Call for Panel Proposals*

The Making of Peace, Conflict and Security
Dynamics of Inclusion and Exclusion

Peace and Conflict Studies in Anthropology (PACSA)
6th Bi-annual meeting, 28-30 August 2017, Amsterdam

Conflict and peace-making have fundamentally shaped and remade boundaries and relationships in the world we live in. These transformations include processes of inclusion and exclusion that accompany conflicts and the efforts to resolve, transform or secure them. Inclusion is commonly associated with peace rather than conflict, but violent means are often justified in inclusive or productive terms: the renewal of a unified people, the protection of a national economy, or the toppling of an old regime to make way for a more inclusive future. Whether it is peace-making, conflict or securitisation: boundaries, borders and relationships are frequently reified, contested or hardened through these processes. In this sense, both conflict and peace are interrelated ordering principles at the heart of which lie questions about inclusion and exclusion, relation and disconnection. As some are drawn into the centre of a violent cause, others might be ostracized, targeted or displaced as inevitable Others. Similarly, approaches to peace-making and conflict transformation – often seeking to be inclusive – might lead to unintended exclusive consequences. As peace-making tends to involve power struggles, its outcomes can lead to new grievances and renewed conflict.

In particular, security and forms of securitisation, as part of major ordering mechanisms, play a key role here. In the name of security, freedom is protected, borders are militarised and interventions justified, often in ahistorical, depoliticised ways. Metaphorically speaking, the boundaries between unpredictable outsiders and to-be-protected insiders must be guarded and reaffirmed: between nations and globalised flows of people, between security compounds and war-zones, between citizens and non-citizens and between the rich and poor. Questions about inclusion/exclusion are central to our understanding about how dynamics of peace, conflict and security interrelate. Moreover, these dynamics have an often suppressed and distorted temporal and historical dimension, as some histories are ignored and others are shaped, while long-term processes of inclusion and exclusion can become buried underneath the spectacular buzz and noise of immediate crises that claim moments of unprecedented truths.

*A call for individual papers will follow early 2017

Building on these conceptual underpinnings, we encourage proposals for panels that engage with issues relating to peace, conflict and securitisation through the lens of inclusion and exclusion. Panels might want to address peace and conflict from the perspective of inclusion/exclusion through any of the following issues (but not limited to these):

Security and borders; inclusion and exclusion within refugee regimes; inclusive approaches to conflict transformation; conflict and displacement; the inclusion/exclusion of particular groups in peace-processes and political settlements; war economies and economic opportunities within conflicts; spatial, territorial and legal aspects of war and peace, such as enclaves and exclaves, cross-border relations and stateless people; cities affected by conflict and militarisation; transnational dynamics of peace-making and warfare; propaganda, myth-making and ideological aspects of war and peace; inclusive and exclusive aspects of social movements, non-violent activism and civil resistance; privilege, power and inequality; and historical perspectives on processes of inclusion and exclusion in the context of war and peace.

The deadline for panel submissions is January 15, 2017

In order to **submit a panel**, please send a general outline of the panel theme of no more than 250 words to pacsa2017@gmail.com

Particularly welcome are panel convenors with plans to turn their panels into publications or any other kind of ongoing collaboration or activity beyond the conference meeting itself. This can be through editing a special issue for submission to a peer-reviewed journal, or by editing individual papers for publication as an edited collection. Many other creative forms of public engagement and academic exchange related to the proposed panel are possible. Please include a short description about these plans with your panel proposal.

Panels can either be proposed as closed panels, which should include a full list of presenters, or as open panels, which will be included in the call for papers.

The summit is organised in cooperation with the Anthropology of Security Network, SECURCIT at the University of Amsterdam and the Dept. of Anthropology at VU University Amsterdam. For more information on PACSA, please see: http://www.pacsa-web.eu/

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