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Annual report

Dialogue
amid crisis

GLOBAL
PARTNERSHIP
FOR THE
PREVENTION
OF ARMED
CONFLICT





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Introduction



GPPAC in 2014

BY EMMANUEL BOMBANDE, CHAIR OF THE GPPAC BOARD

I am happy to present to you GPPAC's 2014 annual report. 2014 was a turbulent year, which saw the eruption of violence in Ukraine, continued conflict in Syria, Yemen and Mali. Each day, the news brings us stories of violence and devastation, giving an impression of little hope and even less peace. Yet around the world, civil society organisations are working every day to turn the tide. Our members worldwide respond to these challenges with a focus on conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

Our members in Ukraine hosted numerous local dialogue platforms, keeping the conversation going between the two sides of the conflict divide, even as the war escalated. Our members in Middle East and North Africa supported dialogue between Sunnis and Shias in Lebanon as sectarian violence loomed. We launched our project in Mali together with the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding and the Human Security Collective, working towards a human security strategy developed by local peacebuilders.

Apart from responding to these conflicts, we have also continued our dialogue and mediation work. One example is the exchange visit of the Korean National

Peace Committee — from the Democratic People's Republic of North Korea — to our Global Secretariat in The Hague. We see this relationship as crucial for building trust and confidence for our civil society dialogue process for building peace in Northeast Asia.

Another aspect of our work is strengthening local capacities for conflict prevention and peacebuilding. Learning exchanges took place between many of our members, between regions and across them. We also incorporate learning into our conflict prevention activities, for instance by conducting workshops on advocacy ahead of a member advocacy mission to a particular government or intergovernmental



Emmanuel Bombande

organisation. We also work on building capacities for prevention outside of the GPPAC network: the training on conflict analysis for the Office of the High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe is such an example.

These are just some highlights from the past year. In this report, we are also happy to share with you our work on gender, human security, our collaboration with Regional Intergovernmental Organisations and much more.

How to promote Human Security in un-governed spaces?

BY PETER VAN TUIJL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In between 1991 and 2012, Somalia had no central government and the Somalian people suffered from protracted violence between different non-state armed groups, including violent extremists. The creation of a new Somalian government was the result of an enduring process of negotiations between different clans, requiring significant peacekeeping forces and other forms of external support. Since 2012, Somalia is struggling forward, with continued high levels of violence, but some progress in building state institutions, promoting development and delivering human security.

For a long time, we spoke of Somalia as an exception. However, reflecting on 2014, Somalia looks more like the first of an increasing number of states where governance is falling apart. The collapse of Syria, Libya and Yemen are important recent examples. There are more and more un-governed spaces, meaning that increasing numbers of people live in situations where high levels of violence are coupled with a complete absence of social services and protection. People have to fend for themselves. This is why at the beginning of 2015 the world is counting the highest

number of refugees and internally displaced people since the end of the Second World War.

The growth of un-governed spaces poses an extraordinary challenge for GPPAC to conduct its mission of violence- and armed conflict prevention. It makes it even more important to think through the institutional component of promoting human security. If there is no State, how can we ensure security and development? Three entry points are becoming increasingly significant.



Peter van Tuijl

First, in the absence of a national government, city and local governments can still play an important role in providing development and security. Within a larger context of instability, we need to make use of every opportunity to strengthen functioning governance structures at local levels. As civil society organisations often have distinct local constituencies, they are a natural ally for local governments committed to human security. Several case studies in GPPAC's 2014 publication 'Empowerment and Protection' tell this story.

Second, we need to continue to strengthen the role of regional organisations in supporting human security. Un-governed spaces tend to have fluid borders, and problem analysis and response strategy development can be more effective at a regional level. Last year also showed increasing signals that strengthening what the UN calls 'regional arrangements' has entered the global governance agenda. An example was the landmark UN Security Council Resolution 2171 on conflict prevention. In 2015, GPPAC will have a leading role in developing this agenda, with a second conference with Regional Organisations foreseen in April.

Third, we need to develop better frameworks to engage with non-state actors who have political roles in un-governed spaces. This is perhaps the most difficult question of all, not the least because these groups are rarely one-dimensional. They have to be understood within a scope that blends ideological, religious, political or criminal motivations. A response strategy from a human security perspective has to navigate this complexity.

I trust that this annual report will show you how GPPAC engages with these dynamics in the landscape of our challenges.

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GPPAC's 2014 publication 'Empowerment and Protection'



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What is GPPAC?

THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR THE PREVENTION OF ARMED CONFLICT

The Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC) is a member-led network of civil society organisations (CSOs) active in the field of conflict prevention and peacebuilding from around the world, founded in 2003. The network consists of fifteen regional networks of local organisations, each region with its own priorities, character and agenda.

As part of its mission to work towards a global shift from reaction to prevention of violent conflict, GPPAC strives for multi-actor collaboration and local ownership. Together, GPPAC members aim to achieve greater concerted efforts in the field of conflict prevention and peacebuilding by strengthening the role of local civil society groups in conflict regions, and connecting them on the national, regional and global level.

The work of the network revolves around four key programmes, with gender mainstreaming taking place across our strategies and throughout the network:

1. Network Strengthening and Regional Action;
2. Action Learning;
3. Public Outreach;
4. Policy and Advocacy.

GPPAC's activities

GPPAC informs policy by connecting civil society with key decision makers at national, regional and global level. As a network of peacebuilders, we present civil society analysis of conflicts from a human security perspective, we generate knowledge and define collaborative mechanisms to prevent violent conflict.

GPPAC builds capacity through learning exchanges on conflict prevention, involving civil society practitioners, state institutions, UN representatives, regional organisations and other key actors. We document lessons learned, develop resources and support trainings such as:

- Conflict analysis
- Dialogue and mediation



- Peace and conflict resolution education
- Gender-sensitive approaches
- Civil-military relations
- Conflict sensitivity and media engagement.

GPPAC enables collaboration between civil society and other actors to analyse trends and improve long-term peacebuilding strategies, with the objective to foster joint action. We support organisations based in conflict-affected countries, and in politically sensitive contexts where official channels of communication and interaction are limited or absent. We enable and facilitate collaborative projects that aim to prevent conflict and build sustainable peace.

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Our work



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Mali Project

ACTION LEARNING, WEST AFRICA

In January 2014, together with the West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP), and Human Security Collective, we launched a project in Mali. The project works towards a human security strategy for Mali through a strengthened national civil society network.

WANEP-Mali, based in Bamako, has been successfully reconstituted as a network to support Malian civil society across the country. It is important for local organisations to have a platform that can bridge the polarisation of various interest groups in Mali, to discuss common problems and human security issues.

Malian civil society organisations are working together to identify the causes of the crisis that has been unfolding in the country, and to collectively develop strategies to address them. They do so in partnership with local and regional authorities including the police, to promote reconciliation and address root causes of the conflict. Inclusive dialogue meetings have taken place in cities such as Gao, Segou and Mopti. Local and national Malian civil society groups have identified the issues most important to them and have

started to develop action plans to address some of them in their communities. The issues highlighted include the proliferation of armed militias and explosive devices, unemployment, hunger, exclusion, and the absence of basic services in some places. The outcome of these dialogues is informing policy discussions at various levels, including at the EU, ECOWAS and the UN.

We established and strengthened relations with local and international policymakers and civil society active on (human) security in Mali and beyond. In the Netherlands, we gave a seminar to seventy soldiers from European armed forces to prepare for their participation in the UN mission in Mali, MINUSMA. This increased their awareness on the human security approach, the diversity of civil society in Mali and public perceptions on MINUSMA locally. It also provided practical



Regional consultation meeting in Tombouctou.

guidance on engagement with civil society in the Malian context.

At the UN in New York, WANEP Board member Oulie Keita represented GPPAC and WANEP-Mali at the Thematic Debate on Human Security convened by the President of the General Assembly on 18 June 2014. She emphasised investing in the empowerment of women and the need for a human security approach in complex emergencies, as a military approach by itself will not work in the end.

Local Peace Committees in Zimbabwe

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Zimbabwe has been repeatedly confronted with violence throughout its history, from the independence and civil wars in the 1960s and '70s, to the election violence of 2008 and – to a lesser degree – 2013. Our member, the Ecumenical Church Leaders Forum formed the local peace committees.

In order to build resilience in communities, our Zimbabwean member, the Ecumenical Church Leaders Forum (ECLF), works in over seventy rural communities that have been the most seriously affected by violence in recent years. They conduct trauma healing and reconciliation workshops, and support the creation of local peace committees. The local peace committees consist of representatives of different groups, such as women, youth, traditional leaders and healers, former combatants and the different political parties. The committees mediate community conflicts, ranging from marital problems to land and electoral disputes.

In November 2014, our members from across Southern Africa gathered in northern Zimbabwe for their annual meeting, hosted by

ECLF. The group visited two communities in Binga District where ECLF works. Here, they learned more from the members of the local peace committees and other villagers on what kind of impact the project has had. The director of Zimbabwe's Organ for National Healing, Reconciliation and Integration joined the visit. The collaboration between the Organ for National Healing, Reconciliation and Integration and ECLF is a good example of cooperation between government and civil society to build peace. Also present were representatives of several other Zimbabwean civil society organisations and networks, and of the UNDP country office, which supported the meeting.

Most striking about the villagers' testimonies was their ownership of the peace committees, and their commitment to resolving conflicts



peacefully. They stated that the peace committee would continue to work even without ECLF's support, and that the entire community agrees that maintaining peace is much more important than who wins elections. During the 2013 elections, there were no violent incidents reported in the areas where ECLF has helped to create these peace committees, whereas in previous elections they had been among the most violent.

The field visit was a valuable learning opportunity for our members from Southern Africa. The success of the project in preventing electoral violence was of particular interest to members from countries with planned elections in the near future, such as Zambia and Lesotho. This kind of learning exchange between members is a key aspect of our approach to capacity building. The work of the ECLF is also featured in our publication Empowerment and Protection (see page 13).



GPPAC Alert: Understanding conflict drivers

ACTION LEARNING, LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

A human security analysis can identify both the root causes and triggers of conflict. It is a crucial first step towards addressing a conflict situation. Through their ongoing work and extensive networks at country and regional level, our members are often in a unique position to provide an insider's perspective and analysis of a conflict situation.

This is why, in recent years, our Preventive Action working group has invested in conflict analysis tools as a starting point for conflict prevention and peacebuilding action. Building on the GPPAC Conflict Analysis Field Guide, we launched our GPPAC Alert series in 2014. The Alert series aims to capture and disseminate the analytical insights of our members and partners on specific conflict issues, for the purpose of multi-stakeholder engagement and action.

The first Alert focuses on Venezuela. Dr Andrés Serbin, President of CRIES, our Regional Secretariat for Latin America and the Caribbean, wrote this first Alert. The Alert 'Venezuela in Crisis: Economic and Political Conflict Drivers In the Post-Chávez Era' is based on confidential

interviews with analysts, journalists, military officers and politicians in Venezuela. The research took place just before the outbreak of the early 2014 crisis. It highlights the profound political, economic and social polarisation characterising contemporary Venezuela.

The economic deterioration was exacerbated by a political stalemate between the ruling party and the opposition coalition, as well as ideological differences within the government itself. The political impunity and shortage of goods and high crime rates led to a growing disaffection and sense of impotence among key sectors of the population. The report warned that a variety of groups have turned to the use of violence to express political dissatisfaction, prompting further

militarisation in the government's response to public disorder and insecurity in the country.

The Alert calls for a human security approach to inform a way out of the crisis, as the underlying conflict dynamics will remain until the government addresses the grievances and political stalemate. CRIES engaged regional actors on the need to act with restraint and through quiet diplomacy on both sides of the conflict. CRIES and GPPAC are calling on regional leaders to provide safe spaces for political dialogue, notably on economic and security reform, and is encouraging the UN to support national confidence building that addresses the dangerous chasms dividing Venezuelan society.



Strengthening local capacities for conflict analysis

ACTION LEARNING, EASTERN EUROPE, CAUCASUS AND CENTRAL ASIA

Since 2013, GPPAC has been collaborating with the office of the High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE HCNM). This collaboration stems from a shared belief that conflict prevention is most effective when based on the analysis of local people regularly monitoring their own contexts.

In 2014, GPPAC continued to provide training on conflict analysis for members of the OSCE HCNM's monitoring networks across Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia. They analyse issues related to national minorities, including those linked with ethnicity, religion or language, or obstacles that minority groups may face in participating in the socio-economic or political life of the country. The assessment from the monitoring networks informs the office of the High Commissioner on societal dynamics, short-term triggers and long-term structural concerns. Subsequently, the OSCE HCNM can intervene to prevent conflict at the earliest possible stage, containing and de-escalating tensions that have the potential

to lead to conflict within or between states.

In 2014, GPPAC and the office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities organised trainings in Tbilisi, Almaty and Bishkek to further strengthen conflict analysis capacities of the members of the OSCE HCNM monitoring networks working in Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Kazakhstan.



Strengthening multi-stakeholder collaboration

LOBBY AND ADVOCACY

For conflict prevention and peacebuilding efforts to be effective, multiple actors need to collaborate. Our policy and advocacy programme creates spaces for joint analysis, and collaboration among our members and policy makers.

As part of these efforts, we are working to strengthen the role of regional inter-governmental organisations (RIGOs) in peace and security, by strengthening collaboration with civil society organisations (CSOs), and with the UN. The transnational nature of current security threats, more than ever call for regional solutions. RIGOs are in a good position to detect and respond to crises faster.

We facilitate this cooperation by:

- **Mapping the existing mechanisms of cooperation between RIGOs, CSOs and the UN in different regions.**

In 2014 we published the policy brief 'Regional organisation and Peacebuilding, the Role of Civil Society' in collaboration with the KROC Institute for International Peace Studies of Notre Dame University. The policy

brief takes stock of different mechanisms for cooperation between RIGOs and CSOs and assesses improvement.

- **Creating spaces where the UN, RIGOs and CSOs jointly reflect and formulate recommendations to improve coordination in conflict prevention and peacebuilding efforts.**

In cooperation with the Organisation of American States, we established a steering group on RIGO-CSO collaboration composed of representatives of different RIGOs, the UN and CSOs. The steering group held its second meeting in October 2014 and participated in a scenario-building workshop on how to improve cooperation between RIGOs and the UN. The results of this workshop form the bases of a forthcoming policy brief.



- **Supporting the capacities for conflict analysis of RIGOs**

As mentioned on page 11, during 2014 we provided training on conflict analysis to the monitoring networks of the High Commissioner of National Minorities of the OSCE in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

- **Establishing liaison offices to the UN and selected RIGOs**

We are working to enhance the voices of civil society at key multilateral arenas. During 2014, we consolidated our Liaison Office to the UN in New York. We established a new one in Cairo to monitor policy developments and identify opportunities for collaboration with the League of Arab States.



GPPAC's position on human security

ACTION LEARNING

We are a vocal promoter of human security. A society where people feel safe, secure and included is more likely to be a peaceful society. Human security goes beyond traditional security: it prioritises the survival, livelihood, and dignity of all people. It is key to both sustainable peace and sustainable development.

When our Human Security working group reflected on what human security means for the practice of conflict prevention and peacebuilding, they concluded that peacebuilders must take this debate to the communities and individuals affected by conflict. This was the starting point for the global project that led to the publication 'Empowerment and Protection – Stories of Human Security'.

GPPAC members from six countries in six different regions created snapshots of the human security situation in particular contexts by collecting experiences and perspectives from a cross-section of people and groups. With these stories, we will inform analysis and recommendations for peacebuilding and conflict prevention. Members from

Afghanistan, Palestine, Mexico, Ukraine, the Philippines and Zimbabwe examined:

- what people considered a threat to their security;
- what they do to ensure their protection; and
- who or what they rely on to ensure their security.

In spite of the very different contexts and organisations involved, their stories brought some striking commonalities and conclusions for our work. People at all levels described security as a multi-faceted experience, where freedom from want, freedom from fear, and freedom from indignity are all connected.



Human Security First Campaign

Human Security First is the latest campaign from GPPAC and PAX. The goal of the campaign is for the Human Security approach to be broadly adopted, and for people to determine the policies that directly affect them. The campaign gives voice to people that face the day-to-day realities of violence and insecurity. We do this by collecting videos, blogs and articles online: www.humansecurityfirst.org. We channel these stories, including analysis and recommendations, to decision makers.



> To download the book, please click here.



Addressing the conflict in and around Ukraine



2014 was a busy and challenging year for our Eastern European network members. They focused most of their activities on addressing the conflict in and around Ukraine.

Our Eastern Europe members continued to share their analysis of the developments in Ukraine at the national and international levels, among others by informing the [EU Advisory Mission for Civilian Security Sector Reform](#) in Ukraine. They continued to share their perspectives at [public events](#) in different cities of Ukraine, and to discuss the realities of the conflict and approaches to peacebuilding through national and [international media](#). They also presented their analysis on challenges and opportunities for dialogue at a [panel discussion](#) organised with The Hague Institute for Global Justice.

When a major part of the population is mobilising against a perceived foreign invasion, dialogue with people from the opposing political camp is not always easy. Despite that, throughout 2014 our members

hosted local dialogue platforms to come to shared interpretations of the present and the future. These local dialogue platforms also helped difficult conversations take place, related to the divides along political, economic and ideological choices.

The dialogue model initially developed and piloted by our members in Odessa proved effective in other Ukrainian cities as well. Our member, the Odessa Regional Group of Mediation, the OSCE and the municipality of Odessa co-hosted an [international conference on the role of mediation in crises](#) for learning and experience exchange between dialogue and mediation experts from around the world.

Meanwhile, issues resulting from internal displacement nearing one million people in

Ukraine required urgent response. Our members worked with social workers, school teachers and families displaced by the annexation of Crimea and the war in the east of Ukraine. The expertise of our members from across the globe came in handy in providing the knowledge and approaches for [helping vulnerable groups](#) affected by conflict. This includes in their adaptation and socialisation, and for preventing tensions between internally displaced people and the host communities.



Korean National Peace Committee Exchange Visit

DIALOGUE AND MEDIATION, NORTHEAST ASIA

In April In 2014, GPPAC hosted two representatives of the Korean National Peace Committee (KNPC), based in Pyongyang, for an exchange visit to the GPPAC Global Secretariat office in The Hague.

Since its establishment, GPPAC has been working to develop and sustain relations with organisations in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK). The engagement between KNPC and GPPAC, first initiated in 2010, has developed through KNPC participation in Northeast Asian regional meetings and GPPAC international delegations visiting the DPRK in past years.

GPPAC sees this relationship as crucial for building trust and confidence for ongoing cooperation towards a civil society dialogue process for building peace in Northeast Asia, including peaceful resolution of the Korean Peninsula crisis.

This exchange visit was a unique opportunity to further strengthen the relations between GPPAC and the KNPC and help to build the trust and mutual understanding necessary for future work to contribute towards

prevention of violence and conflict in such a complex region as Northeast Asia. The two participants, joined by the GPPAC Northeast Asia Regional Liaison Officer, spent over a week learning about the work of GPPAC through engagement with staff of the Global Secretariat responsible for various programmes, in particular learning about diverse understanding and experiences in dialogue and mediation.

During their stay, they also met with partner organisations and institutions of GPPAC, including the Clingendael Institute, The Hague Institute for Global Justice, and the Coalition for the International Criminal Court.

The programme finally also included sessions for review, planning and preparations for future cooperation between the KNPC and GPPAC, including in the Northeast Asia Regional Steering Group and GPPAC’s Ulaanbaatar Process for dialogue in Northeast Asia.

Dialogue & Mediation: building trust and finding solutions

Dialogue and mediation is at the core of GPPAC activities. Our members utilise dialogue and mediation as a measure to prevent conflict from escalating into violence.

Some examples include supporting dialogue between Sunnis and Shias in Lebanon, and between groups of different ideological affiliations in Ukraine. Our members also help to build confidence between Muslim and Christian groups in Indonesia, and mediate between indigenous communities and extractive industries in Mexico. Our members supported trust building between the government of Uganda and the Uganda National Liberation Front, and contributed to the dialogue between the government of the Philippines and the Moro National Liberation Front.

In all of these instances, our members act as mediators and facilitators. We bring together parties from across a particular conflict divide, and offer impartial spaces and the knowledge to help steer difficult conversations. Our members also address tensions at the interstate level. For instance in Latin America and the Caribbean, our members initiated and facilitated the US-Cuba academic dialogue.

To achieve structural change, we complement dialogue and mediation with advocacy towards governments and regional and international organisations involved in a conflict. We channel cultural and political insights, including analysis and joint policy recommendations from local civil society actors and communities affected by conflict to decision makers.



The importance of conflict prevention for the women, peace, and security agenda

GENDER

As a global civil society network, we strive to be particularly inclusive of women's efforts to prevent conflicts. We contribute to a prevention perspective on the women, peace, and security agenda.

We believe that it is important to pay specific attention to conflict prevention in discussions on the policy area of women, peace and security, that too often looks at women exclusively as victims of conflict. By highlighting local stories of conflict prevention, we illustrate women's crucial contributions to prevention in practice and identify areas where women seek support from international policy makers.

Sharing stories, building solidarity, and reaching out to policy makers were the main goals of our annual '1325 week', which took place from 27 to 31 October 2014 in New York. The week marks the anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325), the first and most prominent of several resolutions on women, peace, and security.

For GPPAC, UNSCR 1325 supports women's active roles in the prevention of conflict – a commitment that seems logical but needs full implementation.

During the week, our gender experts discussed their own experiences on how they prevent violence in their countries. The examples ranged from the Caucasus, where women meet across conflict divides for business consultations to enhance their economic security, to Eastern and Central Africa, where women monitor government spending to prevent mismanagement of national funds and the resurgence of violence. Our gender experts brought their examples and collective messages into discussions with partners and New York-based policy makers, including



GPPAC Gender Focal Points in New York.



We need to support what is there - #women are already preventing conflict! Check out what our Gender Experts are doing worldwide: <http://bit.ly/1F3L74a> #16days

a consultation meeting in preparation of the Global Review of the implementation of UNSCR 1325. We also shared women's experiences in conflict prevention on social media, participating in the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence campaign.

Even fourteen years after the adoption of UNSCR 1325, our members continue to share concerns about the lack of real change for women in their regions. They observed that there are often poor linkages between peace and development, coupled with an increasing focus on 'hard' security by states. A preference for short-term projects among donors also makes it difficult to establish long-term relationships, which are so crucial to building peace.



stability and development with the various ICGLR structures.

In 2014, the project also facilitated a number of capacity building sessions on conflict prevention and peacebuilding. The joint regional women peacebuilding training started with the ICGLR and the Great Lakes Project in Burundi prompted plans for establishing a pool of women mediators within the region. Women are very rarely involved in mediation processes in the region as most recently illustrated during the South Sudan peace talks. A knowledgeable and experienced pool of high profile women mediators would be an important first step to ensure their active involvement. The project will continue to foster this idea in 2015.

To develop more strategic lobby and advocacy engagements with the ICGLR and other actors of influence for the region the project held a strategic advocacy workshop in March 2014 with our Programme Manager Policy and Advocacy. This resulted in the decision to collaborate with the Office of the UN special envoy for the Great Lakes region in facilitating its meetings with CSOs in Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and DRC. Building on this the project partners are planning to bring together high level representatives from the ICGLR, UN, SADC and AU in early 2015. For further information about the project, you can visit www.greatlakesproject-africa.org, which was developed through our Peace Portal.

GPPAC in 2016-2020

2015 will mark the end of GPPAC's current strategic plan, and we developed a new one over the past year and a half.

GPPAC consists of hundreds of civil society organisations from around the world. What unites us all is a dedication to conflict prevention and peacebuilding. Beyond that, our members have many different approaches and priorities. It is important for us to have a strategic plan that resonates with this very diverse range of organisations. We need to have a plan which provides a framework under which all GPPAC activities fit, but which leaves enough room for members' own perspectives and choices.

To ensure this, our strategic planning process is as inclusive and participatory as possible, with GPPAC's governance bodies leading. We invited all members to give their input individually through surveys and collectively as regional networks.

In the strategic plan 2016-2020, we moved towards a simpler framework with three core strategies.

All societal conflicts are complex, with many people and groups who are party to them; who can influence them; or who hold key knowledge about them. In order to prevent armed conflicts and build peace, they must work together. Under our **Enabling Collaboration** strategy, we seek to improve collaboration within our own network; between civil society actors beyond our network;

between civil society, (inter)governmental and non-state actors; and between (inter) governmental actors.

Under our **Improving Practice** strategy, we seek to improve both our own methods and those of others working in this field through knowledge exchange and action learning. We will also hold (inter)governmental actors to account on the implementation of policy promises they have made, and provide them with expert civil society advice on how they might do so.

Good policies on conflict prevention are a prerequisite for good practices. Under our **Influencing Policy** strategy, we seek improvement in three areas:

- *Norms and frameworks*, such as the Responsibility to Protect norm, the post-2015 process on the Sustainable Development Goals, the UN1325 framework on women, peace and security, and the UN Human Security Framework.
- *Institutional engagement for conflict prevention*, including space for civil society to engage with (inter)governmental actors
- *Operationalisation of conflict prevention and compliance*, such as regional early warning and early response mechanisms and mediation, or national compliance with resolution UN1325 through national action plans on women, peace and security.

The new strategic plan will be finalised in 2015.

Great Lakes Project

EASTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA

GPPAC develops collaborative approaches between regional peacebuilding institutions and local civil society actors to ensure relevant and realistic policies, programmes and activities.

This led to the development of the Great Lakes Project which links civil society organisations from Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo to the regional intergovernmental organisation, International Conference for the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR).

Through its Great Lakes Project, GPPAC strengthens the ICGLR as a regional conflict prevention and peacebuilding institution. To achieve this, the project builds the capacity of local civil society actors to engage with national and regional ICGLR representatives. GPPAC and its members and project partners African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD) and Nairobi Peace Initiative-Africa (NPI-A) work closely with the ICGLR secretariat.

The close work between project partners and the structures of the ICGLR lead to

two significant developments in 2014. The Project supported the official youth forum of the ICGLR by co-sponsoring and providing policy input during an expert meeting in April 2014. NPI-A and ACCORD highlighted the need to ensure the participation of youth in conflict resolution and peacebuilding. They reflected their input in the July 2014 ICGLR heads of states declaration. All twelve member states will now need to translate this declaration into tangible efforts at national level, providing an opportunity for concrete engagements and propositions by civil society. Second, the chairperson of the official regional civil society forum of the ICGLR requested the GLP to collaborate with them in organising national and regional elections of civil society representatives in 2015. This would allow civil society across the region to be considered a more legitimate interlocutor and engage in meaningful regional exchanges on security,



Regional peacebuilding training with women peacebuilders from 12 countries, Bujumbura, November 2014



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GPPAC consists of hundreds of civil society organisations from around the world. What unites us all is a dedication to conflict prevention and peacebuilding. Beyond that, our members have many different approaches and priorities. It is important for us to have a strategic plan that resonates with this very diverse range of organisations. We need to have a plan which provides a framework under which all GPPAC activities fit, but which leaves enough room for members' own perspectives and choices.

To ensure this, our strategic planning process is as inclusive and participatory as possible, with GPPAC's governance bodies leading. We invited all members to give their input individually through surveys and collectively as regional networks.

In the strategic plan 2016-2020, we moved towards a simpler framework with three core strategies.

All societal conflicts are complex, with many people and groups who are party to them; who can influence them; or who hold key knowledge about them. In order to prevent armed conflicts and build peace, they must work together. Under our **Enabling Collaboration** strategy, we seek to improve collaboration within our own network; between civil society actors beyond our network;

between civil society, (inter)governmental and non-state actors; and between (inter) governmental actors.

Under our **Improving Practice** strategy, we seek to improve both our own methods and those of others working in this field through knowledge exchange and action learning. We will also hold (inter)governmental actors to account on the implementation of policy promises they have made, and provide them with expert civil society advice on how they might do so.

Good policies on conflict prevention are a prerequisite for good practices. Under our **Influencing Policy** strategy, we seek improvement in three areas:

- *Norms and frameworks*, such as the Responsibility to Protect norm, the post-2015 process on the Sustainable Development Goals, the UN1325 framework on women, peace and security, and the UN Human Security Framework.
- *Institutional engagement for conflict prevention*, including space for civil society to engage with (inter)governmental actors
- *Operationalisation of conflict prevention and compliance*, such as regional early warning and early response mechanisms and mediation, or national compliance with resolution UN1325 through national action plans on women, peace and security.

The new strategic plan will be finalised in 2015.

How to measure progress in conflict prevention?

PLANNING MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING

Working on conflict prevention is often unpredictable. We see ourselves having to respond swiftly to opportunities and threats as illustrated in the case of Ukraine and Mali. Reflecting on what we achieve as a civil society network is also a challenge.

Starting in 2006, we have developed our planning, monitoring and evaluation cycles based on the 'Outcome Mapping' methodology. The principle of Outcome Mapping is to focus on the social changes among involved actors.

Infrastructures for peace in Kyrgyzstan

In GPPAC Central Asia, we can see what 'inspiration' and 'learning from each other' can lead to. Our Kyrgyz member Foundation for Tolerance International (FTI) reported the outcome of a newly established State Agency on Local-Self-Government and Inter-ethnic Relations in Kyrgyzstan. This agency is functioning as a monthly monitoring network for local early warning of potential conflicts. After inter-ethnic violence broke out in 2010, staff of GPPAC Global Secretariat and FTI

mapped the capacities of Kyrgyzstan's existing peace infrastructure. We suggested steps to support the effectiveness of regional committees that already existed. In 2012 FTI, GPPAC and UNDP convened a nation-wide learning and exchange event with attendance from all sectors, including regional and national governance representatives. Our GPPAC member from Ghana shared experiences of early warning and early response in West-Africa. It inspired participants to create a national working group that was to design an official peacebuilding structure. It led to the creation of the above mentioned State Agency in 2013, and to an operational network for early warning and early response in 2014. This is how GPPAC could contribute to an outcome that is for a large part out of our control. But we did influence this process.



We can report about who and what contributed to the overall changes. For example, UNDP decided to cooperate with FTI and GPPAC in organizing and convening the learning events. Participants from local and national governments decided to participate in the events, became enthusiastic and committed to set up a peacebuilding structure for Kyrgyzstan.

This approach to monitoring and evaluation by collecting evidence of what has been achieved, and determine whether and how the intervention contributed to change is called "Outcome Harvesting". For GPPAC it is a useful tool to monitor and measure progress in conflict prevention. What remains difficult for us is to describe social processes that we are part of, and that we can only influence to a certain extent. It is about our contribution to the changes and how important these changes are for conflict prevention. That, together, informs us what progress we are achieving.

The Peace Portal

GPPAC'S ONLINE OPEN PLATFORM

After having acquired its first experience in online projects for civil society in 2009 with the development of the Peace Portal (www.peaceportal.org), an online open platform designed to strengthen the voice of civil society working on peacebuilding and conflict prevention, GPPAC continued building on the potential of the Peace Portal platform collaborating with several partners on online projects.

In 2014, GPPAC used its online platform to support, amongst other projects, the Great Lakes Project and the Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (CSPPS). As mentioned on page 17, the Great Lakes Project (GLP) is a collaborative conflict transformation effort by the African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD), Nairobi Peace Initiative Africa (NPI-Africa) and GPPAC. The project aims to enhance the regional peacebuilding capacities, channels and infrastructures in the Great Lakes region of Africa. To achieve this, the GLP works with intergovernmental, state and civil actors in the Great Lakes region of Africa, particularly in Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Uganda. GPPAC developed a custom website for the GLP where it is possible to publish news and

events as well as read background information about the project and the members involved. In addition, participant organisations can login and access a restricted area of the website where they can collaborate online, share documents, and jointly work on reports.

The Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (CSPPS) website was also launched in 2014. CSPPS is a South-North non-governmental coalition of peacebuilding organisations that coordinates and supports civil society participation in the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (IDPS). For CSPPS, GPPAC developed a custom website where news and events from the network are published regularly. Network members will also be able to login and access dedicated thematic working



Great Lakes Project website

spaces. Each member will be able to have direct access to a personalised page showing an overview of its online working groups. The entire portal is currently available in English and French, and integrates the CSPPS Twitter account. The Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding website's design automatically adapts to different screen sizes, making it easy to access from computers, tablets and mobile phones.

In 2014, GPPAC continued developing a collaborative business model where other civil society organisations can use our online platform, benefit from the knowledge and expertise of our worldwide network of civil society organisations and use our expertise in online communication services for civil society.

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RESOURCE MOBILISATION AND COLLABORATIONS

We gratefully acknowledge the continued support from our donors and thank them for their ongoing commitment to the work of GPPAC.

Fundraising

In 2014, resource mobilisation remained focused on government and private foundation donors, while continuing to grow our developing line of income other than grants. GPPAC received grant approvals from two new donors, the Nexus Fund and the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Nexus Fund supported an initiative of GPPAC Northeast Asia, while support from the Swedish MFA involves collaboration with the Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO). In addition, for the first time GPPAC held a public fundraising event in collaboration with the Rotary Club Metropolitan The Hague. The event raised money to support the MENAPPAC network.

Partnerships and Alliances

GPPAC is a partner in a number of alliances and collaborations. We receive core support from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs through our membership in the Freedom

from Fear Alliance, together with PAX, Amnesty International Netherlands and Free Press Unlimited. Support from the Dutch MFA enables two additional projects; one on the Great Lakes Region of Africa with NPI-Africa (GPPAC Eastern & Central Africa Regional Secretariat) and ACCORD (GPPAC Southern Africa Regional Secretariat). The second project focuses on amplifying women's voices in the MENA region, where GPPAC collaborates with the Women's Peacemakers Programme (WPP), Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), Abaad, Oxfam Novib and Hivos. GPPAC also leads a consortium supported by the Rockefeller Brothers Fund in partnership with GPPAC members in the US: Alliance for Peacebuilding and the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies. Finally, GPPAC is a member of a collaboration led by WANEP (GPPAC West Africa) that supports civil society in Mali to strengthen a human security approach to peace and security. The

In 2014, GPPAC received funding from the following donors:

- Austrian Development Agency (ADA)
- Cordaid
- Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Nexus Fund
- Rockefeller Brothers Fund
- Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Meyer Swantée Foundation

Austrian Development Agency (ADA) funds this project.

Outlook

2015 marks the conclusion of our current strategic period (2011-2015), as well as the final year of core support from the Dutch MFA. In order to ensure our long-term sustainability, in 2014 GPPAC submitted two major funding applications, to the European Commission and the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs. By the time of writing, both applications were approved. These will provide a solid foundation for supporting implementation of GPPAC's new strategic plan 2016-2020. Our efforts to diversify our resource base by growing our income other than grants will continue with a particular focus on providing trainings for external actors, most notably the OSCE High Commission for National Minorities.



Statement of income and expenditure for 2014

INCOME	Realisation 2014	Budget 2014	Realisation 2013
Grants from governments and others	2,901,476	2,768,000	2,831,604
Income other than grants	53,223	0	79,865
Sum of income	2,954,699	2,768,000	2,911,469
EXPENSES			
Expenditure on behalf of the objective			
Network strengthening & Regional action	1,095,837	1,070,000	1,333,149
Action learning	627,286	526,000	642,272
Policy and advocacy	645,099	642,000	310,179
Public outreach	378,090	319,000	373,049
Online partnerships	67	0	17,611
Total	2,746,379	2,556,000	2,676,260
Expenditure fundraising			
Costs obtaining government grants and others	48,276	50,000	47,001
Total	48,276	50,000	47,001
Management & administration			
Costs management & administration	158,377	162,000	161,942
Total	158,377	162,000	161,942
Sum of expenses	2,953,032	2,768,000	2,885,203
Surplus/deficit	1,662	0	26,266
Appropriation of result			
Continuity reserve	7,621		20,103
Short-term reserve	-5,959		6,163
	1,662		26,266

ALL AMOUNT IN EUROS

The income of the GPPAC Foundation increased in 2014 to EUR 2.954.699 from EUR 2.911.469 in 2013. The financial year was closed with a positive result of EUR 1.662. GPPAC allocated EUR 5.959 from the short-term reserve to cover programme expenses.

The continuity reserve increased with EUR 7.621 benefitting from a gift. Flynth audit b.v. audited GPPAC's accounts. We publish the audited accounts on our website www.gppac.net.



Balance sheet as at December 31

(after appropriation of the result)

ASSETS	2014	2013
Tangible fixed assets		
Equipment	13,590	20,382
Total	13,590	20,382
Current assets		
Receivables	393,331	309,392
Cash and cash equivalents	715,079	510,324
Total	1.108,410	819,716
Total	1.122,000	840,098

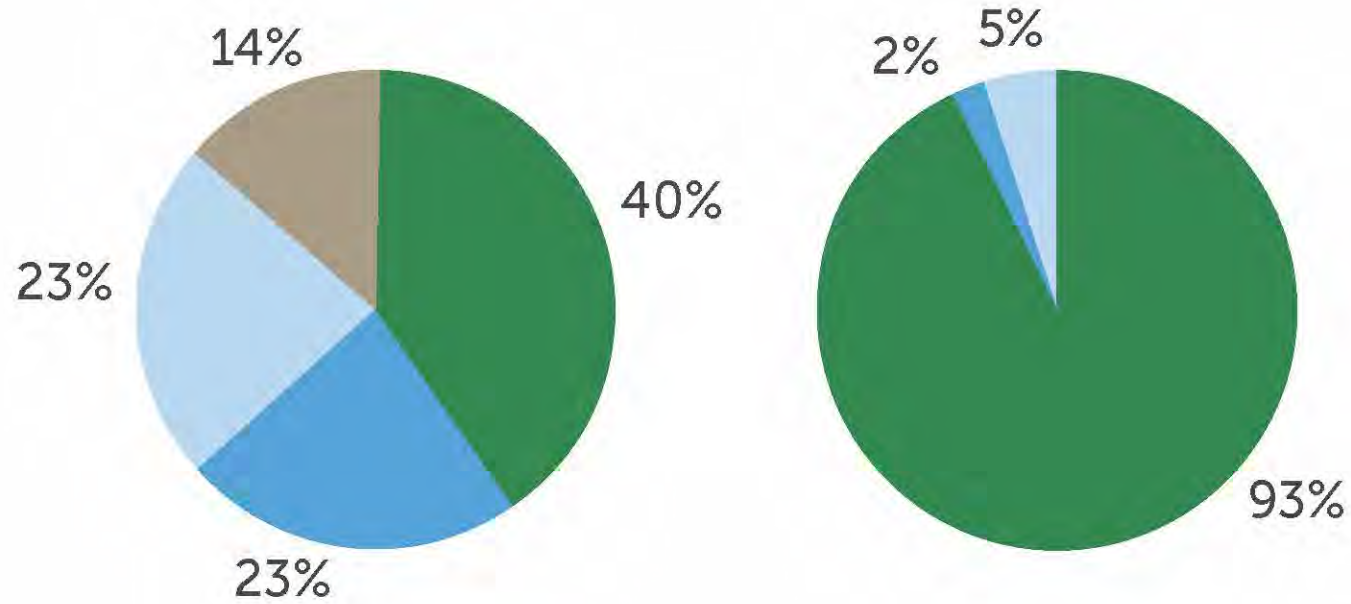
ALL AMOUNT IN EUROS

LIABILITIES	2014	2013
Reserves		
Continuity reserve	73,051	65,429
Short-term reserve	3,396	9,355
Total reserves	76,447	74,784
Short-term liabilities		
Accounts payable	39,215	13,401
Taxes and social security payments	25,294	24,383
Received pre-payments donors	856,050	596,504
Accruals, provisions and other liabilities	124,994	131,026
Total short-term liabilities	1,045,553	765,314
Total	1,122,000	840,098

ALL AMOUNT IN EUROS



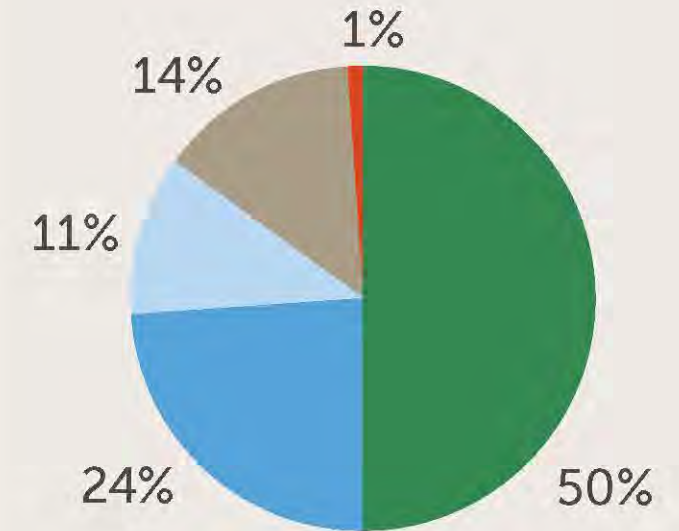
Expenditure per programme 2014



- Network strengthening & Regional action
- Action learning
- Policy and advocacy
- Public outreach

- Expenditures on behalf of objectives
- Expenditures fundraising
- Management & administration

Expenditure per programme 2013



- Network strengthening & Regional action
- Action learning
- Policy and advocacy
- Public outreach
- Online partnerships



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GPPAC Global Secretariat

Staff

Jenny Aulin	Programme Manager Action Learning Regional Coordinator Western Africa
Gesa Bent	Coordinator Gender Regional Coordinator Western Balkans
Victòria Carreras Lloveras	Manager Communications and Online Partnerships
Charlotte Crockett	Programme Manager Network Strengthening Regional Coordinator Eastern & Central and Southern Africa
Deniz Düzenli	Content Manager Regional Coordinator Middle East and North Africa
Marte Hellema	Programme Manager Public Outreach Regional Coordinator Asia Pacific
Kees Kolsteeg	Finance Manager
Paul Kosterink	Coordinator Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
Shireen Lau	Coordinator Programme Development
Zahid Movlazadeh	Programme Manager Action Learning Regional Coordinator Central Asia, Caucasus and Eastern Europe
Ingrid Peroti	Office Manager
Giovanni Puttin	Online Project Manager
Pascal Richard	Coordinator Great Lakes Project
Darynell Rodriguez Torres	Programme Manager Policy and Advocacy Regional Coordinator Europe North America and Latin America & the Caribbean
Peter van Tuijl	Executive Director
Gabriëlla Vogelaar	Programme Assistant Human Security

Interns

Rojan Bolling	Action Learning
Per Engstedt	Action Learning
Aura Määttä	Action Learning
Rosanna Martucci	Donor Relations
Matilda Quinn	Policy and Advocacy
Simone Steuns	Public Outreach
Miek Teunissen	Public Outreach

Volunteers

Gizem Kiliç	Donor Relations
Alexandra Minsk	Action Learning



Governance

The GPPAC Foundation is a foundation under Dutch Law (stichting). The Board of the GPPAC Foundation consists of seven members.

Members of the Board are appointed upon nomination by the GPPAC International Steering Group (ISG), and a majority of the Board members must be members of the ISG. Each of GPPAC's fifteen regions is represented in the ISG, which determines joint global priorities and actions.

The Board provides leadership and is accountable to the ISG. Members of the GPPAC Board serve for a period of three years, which can be renewed once. Membership of the Board is voluntary, and does not involve any form of financial compensation, other than the reimbursement of expenses.

The Board appoints and supervises the Executive Director of the GPPAC Foundation. The Executive Director is compensated within the Terms and Conditions of Employment of the GPPAC Foundation, at a rate commensurate with the Guidelines for compensation of Directors of Charitable Organisations, established by the Netherlands Professional Association of Charitable Organisations (VFI).

The Executive Director is accountable to the GPPAC Board and takes financial and operational decisions within the policies and guidelines as set by the Board.

Mr Peter van Tuijl is the director of the GPPAC Foundation and was appointed by the board as per 1st of August 2007. His gross salary of 2014 amounted € 89.618. This is including holiday allowance but excluding pension premium. No other allowances were paid to him.

GPPAC's Chamber of Commerce (Kamer van Koophandel) number is 4121740.



For more detailed information about GPPAC's governance, please consult our Charter, available here in Pdf format



Board Members



From left to right:

Liesbeth Reekers, Treasurer

Researcher for the Dutch House of Representatives Internal Bureau for Research on Government Policy and Spending.

Emmanuel Bombande, Chair

Executive Director West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP), Accra Ghana.

Mariska van Beijnum, Member

Director Conflict Research Unit, Clingendael, Netherlands Institute of International Relations, The Hague, the Netherlands

Peter van Tuijl

Executive Director GPPAC, reports to the board

Sharon Bhagwan Rolls, Member

Executive Director FemLINKPACIFIC Suva, Fiji.

Augusto Micalat, Member

Executive Director, Initiatives for International Dialogue (IID), Davao, Philippines

Raisa Kadyrova, Member

Executive Director, Foundation for Tolerance International (FTI), Biskek, Kyrgyzstan

Joris Voorhoeve, Vice Chair

Professor in Leiden in Public administration, in particular of international organisations and Lector in International Peace, Justice and Security at the Haagse Hogeschool.



Organisational Development

Looking at the GPPAC Foundation from an organisational perspective in 2014, two priorities intersected. On the one hand, it was the fourth year of the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2011-2015, and many programmes came to fruition, building on the investments made in network, knowledge and capacity development in the years before. It is underlined by a continuous shift from internal to external outcomes in our monitoring reports. On the other hand, GPPAC had to invest significantly in ensuring the long term sustainability of the organisation and the network, by developing and submitting major funding applications.

To manage the workload of the success of the current strategic plan, and simultaneously having to focus on new funding proved very challenging and took a heavy toll on staff.

The good news is that by the time of writing this report, it is clear that the efforts in 2014 were not in vain.

In 2015, GPPAC will be at the centre of a great number of significant activities, knowledge and information outputs that appear to provide a true climax to the 2011-2015 period. In addition, we have received confirmation of the approvals of new funding from both the Dutch Government and the European Union, which ensure a longer term horizon for GPPAC. As a result, we are now set to use the rest of 2015 to review and prepare our organisation for the next Strategic Plan period, 2016-2020.

GPPAC External Communication

GPPAC mostly works with organisations and institutions active in the field of conflict prevention and peacebuilding, on processes that can seem slow, technical and jargon-ridden to those less familiar with them. We want to make the work we, our members and many others do in this area more accessible, and their relevance more apparent. We reach an ever-growing audience with our newsletter, which now has close to 2,000 subscribers, and social media, with over 10,000 and 2,000 followers on Facebook and Twitter respectively.



Dear friends,

As I am writing this newsletter, the search for the bodies of 49 students from Ayotzinapa is still ongoing. They were killed due to drug related violence in Mexico, a country where such situations in particular are complex in nature. While searching for the students, several mass graves were uncovered. However, the bodies found were different people. What sadness, to arrive at the point where violence becomes such that we start to find nameless victims. The glimmer of hope is the killing of the students as well as intensive public response, with large protests all over country. The effort to protect against violence is once again grounded in the humanity of civil society.

What happened in Ayotzinapa brings us back to the recurring importance to this blog and work here on the question of how human security can be delivered? I am particularly proud with the new GPPAC publication "Empowerment and Protection", which tells the story of human security in several countries, including Mexico. The book is commissioned and supported by the ongoing Human Security Fund (HSF). The concept of human security is often confused with being too broad and too vague. Yet, the human security approach continues to resonate in the GPPAC network as the only viable way to proactively, from the perspectives of the people and communities who directly experience it, I recommend reading the book. As it contains many voices that are rarely heard, we will continue to collect more stories and promote human security.

[Share this video](#) on human security on the Facebook and enjoy reading our newsletter.



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GPPAC International Steering Group



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The International Steering group is composed of: Regional representatives and International members.

- GPPAC's Regional Representatives
- GPPAC's International ISG members

GPPAC Regional Representatives

CENTRAL AND EASTERN AFRICA
Nairobi Peace Initiative-Africa (NPI-A)
Mr Walter Odhiambo
Executive Director
www.npi-africa.org

NORTHEAST ASIA
Peaceboat
Mr Yoshioka Tatsuya
Co-Founder and Director
www.peaceboat.org

SOUTHERN AFRICA
Christian Council of Lesotho (CCL)
Ms Moleboheng Motsoeneng
Programme Manager for Good Governance
www.ccl.org.ls

CENTRAL ASIA
Foundation for Tolerance International (FTI)
Ms Raisa Kadyrova
Director
www.fti.org.kg

WEST AFRICA
West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP)
Mr Chukwuemeka Eze
Executive Director
www.wanep.org

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
Permanent Peace Movement (PPM)
Mr Fadi Abi Allam
President
www.ppm@ppm-lebanon.org

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
Regional Coordination for Economic and Social Research (CRIES)
Ms Ana Bourse
Coordinator Capacity Building and PM&E
www.cries.org

WESTERN CIS
Non-Violence International
Mr Andre Kamenshikov
Director
www.nonviolenceinternational.net

NORTH AMERICA
SERAPAZ
Mr Miguel Alvarez Gándara
President
www.serapaz.org.mx

CAUCASUS
International Center on Conflict & Negotiation
Ms Nina Tsikhistavi Khutsishvili
Director
www.iccn.ge

SOUTH ASIA
Regional Centre for Strategic Studies
Ms Minna Thaheer
Acting Director
www.rcss.org

WESTERN BALKANS
Nansen Dialogue Centre Montenegro
Ms Ivana Gajovic
Director
www.nansen-dialogue.net

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femLINKPACIFIC
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www.femlinkpacific.org.fj

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Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC)
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www.gppac.net

SOUTHEAST ASIA
Initiatives for International Dialogue (IID)
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Executive Director
www.iidnet.org

International members

WORLD VISION INTERNATIONAL
Mr Ekkehard Forberg

WORLD FEDERALIST MOVEMENT
Mr William Pace

FOLKE BERNADOTTE ACADEMY
Mr Ragnar Angeby

EUROPEAN PEACEBUILDING LIAISON OFFICE
Ms Sonya Reines-Djivanides

SIGNIS
Mr Alvito De Souza



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GPPAC



The Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC –pronounced “geepak”) is a member-led network of civil society organisations (CSOs) active in the field of conflict prevention and peacebuilding from around the world. Founded in 2003, the network consists of fifteen regional networks of local organisations; each region having its own priorities, character and agenda. GPPAC members from around the world collaborate on issues of common interest. As part of its mission to work towards a shift from reaction to prevention of violent conflict, the network supports multi-actor collaboration and advocates local ownership of conflict prevention strategies. Together, GPPAC members create greater synergy in the field of conflict prevention and peacebuilding by strengthening the role of local civil society groups in conflict regions and connecting them on the national, regional and global level.



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