



**Annual report 2024** 

# Introduction

Dear members, partners, and friends,

In a year marked by more division, more weapons, and more war, we were reminded of something powerful: real strength comes from people, from coming together, listening to each other, and refusing to give up on building sustainable peace.

If there's one moment from 2024 I will cherish forever, it's the first meeting of our International Steering Group in Tokyo in January. Over forty GPPAC members from all over the world came together in Japan for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic. We shared our peacebuilding stories, struggles, and solutions. We listened. We learned. And most importantly, we left more committed and united than ever to build peace.



This meeting was an inspiring beginning to what became a year of renewed connection. In 2024, the GPPAC network was in motion. From rural communities to capital cities, from policy tables to kitchen tables, our members came together to listen, collaborate, and support one another.

As you explore this report, you'll see what the GPPAC network is truly about: people who care, who act, and who are united by a shared belief that peace is possible. We hope it shows not only what we've accomplished, but what's possible when we work together and when we stand in solidarity with each other.

While peacebuilders around the world continue to face immense challenges, we're deeply grateful for the support that makes our work possible. In 2024, we began new partnerships with the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the European Union, and we continued working with the United Nations Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund. And while our official partnership with Sida ended in 2024, we look forward to staying engaged and building on our shared efforts.

With gratitude and hope,

20330

Yoshioka Tatsuya

Chair of the GPPAC Board

# GPPAC at a glance

Launched in 2003, we are the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict and bring together over 250 local civil society organisations active in the field of conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

## We are the world's largest global network of local peacebuilders We seek a world Together we are where violence stronger than and armed the sum of our conflicts are parts because we prevented constantly learn from and with each other

## Our goal by 2025



Peacebuilding policies, practices and infrastructures are rooted in locally-led and locally-grounded peacebuilding

#### We focus on



Locally-led peacebuilding action



Inclusion of
Women and Youth
Peacebuilders



Climate security and emerging threats

# **Some Key Highlights**

Here's a snapshot of our collective action across the year



Members representing each GPPAC region and Working Group came together in Tokyo for the first in-person International Steering Group (ISG) meeting in five years. Their energy and commitment set the tone for a year of renewed connection and action for locally-led peacebuilding. Click here to watch the ISG in action!



Sharon Bhagwan Rolls, Programme Manager of the Pacific Women Mediators Network and GPPAC ISG Gender Liaison, delivered a statement on behalf of civil society to the UN Security Council open debate on 'Promoting **Conflict Prevention – Empowering All Actors** Including Women and Youth." Read it here!

JANUARY .... APRIL .... APRIL ....



**GPPAC** member **CECORE** from Uganda empowered local women to participate in peace processes. How? Find out!



Sarra Messaoudi delivered a statement on behalf of GPPAC member, the MENA Coalition on Youth, Peace and Security, at the UN Security Council ministerial-level debate on "The Role of Young Persons in **Addressing Security Challenges** in the Mediterranean." Check it out!



What is the UN Peacebuilding Architecture Review (PBAR) and why does it matter for local peacebuilders? To kick off our engagement, we hosted an online session and created a reader to help members decide whether and how to get involved.



We officially started our new 8-year partnership with the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs focused on fostering the sustainability of local peacebuilding action and strengthening the rigour and realism of peacebuilding policies, anchored in GPPAC's unique network approach.

MAY · · · · JUNE · · · · JULY · · · · · · AUGUST · · · ·



The GPPAC Global Secretariat met for a 1-week retreat in The Hague to reconnect and plan for the year ahead.



We published "How to do localisation" outlining three concrete steps:

- ► Raise community awareness
- Conduct community mapping
- ► Develop localised tools and mechanisms



During the Women, Peace and Security Week in New York, GPPAC members from Uganda, Central Asia, and the Occupied Palestinian Territory presented their learnings from "Supporting Women's Impactful Participation in Peace Processes."



16 GPPAC members attended the second CSO-UN Dialogue on Peacebuilding in New York.
GPPAC was part of the Core Group responsible for cocreating the agenda alongside the UN Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO), Interpeace,

EPLO, and CMI and the participant selection committee alongside PBSO, Interpeace, and GIP-Global.

#### SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER •

**NOVEMBER** 

**DECEMBER** 

On the International Day of Peace, we launched our "Global Peace Powered Locally" paper that explains our unique locally-led approach to peacebuilding.



GPPAC members from Eastern and Central Africa hosted a regional Peacebuilding Architecture Review consultation in Kampala.

In Northeast Asia, local peacebuilders gathered in Mongolia for the tenth annual Ulaanbaatar Process to strengthen the role of civil society in advancing inclusive and

sustainable peace across the region. Find out more!





# At the global level

# Reconnecting the beating heart of our network



# #GPPAC2024Tokyo

From January 22-27, 2024, our International Steering Group met in Tokyo, Japan, for its first in-person meeting in almost five years. The ISG is more than our network's highest decision-making body; it is its beating heart.

The ISG brought together over 40 representatives from 14 regions and 6 working groups who carried with them the voices, hopes, fears and lived realities of their communities, as well as decades of combined peacebuilding experience.

It was a safe space to reconnect and lay the foundation for shaping both upcoming thematic priorities and addressing pressing governance issues in our network.



# ISG highlights



A visit to the Japanese Parliament, where members shared local peacebuilding insights and reflected on global crises, including Ukraine and Gaza, through a human security lens.



A warm and inspiring visit to the Peace Boat office, where we met the passionate team behind their peacebuilding work.



"In the months before Tokyo,
I felt like many of us had lost
touch during the COVID-19
pandemic, especially across
regions, but being surrounded
by so many incredible
colleagues in Tokyo made
me re-realise the network's
remarkable breadth and scope."
Luis Gómez Chow, GPPAC member and
former GPPAC North America Regional
Representative

Luis shares four concrete key takeaways from the ISG in Tokyo:

- ► A renewed sense of the network's breadth and scope,
- Japan's past reminds us that peacebuilding is a responsibility we all share.
- ▶ We have to understand the ISG as a process, a space, and a tool,
- There's an intrinsic value in bringing people together.

Explore Luis' full thoughts on the ISG and its impact <u>here</u>.

# The UN Peacebuilding Architecture Review: Emerging as a recognised expert in peacebuilding and sustaining peace



In early 2024, GPPAC members attended an informal online information session about the 2025 UN Peacebuilding Architecture Review (2025 PBAR), a process that aims to change the ways the UN system supports inclusive national priorities on peacebuilding and sustaining peace. The goal was to clarify the PBAR process and make it more accessible to local peacebuilders.

During the online session, we introduced different pathways for members to engage with the 2025 PBAR, based on their capacity, interest, and priorities. This created space for them to explore ways they could advocate for an outcome resolution that leads to concrete changes in their communities.

As a result, members from Eastern and Central Africa, West Africa, Southeast Asia, the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean organised regional consultations. These consultations brought together different actors to share their realities on the ground, discuss regional challenges, and develop concrete, actionable recommendations to strengthen peacebuilding and sustain peace in their regions.

# The UN Peacebuilding Architecture Review: Emerging as a recognised expert in peacebuilding and sustaining peace

Access the summary notes from our member-led consultations below



Don't miss one of our most-read articles in 2024: <u>The UN Peacebuilding Architecture</u> Review: What is it, and why does it matter for local peacebuilders?



# Second CSO-UN Dialogue on Peacebuilding: Shaping an inclusive platform for dialogue that brings local peacebuilders and the UN Peacebuilding Architecture closer together

From 12-13 December 2024, 16 GPPAC members participated in the second CSO-UN Dialogue on Peacebuilding. Bringing together diverse civil society actors, UN representatives, and Member States, the Dialogue focused on conflict prevention as a thematic priority for the 2025 UN Peacebuilding Architecture Review (PBAR) and explored three sub-themes through a conflict prevention and gender-sensitive lens:

- Financing for peacebuilding.
- ► Meaningful civil society inclusion in UN processes.
- ➤ Youth, Peace, and Security (YPS).

During the Dialogue, the following GPPAC members shared their in-depth expertise:

► Andrei Serbin Pont (pictured above), Research Director, Coordinador Regional de Investigaciones Económicas y Sociales, GPPAC Regional Representative for Latin America and the Caribbean on merging OSINT and Al for Conflict Prevention.



- Ahmed Mohamed Nasir, Deputy Director and Head of Programs of GPPAC member Save Somali Women and Children, on financing for Peacebuilding.
- Sarra Messaoudi, on behalf of the MENA Coalition for YPS and GPPAC, on <u>Youth Peace and Security</u>.
- ► Luis Gomez Chow, Senior Director of Global Initiatives & , Senior Director of Global Initiatives at GPPAC member Partners Global, on <u>redefining peacebuilding impact through local</u> perspectives and the roles of networks and movements.
- Salissou Mamane Elh. Koudoubé, Président of LAC-LAC Niger, on a more realistic understanding of expected peacebuilding results and impact.

Together with the Missions of the Netherlands, Germany, Canada and the UN Peacebuilding Support Office (UN PBSO), GPPAC hosted a parallel side session during the second CSO-UN Dialogue on "Strengthening Peacebuilding Impact on the Ground: Considerations for Global Policy."

The discussion highlighted a widespread perception that various stakeholders understand impact differently, that local action lacks sufficient evidence of its impact to meet donor expectations, and that local peacebuilders lack support in capturing their impact in ways that align with donors' differing expectations. Continued inquiry into these emerging questions around local peacebuilding action is essential to advance progress in understanding and demonstrating peacebuilding impact. Read the full summary note here!

What impact does the CSO-UN Dialogue on Peacebuilding have on local peacebuilders? <u>Find out here!</u>

# Members addressed the UN Security Council

# The role of young persons in addressing security challenges in the Mediterranean



Read Sarra Messaoudi's statementon behalf of GPPAC member the MENA Coalition on Youth, Peace and Security <u>here</u>.

# Promoting conflict prevention – empowering all actors, including women and youth



Read Sharon Bhagwan Rolls, Programme Manager of the Pacific Women Mediators Network and GPPAC International Steering Group Gender Liaison, statement here.

# Members addressed the UN Peacebuilding Commission

## Gender-responsive peacebuilding



Read Sharon Bhagwan Rolls, Programme Manager of the Pacific Women Mediators Network and GPPAC International Steering Group Gender Liaison, statement here.

## Financing for peacebuilding



Read Ahmed Mohamed Nasir, Deputy Director and Head of Programs of GPPAC member Save Somali Women and Children, brief here.

Photo credits: UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe/Evan Schneider



Peace Games Travel from Northeast Asia to Eastern and Central Africa, Building Skills for Peace

Patrick from CECORE Uganda came across the Peace Games in July 2024 in New York, where members from GPPAC Northeast Asia, alongside the American Friends Service Committee and the Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO), used the Peace Games methodology for a simulated UN negotiation. This hands-on approach helps participants build practical skills for engaging with the UN while encouraging active, collaborative discussions.

First piloted in Seoul as part of the Ulaanbaatar Process, the Peace Games were created in response to popular war game simulations that rehearse militarised crisis responses in Northeast Asia. But instead of preparing for conflict, the Peace Games focus on preparing for peacebuilding.

Inspired by its inclusive and participatory design, Patrick saw the Peace Games as a perfect fit for the regional PBAR consultation held in Kampala in November 2025. Together with QUNO, we slightly adapted the Peace Games once more to facilitate this informal consultation. Designed to be hopeful and forward-looking, the Games help participants develop practical skills to prevent conflict and promote collaboration. Through simulations centred on negotiation and drafting resolutions, participants gain hands-on policy-making experience.

Salissou from Niger and Henrietta from Cameroon were among the participants. Find out how they experienced the Games here.

comfortable, and it made it very clear that young people had a space to express themselves as equals. It wasn't extractive, everyone had space to share.

Henrietta Ansahmbom, Executive Director of GPPAC member TeenAlive Association in Cameroon





C Drafting solutions together in small groups felt respectful and inclusive. It wasn't extractive, everyone had space to share.

Salissou Mamane Elh. Koudoubé, President of GPPAC member LAC-LAC Niger

# Beyond borders in Central Asia: Empowering women in regional peacebuilding efforts

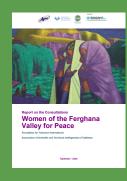


Tajyka Shabdanova, GPPAC Central Asia Regional Representative

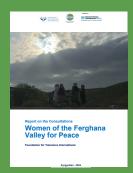
You can't just split cross-border communities apart; they're like neighbouring houses with interconnected lives. We share streets, social ties, and economic activities. We have relatives across borders. This interconnectedness lays the foundation for supporting peace efforts and rebuilding relationships. Women are often more willing to initiate dialogue, while men tend to resist, preferring to reinforce borders with gates and walls instead of fostering communication. They tend to blame each other.

That interconnected reality defines life in the Fergana Valley, where border tensions have persisted since the Soviet Union's dissolution and the subsequent division among Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.

In response to this reality, Tajyka's organisation, the Foundation for Tolerance International (FTI) from Kyrgyzstan, led a consortium, including Istiqbolli Avlod (IA) from Uzbekistan and the Association of Scientific and Technical Intelligentsia (ASTI) from Tajikistan, to strengthen women's influence in the Kyrgyzstan–Tajikistan peace process. Running from 2023 until February 2024, the initiative directly involved 858 women in consultations, contributing to the development of three country reports filled with concrete recommendations to strengthen women's roles in peacebuilding and conflict recovery.



Unlocking the Potential for Sustainable Peace in the Ferghana Valley:
Advancing Women's Role in Peace and Stability in Tajikistan



Unlocking the Potential for Sustainable Peace in the Ferghana Valley: Strengthening Women's Roles in Peacebuilding Across Kyrgyzstan



Unlocking the Potential for Sustainable Peace in the Ferghana Valley: Women's Crucial Role in Peace and Conflict Recovery Efforts in Uzbekistan

Additionally, a regional policy brief was published. It reflects the voices of all participants across the three countries, offering evidence-based recommendations for advancing women's meaningful participation in security and peace processes in the region. It is also available in Russian! <u>Click here</u>.

The initiative culminated in a high-level advocacy event on 27 February 2024 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Over 52 local women leaders, representatives from national and local governments, security services, and civil society organisations participated. This was an opportunity for officials from Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan to discuss peace for the first time since the 2022 conflict. It also facilitated direct interaction between women peacebuilders and policymakers, aiming to include women's perspectives in high-level peace processes.



At the national level

**Empowering Women in Uganda's Peace Processes** 

Yumbe District, situated in North Western Uganda, borders two conflict-affected countries, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and South Sudan. In this fragile environment, where potential spillovers easily threaten peace, GPPAC member CECORE empowered women with practical skills and knowledge to influence peace efforts in their communities through the project "Enhancing Women's Participation in Peace Processes"

CECORE created space for women to present their recommendations directly to local decision-makers, for example, during meetings with district officials. During these meetings, they raised the urgent need for social services tailored to survivors of gender-based violence and better infrastructure to increase education opportunities for girls affected by conflict.

Their voices didn't go unheard. In response, district officials pledged to involve women's groups in local government initiatives more actively. Now, women leaders are regularly consulted, helping shape community projects with their insights and lived experiences at the centre. Several women have also expressed interest in running for leadership positions in the upcoming local elections.

As part of the project, CECORE also recognised the need to provide psychosocial support to women in their communities, ensuring that the project also supports long-term healing, empowerment, and resilience-building.

To strengthen this aspect of their work, they leveraged the knowledge within the GPPAC network, tapping into the expertise of GPPAC members from the Western Balkans who shared their expertise during three online workshops. These sessions gave CECORE staff the right tools to better support women navigating trauma and recovery.

# Get a closer look! Watch the video here to hear directly from the people leading change in Yumbe District.



Explore the unique perspectives of Marion and Rose working in Yumbe District here!







# **Financial Report**

# **Balance sheet**

as at December 31, 2024 (after appropriation of the result)

## **Assets**

	December 31, 2024	December 31, 2023
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	7.287	9.692
Intangible assets	0	0
	7.287	9.692
Current assets		
Receivables	110.496	144.503
Cash and cash equivalents	3.191.292	692.299
	3.301.788	836.802
	3.309.075	846.494

## Liabilities

	December 31, 2024	December 31, 2023
Reserves		
Continuity reserve	93.456	87.281
Earmarked reserve	7.122	0
	100.578	87.281
Short-term liabilities		
Accounts payable	13.331	33.843
Taxes and social security payments	33.843	27.752
Received pre-payments donors	2.964.758	600.288
Accruals, provisions and other liabilities	195.084	97.330
	3.208.497	759.213
	3.309.075	846.494

# **Financial Report**

# Statement of income and expenditure

	Realisation 2024	Realisation 2023
Income		
Grants from governments and others	1.841.441	1.557.939
Income other than grants	13.107	5.138
Sum of income	1.854.548	1.563.077

Expenses		
Expenditure on behalf of the objective		
Result area 1: Network and Learning	1.563.077	934.183
Result area 2: Policy change	505.249	316.402
	1.626.619	1.250.585
Expenditure fundraising		
Costs obtaining government grants and others	38.963	91.352
Management & administration		
Costs management & administration	175.669	216.002
Sum of expenses	1.841.251	1.557.939
Surplus/deficit	13.297	5.138

Appropriation of result		
Continuity reserve	6.175	5.138
Earmarked reserve	7.122	0
Result	13.297	5.138

## **About GPPAC**

# Thank you to our members and donors

We are deeply grateful to our incredible members, whose unwavering dedication to peace, courage, curiosity, and collaborative spirit form the heartbeat of our network, a community that lifts one another in both times of challenge and moments of triumph. Everything GPPAC accomplished in 2024 was made possible by them.

Our donors are part and parcel of our collective effort to build locally-owned and locally-led, inclusive, sustainable peace. The GPPAC network thanks them for their continued support and trust in making our work possible.

When you give to GPPAC, you give trust. You create the conditions for the peacebuilders in our network to unite. You give them training, safe spaces to meet and learn from and with each other, the knowledge that they are not alone, and a platform to tell their stories.

You embolden peace.

You enable peace.

You make peace more powerful.













# **About GPPAC**

# Integrity

Integrity and accountability are always at the heart of GPPAC's work, both at the network and the Global Secretariat level, as we strive to conduct all our operations with honesty and transparency. The Global Secretariat Code of Conduct, with separate Reporting and Investigating Protocols, applies to our employees, interns, and contractors, as well as to GPPAC Board members. It outlines the need to protect the organisation's legality and thus behave ethically and responsibly regarding its finances, partnerships, and public image.

The GPPAC Network Integrity policy, approved by the International Steering Group in 2019, sets out how member organisations, their employees, interns, volunteers, and others associated with them should practice the code of conduct principles in their involvement in GPPAC activities and when representing GPPAC in any way.

In 2024, no integrity violations were reported.

## **About GPPAC**

# Organisation and governance

The GPPAC Foundation is a Foundation ("Stichting") under Dutch Law. The Board of the GPPAC Foundation consists of at least five members. Members of the Board are appointed upon nomination by the GPPAC International Steering Group (ISG). Each of the fourteen GPPAC regions is represented in the ISG, which determines joint global priorities and actions.

The GPPAC Board provides leadership and is accountable to the ISG. Members of the Board serve for three years, which can be renewed twice. 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 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.

# **Organisation and Governance**

# **International Steering Group**

## **Regional ISG Members**

#### **Central Asia**

Foundation for Tolerance International (FTI)

#### **Eastern & Central Africa**

Center for Conflict Resolution (CECORE)

### **Eastern Europe**

Charity Foundation "Public Resources and Initiatives"

### **Latin America and the Caribbean**

Regional Coordination for Economic and Social Research (CRIES)

#### **North America**

Servicio Internacional para la Paz (SIPAZ)

#### **Northeast Asia**

Peace Boat

#### **South Asia**

National Institute of Advanced Studies

#### **South Caucasus**

Women Fund "Sukhumi"

#### **Southeast Asia**

Initiatives for International Dialogue (IID)

#### **Southern Africa**

Network of African Peacebuilders (NAPS)

### The Middle East and North Africa

Permanent Peace Movement (PPM)

#### The Pacific

Pacific Conference of Churches

#### **West Africa**

**Building Blocks for Peace** 

### **Western Balkan**

Nansen Dialogue Centre Mostar

## **Non-Regional ISG Members**

African Center for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD)

European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO)

United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY)

West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP)

World Vision International

# **Organisation and Governance**



# **Organisation and Governance**

## **GPPAC Board**

#### Yoshioka Tatsuya

Board Chair, Founder and Director Peace Boat, Japan

#### **Herman Kreulen**

Board Treasurer, Amsterdam, the Netherlands (until July 2024)

#### Robert Zeldenrust

Board Treasurer, The Hague, the Netherlands (starting September 2024)

### **Lucy Nusseibeh**

Founder and Executive Chair, Middle East Nonviolence and Democracy (MEND), Occupied Palestinian Territories

#### **Charlotte Divin**

Programme Funding Manager, Peace Direct, United Kingdom

#### **Nqobile Moyo**

Director, Voices In the Vision for Africa (VIVA), Zimbabwe

#### Frank van den Akker

Non-profit Board member and social enterpreneur (until August 2024)

# **GPPAC Global Secretariat**

**Ingrid Peroti** 

**Operations Assistant** 

**Johanna Hilbert** 

Communication and Advocacy Adviser

Juliet Mühlbauer Senior Learning Advisor

**Kees Kolsteeg Finance Officer** 

**Kirsten Meersschaert** Chief Operating Officer

Maja Vitas Majstorović Gender and Inclusivity Adviser

Marie-Laure Poiré Manager Fundraising and Advocacy

Ina Smittenberg
Interim Chief Operations Officer
(until January 2024)

**Marina Kumskova** 

Senior UN Policy and Advocacy Adviser

**Pupul Lama** 

Junior Communications and MEL Officer

**Sabine Harmes** 

Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation
Officer

Sarra Messaoudi Network Coordinator

Wieteke Overbeek
Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation
and Learning Officer

Yasmin Qadasi Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation Officer (until February 2024)

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**GPPAC Communications** 

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**GPPAC Communications** 

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