and the (In) Effectiveness of the United Nations Security Council and International Peace and Security: The Contexts of Syria and Mali



“The Mandate and the (In) Effectiveness of the United Nations Security Council and International Peace and Security: The Contexts of Syria and Mali,” *Geopolitics*, vol. 21, no. 1, 2016, pp. 43-68.

Debidatta Aurobinda Mahapatra, “The Mandate and the (In)Effectiveness of the United Nations Security Council and International Peace and Security: The Contexts of Syria and Mali,” *Geopolitics*, vol. 21, no. 1, 2016, pp. 43-68.

Debidatta Aurobinda Mahapatra is a Fellow at Center for Peace, Democracy and Development at the Department of Conflict Resolution, Human Security and Global Governance, University of Massachusetts, Boston, MA, USA.

Abstract of the article available at: <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/014650045.2015.1116066>

... Publications:

Pioneers in Peace Psychology: Herbert C. Kelman and Ronald J. Fisher

Herbert C. Kelman and Ronald J. Fisher: Herbert C. Kelman: *Pioneer in the Social Psychology of Conflict Analysis and Resolution* (Cham – Heidelberg – New York – Dordrecht – London: Springer International Publishing, 2016).

Ronald J. Fisher: *Ronald J. Fisher: A North American Pioneer in Interactive Conflict Resolution* (Cham – Heidelberg – New York – Dordrecht – London: Springer International Publishing, 2016).

Peace psychology is a research programme that has been developed since the 1950s in North America by Morton Deutsch, Columbia University (see the IPRA Newsletter of 2015 with a note on his recent anthologies); Herbert C. Kelman, Harvard University; Adam Curle (UK), first director of the Bradford School of Peace Studies; Ronald J. Fisher (Canada) and others. These two books honour the lifelong achievements of Herbert C. Kelman as a Pioneer in the Social Psychology of Conflict Analysis and Resolution and Ronald J. Fisher as a North American Pioneer in Interactive Conflict Resolution.

The first volume includes selected articles and chapters capturing Herbert Kelman's unique and seminal contributions to the social psychology of conflict analysis and resolution. In these writings, he explores the utility of various social-psychological concepts for understanding violent, intractable conflicts and the implications of this analysis for addressing such conflicts constructively. Central concepts illuminated in this work include perceptual processes, basic human needs, group or normative processes, and social and national identity. These concepts help to provide the basis and rationale for interactive methods of conflict resolution, such as the problem-solving workshops practiced by Herbert Kelman and other scholar-practitioners. Kelman's cumulative analysis over five decades is well represented in this collection of key texts.

The work is highly regarded in the fields of peace studies, conflict resolution, and international relations for its contribution to understanding and transforming destructive and intractable conflict.

After a foreword by Ronald J. Fisher that presents Herbert C. Kelman as an Interdisciplinary Pioneer and Peace Advocate, the volume contains Kelman's personal reflections on his work in conflict analysis and resolution, his bibliography and his key texts on: Social-psychological Dimensions of International Conflict; Applying a Human Needs Perspective to the Practice of Conflict Resolution: The Israeli-Palestinian Case; The Role of National Identity in Conflict Resolution: Experiences from Israeli-Palestinian Problem-solving Workshops; and Group Processes in the Resolution of International



Herbert C. Kelman and Ronald J. Fisher: Herbert C. Kelman: Pioneer in the Social Psychology of Conflict Analysis and Resolution (Cham – Heidelberg – New York Dordrecht – London: Springer International Publishing, 2016).



Ronald J. Fisher: Ronald J. Fisher: A North American Pioneer in Interactive Conflict Resolution (Cham – Heidelberg – New York Dordrecht – London: Springer International Publishing, 2016).

Conflicts: Experiences from the Israeli-Palestinian Case.

A book website with additional information on Herbert C. Kelman, including videos and his major book covers is at: <http://afes-press-books.de/html/SpringerBriefs_PSP_Kelman.htm>.

The second volume provides selected articles and chapters focusing on Ronald Fisher's cumulative contributions to understanding destructive intergroup conflict from a social-psychological perspective and to the development and assessment of small group, interactive methods for its resolution. Highlights include schematic models of third party consultation, intergroup conflict, and a contingency approach to third party intervention. Overall, the selected texts provide a comprehensive description and a clear rationale for interactive conflict resolution and its unique contributions to peacemaking.

Thus, the book provides the most significant contributions of Ronald Fisher to the subfield of interactive conflict resolution, clearly places interactive conflict resolution in the broader domains of conflict resolution and peacemaking, and articulates the important potential of interactive conflict resolution for contributing to a more peaceful world.

After a foreword by Tamra Pearson d'Estree (University of Denver) on Ronald J. Fisher's "Contributions of a Scholar-Practitioner to Conflict Analysis and Resolution", in his autobiographical essay Ronald J. Fisher reviews his scholarly activities in "Advancing the Understanding and Effectiveness of Third Party Interventions in Destructive Intergroup Conflict". After his selected bibliography the volume contains Ronald J. Fisher's key texts on: Third Party Consultation: A Method for the Study and Resolution of Conflict; Toward a Social-Psychological Model of Intergroup Conflict; Generic Principles for Resolving Intergroup Conflict; Interactive Conflict Resolution: A Social-Psychological Approach to Resolving Violent Ethnopolitical Conflict; Assessing the Contingency Model of Third Party Intervention in Successful Cases of Prenegotiation.

A book website with additional information on Ronald J. Fisher, including an interview and his major book covers is soon at: <http://afes-press-books.de/html/SpringerBriefs_PSP_Fisher.htm>.

Hans Günter Brauch, Chair, Peace Research and European Security Studies, Mosbach, Germany. ■

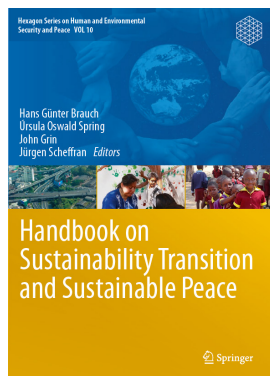
Publications

Sustainability Transition and Sustainable Peace Handbook

Hans Günter Brauch, Úrsula Oswald Spring, John Grin, Jürgen Scheffran (Eds.): Sustainability Transition and Sustainable Peace Handbook. (Cham - Heidelberg - New York - Dordrecht - London: Springer International Publishing, 2017).

This handbook, coedited by two co-chairs of IPRA's Ecology and Peace Commission (EPC), addresses assumed linkages between the process of sustainability transition to achieve the goal of a sustainable development and the goal of a sustainable peace or 'peace with nature' in the Anthropocene, a new phase of earth history, humankind has caused with its intervention into the earth system since the Industrial Revolution and most particularly during the past sixty to seventy years.

More on this book is at: < http://www.afes-press-books.de/html/hexagon_10.htm>



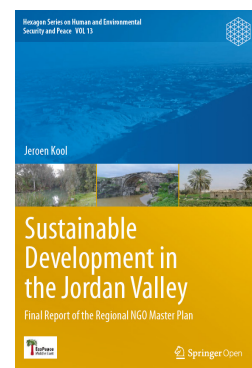
Sustainable Development in the Jordan River Valley: Final Report of the Regional NGO Master Plan

Jeroen Kool for EcoPeace, Tel Aviv, Bethlehem, Amman: Sustainable Development in the Jordan River Valley: Final Report of the Regional NGO Master Plan (Cham - Heidelberg - New York - Dordrecht - London: Springer International Publishing, 2016).

EcoPeace (former Friend of the Middle East) brings together environmental experts and activists from Israel, Palestine and Jordan. Ecopeace is a recognized trailblazer in the field of

practical implementation of environmental peacemaking. Jeroen Kool is strategic advisor with Royal HaskoningDHV and board member of the HaskoningDHV Foundation (www.rhdhv.com). He is furthermore chairman of the Water Partner Foundation and ambassador of the Netherlands Water Museum.

More on this book is at: < http://www.afes-press-books.de/html/hexagon_13.htm>



Sustainable Consumption: Design, Innovation and Practice

Book: Genus, A. (Ed.), 2016, Sustainable Consumption: Design, Innovation and Practice (Cham-Heidelberg - New York - Dordrecht - London: Springer) The book originates from the work of contributors to initiatives and global networks promoting and pursuing lines of enquiry that recognise and probe relationships among sustainable consumption, design and production, and the implications of these for new economic activity and the way we live and govern ourselves.

The book features contributions from social scientists (e.g. from innovation studies, marketing, social psychology, sustainable design, and sociology) and practitioners to generate a short-list of research perspectives and topics around which future research and actions in practice should be orientated. There are eight contributory chapters plus an Introduction and Conclusion (on policy, research and practical implications).

Chapters cover: perspectives/methodological insights; empirical work integrating consumption and production; site-specific case studies; and reflections on initiatives in practice.

This book offers a: holistic treatment of sustainable consumption and production (and thus leads to better appreciation of the range of issues to be confronted in properly understanding and achieving sustainable economies and societies); presents new perspectives on the issues (helps readers to think about sustainable consumption/production in novel ways); and unusually spans theory, empirical research, action initiatives and policy implications.



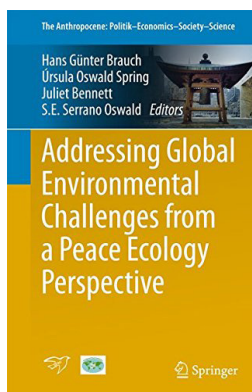
Addressing Global Environmental Challenges from a Peace Ecology Perspective

Book: Brauch, H.G., Spring, U.S., Bennett, J., Oswald, S.E.S. (Eds.), 2017, Addressing Global Environmental Challenges from a Peace Ecology Perspective Springer-Verlag Addressing Global Environmental Challenges from a Peace Ecology Perspective offers peer-reviewed texts that build on Expanding Peace Ecology and applies this concept to global environmental challenges in the Anthropocene.

Hans Gunter Brauch (Germany) offers a typology of time and turning points in the 20th century; Juliet Bennett (Australia) discusses the global ecological crisis as resulting from a "tyranny of small decisions". Katharina Bitzker (Canada) debates "The Emotional Dimensions of Ecological Peacebuilding" by loving nature. Henri Myrntinen (UK) analyses "Preliminary findings on gender, peacebuilding and climate change in Honduras".

Úrsula Oswald Spring (Mexico) offers a critical review of the policy and scientific nexus debate on "The Water, Energy, Food and Biodiversity Nexus" reflecting on the case of security in Mexico. In closing, Brauch discusses whether strategies of sustainability transition may enhance the prospects for achieving sustainable peace in the Anthropocene.

The book addresses global environmental challenges, focuses on the nexus among biodiversity, water, food, energy and waste, deals with structural violence, the tyranny of small decisions and emotional dimensions of ecological peacebuilding and offers perspectives on sustainable peace by moving towards sustainability transition.



Publications by Young Scholars and Peace Researchers

Gamal M. Selim: *The International Dimensions of Democratization in Egypt: The Limits of Externally Induced Change.* Cham– New York – Heidelberg – Dordrecht – London: Springer International Publishing, 2015).

David Curran: *More than fighting for Peace? Conflict Resolution, UN peacekeeping, and the role of training military personnel.* (Cham– New York – Heidelberg – Dordrecht – London: Springer International Publishing, 2017).

These two books were written by promising young scholars from Egypt and the UK. Gamal M. Selim obtained his PhD from the University of Calgary in Canada and is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Port Said University (Egypt) and The British University in Egypt. David Curran received his PhD from the Bradford School of Peace Studies and is a post-doctoral fellow at the Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations, Coventry University, Coventry, UK.

Selim's book, which is based on his revised PhD thesis, examines the international dimensions of the democratization process in Egypt in the post-Cold War era; a period that witnessed a visible increase of global pressures towards democratization. This theme acquired even more significance at the academic and policy-oriented levels in light of the growing internationalization of reform arrangements in the Arab world in the post 9/11 era, and subsequently the greater involvement of external powers in Arab domestic politics following the outbreak of the Arab Spring uprisings in 2011.

It is structured into 9 chapters. After a brief introduction (1), Selim reviews the conventional explanations of Egyptian democratization (2), introduces his conceptual framework for analysing the external factors and democratization (3), examines the Egyptian political transformations since independence (4), discusses Egypt's integration into the global economy and the dynamics of political deliberalization (5), considers the Western democracy agenda in Egypt and the persistence of the democracy-stability dilemma (6), debates the role of the global civil society in Egypt's transition through an analysis of the boomerang effect (7), and examines Egypt in the context of the cross-national diffusion of democratic experiences (8).

More on this book is at: <http://www.afes-press-books.de/html/hexagon_11.htm>

Curran's book provides a contemporary account of the linkages between the academic field of conflict resolution and the practice of military peacekeeping, through the lens of pre-deployment training for military personnel about to embark on UN peacekeeping operations. Military Personnel serving on United Nations peacekeeping operations are deployed into highly challenging post-conflict environments, where the likelihood of violence remains high. Moreover, these personnel are deployed part



Gamal M. Selim



David Curran

of a wider peace process, and are thus situated as an anchor point in a transition from war to peace. This dimension of their work therefore means that a range of skills and techniques are relied upon, which come not from traditional military training, but from other, non-traditional fields.

It is into this gap where the academic field of conflict resolution has made a valuable contribution to understanding international peacekeeping. Since the 1970's, studies have sought to understand international peacekeeping as a necessary stage in conflict de-escalation, and ultimately transformation. From this, there is a history of engagement including studies which seek to understand the skills peacekeepers may need to assist them in their day to day activities (such as approaches to negotiation, mediation, and cultural awareness), and the role that international peacekeeping plays in wider projects of conflict transformation.

The book is split into three sections. Section one examines academic and policy approaches to training peacekeepers in conflict resolution skills, incorporating approaches from the conflict resolution field, as well as developments in UN policy. Section two looks at how these have manifested into training programmes in negotiation skills, cultural awareness, and civil military cooperation. Section three examines where this may take peacekeeping in the future, proposing possible cosmopolitan directions for the activity.

More on this book is at: <http://www.afes-press-books.de/html/APESS_08.htm>

Hans Günter Brauch, Chair, Peace Research and European Security Studies, Mosbach, Germany. ■

Call for Papers for Edited Book on Media, Human Rights & Conflicts: Reporting human rights in times of conflict

Editors:

- Dr. Ibrahim Seaga Shaw, Senior Lecturer in Media and Politics, Northumbria University, UK Email: ibrahim.shaw@northumbria.ac.uk
- Mr. Senthana Selvarajah, Doctoral Scholar in Media and Human Rights, Northumbria University, UK Email: senthana.selvarajah@northumbria.ac.uk
- Dr. Jacinta Mwende Maweu, Lecturer in Philosophy and Media Studies, University of Nairobi, Kenya. Email: jacinta.mwende@uonbi.ac.ke

Publisher: Palgrave Macmillan-Springer

We would like to invite you to contribute a chapter in an edited book focusing on the reporting of human rights in times of conflict broadly defined. This volume aims to generate an exchange of ideas and insights between academics and professionals on the role of media for constructing human rights and peacebuilding options in conflict and post-conflict transformation and development in all societies from critical international perspectives, and we welcome papers on any aspect of this theme. The aim is not just limited to examine the role of the media and explore the avenues in which journalists can work to protect and promote human rights, but also to uncover the challenges, difficulties and obstacles faced by media and journalists in upholding the international human rights norms and addressing justice and accountability issues as well as their implications for constructing human rights and peacebuilding options.

Despite some scholar's dissatisfaction over the media's capacity for setting agenda for policy makers to fix humanitarian crisis, some recent studies (Shaw, 2012; Hoijer, 2004; Chouliaraki, 2008; Boltanski, 1999; Cottle, 2009; Society, Wolfsfeld, 1991; Robinson; 2013, Lynch and McGoldrick, 2005) have highlighted the power and ability of the media to shape policy responses to humanitarian crises and violent conflicts to protect and promote human rights and peace. The theoretical reflections underline the role and responsibility of the media to construct reality of conflicts situations, human rights violations and underlying causes, to construct options for peacebuilding and human rights interventions in conflict and post-conflict societies in a legitimate and appropriate manner. In his ground breaking book on human rights journalism, a concept which he founded, Shaw (2012; 46-47) warns that 'if journalism is to play any role in society, it should focus on deconstructing the underlying structural causes of political violence such as poverty, famine, exclusion of minorities, youth marginalisation, human trafficking, forced labour, forced migration and the like—rather than merely the attitudes and behaviours of the elite that benefit from direct and uncensored violence. Yet, as Shaw (2012) argues, while there is increasing research on the role of the media in the protection of human rights, there is very limited research on the role of the media in the prevention of human rights violations within a just peace and peacebuilding framework. It is the aim of this volume proposed here to address this scholarly deficit.

This volume is divided into three themes. The first theme deals with the theoretical and doctrinal discussion on media and human rights, in particular the theory and practice of Human Rights-based reporting of conflicts. It then attempts to set out to justify the epistemological grounding of media's responsibility to protect and promote Human Rights within the just peace and peacebuilding framework. The second theme deals with exploring the national and international level experiences with regards to the challenges, difficulties and obstacles of media coverage of conflicts in protecting human rights in conflict situations. The third theme aims to establish best practices and actions, including use of new media, which journalists could undertake nationally and internationally to promote and protect human rights in times of conflicts.

The editors welcome scholarly submissions from academics and researchers in the field of Media, human rights and conflicts. Please consult the list of topics below in line with the above three themes and submit a 300-word abstract of your proposed paper to ibrahim.shaw@northumbria.ac.uk, senthana.selvarajah@northumbria.ac.uk and jacinta.mwende@uonbi.ac.ke on or before February 15, 2017. You will receive notifications of acceptance of abstracts before February 20, 2017. If your proposal is accepted, you will be requested to submit a complete essay on or before April 20, 2017. Papers must be original and should not be previously published or simultaneously been reviewed elsewhere for publication. All manuscripts will be subject to a blind peer-review process before they are accepted for publication. Scholars who presented at the 26th IPRA conference in Freetown, Sierra Leone (November 27-1st December, 2016) in the Media, Conflicts and Human Rights and Peace Journalism Commissions may want to consider responding to this call by contributing developed versions of their papers they think fit one of the strands of this volume. More details on the paper submission process will be provided once your proposal has been accepted. The editors have an agreement in principle with Palgrave Macmillan-Springer to have this book published by the end of 2017. For any further inquiries, do not hesitate to contact one of the editors above. Papers can reflect one of the sub-themes below, or anything that is relevant to the main theme of the book.

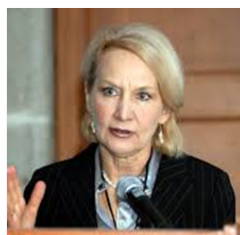
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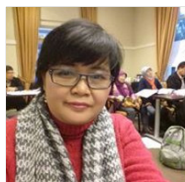


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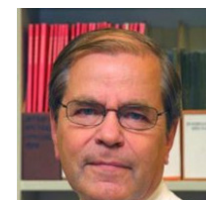
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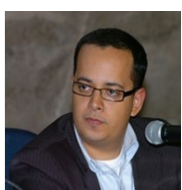


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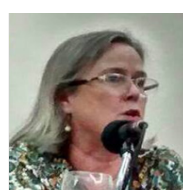
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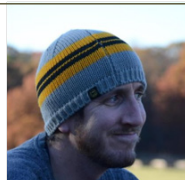


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