



The CRS Book of the Year Prize Winner is... Pamina Firchow!

The Conflict Research Society congratulates Pamina Firchow on winning the Conflict Research Society Book of the Year Prize for her book titled *Reclaiming Everyday Peace: Local Voices in Measurement and Evaluation After War* published by Cambridge University Press (2018).

Reclaiming Everyday Peace addresses the effectiveness and impact of local level interventions on communities affected by war. Using an innovative methodology to generate participatory numbers, Pamina Firchow finds that communities saturated with external interventions after war do not have substantive higher levels of peacefulness according to community-defined indicators of peace than those with lower levels of interventions. These findings suggest that current international peacebuilding efforts are not very effective at achieving peace by local standards because disproportionate attention is paid to reconstruction, governance and development assistance with little attention paid to community ties and healing. Firchow argues that a more bottom up approach to measuring the effectiveness of peacebuilding is required. By finding ways to effectively communicate local community needs and priorities to the international community, efforts to create an atmosphere for an enduring peace are possible.

The prize committee received over 50 nominations from conflict/peace researchers, institutions, practitioners and publishers from around the world. The committee chose the winning title out of 6 short-listed books based on criteria such as how well the book demonstrates a significant contribution to conflict/peace studies, impact factor, methodological rigour, robustness and credibility of the findings, the extent to which it is interdisciplinary, quality of writing and presentation.

Judges on the prize committee praised *Reclaiming Everyday Peace: Local Voices in Measurement and Evaluation After War* for its “elegant and simple solution” to the complex problems associated with evaluating everyday peace. The judges highlighted that “this book offers a deep, nuanced treatment of peace as concept, and as lived experience.” It offered a very “creative and systematic approach” with extensive fieldwork and “methodological innovation”, incorporating consideration of “players in different levels of peacebuilding efforts”. The judges also praised this book for its “radical” policy relevance: “If we accept what Firchow is saying, then the implication is that the existing ‘liberal’ peacebuilding paradigm needs to be flipped inside-out.

This title was elected out of a total of six finalists. These were excellent contenders for the prize and the judges also praised the excellent quality of research in all of the shortlisted books. Our congratulations are extended to the following runner up shortlisted titles (in no particular order):

Campbell, Susana 2019. *Global Governance and Local Peace: Accountability and Performance in International Peacebuilding*. Cambridge University Press.

Abdi, D.I. and Mason, S.J., 2019. *Mediation and Governance in Fragile Contexts: Small Steps to Peace*. Lynne Rienner Publishers

Caplan, R., 2019. *Measuring Peace: Principles, Practices, and Politics*. Oxford University Press

Mironova, V., 2019. *From Freedom Fighters to Jihadists: Human Resources of Non-State Armed Groups*. Oxford University Press.

Weidmann, N.B. and Rød, E.G., 2019. *The Internet and political protest in autocracies*. Oxford University Press.

Thank you also to the CRS Book Prize Judges - Christine Cheng, Isabel Phillips, Govinda Clayton, Robert Nagel, Catalina Montoya, and Andrew Thomson (facilitator).

Submit your work to the new Research and Practice Quarterly Roundup

The Conflict Research Society is planning to launch a new resource for its members. The Research and Practice Quarterly Roundup will provide an outlet for members to share their work and experiences. It is our hope that this will not only raise the profile of members' work but also ferment collaboration in cross-cutting areas of interest.

The roundup will be issued every March, June, September and December. Those wishing to contribute should follow the below instructions, which apply to academics and practitioners. Submissions and any questions should be directed to [Phillip Nelson](#). The first **deadline for submissions is Friday, 5 June**.

Promote a new publication: members should send a 300-word summary of the publication (suitable for a general audience), plus title and link to the resource online.

Project or fieldwork reviews: members should send a 300-500-word summary of the project, plus title and contact email for any responses. A link to an online page is optional. Reviews may include opinion pieces on the process of fieldwork as well as project evaluations, etc.

[Submit Now](#)

Conference Calls

The International Studies Association Annual Convention

Date: 7-10 April 2021 - Las Vegas, USA
Abstract submission deadline: **1 June 2020**

[Find Out More](#)

COVID-19 and Conflict

Peace, Conflict, and COVID-19 - Council on Foreign Relations

In keeping with its mission to help the general public understand conflict-related issues that affect the United States, as well as contribute to informed policy debate about the best ways to address them, the Center for Preventive Action (CPA) has created [this page](#) as a resource for information and analysis about the effects of COVID-19 on peace and conflict.

The impact of COVID-19 on Conflict Affected and Fragile States - The European Institute of Peace

The EIP conducts an analysis of the current situation and [reports](#) several recommendations for European policymakers.

How COVID-19 Gave Peace a Chance, and Nobody Took it - The Economist

ON MARCH 23RD, when the coronavirus was beginning to seize the world, António Guterres, the secretary-general of the United Nations, issued a call for a global ceasefire. “The fury of the virus illustrates the folly of war,” he declared. His laudable ambition, echoed by Pope Francis and others, was to secure a respite for those countries and regions so weakened by violence and conflict that they would be especially vulnerable to the pandemic. To general surprise, many armed groups around the world appeared to be listening... [continue reading](#).

COVID–19 in Multiple Registers - WICID

The Warwick Interdisciplinary Research Centre for International Development (WICID) publishes blog posts on COVID-19 and development issues. The team covers the implications of COVID-19 across many facets of international development, including countries in conflict, migration, gender, and public health. [Check it out](#).

Panel Series on COVID-19 from the School of Security Studies at King's College London

The School of Security Studies at King's College London present a series of panel discussions on the effects of COVID-19. See upcoming events [here](#).

For more stories, reports, blogs, including also development related material, see a list of resources compiled by the [Political Settlements Research Programme](#).

Peace and Conflict Jobs

UK Advocacy and Policy Lead, Christian Aid, London, UK

Deadline: 3 June 2020

[Full advertisement](#)

Teaching Assistant in Peace & Development Studies, University of Limerick, Ireland

Deadline: 3 June 2020

[Full advertisement](#)

LSE Fellow in Gender, Peace and Security, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK

Deadline: 5 June 2020

[Full advertisement](#)

Professor in Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University, Sweden

Deadline: 8 June 2020

[Full advertisement](#)

Tenure-Track Assistant Professorship(s) in International Relations, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Deadline: 10 June 2020

[Full advertisement](#)

Associate or Full Professorship in International Relations, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Deadline: 10 June 2020

[Full advertisement](#)

Senior Research Fellow, Digital Societies, Overseas Development Institute, London, UK

Deadline: 19 June 2020

[Full advertisement](#)

Senior Executive Officer, Interpeace, Geneva, Switzerland

Deadline: Open until the position is filled

[Full advertisement](#)

(Senior) Advisor Mediation & Negotiation Support (50%), Berghof Foundation, Berlin, Germany

Deadline: Open until the position is filled

[Full advertisement](#)

For peace and conflict jobs in the tertiary sector see the website of the [European Peacebuilding Liaison Office \(EPLLO\)](#), which lists vacancies for its many members.

For Academic positions see [jobs.ac.uk](#) and [THE](#).

For European academic funding opportunities (including PhDs, Postdocs, etc.) see [EURAXESS](#).

If you have any recommendations to add to this list, please hit reply to this email and let us know!

Upcoming Events/Opportunities

[Mass Atrocities and the UN Security Council](#)

When: **18:00-19:00 (BST), 3 June** Where: **Online**

Mass atrocities constitute threats to international peace and security, the enforcement and maintenance of which is the primary responsibility of the UN Security Council. Yet, the United Nations Security Council has regularly failed to protect populations from such crimes. Most shockingly, veto powers are regularly used to block collective action in situations of mass atrocities. In one current example, since 2011 the Veto has been used thirteen times on resolutions to address ongoing atrocities in Syria, which include the frequent use of chemical weapons. In recent years two initiatives have been launched to encourage Veto restraint from the P5 on resolutions intended to halt or prevent mass atrocities (The France/Mexico Initiative and the ACT Code of Conduct, both of which have well over 100 state signatories). Furthermore, the General Assembly and other organs of the UN have increasingly stepped into action when faced with Security Council paralysis.

This panel, co-hosted by the Oxford Institute for Ethics Law and Armed Conflict and Cambridge University's Centre for Geopolitics, will discuss the root causes and consequences of the use of veto in situations of mass atrocities, and also comment on the ways in which the international community has been striving to overcome these divisions.

[Engaging Women in Post Conflict Economic and Political Decision-Making](#)

Consultation ending 30 June

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) working with UN Women, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) and the International Civil Society Action Network (ICAN) is launching this online discussion to try and find out more about what is actually happening on the ground in areas of conflict and post-conflict where women are engaged in different ways in rebuilding their communities that is not always recognized.

Gender, Peace and Security Experts will be facilitating this online consultation focused on three major themes:

1. Women's role in post-conflict economic decision making;
2. Women's role in political planning and local peacebuilding; and
3. How can we replicate best-practice and lessons learned to ensure women are engaged in decision-making in the response to COVID-19?

The contributions to this consultation will be synthesized and serve as a key input to the proceedings of the 20th anniversary of the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 focused on Women, Peace and Security.

[The Challenges of Globalization and International Migration](#)

The meeting: The Challenges of Globalization and International Migration earlier scheduled to be held at Graduate School of International Studies ,Geneva, Switzerland, on June 30-July 2, 2020 has been rescheduled for the first week of July, 2021. An online mini conference will be held in the first week of October 2020, For details about the dates etc. please contact [Manas Chatterji](#)

[The Armenian Genocide and Anglo-American Struggle to Remake Global Order](#)

When: **16:00-17:30, 10 June** Where: **Online**

Dr Charlie Laderman will be presenting his new book, *Sharing the Burden: The Armenian Question, Humanitarian Intervention and Anglo-American Visions of Global Order* (Oxford University Press, 2019)* in conversation with Professor Donald Bloxham (University of Edinburgh). He will be speaking about the American and British struggle to save the Armenians from genocide and remake global order during the World War One era. The response to the Armenian tragedy reveals the possibilities, limitations and continued dilemmas of humanitarian intervention, and remains profoundly relevant for international politics today.

This event is co-hosted by the Centre for Grand Strategy and the War Crimes Research Group (WCRG) and will be chaired by Dr Rachel Kerr.

[Berlin Summer Dialogue – Online Edition 2020](#)

Titled “Crisis Prevention: From Ambition to Action. New Pathways for the UN”, this will not just be another webinar with one speaker and a passive audience - the hosts would like to explore a different approach and offer the virtual space for lively discussions and interaction across disciplinary and professional borders. Therefore, you are cordially invited to participate in all four sessions (see the dates below). The Berlin Summer Dialogue, hosted by the Development and Peace Foundation (sef:) once a year, has a long (offline) tradition of gathering different voices from practitioners, civil society, scientists and politicians. It is praised by participants for its open dialogue and opportunity to discuss up-to-date topics with a diverse group of people. This serves as an inspiration for creating the new online sessions.

Joining information to follow via website or on request.

Schedule overview (all sessions will be held in English):

Week One

Online Dialogue, 2 June 2020 - 14:00-15:30 hrs (BST)

“Crisis Prevention and the UN – Where Are We Now?”

Week Two

Online Dialogue, 9 June 2020 - 14:00-15:30 hrs (BST)

“Crisis and Conflict Early Warning – From Big Data to AI – New Analytical Tools?”

Week Three

Online Dialogue, 16 June 2020 - 14:00-15:30 hrs (BST)

“Facilitating a Faster Response by International Organisations in Crises and Conflicts”

Week Four

Online Dialogue, 23 June 2020 – 14:00-15:30 hrs (BST)

“Building a Political Commitment to Crisis Prevention – Strengthening Delivery”

CRS Members in Action

Fact v opinion: Maitlis v BBC & Times ... Brazil v Belgium ... Trump v Twitter

(1) [Times Editorial: “A Newsnight presenter’s](#) [criticisms of Cummings] breached the boundary between fact and opinion ... Many think [Cummings] should resign or be sacked. Many do not. Many have no strong view ...” **but** The Times’s three ‘many’s are 59%, 27% and 14% respectively. (2) [“Brazil death toll soars”](#) **but** Belgium’s [deaths per capita](#) is six times higher than Brazil’s. (3) [Trump says mail-in ballots](#) will be ‘substantially fraudulent’ **but** Twitter says ‘get the facts’. [Read Gordon Burt’s latest reports](#) including [“Trump’s fractious ‘marriage’ with the \(coronavirus\) world”](#).

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