

PEACE SCIENCE DIGEST

A PROJECT BY THE WAR PREVENTION INITIATIVE



IN THIS ISSUE

Types of mediator leverage and the strength of peace agreements

Varying success of civil resistance in Colombia

Manufacturing dissent. Modernization and the surge of nonviolent resistance

International Peacekeeping and positive peace

Ethnic minorities and terrorism



Our vision is a world beyond war by 2030 and humanity united by a global system of peace with justice.

Our mission is to advance the Global Peace System by supporting, developing and collaborating with peacebuilding efforts in all sectors of society.

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NEED AND ROLE OF THE DIGEST

Peace and Conflict Studies (henceforth: Peace Science) has emerged as an academic discipline with its own graduate programs, handbooks, research tools, theories, associations, journals and conferences. As with most scientific communities, the slow migration of academic knowledge into practical application becomes a limiting factor of a field's growth, impact and overall effectiveness of its practitioners.

The expanding academic field of Peace Science continues to produce high volumes of significant research that often goes unnoticed by practitioners, the media, activists, public policy-makers, and other possible beneficiaries. This is unfortunate, because Peace Science ultimately should inform the practice on how to bring about peace.

The research and theory needed to guide peace workers to produce more enduring and positive peace, not only more peace studies, have come to stay. Bridging the gap between the peace movement moralism and foreign policy pragmatism is a major challenge facing everyone who seeks to achieve peace on Earth. (Johan Galtung and Charles Webel)

To address this issue, the War Prevention Initiative has created the Peace Science Digest as a way to disseminate top selections of research and findings from the field's academic community to the many beneficiaries.

The Peace Science Digest is formulated to enhance awareness of literature addressing the key issues of our time by making available an organized, condensed and comprehensible summary of this important research as a resource for the practical application of the field's current academic knowledge.

Disclaimer

Research featured in the *Peace Science Digest* is selected based on its contribution to the field of Peace Science, and authenticated by the scientific integrity derived from the peer-review process. Peer-reviewed journals evaluate the quality and validity of a scientific study, giving us the freedom to focus on the articles' relevance and potential contribution to the field and beyond. The editors of the *Peace Science Digest* do not claim their analysis is, or should be, the only way to approach any given issue. Our aim is to provide a responsible and ethical analysis of the research conducted by Peace and Conflict Studies academics through the operational lens of the War Prevention Initiative.

Photo Credit: Christoph Braun (Own work) [CC0], via Wikimedia Commons

A NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

Dear Readers,

It is our pleasure to introduce the 3rd issue of the Peace Science Digest.

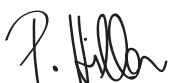
As we were in the final editing stages of this issue, the Institute for Economics and Peace published its 10th version of the Global Peace Index. Following mainstream media reporting on domestic and global violence, one would not be surprised to learn that the world has become less peaceful and more unequal. In fact, there has been an underlying trend of declining peace over the last decade.

It is crucial to recognize the challenges ahead of us to create a more peaceful and just world. At the same time, we must not bury our heads in the sand – fearing that “the problems are too big, too overwhelming, too uncomfortable”. They are not. There are numerous evident global trends in the areas of social change, constructive conflict transformation, and global collaboration which show that there are alternatives to war and violence. Peace Science is one of them. Our goal for this Digest is to make the findings accessible, understandable, and useful.

We are still in the early stages of this publication. We have received a tremendous amount of constructive feedback which we are continuously integrating into our process. With our own continued research – and your important input – we will continue adding useful elements to the Peace Science Digest, which will hopefully turn into one of your recurring sources of information.

Inside this issue we aim to provide relevant research examining the current landscape of social conflict: types of mediator leverage in peace agreements, factors for success or failure of civil resistance movements in conflict zones, the relationship between civil resistance and modernization, the opportunities of international peacekeeping forces to contribute to positive peace, and new insights into the connections between minority communities and terrorism.

In practice, studies like those potentially support approaches that reduce the human, social, and economic costs of violent conflict. The 2016 Global Peace Index informs us that the yearly costs of violence are \$ 13.6 trillion. It is time to give Peace Science a chance to inform the practices of addressing violence in a more constructive and less costly way.



Patrick Hiller



David Prater

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Types of mediator leverage and the strength of peace agreements

Source | Reid, L. (2015). Finding a Peace that Lasts Mediator Leverage and the Durable Resolution of Civil Wars. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 0022002715611231.

Key words
mediation
civil war
conflict resolution
peace agreements

Do certain types of mediators hold characteristics that enable them to be more effective during peace negotiations, thus leading to longer lasting agreements? This study seeks to identify factors contributing to the success rate of mediated peace agreements during civil wars by examining two different types of leverage held by mediators and their ability to overcome short and long-term obstacles to a peace agreement.

The author suggests civil wars often result from a failure of bargaining. Thus, the mediation process is shaped by the efforts of disputants and third parties to overcome these bargaining failures. To accomplish this, mediators can apply various types of leverage as a way to influence the mediation process or alter the incentives of a disputant in order to reach a durable and peaceful resolution.

The two types of mediation leverage assessed in this research are capability and credibility. Capability leverage is the extent to which mediators use material strength or “carrots and sticks” to influence a settlement or a disputant’s bargaining range. Credibility leverage refers a mediator’s use of information, contextual knowledge of the conflict, and a perceived commitment to the peace process.

The author hypothesizes that because mediators with credibility leverage are not reliant on material coercion, they are better able to convey a true commitment to a peace process and thus shape the mediation in ways that would end in a longer lasting peace agreement, even if they are slower to bring the disputants together. On the other hand, the use of “carrots and sticks” in mediation often fails to address the issues that led to the breakdown of communication which caused the initial conflict or that may eventually lead to future conflict. Therefore, mediators with capability leverage may be able to coerce the disputants to an initial agreement, but their failure to address the root causes of a conflict often results in disputants falling back into their destructive patterns. These predictions lead the author to two hypotheses:

Mediation Success:

in this study, success is measured in two ways:
(a) whether or not an agreement was signed following the mediation efforts, and if so, what type of agreement.
(b) how long the agreement lasted.



- Mediators possessing capability leverage are more likely to achieve short-term success in negotiated peace agreements.
- Peace agreements signed through mediators with credibility leverage are more likely to achieve durable peace than peace agreements signed without them.

To test the hypotheses, the author analyzed civil war mediation attempts from 1989-2006 characterizing each mediator's leverage type as either capability or credibility. Then they compared the leverage type to the success of the mediation. The results of the study supported the hypotheses, showing that mediators with capability leverage increase the likelihood of reaching an initial but short-term peace agreement, and mediators with credibility leverage significantly increase the duration of a peace agreement although the initial agreement may have taken longer to reach.

This research shows that there is no single type of mediator, and that their utility in mediating a conflict depends on the tools they possess.

The “carrot and stick” tools of a powerful country's State Department (or equivalent) are much more commanding than a small international organization, and may even carry more weight than a UN delegation. However, if a small organization possesses intimate knowledge of the conflict, thus possessing credibility leverage, this research shows their mediators can help shape a more durable peace agreement.



Photo Credit: Nonviolent Peaceforce

CONTEMPORARY RELEVANCE

This research suggests that ideal peace agreements are assisted by mediators with both capability and credibility leverage. Major peace agreements are highly publicized in the media and are increasingly recognized as viable alternatives to war. Lesser known are the types of leverage used in these peace talks and the lasting implications of the varying tactics. Many consider the 2015 Iran Nuclear Deal a major achievement for all parties involved. Although the deal has seen its share of criticism, the benefits of a nuclear agreement and the extended benefits of future cooperation with Iran are hard to downplay. As this research points out, the capability leverage used by the United States and other powerful members of the United Nations during the Iran Nuclear Deal has paved the way to the initial agreement. Control, building trust and recognizing steps of implementation of the deal will increase, credibility leverage and hopefully insure longevity of the deal.

Continued Reading:

Examination of Mediation versus Military Intervention to Assist Regions Wracked by Conflict Focus of General Assembly Debate as It Enters Fourth Day
(UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 2011; <http://www.un.org/press/en/2011/gall153.doc.htm>)

Deal with the Deal. Nuclear Nonproliferation, Sanctions Relief, Then What?

(PeaceVoice; <http://www.peacevoice.info/2015/07/15/deal-with-the-deal-nuclear-nonproliferation-sanctions-relief-then-what/>)

Colombia, from a mediator's perspective

(Peace Policy; <https://peacepolicy.nd.edu/2015/01/28/colombia-from-a-mediators-perspective/>)

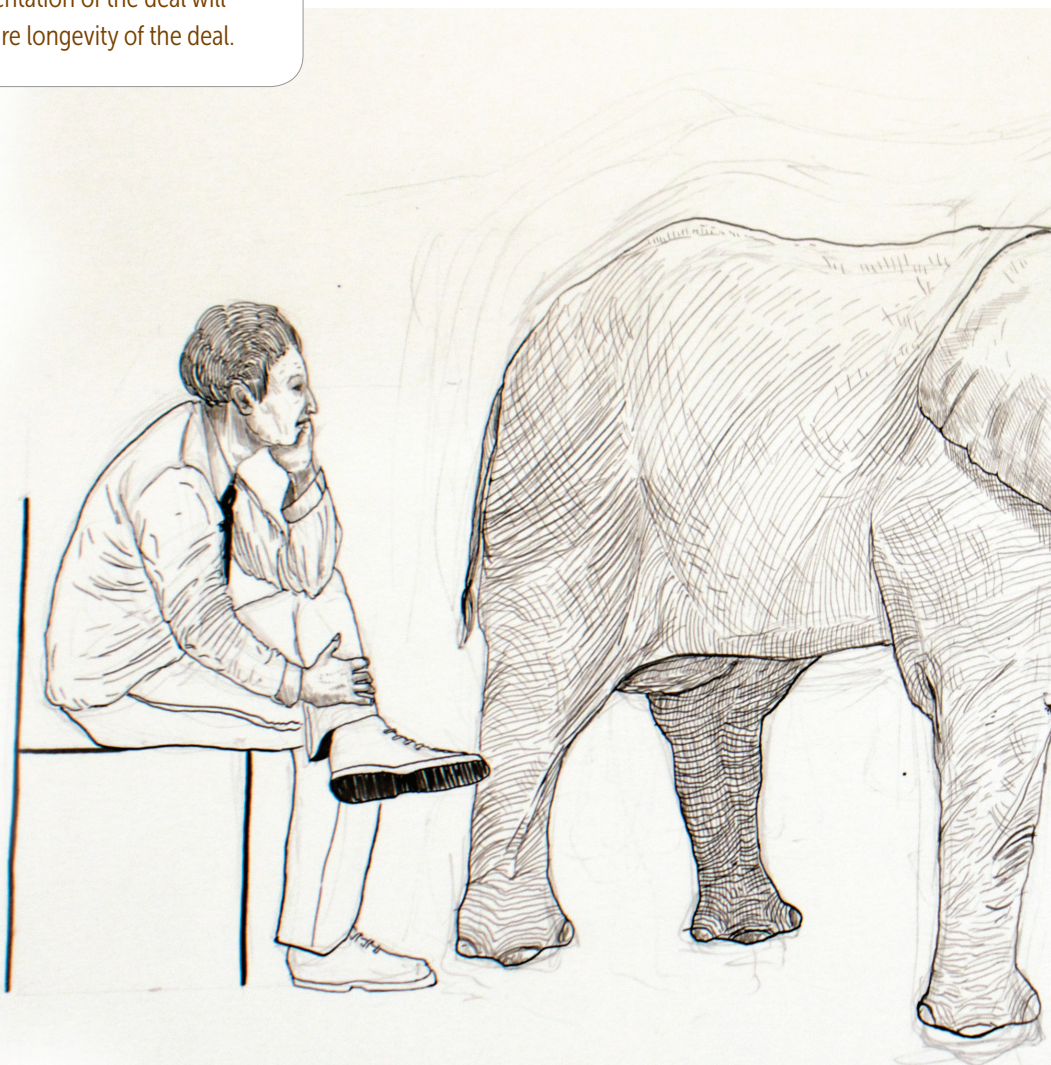
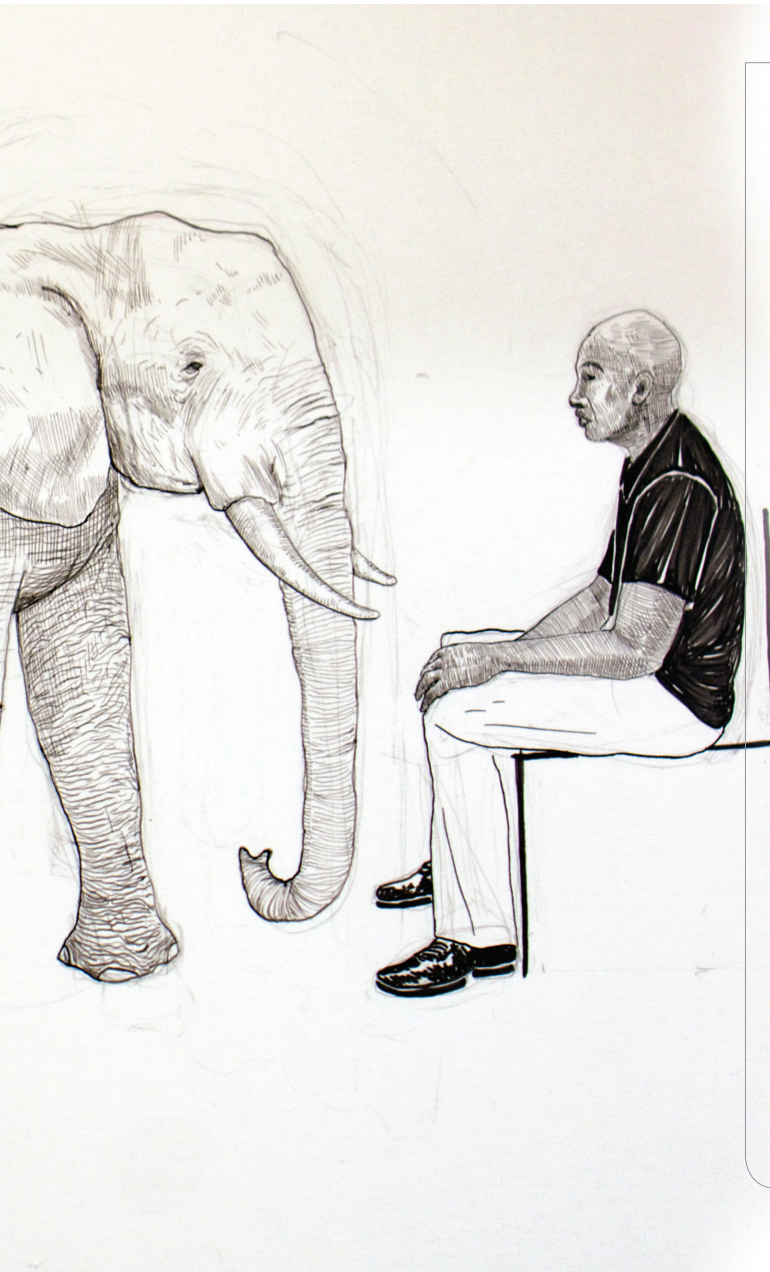


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<http://www.casamerica.es/>
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TALKING POINTS

- Peace agreements mediated with credibility leverage last over twice as long as agreements without credibility leverage.
- Capability leverage is most effective to facilitate the signing of a peace agreement.
- Credibility leverage is most effective at generating durable and longer lasting peace after the agreement.



PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS

This research can aid in deepening our understanding of the various roles and tools used by mediators. Although the context of this study centered on high-level civil wars, mediator leverage can be examined at any conflict level. More importantly, these findings show a mediator's ability to coerce through power or material strength does not increase their likelihood of fostering a durable peace agreement.

The life-span of a peace agreement tends to favor those who foster rather than force a settlement. Given the unique effects of capability and credibility leverage, it is important to understand that different types of mediators have varying effects on the disputants and the overall outcome of a mediation. Therefore, the process of selecting mediators to facilitate peace agreements should include careful consideration of which type of leverage would best fit a specific conflict. Additionally, if the context allows, the incorporation of both types of mediator leverage into a conflict may provide durable agreements from credibility leverage with the added benefit of an expedited peace process often seen from capability leverage. "Mediation with muscle", that is with the threat of military action if no agreement is reached, should always be avoided (Hastings, 2014). Rather than acting transformative in conflict, such an approach completely fails to address root causes, keeps conflicting parties interested in rearming, and makes conflicts intractable even if some sort of agreement is achieved in the short run.

Varying success of civil resistance in Colombia

Source | Idler, A., Belén Garrido, M., & Mouly, C. (2015). Peace Territories in Colombia: Comparing Civil Resistance in Two War-Torn Communities. *Journal of Peacebuilding & Development*, 10(3), 1-15.

Key words
 peace communities
 Colombia
 civil resistance

Why are some civil resistance movements more successful than others when conducted under similar circumstances? This research compares civil resistance movements in two Colombian towns affected by violent conflict. The findings show successful movements are highly dependent on specific characteristics of the resistance movement, the relationship between the community and local armed actors, and the role played by third-party outsiders.

This study examines the nonviolent efforts of two Colombian villages between 1990 and 2014. Both villages are similarly affected by the violence of local armed groups, and both experience high levels of poverty and lack of basic services. This comparison gave the researchers the opportunity to observe two different examples of nonviolent movements in so-called peace zones usually assumed to have a low chance of success.

The research team builds upon previous work from Hancock and Mitchell's book, *Zones of Peace* (2007) by condensing factors of successful peace zones into three general components:

- Specific characteristics of the civil resistance movement in a specific peace zone (community leadership and movement cohesion).
- The relationship between the peace zone and the local armed forces (declared neutral zones, informal rules, agreements or norms of governance).
- The roles and level of involvement of external actors in the civil resistance movement (international organizations, non-governmental organizations, local non-profits).

By conducting over 100 interviews with local authorities, civil society leaders, international organization staff, and ex-combatants, the researchers were able to assess the presence of the above three components and how they may have affected the success or failure of each peace movement.

Peace Zone:

Territories in which communities aim to reduce the negative impact of armed conflict through nonviolent means.

Despite the many similarities between the two peace zones, the outcome of their nonviolent movements differed. Only one community succeeded in ensuring that armed groups did not target the civilian population, assets, and infrastructure.

A major finding of the study pointed to the involvement of community leaders in civil resistance campaigns. Both peace zones engaged in civil resistance against armed groups through nonviolent methods such as strikes, boycotts, and demonstrations. However, the findings show the success of the campaign was tied to the leadership's participation in these nonviolent events. When community leaders led by example, they fostered a cul-

ture of participation in which the population rallied behind. The culture of participation strengthened the movement's resolve and limited the fear of violent repercussions by militant groups for participating in civil resistance.

Additional findings highlight the influence peace processes at various levels have on each other. When national peace movements are successful, the likelihood of successful local peace movements increases and vice versa. Similarly, the study found emerging peace movements are more likely to succeed when they learn from the successful strategies of past movements, pointing to the growing trend of successful nonviolent resistance.



CONTEMPORARY RELEVANCE

Colombia is both a harrowing and encouraging example of the complexities of building peace. The country has been immersed in civil war for over 50 years. As of this writing, a peace agreement between the government and the FARC rebel group is imminent. If an agreement is reached, it will mark the first time in more than fifty years the Western Hemisphere will be without war in its traditional understanding. In a public discourse where “the world is falling apart” narrative is predominant, stories of declining warfare need to be made public.

Furthermore, this research shows the trickle-down effect of national peace negotiations. Once high level agreements are successfully made, they influence the positive outcome of lower level peace talks. According to the Center for American Progress, this is evident in the deterioration of peace talks between the El Salvadoran government and many of the country’s prominent gangs. When initial peace talks failed, so did lower level talks which led to an increase in violent gang activity. A country-wide gang violence truce cut homicide rates by over half, but they increased dramatically three years later when the truce dissolved ([Center for American Progress, 2014](http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/immigration/report/2014/07/24/94396/the-surge-of-unaccompanied-children-from-central-america-root-causes-and-policy-solutions/)).

Continued Reading:

Zones of Peace. Edited by Landon Hancock and Christopher Mitchell (http://scar.gmu.edu/Zones_Of_Peace.htm)

Paso Colombia: Inclusive and sustainable peace through strategic collaboration. (<http://pasocolombia.org/>)

The Surge of Unaccompanied Children from Central America

(<https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/immigration/report/2014/07/24/94396/the-surge-of-unaccompanied-children-from-central-america-root-causes-and-policy-solutions/>)

Colombia Peace Process: Bridging Research and Practice

(Peace Policy; <https://peacepolicy.nd.edu/2015/01/28/colombian-peace-process-bridging-research-and-practice/>)

Approaching the End of a Fifty-Year Conflict

(Peace Policy; <https://peacepolicy.nd.edu/2015/01/28/approaching-the-end-of-a-fifty-year-conflict/>)



TALKING POINTS

- Direct participation of community leadership in civil resistance increases the likelihood of success.
- National and local peace initiatives are mutually influential. The success of one increases the chances of success in the other.
- Groups seeking to develop peace zones must understand the important role of local participation, the ties to local resistance forces, and the role played by external actors.
- Knowledge of successful resistance movements increases the effectiveness and strength of new peace movements.

PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS

Creating peace zones has the capability to kick start peace projects. This research shows that once a community devotes itself to nonviolent resistance, especially with due consideration to the movement's leadership and participation, there can be a positive effect on the entire region.

This research shows the importance of cultivating grassroots campaigns and giving these efforts an equal – or even more important – role over top down peacebuilding approaches. Foreign and domestic organizations, e.g. peacebuilding organizations or funders, can also work to build local support for peace movements by bringing attention to the movement and providing additional resources to help sustain the movement's goals.

Photo Credit: <http://www.peacepresence.org>

Manufacturing dissent. Modernization and the surge of nonviolent resistance

Source | Butcher, C., & Svensson, I. (2016). Manufacturing dissent. Modernization and the onset of major nonviolent resistance campaigns. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, Vol. 60(2) 311-339.

**Key
words**
civil resistance
nonviolence
modernization
social networks



Continued Reading:

Linking Development and Peace: The Empirical Evidence

(Peace Policy; <https://peacepolicy.nd.edu/2016/05/18/linking-development-and-peace-the-empirical-evidence/>)

10 Things to Know about Nonviolent Struggle

(PeaceVoice; <http://www.peacevoice.info/2016/03/04/10-things-to-know-about-nonviolent-struggle/>)

Many studies have focused on the conditions that contribute to successful nonviolent resistance campaigns, but few analyze the reasons or events that cause these campaigns to emerge. This study provides insight into some of the possible explanations for the increase of nonviolent campaigns around the world, mainly pointing to the influence of economic modernization.

The authors argue that the advancement of modern economic sectors, such as manufacturing, provide the opportunity and leverage for citizens to voice their dissatisfaction through nonviolent means. The research shows a direct link between the proportion of a country's manufacturing industry of their GDP and an increase of nonviolent resistance campaigns. Additionally, the likelihood of nonviolent movements rise with the rate social networks are integrated with the country's economy. Extensive social networks are more likely to be present in states with high levels of manufacturing, which in turn increase the likelihood of nonviolent movements.

To test their hypotheses, the authors examine major violent and nonviolent campaigns around the world between 1960 and 2009. They compare the campaigns' tactics (violent or nonviolent) with the countries manufacturing industry as a percentage of GDP.

The authors suggest that manufacturing is closely linked to the trend of urban migration, which brings together people of diverse geographic, social, cultural and ethnic backgrounds. Organized labor, as a product of the manufacturing industry, emerges as a link between these diverse urban communities, creating extensive social



networks to which the economy becomes dependent upon. The authors also suggest that violence is more likely to occur in countries lacking extensive social networks integrated in their economy. This view differs from past research that has suggested social conflicts arise from modernization, by arguing that modernization is actually a positive force as it facilitates nonviolent resistance as opposed to violent tactics.

The research findings support the authors' hypotheses, concluding that the larger the proportion of manufacturing in a country's GDP, the more likely civil resistance movements will be nonviolent. Also, when other modernization indicators such as infant mortality rates and access to education are taken into consideration, it becomes even more evident that social conflict tends to become nonviolent as states modernize. However, these findings were less pronounced in Africa where poverty and discrimination are more likely to lead to violence, suggesting that countries with a large middle class are not as likely to experience civil war as less affluent countries.

Intensive Social Networks: social interactions and personal relationships limited to interactions between people of the same group, and avoiding outside groups.

Extensive Social Networks: social interactions and personal relationships that expand beyond a single group to create bonds and bridges between other groups. The more social groups are linked with one another, the more extensive the social network.



Photo Credit: Fibonacci Blue
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CONTEMPORARY RELEVANCE

Economic sectors such as manufacturing can play an important role in building bridges within a society and encouraging grievances to be addressed through nonviolent means.

This research influences controversial topics regarding consequences from the spread of globalization and democratization. The more insight we have pointing to these trends ability to foster nonviolent resistance, the more likely they are to become a positive rather than negative force in the developing world. The connections between development and peace are now firmly supported by a strong body of social science research (Cortright, 2016).

TALKING POINTS

- Manufacturing enables the creation of interconnected social networks by bringing together groups of people with diverse backgrounds.
- As countries continue to modernize, social conflict is more likely to become nonviolent.
- Countries with a larger percentage of their GDP from the manufacturing industry are more likely to experience nonviolent conflict than violent conflict.
- Organized labor bridges social divides, allowing for mass mobilization and nonviolent collective action utilizing economically derived leverage as a means of social resistance.

Photo Credit: Carlos Fernandez
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PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS

Economic sectors such as manufacturing can play an important role in building bridges within a society and encouraging grievances to be addressed through nonviolent means. However, countries with the weakest economies are poised to benefit from this research the most. When this study looked at developing regions in Africa, even in poor, authoritarian states, the slightest increase in manufacturing translated into an increase in the likelihood of nonviolent resistance by roughly 15% and a decrease in the likelihood of civil war onset.

The authors link extensive social networks to nonviolent movements and intensive social networks to violent ones. Intensive social networks tend to be comprised of economically isolated and often poor, marginalized ethnic groups, characteristics that increase the likelihood of these networks addressing their grievances through violence rather than nonviolence. Practitioners, whether through NGOs, labor movement leaders, or social movement leaders and participants, can benefit from reaching out to connect and integrate isolated groups with the economy. This research suggests that these efforts would greatly enhance the likelihood, participation and effectiveness of nonviolent movements and minimize the risk of conflict between groups of different social networks.



International Peacekeeping and positive peace

Source | Mironova, V., & Whitt, S. (2015). International Peacekeeping and Positive Peace Evidence from Kosovo. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 0022002715604886.

Key words

peacekeeping
positive peace



Does Peacekeeping Work?

(Virginia Page Fortna, <http://press.princeton.edu/titles/8705.html>)

What have been the successes and failures of UN peacekeeping missions?

(<http://www.cfr.org/peacekeeping/peace-operations-africa/p9333>)

United Nations Peacekeeping Not Always as Fast, Effective as Required in Responding to Conflict, Secretary-General Tells Security Council

(<http://www.cfr.org/peacekeeping/peace-operations-africa/p9333>)

The myth of peacekeeping's effectiveness

(<http://www.cfr.org/peacekeeping/peace-operations-africa/p9333>)

United Nations peacekeeping and opportunities for reform

(<http://www.brookings.edu/research/testimony/2015/12/09-un-peacekeeping-opportunities-jones>)

Keeping the Peace: Lessons from Data for Peacebuilding

(Peace Policy; <https://peacepolicy.nd.edu/2012/05/01/keeping-the-peace-lessons-from-data-for-peacebuilding/>)

The demand for peacekeeping missions around the world provides the ongoing necessity for policy makers, practitioners, and academics to continue building on their understanding and evaluation of various peacekeeping strategies. Peacekeeping missions can help combatant groups to commit to peace agreements that would otherwise be difficult to self-enforce. Peacekeepers can identify and intervene when groups try to 'cheat' the agreement by acting against the arranged terms, police against escalations of violence, and deter 'spoilers' of the peace process. These are the typical and very important roles of peacekeeping which fall into the category of 'negative peace', understood as the absence of physical violence.

In this study, researchers examine how peacekeepers can work to promote 'positive peace' for average citizens. The field research took place in Kosovo between 2011 and 2012, when tension between the Serbs and Albanians re-escalated. This was a unique opportunity to observe and evaluate peacekeeping intervention in real-time.

The researchers observed individual Kosovar Albanian and Serb citizens to determine their response and level of trust for two different forms of peacekeeping: a) interventions with the capability and mechanisms ready to enforce a peace agreement; and, b) interventions that monitor a peace agreement. The authors created a method of measuring the amount of trust civilians held for the two forms of peacekeeping intervention to see if one method enhanced public trust or deterred spoilers more than the other. The authors then performed their experiment without the presence of peacekeeping intervention to measure the two forms against the absence of intervention. Based on their research design and assumptions from previous research, the authors developed the following hypotheses:

- Positive peace between hostile groups is strengthened by the intervention of peacekeeping forces.
- Peacekeeper interventions promote positive peace by limiting spoiler activity.
- In the absence of peacekeeper intervention, spoiler activity will undermine positive peace.

- Peacekeepers with enforcement mechanisms are better able to promote positive peace and deter spoilers than those with only monitoring mechanisms.
- Peacekeeper interventions enhance norms of positive peace through informational and reputational effects.

The study found that peacekeeping interventions with clear enforcement mechanisms are more effective in enhancing public trust and deterring spoilers than interventions that engage only in monitoring, and much more effective when compared to no peacekeeping intervention at all.

This finding was highlighted even more when peacekeepers actively engaged in enforcing peace with a community at an individual level, but decreased rapidly when peacekeepers pulled out from a community, thus providing opportunity for spoilers to disrupt the peace.

Another important finding of this study points to the potential limitations of peacekeeping, once the peacekeepers depart. Even a small group of opportunists or spoilers have the ability to eliminate the advancements gained during the peace process. The authors point out that peacekeeping may be effective in restoring short-term social order and cooperation, but it should not be a substitute for peacebuilding methods that can foster a more sustainable, positive peace.

Negative peace is characterized by the absence of personal violence. In **positive peace** structural violence is also eliminated.

Peacekeeping is the prevention or ending of violence within or between nation-states through the intervention of an outside third party that keeps the warring parties apart. Unlike **peacemaking**, which involves negotiating a resolution to the issues in conflict, the goal of peacekeeping is simply preventing further violence.

Spoilers: groups or individuals within a peacekeeping environment who wish to disrupt or halt the peace process.



Photo Credit: UN Photo / Albert Gonzalez Farran
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CONTEMPORARY RELEVANCE

This study helps increase understanding of various forms of peacekeeping and how their differing engagement mandates (monitoring vs. enforcement) can influence the amount of trust communities hold for third-party actors and each other. Peacekeeping is most commonly analyzed from high-level perspectives, but the insights from this study provides more information on individual beliefs which are often dismissed due to the time and resources needed to analyze specific conflict scenarios.

The individual level insight provided by this study can be replicated to assess other conflicts where peacekeeping missions may be considered. Even many peace advocates recognize a role for UN peacekeeping missions as a transitional step toward building positive peace. International Relations scholar Joshua Goldstein argues that peacekeeping works well and that global efforts are part of winning the war on war. Of course, UN peacekeeping also opens to path toward increasingly unarmed civilian peacekeeping efforts (e.g. Nonviolent Peaceforce), which potentially could be even more effective assuming broad acceptances, commitments and the availability of sufficient resources.



Photo Credit: UN Photo/Sylvain Liechti
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TALKING POINTS

- Peacekeepers with the ability to enforce peace agreements are better able to build norms of trust and cooperation compared to the absence of peacekeepers or peacekeepers with only monitoring capabilities.
- Peacekeeping can enhance pro-social norms by deterring spoilers to the peace process.
- Once peacekeepers are pulled out of a recovering conflict area, opportunists and spoilers are very likely to undermine collective gains achieved during the peace process.

PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS

This study indicates that peacekeeping approaches usually studied and performed at the group level can be effective when used on the individual level as well. The findings show the participants in this study were more likely to display behaviors of trust and fairness when peacekeeping missions work to spread these beliefs and discourage the behavior of 'spoilers', just like group-oriented peacekeeping.

The findings also indicate that monitoring, although more effective than the absence of peacekeeping, is not an adequate method in achieving positive peace. Thus, strategies allowing peacekeepers the ability to enforce peace agreements, such as the format often used by the United Nations, are in line with the conclusions of this study.

Peacebuilding practitioners have an opportunity to understand the potential, but also the limitations of peacekeeping operations and adjust their programs accordingly.



Ethnic minorities and terrorism

Source | Arva, B. J., & Piazza, J. A. (2016). Spatial Distribution of Minority Communities and Terrorism: Domestic Concentration versus Transnational Dispersion. *Defense and Peace Economics*, 27(1), 1-36.

Key words

terrorism
ethnic groups
diaspora



Continued Reading:

Fight terror again, and again, and again. Or end it by refusing to participate in its creation.

(PeaceVoice; <http://www.peacevoice.info/2015/01/09/fight-terror-again-and-again-and-again-or-end-it-by-refusing-to-participate-in-its-creation/>)

How terrorists exploit family ties to recruit and retain members .

(<http://www.pri.org/stories/2016-03-23/how-terrorists-exploit-family-ties-recruit-and-retain-members>)

Are countries with excluded minority communities more likely to experience terrorist attacks? Do ties with family members outside of the country effect a community's likelihood of experiencing a terrorist attack at home?

In this study the authors examine whether countries with geographically concentrated ethnic communities experience more terrorist activity than countries with more dispersed or integrated ethnic populations. The study also examines whether countries with ethnic groups that have close family ties in other countries experience more terrorism.

The research compared information from an original dataset containing records of terrorist attacks in over 165 countries from 1981-2006 to the Global Terrorism Database. This specific analysis provided the ability to compare a large list of global terrorist attacks with more specific country information relating to ethnic populations and terror. The authors propose the following hypotheses:

- Countries containing large geographically concentrated minority communities are more likely to experience terrorist attacks
- Countries containing large minority communities with ties to family members in other countries are more likely to experience terrorist attacks.

The research findings supported the authors' hypotheses: countries with ethnic enclaves concentrated in one part of the country and ethnic groups with family ties in other countries are more likely to experience terrorist attacks. Countries with ethnic minorities who are more dispersed or integrated into the major ethnic group are less likely to experience terrorism.

Countries with ethnic groups without strong family ties in other countries experience less terrorism than those with ethnic communities with family ties outside the country. The findings also suggest that state or regime qualities, such as repression, prompt the creation of diaspora communities that can lead to terrorism.

The link between minority communities and family ties to other countries was developed from evidence pointing to the strong support these communities can gather from sympathetic outsiders. Terrorist movements benefit from stable support networks when their ideology is shared by sympathetic outsiders with dependable family, social, or cultural ties.



Photo Credit: Ronniegrob
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CONTEMPORARY RELEVANCE

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) in Sri Lanka, Hezbollah in Lebanon, the Kurdish Workers party (PKK) in Turkey, the Basque Homeland and Freedom (ETA) group in Spain, and Chechen separatists in southern Russia are historic and contemporary examples of minority communities using common terrorist tactics to lash out at their governments.

These groups, as well as the currently more recognized organizations like ISIS and Al Qaeda, have ties to foreign funding and assistance. As the above findings show the presence of foreign assistance is linked to the concentration of ethnic communities as well as levels of oppression from local governments.



TALKING POINTS

- Countries with geographically concentrated ethnic communities are more likely to experience terrorism.
- The likelihood of terrorism increases when a country's ethnic communities have close family ties in other countries.
- Diaspora communities can play a large role in the financial and logistical support of terrorist groups.

PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS

The authors suggest that their findings may indicate the need for officials to refocus the ways they combat terrorism. The strong relationship between diaspora communities and the support of close family members abroad make fundraising, arms transfers, and recruitment much easier to accomplish and harder to detect. Many terrorist groups rely on outside support, so a shift of focus from military action abroad to police action at home may help to eliminate the underground networks that keep many extremist groups afloat. Of course, more substantial preventative measures should address the root causes of terrorism and support by engaging those communities where radicalization takes place in a meaningful manner. Ample approaches in the field of constructive conflict transformation can be applied.

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[TESTIMONIALS]



This Magazine is where the academic field and the practitioners meet. It is the ideal source for the Talkers, the Writers and the Doers who need to inform and educate themselves about the fast growing field of Peace Science for War Prevention Initiatives!

John W. McDonald

U.S. Ambassador, ret.

Chairman and CEO, Institute for Multi-Track Diplomacy



As a longtime peace activist, I've grown weary of the mainstream perception that "peace is for dreamers." That's why the Peace Science Digest is such a useful tool; it gives me easy access to the data and the science to make the case for peacebuilding and war prevention as both practical and possible. This is a wonderful new resource for all who seek peaceful solutions in the real world.

Kelly Campbell

*Executive Director, Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility Co-founder,
9/11 Families for Peaceful Tomorrows*



The Peace Science Digest is the right approach to an ever-present challenge: how do you get cutting-edge peace research that is often hidden in hard-to-access academic journals into the hands of a broader audience? With its attractive on-line format, easy to digest graphics and useful short summaries, the Peace Science Digest is a critically important tool for anyone who cares about peace – as well as a delight to read."

Aubrey Fox

Executive Director, Institute for Economics and Peace



The field of peace science has long suffered from a needless disconnect between current scholarship and relevant practice. The Peace Science Digest serves as a vital bridge. By regularly communicating cutting-edge peace research to a general audience, this publication promises to advance contemporary practice of peace and nonviolent action. I don't know of any other outlet that has developed such an efficient forum for distilling the key insights from the latest scholarly innovations for anyone who wants to know more about this crucial subject. I won't miss an issue.

Erica Chenoweth

*Professor & Associate Dean for Research at the Josef Korbel School of
International Studies at the University of Denver*



Peace Science Digest is a valuable tool for translating scholarly research into practical conclusions in support of evidence-based approaches to preventing armed conflict.

David Cortright

*Director of Policy Studies at the Kroc Institute of International Peace Studies at the
University of Notre Dame*



How many times are we asked about the effectiveness of alternatives to violent conflict? Reading Peace Science Digest offers a quick read on some of the best research focused on that important question. It offers talking points and summarizes practical implications. Readers are provided with clear, accessible explanations of theories and key concepts. It is a valuable resource for policy-makers, activists and scholars. It is a major step in filling the gap between research findings and application.

Joseph Bock

*International Conflict Management Program Associate Professor of International Conflict
Management, Kennesaw State University*

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A "Think Tank Without Walls" connecting the research and action of 600+ scholars, advocates, and activists providing timely analysis of U.S. foreign policy and international affairs, and recommends policy alternatives seeking to make the United States a more responsible global partner.



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The Peace Science Digest is a project of the War Prevention Initiative

<h2>OUR VISION</h2>	<p>Our vision is a world beyond war by 2030 and humanity united by a global system of peace with justice.</p>
<h2>OUR MISSION</h2>	<p>Our mission is to advance the Global Peace System by supporting, developing and collaborating with peacebuilding efforts in all sectors of society.</p>
<h2>OUR CORE VALUES</h2>	<p>Nonviolence – We promote strategic and principled nonviolent solutions over any kind of armed conflict.</p> <p>Empathy – We view social problems through the eyes of others and respectfully communicate with each other in the pursuit of mutual understanding.</p> <p>Planetary loyalty – We consider ourselves global citizens, living in harmony with humanity and nature.</p> <p>Moral imagination – We strive for a moral perception of the world in that we: (1) imagine people in a web of relationships including their enemies; (2) foster the understanding of others as an opportunity rather than a threat; (3) pursue the creative process as the wellspring that feeds the building of peace; and (4) risk stepping into the unknown landscape beyond violence</p>
<h2 style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">AREAS OF FOCUS</h2>	<h2>WE SUPPORT</h2> <p>Support Rotary International’s focus on peace by aiding the Rotarian Action Group for Peace with human, logistical and content-related resources.</p> <p>Support development of effective strategies to convince Americans that the United States should not promote war, militarism or weapons proliferation, but rather embrace conflict resolution practices that have been shown to prevent, shorten, and eliminate war as viable alternatives to local, regional and global conflicts.</p> <p>Support building grassroots social movements seeking a world beyond war.</p>
	<h2>WE EDUCATE</h2> <p>Actively contribute to peace science and public scholarship on war prevention issues.</p> <p>Share information and resources with multiple constituencies in an understandable manner.</p> <p>Provide evidence-based information on peace and conflict issues with immediately potential doable policy advice to public policy makers.</p> <p>Advance the understanding and growth of the Global Peace System.</p>
	<h2>WE ENGAGE</h2> <p>Convene national and international experts in ongoing constructive dialog on war prevention issues via our Parkdale Peace Gatherings.</p> <p>Connect likely and unlikely allies to create new opportunities.</p> <p>Participate in peacebuilding networks and membership organizations.</p>
<h2>UNDERLYING ASSUMPTIONS</h2>	<p>We are at a stage in human history where we can say with confidence that there are better and more effective alternatives to war and violence.</p> <p>A Global Peace System is evolving.</p> <p>Poverty, employment, energy, education, the environment and other social and natural factors are interconnected in peacebuilding.</p> <p>Peace Science and Peace Education provide a path to a more just and peaceful world.</p> <p>Multi-track diplomacy offers a sectoral framework for creating peacebuilding opportunities</p>