

October 29, 2020



The international community increasingly understands and recognizes that international/regional initiatives are not sufficient for sustainable peace. Rather, peace action must be owned and led by the people and institutions within these contexts for true, long-lasting peace to take hold. The theme of this edition of the Peace Pulse, Local Peacebuilding, explores local and community-led peace initiatives and how international actors can support them. To explore this topic further with us, we invite you to attend Conflict Dynamics and Life and Peace Institute's live session next week during Geneva Peace Week (detailed below), which you can find on the GPW agenda [here](#).

Recent mass demonstrations across the globe have protested political and economic exclusion, inequality, and systematic violations of rights, and have called for widespread political reforms. Civilian distrust in government leadership has led to community mobilization - often across divides - and the development of stronger person-to-person bonds in an attempt to address the crises that political representatives have failed to resolve. How can peace practitioners effectively encourage horizontal trust and person-to-person peacebuilding to bring positive change? What does the current climate mean for how peace practitioners can engage and support local people in conflict contexts?

Conflict Dynamics and [Life & Peace Institute](#) are presenting on this very topic next week at Geneva Peace Week 2020 in the joint session "Horizontal Trust: Supporting people-to-people peacebuilding amid disruption". The session will feature lessons from Sudan on supporting community-level organizing for inclusion and peace and will explore how peacebuilders can identify actionable moments during public disruption to build trust and strengthen bonds to lead to long-term, positive change. We invite all of our readers to attend this virtual session, on **5 November at 14:00 CET**. [Click here](#) to register.

In this edition, you will find a variety of articles exploring different experiences and lessons learned from local peacebuilding initiatives around the world. While from 2019, Peace Direct and Alliance for Peacebuilding's "[Local peacebuilding: What Works and Why](#)" is a foundational report on different types of local peacebuilding initiatives, the impact they have on peace, and how international organizations can better support local peace actors. "[Gaps in knowledge about local peacebuilding](#)" by Reina C. Neufeldt et al. examines the gap between locally- and internationally-available 'knowledge' via publications produced on local peacebuilding in Jos, Nigeria, and finds the gap is incredibly high.

We hope you enjoy this edition and join us next week at Geneva Peace Week to share your own experiences of local peacebuilding and horizontal trust. If you have suggestions for themes that you would like to see featured in future editions of the

## Local Peacebuilding

This section highlights the latest articles on local and community-led peacebuilding and how international actors can support them.

- [Gaps in knowledge about local peacebuilding: a study in deficiency from Jos, Nigeria](#), Reina C. Neufeldt, Mary Lou Klassen, John Danboyi, Jessica Dyck and Mugu Zakka Bako, Third World Quarterly, 16 June 2020
  - [Local Ordering and Peacebuilding in Kyrgyzstan: What Can Customary Orders Achieve?](#) Anna Kreikemeyer, Journal of Intervention and Statebuilding, 14 July 2020
  - [Local peacebuilding: What Works and Why](#), Peace Direct and Alliance for Peacebuilding, 6 June 2019
  - [Nonviolent Action in Myanmar: Challenges and Lessons for Civil Society and Donors](#), La Ring, Khin Sandar Nyunt, Nist Pianchupat and Shaazka Beyerle, USIP, 18 September 2020
  - [Peacebuilding in Somalia: The role of local elders \(Case of Mogadishu\)](#), Ahmed Nur Gedi, University of Rwanda, May 2020
  - [Pioneering peace pathways: Making Connections to End Violent Conflict](#), edited by Cate Buchanan, Conciliation Resources, September 2020
  - [Studying Peace in and with Central Eurasia: Starting from Local and Trans-Local Perspectives](#), Anna Kreikemeyer, Journal of the Intervention and Statebuilding, 16 August 2020
  - [UN Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding: Progress and Paradox in Local Ownership](#), Susanna P. Campbell, Ethics and International Affairs Journal, 1 October 2020
  - [Whatever Future Holds for Peace Operations, Peacebuilding Must Be More Local and Plural](#), Youssef Mahmoud, International Peace Institute, 25 September 2020
  - [When Institutionalisation Threatens Peacebuilding: The Case of Kenya's Infrastructure for Peace](#), Nyambura Githaiga, Sage Journals, 23 September 2020
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## Peacebuilding & Governance

### Peacebuilding

CDI's peace action work focuses on preventing conflict, peacemaking and building sustainable peace. Our main strategy for this is political accommodation - a method for enabling users to develop their own approaches to reconciling divergent interests equitably.

- [After the Agreement: Why the Oversight of Peace Deals Succeeds or Fails](#), Aly Verjee, 25 September 2020
- [Challenges to Sustainably Increasing Women's Participation and Gender Equality in Peacekeeping](#), Lisa Sharland, International Peace Institute, 2 October 2020
- [A Fire in the Garden: Can We End the Nagorno-Karabakh War?](#) James Rupert, USIP, 1 October 2020
- [Four Lessons for Cease-fires in the Age of COVID](#), Amanda Long and Tyler Beckelman, USIP, 1 October 2020
- [The Important Role of Women Peacebuilders in COVID-19 Pandemic Response](#), Jasmine Jaghab, International Peace Institute, 10 September 2020
- [In pursuit of resilience: assessing threats and trade-offs for risk-informed development in Myanmar and Niger](#), Leigh Mayhew, Florence Pichon, Sarah Opitz-Stapleton and Rebecca Nadin, ODI, September 2020
- [Lessons From the High-Level Panel's 2015 Review for the Future of Peace Operations](#), Ian Martin, International Peace Institute, 30 September 2020
- [Looking Beyond Peace Agreements](#), Aditi Gorur, International Peace Institute, 16

- September 2020
- [Peacebuilding during a Pandemic: Keeping the Focus on Women's Inclusion](#), Masooma Rahmaty and Jasmine Jaghab, International Peace Institute, 15 September 2020
- [Understanding the Impact of COVID-19 in Fragile and Conflict-Affected Societies](#), Mercy Corps, 9 September 2020
- [Women at the Peace Table Yields Better Results. Why is it Still So Rare?](#) Alexandra E. Petri, NY Times, 13 October 2020
- [The Women, Peace, and Security Agenda Is Not Just for Straight, Cisgender Women](#), Albert Trithart, IPI Global Observatory, 13 October 2020

## Governance

Governance arrangements and political dialogue processes provide structure to a political system and help guide whether or not it is inclusive and participatory. CDI's governance and process frameworks support groups from different backgrounds to identify drivers of conflict in the system and develop creative solutions for addressing them.

- [Disentangling the security traffic jam in the Sahel: Constitutive effects of contemporary interventionism](#), Signe Marie Cold-Ravnkilde, Katja Lindskov Jacobsen, International Affairs Journal, 1 July 2020
- [Key facts about women's suffrage around the world, a century after U.S. ratified 19th Amendment](#), Katherine Schaeffer, Pew Research, 5 October 2020
- [Measuring electoral integrity: using practitioner knowledge to assess elections](#), Holly Ann Garnett and Toby S. James, Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties, 29 September 2020
- [Oil Blockades, Protests and Resignations: The Latest on Libya's Conflict](#), Nate Wilson, USIP, 30 September 2020
- [Security for whom? Analysing hybrid security governance in Africa's extractive sectors](#), Charis Enns, Nathan Andrews, J Andrew Grant, International Affairs, July 2020

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## Peacebuilding Contexts

### Somalia and Somaliland

Since 2009, CDI has worked with local partners in Somalia to support dialogue among and between Somali leaders and communities to help reconcile different interests and build lasting peace.

- [Forming the next government in Somalia: Key considerations for building consensus](#), Somali Dialogue Platform, Rift Valley Institute, August 2020
- [Somalia: Experiments in Knowing and Doing Capacity Building](#), Rupert Alcock, in Capacity Building for Maritime Security, Springer Link, 10 October 2020

### South Sudan

CDI has supported South Sudanese to construct a "House of Governance" that equitably serves all citizens and provides a framework for sustainable peace. We currently are exploring ways to support South Sudanese women's participation in governance and processes and the promotion of women's rights.

- [Ceasefire Monitoring in South Sudan 2014-2019: "A Very Ugly Mission"](#), Aly Verjee, USIP, 30 August, 2020
- [The Currency of Connections: Why Do Social Connections Matter for Household Resilience in South Sudan?](#) Jeeyon Kim, Alex Humphrey and et al., Mercy Corps, 1 August 2020
- [Lost in Translation: The interaction between international humanitarian aid and South Sudanese accountability systems](#), Conflict Sensitivity Resource Facility, 25 September 2020
- [Patchwork States: The Localization of State Territoriality on the South Sudan-Uganda Border](#), Cherry Leonardi, Conflict Sensitivity Facility, 31 July 2020
- [Rethinking Transitional Justice in South Sudan: Critical Perspectives on Justice and Reconciliation](#), Joseph Geng Akech, International Journal of Transitional

## Sudan

CDI works to prevent conflict and build sustainable peace in Sudan by supporting all stakeholders to develop inclusive frameworks, policies, and systems that will form the foundation of a new era of governance in Sudan.

- [Is the Juba Peace Agreement a Turning Point for Sudan?](#) Dame Rosalind Marsden, Chatham House, 14 September 2020
- [Nile Basin States Must Persist with Water Diplomacy](#), Owen Grafham, Ahmed Soliman, and Nouar Shamout, Chatham House, 11 August 2020
- [Normalizing Sudan-Israel Relations Now is a Dangerous Game](#), Payton Knopf, Jeffrey Feltman, USIP, 24 September 2020
- [Sudan: Briefing on UN Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan and the AU/UN Hybrid Operation in Darfur](#), What's in Blue, 24 September 2020

## The United States

Although CDI's current work is primarily focused on East Africa, recent events have emphasized the pervasive effects of exclusion and inequality in the United States and the potential applicability of our work there. As worldwide demand for tools to address the roots of inequality and suffering increases, we are finalizing our Political Accommodation Handbook with a grant from the [Cummings Foundation](#). The Handbook presents practical, user-friendly guidance to enable people to reconcile divergent interests in a fair and inclusive manner and will initially be shared through trainings in the United States and East Africa.

- [A Perilous Presidential Handoff](#), Timothy Naftali, Foreign Policy, 24 September 2020
- [Contentious Politics in the US: Grievance and Political Opportunity](#), Karin Dyrstad and Solveig Hillesund, Political Violence at a Glance, 29 September 2020
- [Preparing for a November Surprise](#), Maria J. Stephan, Candace Rondeaux, and Erica Chenoweth, Political Violence at a Glance, 21 July 2020
- [Regardless of the election outcome, expect limited U.S. policy changes in 2021](#), Erik Ristuben, Russell Investments, 9 September 2020
- [Trump, COVID-19, and the Future of International Order](#), Helen V. Milner, Susan Peterson, Ryan Powers, Michael J. Tierney, Erik Voeten, Foreign Policy, 8 October 2020
- [US Elections Disinformation Tabletop Exercise Package](#), Oumou Ly and Jorhena Thomas, Berkman Klein Center, 6 October 2020
- [Why We Still Need Democracy](#), Malika Older, Foreign Policy, 8 October 2020

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## Books

- [The Responsibility to Protect in Darfur: from forgotten conflict to global cause and back](#), David Lanz, Routledge Publishing, 2020
- [The Role of Civil Society Actors in Peacemaking and Peacebuilding](#), Sara Hellmüller, in Routledge Handbook of Peace, Security and Development, 25 June 2020

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The Peace Pulse seeks to inform readers about recent debates and scholarship related to peacebuilding and governance, and CDI's peacebuilding contexts: Somalia and Somaliland, South Sudan, and Sudan. CDI's peacebuilding initiatives aim to prevent and resolve violent conflict and to foster political stability. In working toward this goal, CDI supports people and their representatives to develop, agree upon, and implement practical arrangements for political dialogue processes and governance that accommodate diverse political interests in a balanced way.

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