



VARIETIES
OF PEACE



CENTRE FOR
STRATEGIC AND
INTERNATIONAL
STUDIES

Call for papers – Varieties of Peace Asia Conference, Jakarta 22-24 October 2019

Peace and conflict research has devoted much attention to conflict and we know a lot today about different types of conflict, with different types of dynamics and requirements for resolution. We know much less about different types of peace and how they might vary in terms of dynamics and what explains sustainability.

With the aim of making peace beyond the absence of war researchable, the Varieties of Peace Research Program at Umeå University, Sweden was launched in 2017. The program is funded by Riksbankens Jubileumsfond, the Swedish Foundation for Humanities and Social Sciences, stretches over eight years, and aims to analyze long-term effects of peace processes in conflicts that ended in the 1990s. The central research questions are:

1. What characterizes peace after the peace processes initiated in the 1990s and how does it vary, and
2. How can this variation be described and explained?

Peace processes have been studied using short time perspectives, usually in “lessons learned” evaluations five years after conflict termination, and usually with theories of conflict as a starting point. The Varieties of Peace research program is an ambitious initiative, which starts from a theoretical understanding of peace, its quality and character, and views peace and peace processes as dynamic and transformative. It will investigate and evaluate different types of peace processes from a comparative perspective and 25–30 years after they started, with the ambition of producing generalizable knowledge about peace, what it is and how it can be achieved. The program studies explanatory factors in five areas: 1) the actions, capacity and resilience of civil society, 2) the interests and strategies of the elites, 3) the aims and character of the agreements, 4) the societies’ institutions and resilience, and 5) international involvement. The program studies peace in a wide range of locations, for example in Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Indonesia (Aceh), Namibia, South Africa, Colombia and Bosnia Hercegovina.

In order to describe variations of peace we are developing a three-pronged approach based on peace as a situation, peace as a relation and peace as an idea. We believe that each of these three approaches can contain different varieties of peace, but that it makes sense to distinguish between them according to what peace is ontologically perceived to be.

During the course of the research program we are going to arrange three regional conferences: one in Asia, one in Africa and one in the Balkan region. The first one will take place in Jakarta, Indonesia on 22–24 October 2019 and is arranged in cooperation with the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). The purpose of the conference is to bring together peace



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scholars, in particular those working in the region and scholars who focus on peace in the region, and discuss ongoing research. We are aiming for a conference with around 40 participants, including the Varieties of Peace Swedish Core Group and International Advisory Board. The size of the conference is pending a funding decision. We welcome contributions from junior as well as more senior researchers. The conference will consist of keynote speakers, round-table discussions and parallel paper panels.

We welcome theoretical pieces as well as case studies which take on the core research questions of the program. We also encourage papers which take on peace as a situation, peace as a relation and peace as an idea. In particular we welcome peace research that engages with cases in Asia.

The Varieties of Peace Program will cover your accommodation and travel expenses to the conference. Please apply to the conference by filling out the form no later than **May 15, 2019** at:

<https://forms.gle/WCvZKyVUFkDex2so6>

Full-length papers to the conference should be submitted by **October 8, 2019**.

For more information about the Varieties of Peace Program, see <https://www.varietiesofpeace.net/>