



UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY

UNU-CRIS

Institute on Comparative
Regional Integration Studies

Strengthening Peace and Security Cooperation towards Democracy and Development

Ratsaal, 5th floor, Hofburg Congress Centre

Heldenplatz 1, 1010 Vienna, Austria

29-30 April 2015

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Strengthening Peace and Security Cooperation towards Democracy and Development

Regional Organisations play a crucial role in ensuring peace and security in their respective regions. They are increasingly called upon to strengthen and sustain peace and security by supporting peace-building processes and establishing functioning democratic institutions in post-conflict and countries in transition.

Regional Organisations have a series of potential comparative advantages in dealing with crisis situations. They are often regarded as having greater legitimacy and a greater understanding of the socio-cultural context, including of the local political dynamics. They are well positioned to detect and respond to crises faster. Intra-regional advice and assistance appears generally more welcome and more likely to be accepted and result in positive outcomes.

The potential role of Regional Organisations to contribute to peace and security has been enshrined in the United Nations (UN) Charter. Chapter VIII of the UN Charter encourages regional arrangements between the UN and ROs to maintain international peace and security.

The work of Regional Organisations can often be supported by Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) that have been developing significant capacities in areas such as early warning, track II diplomacy, policy analysis, advocacy and media outreach. The role that CSOs can play in the development and implementation of peace and security strategies is, however, not always common knowledge within Regional Organisations. The same can be said of CSOs, which are not always aware of the mandates, capacities and roles of Regional Organisations.

The main purpose of the International Conference is to discuss the role of Regional Organisations in conflict prevention and peacebuilding and to formulate policy recommendations on how to enhance cooperation among the UN, Regional Organisations and CSOs in the area of peace, security and democracy support.

The objectives of the Conference are: (a) to discuss existing mechanisms and initiatives for cooperation between Regional Organisations the UN and CSOs for conflict prevention and peacebuilding and identify good practices and lessons learned (b) to explore experiences in translating early warning into preventive actions and the conflict resolution, particularly in recurring crises (c) to explore experiences in peace building including in constitution building processes (d) to formulate policy recommendations to strengthen the global peacebuilding architecture through enhanced cooperation in conflict prevention and peacebuilding, including the role of different actors in the implementation of the Post 2015 Development Agenda.

This Conference brings together senior representatives from Regional Organisations, the UN, representatives from CSOs and experts in these fields to present regional innovations, exchange experiences and interactively discuss key issues.

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Day One, Wednesday, 29 April 2015

08:30-09:00	Registration
09:00-10:00	Opening Session
Moderator	Ivana Gajović Director Nansen Dialogue Centre, Montenegro
Welcome Remarks	Lamberto Zannier, Secretary General, OSCE
	Yves Leterme, Secretary General, International IDEA
	Luk Van Langenhove, Director, UNU-CRIS
	Peter van Tuijl, GPPAC Executive Director
	Group Photo
10:00-10:30	Break
10:30-12:30	Session I

Cooperate through Chapter VIII: Context, Concepts and Strategies

The first session aims at providing an initial background on the role of the UN, RIGOs as well as civil society organisations in conflict prevention and peacebuilding. Discussions will focus on different conceptual approaches and zoom in on elements of coordination throughout the conflict cycle, highlighting the added value of specific strategies and tools.

Moderator	Peter van Tuijl GPPAC Executive Director
Presentation	<i>The Fate of Chapter VIII</i> Luk Van Langenhove, Director of UNU-CRIS
Discussants	Khabele Matlosa, Director, Political Affairs Department African Union Commission

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Zotlán Taubner
Director of External Relations
Council of Europe

Rep of United Nations Department of Political Affairs (TBC)

Levinia Addae-Mensah
Programmes Director, West Africa Network for Peacebuilding
(WANEP)

Fred Tanner
Senior Adviser to the Secretary- General of the OSCE

Open Discussion

12:30-14:00 Lunch

14:00-15:30 Session II

Conflict Prevention: Concepts and Practice

Session II will consist of two breakout sessions. One session will take a closer look at dedicated mechanisms and actors in the field of conflict prevention. Particular attention will be paid to the role of women. The other session will focus on practical experiences from different geographical regions.

Breakout Session I: Conflict Prevention: Mechanisms and Actors

Moderator Jane Thery, Director of External Relations of the OAS

Presentations *Strengthening Constitutional Frameworks s Mechanisms for
Conflict Prevention*
Sumit Bisarya and Kimana Zuleta-Fuelscher, International
IDEA

Women, Peace and Security, a vision from South East Asia
Khin Ohmar
Burma Partnership, Mynamar

*The African Governance Architecture and Structural
Prevention of Conflict*
George Wachira
Head of the African Governance Architecture Secretariat,
African Union Commission

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Open Discussion

Breakout Session II: Regional Experiences of Conflict Prevention

Moderator Isabella Sargsyan
Program Director, Eurasia Partnership Foundation, Armenia

Presentations *The OAS and the Peace Process between the Maras Gangs in El Salvador*
Adam Blackwell
Director of Multidimensional Security, OAS

Preventing Electoral Violence in Burkina Faso
Emmanuel Bombande,
former Director, WANEP

ASEAN and the Cambodia-Thailand Conflict
Ong Keng Yong,
former Secretary General, ASEAN

Preventing Electoral Violence in Africa
Khabele Matlosa, Director, Political Affairs Department
African Union Commission

Open Discussion

15:30-16:00 Break

16:00-17:30 Session III

From Early Warning to Crisis Response and Conflict Resolution

This session will focus on tools for early action and crisis response, to include discussions on challenges in translating early warning into early preventive action. In addition, the session will deal with conflict resolution tools, in particular dialogue facilitation and mediation processes. Experiences from various geographical regions and of different regional organisations will be presented.

Moderator Zoltán Taubner
Director of External Relations
Council of Europe

Presentations Adam Kobieracki

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Director of OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre

Peter Woodrow
Executive Director of CDA Collaborative Learning Projects

Nantene Coulibaly,
Policy Officer, Early Warning Directorate, Department of
Political Affairs, Peace and Security of the ECOWAS
Commission.

Timothy Bryar
Conflict Prevention Adviser, Pacific Islands Forum

Open Discussion

19:30 onwards Dinner at the Restaurant Merlo

Day Two, Thursday, 30 April 2015

9:00- 9:30 Reports from the moderators of the breakout sessions

09:30-11:00 Session IV

Regional Experiences of Peacebuilding

This session will highlight and discuss the implementation of peacebuilding strategies and instruments from different geographical regions, exploring in particular which tools have been most successful in fostering sustainable peace. The session will further look at challenges of peacebuilding and discuss possibilities to address them. Specific consideration will be given to the role of CSOs in the design and implementation of peacebuilding strategies.

Moderator: Karin Gardes
Director, External Relations and Governance Support
International IDEA

The ICGLR as a Peacebuilding Mechanism

Wilson Kajwengye
Peace and Security Programme Officer, International
Conference on the Great Lakes Region, ICGLR

Mindanao and the role of ASEAN

Gus Miclat,
Executive Director of Initiatives for International Dialogue

Building Peace in Bosnia, the Role of the OSCE

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Fletcher Burton
Former OSCE Head of Mission in Bosnia

Open Discussion

11:00-11:30 Break

11:30-13:00 Session V

Together for Peace: A Framework for Greater Cooperation

This session will discuss possibilities for enhanced coordination and cooperation between the UN, RIGOs and CSOs in support of regional peace and security. Concrete examples of successful initiatives will be presented. This session will also look at challenges for enhanced cooperation and possible means to address them. Particular reference will be made to on-going discussions on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Moderator: Wael Al Assad, Head of Mission of the League of Arab States
in Vienna (TBC).

Presentations Kenneth Gluck
Director and Deputy Head of the UN Peacebuilding Support
Office

Hesham Youssef,
Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs,
Organisation of Islamic Cooperation

Andrés Serbín
President of CRIES

Henrik Villadsen
Director OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities

Open Discussion

13:00-14:30 Lunch

14:30-16:00 Session VI

Synthesis and the Way Forward

Based on discussions during the conference, this session will be aimed at identifying a set of concrete policy recommendations to strengthen the global conflict prevention and peacebuilding architecture, specifically in the context of the implementation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

Moderator	Darynell Rodríguez Torres Programme Manager Policy and Advocacy GPPAC
<i>Synthesis</i>	Raul Cordenillo, Head of Communications, International IDEA
Reflections	Khabele Matlosa, Director, Political Affairs Department African Union Commission Ivana Gajović Director Nansen Dialogue Centre, Montenegro Elizabeth Spehar Director of Europe Division UN Department of Political Affairs (TBC)
Open Discussion	
16:00-16:30	Closing Session
Closing Remarks	Raul Cordenillo, Head of Communications, International IDEA Peter van Tuijl, Executive Director, GPPAC Claus Neukirch, Deputy Director of the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre Luk Van Langenhove, Director of UNU-CRIS