

CARING CONVERSATIONS for Peace and Justice



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Caring Conversations for Peace and Justice

Have you ever wondered on how to respond to resistance to inclusion in peace processes? How discrimination, systemic inequality, oppression, and representation are connected? Do you want to know how queer communities in Colombia are shaping the peace process and how others in Syria are particularly affected by the violent conflict? Or are you interested in how we, as peacebuilders, can contribute to current conversations and movements around anti-racism, decoloniality, and vice versa?

With our new format of “IPT Online Lecture Series” we intend to respond to pressing questions around peace, violence, conflict, and justice in our time. We invite renowned persons from academy, practice and advocacy around peacebuilding and social justice to share their insights, approaches, lessons learned and more. Through the current and future series, we aim to contribute to meaningful, enriching, and generative exchange between scholars and practitioners striving for a world where conflicts can be addressed non-violently, constructively, and sustainably.

We look forward to caring conversations and meaningful moments with you!



The Programme

- 1 | 26.08.2020 4-5 pm CEST | **Critical Feminist Justpeace**
Dr Karie Cross Riddle, Assistant Professor, Calvin University
- 2 | 09.09.2020 9-10.30 am CEST | **“Queering Peacebuilding”: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in Peacebuilding**
Dr Henri Myrntinen, Lead Associate, Gender Associations
- 3 | 23.09.2020 2-3 pm CEST | **Why Intersectionality is not a Luxury**
Dr Emilia Zenzile Roig, Founder & Executive Director, Center for Intersectional Justice (CIJ)
- 4 | 07.10.2020 *tbc* | **Unpacking Inclusion in Peace Processes and Resistance to it**
*Dr Esra Cuhadar, Associate Professor, Bilkent University
Senior Expert on Dialogue Processes, United States Institute of Peace*
- 5 | 21.10.2020 3-4.30 pm CEST | **Overcoming Violence and Exclusion towards Peace and Inclusion – Experiences from Sri Lanka**
Dr Vinya Ariyaratne, President, Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement
- 6 | 04.11.2020 *tbc* | **Women and Power-Sharing in Peace Processes**
tbc
- 7 | 18.11.2020 11 am-12 pm CEST | **Refugees as Active Agents in Peacebuilding-Processes**
*Dr Amanda Coffie, Research Fellow
Legon Centre for International Affairs and Diplomacy*
- 8 | 02.12.2020 3-4 pm CEST | **Peacebuilding and the Decolonial Future**
Terri Beswick, MA, Strategist & Facilitator, iklektik



Critical Feminist Justpeace

IPT ONLINE LECTURE

26.08.2020, 4-5 pm CEST



Please register one week
prior to the lecture!



Dr Karie Cross Riddle

Assistant Professor, Calvin University

CONTENT

Critical feminist justpeace is an intersectional theory of change that revises John Paul Lederach's conflict transformation approach and its stated goal of justpeace. The theory specifies goals and processes that are grounded in the close study of women's peacebuilding organizations from Manipur, India, but it aims to be flexible enough, through a strong emphasis upon self-reflexivity and attention to context, to apply to local conflicts and peacebuilding across the world. The theory seeks to make Lederach's local-level work gender-conscious and intersectional, essentially accomplishing what the Women, Peace, and Security agenda (best known for UNSCR 1325) has done for UN peacebuilding on a global scale. The lecture will introduce the theory and provide illustrative examples of peacebuilding activities that were and were not critical and feminist from Manipur.

BIOGRAPHY

Dr Karie Cross Riddle is an assistant professor of political science at Calvin University (Michigan), where she also works closely with the global development studies program. She graduated with her PhD in peace studies from the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at the University of Notre Dame (Indiana), specializing in feminist political thought and its ties to peace practice. Riddle's research focuses particularly on how critical feminist methodologies can uncover marginalized voices and practices, bringing them to bear on local and global peace and development work. She has conducted research in India and has worked as an advocate against child labour in Nepal.



“Queering Peacebuilding”: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in Peacebuilding

IPT ONLINE LECTURE

09.09.2020, 9-10.30 am CEST



Please register one week
prior to the lecture!



Dr Henri Myrttinen

Lead Associate, Gender Associations

CONTENT

Although the integration of gender perspectives has, at least on paper, been a prominent aspect of peacebuilding for several decades, there has often been little or no attention paid to the inclusion of diverse sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions (SOGIE) in theory, policy, research or practice. Using the case studies of Colombia and Syria, the lecture examines some of the complexities of ‘queering’ peacebuilding and different forms of agency as well as vulnerabilities of persons of diverse SOGIE in violent conflict, displacement and peacebuilding.

BIOGRAPHY

Dr Henri Myrttinen is a Lead Associate with Gender Associations, a Berlin-based consulting company, and has over 15 years of experience of researching and working on issues of gender, peace and security, including diverse SOGIE issues. He holds a Ph.D. in Conflict Resolution and Peace Studies from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.



Why Intersectionality is not a Luxury

IPT ONLINE LECTURE

23.09.2020, 2-3 pm CEST



Please register one week
prior to the lecture!



Dr Emilia Zenzile Roig

*Founder & Executive Director,
Center for Intersectional Justice (CIJ)*

CONTENT

As of today intersectionality is a term used broadly in different discourses. However, there are many misunderstandings and incongruencies surrounding it. What is intersectional discrimination? How are discrimination, systemic inequality, oppression, and representation interconnected? And how does it need to be considered for peacebuilding?

BIOGRAPHY

Dr Emilia Roig is the Founder and Executive Director of the Center for Intersectional Justice (CIJ), a Berlin-based organization advancing justice, equality, and a life free of systemic oppression for all. She has taught - and teaches - graduate and post-graduate courses on Intersectionality Theory, Postcolonial Studies, Critical Race Theory and International and European Law. She has worked extensively on Human Rights issues at the UN in Tanzania and Uganda, at the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) in Cambodia, and at Amnesty International in Germany. She holds a Ph.D. in Political Science, a Master of Public Policy and an MBA. She is Jury member of the German Non-Fiction Book Prize 2020 and was also in the Jury of the 25 Women Award of Edition F in 2019. She was appointed as external expert to the European Commission in 2019.



Unpacking Inclusion in Peace Processes and Resistance to it

IPT ONLINE LECTURE

07.10.2020, tbc



Please register one week
prior to the lecture!



Dr Esra Cuhadar

Associate Professor, Bilkent University

Senior Expert on Dialogue Processes, United States Institute of Peace

CONTENT

What are the current notions of inclusivity present in peace processes? And how does resistance to it show up? This lecture introduces basic notions of inclusivity together with examining challenges for effective and meaningful participation of minority groups. The lecturer will then invite participants to explore strategies and tactics present in our work to tackle such resistances.

BIOGRAPHY

Dr Esra Cuhadar is an associate professor of political science at Bilkent University in Turkey, and a senior fellow at the Inclusive Peace and Transition Initiative in Geneva. She was a Jennings Randolph Senior Fellow at USIP in 2018, and a Fulbright Visiting Scholar at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University in 2011–12.



Overcoming Violence and Exclusion towards Peace and Inclusion Experiences from Sri Lanka

IPT ONLINE LECTURE

21.10.2020, 3-4.30 pm CEST



**Please register one week
prior to the lecture!**



Dr Vinya Ariyaratne

President, Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement

CONTENT

Based on experiences from Sri Lanka, Dr Ariyaratne invites the participants to reflect on processes of violence and exclusion in the context of a multireligious and multi-ethnic society together including potential responses. Sharing more about Sarvodaya's work as a grass roots development movement based on Buddhist teachings, he will then discuss collective action for peacebuilding, as well as challenges and successes in overcoming structural violence, hatred, and exclusion in a post-war society.

BIOGRAPHY

Dr Vinya Ariyaratne is a medical doctor specialized in public health. He serves as the President of the Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement in Sri Lanka which is by far the largest grass roots development organization in the country. Dr Ariyaratne has been involved in development, peace building and reconciliation work in Sri Lanka for over 20 years.



Refugees as Active Agents in Peacebuilding-Processes

IPT ONLINE LECTURE

18.11.2020, 11 am-12 pm CEST



**Please register one week
prior to the lecture!**



Dr Amanda Coffie

Research Fellow

Legon Centre for International Affairs and Diplomacy

CONTENT

Refugees in neighbouring countries, refugee returnees and resettled refugees can change the peacebuilding landscape of their countries of origin. They can either be „spoilers“ or active agents engaging with other actors and institutions, leading to inclusive and sustainable peace. What factors or context conditioned the choices and role of refugees, and how can we harness the resources of refugees towards peacebuilding process? Using cases from Africa, and drawing on the refugee resettlement practices of Canada, this lecture will address the above questions.

BIOGRAPHY

Dr Amanda Coffie (PhD) is a Research Fellow at the Legon Center for International Affairs and Diplomacy, University of Ghana. She earned a PhD from the Department of Political Science, Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada. She also holds an MA in Political Science and a BA in Political Science from Brock University, Canada, and the University of Ghana, respectively. Her work attends to issues of refugees, diaspora, governance of migration and asylum, and programs of host countries and international organizations as well as post-conflict peacebuilding.



Peacebuilding and the Decolonial Future

IPT ONLINE LECTURE

02.12.2020, 3-4 pm CEST



Please register one week
prior to the lecture!



Terri Beswick, MA

Strategist & Facilitator, iklektik

CONTENT

This lecture unpacks how the key characteristics of coloniality are fundamentally incompatible with peaceful societies. It shows how such characteristics are intimately intertwined with conflict and, are therefore, essential to address in strategies for conflict transformation and peacebuilding.

BIOGRAPHY

Terri Beswick is a British-Jamaican Strategist and Facilitator. She runs iklektik, a purpose-driven consultancy practice that is designed to cultivate new and explicitly transformative ways of knowing, ways of being and ways of doing in social and political action, rooted in decolonial practice. Before iklektik, she worked with NGOs, civil society networks, think tanks, and with the EU on different aspects of conflict transformation, peacebuilding, social justice and human rights for over a decade.



Moderation

IPT ONLINE LECTURE SERIES
26.08. - 02.12.2020

Julia Scharinger, MA
ASPR Programme Manager



Julia Scharinger joined the ASPR in early 2019 and works as a Programme Manager and Trainer. She is particularly interested in the intersections of healing and justice and enjoys accompanying individuals, communities, organisations, and projects invested in dealing with the past, gender- and social justice as well as creative peacebuilding-processes. Her work and curiosity are underpinned by the exploration of individual and collective narratives that invite experiences of peace, agency, and connection in one's life; as well as by working in cross-cultural partnerships, considering accountability and intersectionality. Prior to joining the ASPR Julia worked for seven years with different national and international organisations in the field of peacebuilding and conflict transformation, primarily in Timor-Leste and Nepal. She holds a master's degree in Political Science and in Development Studies from the University in Vienna, as well as from the Melbourne University and the Dulwich Centre as a Narrative Therapist and Community Worker.

This will be Julia's first online moderation and she is excited to sharing virtual caring conversations with you!



About us and IPT

The Austrian Study Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution (ASPR) envisions a world in which people with different backgrounds and circumstances are willing and able to recognise and address conflicts by nonviolent, constructive, and sustainable means. We do this in alignment with our principles of pluralism and complexity, partnership and nonviolence, creativity and reflexivity.

In our work, we acknowledge the close interdependence between conflict transformation research, education, and practice. We conduct research projects on peace and security policy, support conflict parties to develop peace strategies, facilitate dialogue and mediate, and offer target group-oriented training programmes and advanced education for civilian experts and youth. Our ongoing development of innovative theory and practice is built upon a foundation of dialogue and cooperation with international institutions and networks of theoreticians and practitioners of conflict transformation.



The International Civilian Peacebuilding Training-Programme (IPT) has been running for almost 30 years and offers learning- and networking-opportunities through a variety of formats ranging from on-site courses to regional training offers or tailor-made training for specific communities or organisations. The IPT Online Lecture Series is the first online format we introduce as parts of our efforts to strengthen accessibility, environmental sustainability and newly, the mitigation of the effects of COVID-19. Popular course offers entail our Master Class on Interactive Conflict Transformation, on Intersectional Gender Work and Peacebuilding, as well as our Core Course for Peacebuilders.



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