



Policy Paper Series

Call for Contributions !



edited by
The Postcolonial
Hierarchies
in Peace & Conflict
Network

***** deadline:**
31 January 2024

Postcolonial Hierarchies in Peace & Conflict



Policy papers from decolonial & postcolonial perspectives?

The policy paper series (PPS) is a space for addressing the practical challenges of peace and conflict (studies) from decolonial and postcolonial perspectives. Conceived as a multidisciplinary forum, the series features research that has special relevance to practitioners. In particular, it speaks to collective efforts that seek to transform the ways in which distinct colonial trajectories shape contemporary ideas and practices of peace and conflict.

Policy papers may focus on but also go beyond three specific areas:

- (1) the structural and everyday dynamics of violence
- (2) critical approaches to security governance and humanitarian aid
- (3) memory politics, politics of restitution and transformative justice

The series acknowledges the controversial character of addressing issues of *policy* while taking decolonial or postcolonial stances. Critics argue that *state policy* has too often served as an instrument of domination rather than emancipation. Practitioners, by contrast, may lack persuasive answers to the strategic and everyday challenges and problems they face.

The policy paper series addresses these tensions on the grounds of two premises:

First, the series expands commonsensical ideas of who counts as a ‘practitioner.’ Besides government officials and international civil servants, a decolonizing approach to peace requires explicit attention to those actors who co-produce policy but are yet to be recognized as decision-makers and/or practitioners in their own right.

We thus welcome policy papers that engage with a broad range of actors, including grassroots movements, activist networks, community-led initiatives, as well as scholars and public intellectuals that may themselves be directly or indirectly involved in these initiatives.

Second, the series understands *policy* as a public domain of power relations in and through which societal visions and tensions pertaining to specific areas of state (in)action are put forward, negotiated, implemented, and contested. The underlying assumption is that no policy process—especially pertaining to peace and conflict—can be tackled sustainably, unless the plurality of actors and actions shaping the *politics of policy* are properly recognized and engaged with.

We thus welcome research that highlights the practices of peacebuilding and conflict transformation that remain off the radar, both in academia and policymaking. Examples encompass Indigenous practices of organizing care and security, feminist, anti-racist and youth campaigns stretching to urban protests, artistic and advocacy initiatives, popular memory, community-based systems of justice, truth commissions, securitization of humanitarian aid, etc.

- **The Policy Paper Series (PPS) *Postcolonial Hierarchies in Peace & Conflict*** is particularly interested in showcasing collaborative North/South or South/South research.
- It emphasizes issues of positionality and reflexivity pertaining to power hierarchies in practice-oriented knowledge production.
- It speaks to a broad audience of political, journalist and academic actors, including teachers and students.
- It produces policy-relevant insights from research conducted by, or in dialogue with, members of the network Postcolonial Hierarchies in Peace & Conflict.
- While fostering plurality and rigor, the series invites authors whose thoughts and voices remain unreasonably underrepresented in both policy and scholarly debates around peace and conflict.

Submitting a policy paper

The series is open to researchers and practitioners working either individually or collectively.

We are particularly encouraging of collaborative papers that bring together authors from different world regions with a focus on peace and conflict dynamics in the Global South.

Policy papers are expected to highlight the contextual specificities of addressing issues of peace and conflict in postcolonial societies, while keeping an eye on the dynamics of power in North-South and South-South relations.

- Authors may have a diversity of professional and/or academic backgrounds.
- Practitioners, broadly understood, are welcome to share their reflections with other policy actors and/or comment or intervene in academic debates.
- Authors from academia should strive for explicit formulation of the practical implications of their research.
- See contacts at the end of the document

Format

- Title & Summary (300 words)
- 5 Keywords
- 3-5 take-aways for practitioners and decision-makers
- The word limit of the main text is 5,000 words (excluding references and footnotes)
- References should be formatted in APA 7th ed.
- Short bio of authors including institutional affiliation and email

From submission to publication

- If you'd like to contribute a policy paper proposal, please contact the series editors with an outline of 300-500 words including a working title, 5 keywords, and a short bio.
- If accepted, you will be invited to submit a full policy paper. Authors are requested to name 3-5 suggested reviewers including an email contact.
- Please do not submit an entire draft unless explicitly invited to do so.
- Once submitted, policy papers undergo peer review by members of the editorial board and/or invited scholars or practitioners. At least one of them will be based in or come from a country in the Global South. At least one of them will be a practitioner.
- The series editors will forward the reviewers' recommendations to the authors and agree on a deadline for final submission (6 weeks).
- Once the final draft is accepted, the policy paper will be published on the website of the Postcolonial Hierarchies Network and shared widely amongst the network's contacts.
- Publishing a policy paper does not prevent publication elsewhere; the author(s) retain the copyright of their work; reference to this series in case of further publishing and/or translation into another language is appreciated.

The Policy Paper Series (PPS) of the Postcolonial Hierarchies Network



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To submit policy paper proposals contact:

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All policy papers will be accessible open-access and distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (CC BY).



The network "Postcolonial Hierarchies in Peace and Conflict" is a collaborative project of the Arnold Bergstraesser Institute (Freiburg), the Center for Conflict Studies at the Philipps University Marburg, the University of Bayreuth, and the University of Erfurt. It is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

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Cover artwork: 'La Guarida' Mural by Alejandro 'Mono' Gonzalez in Santiago de Chile
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