

A JOINT BOOK LAUNCH:  
**The Nexus of Peacebuilding Theory and Practice**

Introducing recent publications, and hosted by the International Institute for Social Studies  
25 February 2015  
4:30-6:00 pm, the ISS Atrium  
Kortenaerkade 12, The Hague

The International Institute for Social Studies (ISS) of Erasmus University Rotterdam, and the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC) invite you to a joint book launch and discussion event, presenting three recent publications, and exploring the nexus between peacebuilding theory and practice towards greater human security.

The topics presented range from peoples' perspectives on human security in different contexts, to theoretical and methodological approaches, as well as practical tools for conflict assessment and peacebuilding planning.

The event will be followed by networking drinks in the ISS student bar.

### Programme

1. Welcome and introduction: Helen Hintjens/Peter van Tuijl (ISS/GPPAC)
2. Human security and beyond - Des Gasper (Governance, Globalisation & Social Justice programme, ISS)
3. Empowerment and Protection: Stories of Human Security - Jenny Aulin (GPPAC)
4. Conflict Assessment and Peacebuilding Planning: Toward a Participatory Approach to Human Security - Lisa Schirch (AfP/GPPAC)
5. Conflict, Peace, Security and Development: Theories and Methodologies - Dubravka Zarkov (ISS)
6. Discussion
7. Networking drinks

### About the publications and presenters

***Empowerment and Protection: Stories of Human Security* - [www.storiesofhumansecurity.net](http://www.storiesofhumansecurity.net)**

Edited by Kristen Wall, Jenny Aulin and Gabriella Vogelaar (GPPAC 2014)

Through case studies and analysis by civil society practitioners, this book illustrates the human security approach as an analytical tool and as a peacebuilding strategy. Based on interviews and focus groups, it shares people's reflections on security needs and coping strategies in Afghanistan,

the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Zimbabwe, Ukraine, Mexico, and the Philippines. The stories reveal the centrality of the state as a security provider through the rule of law, but also the ways the state can undermine human security through corruption, human rights abuses, or failure to provide basic services. The stories suggest that the citizen-state relationship lies at the core of human security, and that localised empowerment and protection strategies must go hand in hand.

**Jenny Aulin** works as Programme Manager Action Learning at GPPAC, overseeing GPPAC's thematic work on Human Security and Preventive Action. She coordinates working groups and projects that support peacebuilding practitioners. GPPAC is a member-led network of civil society organisations (CSO's) in the field of conflict prevention and peacebuilding across the world. GPPAC works to inform policy, improve practice and enable collaboration and coordination between peacebuilding actors.

***Conflict Assessment and Peacebuilding Planning: Toward a Participatory Approach to Human Security***, by Lisa Schirch (Lynne Rienner Press 2013)

This handbook offers a systematic approach that links practical, participatory conflict assessment exercises to the design, planning, monitoring, and evaluation of peacebuilding efforts. Drawing on years of experience, Schirch asserts the need for a more logical conflict assessment framework that directly links to self-assessment, theories of change, monitoring and evaluation and design concepts and methods. She outlines how more rigorous research methods help us to fruitfully question widely held assumptions and in turn design more effective peacebuilding policies and programmes.

**Lisa Schirch** is the Director of Human Security at the Alliance for Peacebuilding. Schirch connects policymakers with global civil society networks, facilitates civil-military dialogue and provides a conflict prevention and peacebuilding lens on current policy issues. She is also a Research Professor at the Center for Justice and Peacebuilding at Eastern Mennonite University, and a member of the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict.

***Conflict, peace, security and development: theories and methodologies***

Edited by Helen Hintjens and Dubravka Zarkov (Routledge 2015)

This new Routledge publication reflects on how to deal with the convergence of war and peace in the context of global economic and geo-political development. It is important to reflect on how theories taught in the classroom relate to actually working with those theories and methodologies in practice. Given that the ISS student body includes people who themselves are working in and on conflict, their chapters in this volume combined their studies at ISS with their work experience, and their contributions to this volume were extremely valuable and original. Through engagement with existing ways of theorising and researching conflict, and intervening into conflict, their reflections can help to make the field of Conflict and Peace Studies more critically-informed and reflexive.

**Dubravka Zarkov** is Associate Professor in Gender, Conflict and Development Studies at the ISS. She is specialised in intersections of gender, sexuality and ethnicity in violent conflict, and particularly interested in sexual violence against women and men in war, and its representation in the media. Her publications include, most recently *Narratives of Justice in and out of the courtroom: Former Yugoslavia and Beyond*, 2014, co-edited with Marlies Glasius.

**Helen Hintjens** is Assistant Professor in Development and Social Justice and Convenor of the Social Justice major at ISS. She researches and teaches at the interface between conflict and peace in the African Great Lakes region, and asylum policies and advocacy in the 'West'. Her publications include "Genocide, War and Peace in Rwanda", in Yih-Jye Hwang and Lucie Cerna (eds) *Global Challenges: Peace and War*, 2014.