



Call for Contributions Virtual Encyclopedia on Peace and Conflict Studies

The research network "Postcolonial Hierarchies in Peace and Conflict Studies" and the Latin American Council of Social Sciences (CLACSO), under its South-South Program, open the call for the selection of five (5) contributions for the Virtual Encyclopedia on Peace and Conflict Studies (www.rewritingpeaceandconflict.net). The call is aimed at researchers, undergraduate and graduate students, activists, social movements, collectives, artists, and professionals with experience in the topics of the encyclopedia based in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa and/or Asia. Contributions of individual or collective authorship related to the themes of the Virtual Encyclopedia are welcome. Proposals written in Spanish, English, Portuguese, and French will be accepted.

1. Objectives

The research network "Postcolonial Hierarchies in Peace and Conflict Studies" and the Latin American Council of Social Sciences (CLACSO), under its South-South Program, open the call for the selection of contributions for the Virtual Encyclopedia on Peace and Conflict Studies.

The call has two central objectives:

1. To deepen the approach to the field of Peace and Conflict Studies from critical perspectives, particularly reflections coming from feminist debates, postcolonial theory and decolonial thought, through the support and promotion of works that will be incorporated as part of the entries of the Encyclopedia on Peace and Conflict Studies (www.rewritingpeaceandconflict.net).
2. Promote the participation of researchers and activists from the Global South in the debates in the field. In the case of the former, emphasis is placed on those who are in the early stages of their careers and co-authorship between researchers from different regions. Likewise, contributions based on co-production processes between academics and other actors or organizations are especially valued.

Up to five (5) original proposals will be selected on the topic of the call.

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2. Background

Despite their growing diversity in approaches and methodological approaches, peace and conflict studies remain marked by their colonial roots and trajectory. Critical views, including those inspired by postcolonial theory and decolonial thought, have pointed out that the epistemological and ontological bases of theory and practice in the field are underpinned by Eurocentric and Western assumptions rooted in colonial power structures. This constitutes a fundamental problem that not only limits and often distorts the understanding of peace, conflict and violence, but also contributes to the reproduction of the structures that underlie different forms of violence and exclusion. A central feature of coloniality in the field is manifested in the marginalization of non-Western and indigenous epistemologies and worldviews in the dominant dynamics of knowledge production.

How to rethink peace and conflict? Confronting the effects of colonialism and the coloniality of power in this field demands an examination and problematization of foundational and dominant concepts and theories. A critical approach also implies questioning patterns of (in)visibility in order to position the voices and different ways of knowing of traditionally marginalized groups at the center.

In this context, the research network "Postcolonial Hierarchies in Peace and Conflict" is working on the development of the Virtual Encyclopedia. It is a project that aims to offer an interdisciplinary collection of theoretical and conceptual debates, empirical analyses and reflections on methods and knowledge production in peace and conflict studies from decolonial and postcolonial approaches. Rather than univocal and generalizing definitions, the Virtual Encyclopedia seeks to provide readers with the necessary tools to critically approach peace and conflict studies through the lens of postcolonial theory and decolonial thought.

Based on a commitment to critique the coloniality of knowledge and its effects on Peace and Conflict Studies, the Virtual Encyclopedia seeks to contribute to undermine epistemic hierarchies and inequalities through the promotion and inclusion of multiple and diverse voices (in terms of disciplines, regions and professional stages) and plural perspectives, as well as the promotion of cooperative networks.

3. Rules

3.1. Applicant Profile

The call is aimed at researchers, undergraduate and graduate students, activists, social movements, collectives, artists and professionals with experience in the topics of the Virtual Encyclopedia based in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa and/or Asia. Contributions of individual or collective authorship related to the themes of the Virtual Encyclopedia will be accepted.

3.2. Benefits and responsibilities of selected individuals/groups

Up to five (5) contribution proposals (entries) for the Encyclopedia will be selected to be supported with:

- Support and advice from the Encyclopedia work team during the process of elaboration of the contribution.
- An incentive of 250 euros per selected proposal. The stimulus will be delivered by bank transfer to the name of the researcher or the organization upon delivery of the final version of the

entry. In the case of collective proposals, the disbursement will be made in the name of the researcher representing the selected group.

- Translation services for contributions written in a language other than English.
- Publication of the selected papers in digital format as entries in the Encyclopedia of Peace and Conflict Studies.

Responsibilities of the selected persons/groups:

- The selected persons/groups must participate in the colloquium for the presentation of the contributions (entries), as well as read and comment on the entries of the other proposals selected within the framework of this call.
- Deliver the drafts and final version of the corresponding entries in due time and form. Entries must follow the criteria established in the Encyclopedia's guidelines for authors (see point 3.3.).

3.3. Characteristics of Contributions (Entries)

The entries constitute the central unit of the Encyclopedia. In addition to the alphabetical organization, the entries are classified into two interrelated groups: "Theoretical and conceptual debates" and "Methods, knowledge production and dissemination".

Encyclopedia entries may include text, video, audio, images, illustrations, empirical examples, vignettes or music. Entries may include a variety of writing formats, for example, interviews or storytelling. Each entry should include references to other materials and suggestions for further reading. Entries should be concise and clearly related to the focus of the Encyclopedia. They should be no longer than 2,500 words, excluding the heading, abstract, and references.

Types of Entries

The Encyclopedia contains two types of entries:

a. Conceptual/Theoretical:

This type of entry focuses on key concepts and theories in the field of peace and conflict studies, as well as those relevant from postcolonial and decolonial perspectives. Some of the possible ways of structuring the central aim and contribution of an entry may be: offering a critique/deconstruction of existing approaches from postcolonial and decolonial perspectives, tracing the genealogy and trajectory/s of specific concepts, or proposing new conceptualizations or theoretical approaches. The entry should offer a good balance between in-depth analysis and conciseness.

The expected length for conceptual/theoretical entries is 1,500-2,500 words (not including header, extended abstract, references, and suggested additional material).

b. Empirically oriented:

This type of entry critiques or illustrates a concept, theoretical approach, practices, or method based on an empirical analysis/case. Empirical entries may be diverse regarding the methodological approach, with both quantitative and qualitative research, as well as in writing styles (e.g., vignettes and storytelling). Although the empirical aspect is crucial in this type of entries, the intent is not to be a research report. Therefore, the author(s) should be explicit about the concept, theory, or method addressed in the entry and the relevance and connection of the empirical analysis/case(s).

Empirical entries should not exceed 2,500 words (not including the heading, extended abstract, references, and suggested additional material).

Entries' structure

All entries should follow a similar structure without being overly rigid, starting with the title and affiliation of the author(s). The entire entry should be structured with coherent subheadings, ending with the corresponding references. The use of tabular material, figures and other visual materials, such as videos and images, is encouraged.

Entries should be organized as follows:

- Title (Concrete and concise. The concept in the case of conceptually/theoretically oriented entries, and the concept and a few words about the empirical approach for empirically oriented entries).
- Affiliation: Name(s) and e-mail address of author(s) (and co-author(s), institution(s), city and country).
- Heading (50-100 words): Text that indicates the central content or argument of the entry. It should serve as a kind of "teaser", that is, a brief text intended to arouse the interest of the readers.
- Extended abstract (300-500 words), including the definition of the concept (when possible), an overview of the argument (and, if necessary, an empirical analysis). Extended abstracts should contain all relevant aspects covered in the entry and be written in a way that is understandable to audiences outside the academic community.
- Key words (5-6)
- Introduction (optional)
- Main text with headings and subheadings
- Conclusion (optional)
- References
- Cross references
- Further reading (optional)

3.4. Characteristics of the proposals

- Each person/group may only participate with one proposal in this call for proposals.
- Proposals of individual or collective authorship that are related to the topics and focus of the Encyclopedia will be accepted.
- Each proposal must contain: 1) Personal, academic and professional data (as the case may be) of the persons/groups/collectives participating in the proposal. 2) Title of the project (concept or theme to be worked on in the entry). 3) Summary (max. 500 words). 4) Justification of the proposed concept/topic in light of the Encyclopedias approach (200 words). 5) Writing format and, if necessary, graphic or multimedia material to be included. 6) Bibliography.
- Proposals written in Spanish, English, French and Portuguese will be accepted.

3.5. Criteria for the selection of proposals

- In a first stage the proposals submitted will be reviewed in their formal aspects in order to verify their compliance with the rules of the Call for Proposals. Proposals that do not comply with the established requirements will be rejected.
- Proposals that reach the next stage will be evaluated by a committee made up of the institutions involved, which will assess the quality and relevance of the proposals submitted and whose decision will be final.
- The evaluation and selection of those selected for this call will take into account gender equity and diversity of regional and thematic representation.
- Likewise, we emphasize that priority will be given to proposals based on co-production formats between academics and activists, as well as those coming from social movements and collectives.

The Call for Proposals may be declared void or a smaller number of beneficiaries may be selected, in the event that the proposals submitted do not meet the quantity or quality requirements. Situations not foreseen in the present document will be resolved by the convening institutions.

3.6. Registration Procedure

The application must be made through the online form. Printed submissions or submissions sent by e-mail will not be accepted. Applications that do not comply with the established guidelines will be technically rejected.

- Go to the registration form at <https://rewritingpeaceandconflict.net/call-for-contributions/>
- Complete the registration form. It is necessary to fill in the required data and attach the required files (in PDF format).

4. Timetable

Call opening: 01.07.2024

Closing date for applications: 15.08.2024

Announcement of selected contributions: 30.08.2024

Delivery of initial drafts of entries: 31.10.2024

Peer review and comment process: November 2024

Submission of final versions: January 2025

Publication of contributions: January-February 2025