

Conflict Resolution and Peace Research Programme

International Peace Research Initiative (IPRI)

NIAS Online Certificate Course 2021

Contemporary Peace Processes, Thinkers and Theories

Special Focus on South Asia

About the programme

The Conflict Resolution and Peace Research Programme (CRPR), within the School of Conflict and Security Studies, has two research pillars on conflict resolution and peace processes. The International Peace Research Initiative (IPRI) attempts to pursue peace research as an independent discipline outside the lens of conflict and security studies. It undertakes research on varied issues affecting a peace process every year. In 2020, it led discussions on radicalisation, global protest movements and gender and peacebuilding marking the 20 years of the UNSC Resolution 1325. IPRI also undertook a larger study to analyse the response of the federal states to the COVID-19 pandemic in India.

The primary activities of IPRI, apart from research, include publications, capacity-building, outreach and 'peace networks.' IPRI excels at maintaining a Young Scholar's Network of peace activists and researchers from South Asia. It has an annual Peace Lecture series wherein eminent scholars like Professor Rajmohan Gandhi, Professor Amitabh Mattoo, Dr Klaus Schüler and Dr François Héran delivered talks. IPRI also conducts

workshops, most notable amongst which in 2020 has been the discussion on 'One Year of Easter Attacks in Sri Lanka.'

Objectives

The NIAS Online Certificate Course on Contemporary Peace Processes, Thinkers and Theories aims to provide an in-depth understanding on the discourses of peace research. Hailing from a conflict-torn region, the academic tradition has primarily been such that the concept of peace are studied as corollary to conflict. This course brings peace as a prime focus and strives to give its students a scope to talk more about peacebuilding, peace processes and the need to study the 'last mile' problem. Adopting a comparative analytical method to study global peace processes and its propagates, the course will thereby ponder on 'peace as an extension of politics in other means.'

Faculty

The course will be instructed by Dr D Suba Chandran, Dean & Head, Conflict Resolution and Peace Research Programme.



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The course will also have invited lecturers from different universities across the world apart from a focused faculty from South Asia. The faculties will not only delve on theories and issues in peace research but their short and long-term ethnographic experiences on different peace processes and conflict zones across the world will be an incentive in the coursework.

Medium of Teaching

The course will primarily follow a lecture mode of instruction. The lecture will also ensure group discussion, interactions and critical thinking sessions. The second mode of teaching will be workshops wherein frequent presentations by the course candidates will be evaluated by expert discussants.

Coursework

The coursework will include frequent writing and publishing scopes at the institutes' research portal, the Conflict Reader

(<http://conflictreader.org/index.php>).

- Short notes: Regular writing of 600 words short notes in the research series called the Conflict Weekly.
- Commentaries: Contributing research analyses in 1000 words of one of the topic of interest.
- Briefs: Candidates will have to write either a policy brief or an issue brief within 2500 words on a larger conflict issue.

Outcomes

The course will focus on sharpening the writing skills apart from building the academic knowledge on peace research. The research by IPRI is regularly published as Briefs, Comments and the Conflict Weekly that involve rigorous analyses of peace and conflict processes across the world. Opportunities to

publish brief, monograph or essays are outcomes of the course. Select candidates will also be offered internship scoped at the institute.

Assessment

Regular writings (commentaries, briefs and presentations), paper/commentary presentations in classroom and submission of one issue brief in 2500 or one essay in 5000 words at the end of the course.

Level of course

MA/M Phil/ PhD

Duration

January to December 2021

Weekly one class: Saturday

Course Syllabus

Theories/Perspectives/Thinkers

- i. Defining Peace
- ii. Theories of Peace
- iii. Peace Thinkers: Kenneth Boulding, John Burton, Herbert C. Kelman, Johan Galtung, John Paul Lederach, Mahatma Gandhi, Confucius, Mahbub ul Haq and Amartya Sen

Peace in Practice: Case Studies

- i. Peace building in South Asia: Afghanistan, Pakistan, Northeast and J&K in India, Sri Lanka and Nepal, India-Pakistan
- ii. Contemporary peace processes across the world: Israel-Palestine, Ireland, Colombia, Sudan, Myanmar, Nagorno-Karabakh

Issues/Perspectives on Peace

- i. Philosophical
- ii. Sociological
- iii. Political
- iv. Environment
- v. Gender

Registration

To register for the course please email us your application by 15 January 2021 to subachandran@nias.res.in

Application procedure

Your application mail should contain the following documents in this order:

1. Statement of Purpose (in 1 page)
2. Resume (not more than 4 pages)
3. Two Letter of Recommendations (One should be from your Head of the Department)
4. A recent writing sample

Please send us your application as one PDF file and we will revert after the deadline by 20 January 2021.

Course coordination Team**Course Instructor and Supervisor**

D Suba Chandran, Professor and Dean,
School of Conflict and Security Studies,
NIAS

Course Coordinators

Aparupa Bhattacharjee, PhD Scholar,
School of Conflict and Security Studies,
NIAS

Sourina Bej, Project Associate, School of
Conflict and Security Studies, NIAS

Select Publications

Apoorva Sudhakar, "[Ballots and Bloodshed: Trends of electoral violence in Africa](#)," IPRI # 6, 15 December 2020

D Suba Chandran, "[J&K: Flag, Constitution, Media Freedom and Local Elections](#)" IPRI # 111, 23 October 2020

Akriti Sharma, "[The new demands within the State over the Official Language Act](#)," IPRI # 114, 25 October 2020





Chrishari de Alwis Gunasekare, "[Sri Lanka Elections 2020 - A Curtain Raiser: Issues, Actors, and Challenges](#)," IPRI # 88, 5 August 2020

Abigail Miriam Fernandez, "[An olive branch to the PTM in Pakistan: Will the PTI heed to the Pashtun rights movement](#)," IPRI # 74, 28 June 2020

Aparupa Bhattacharjee, "[Will prosecuting Suu Kyi resolve the Rohingya problem?](#)" IPRI # 26, 12 October 2019

Sourina Bej, "[The Naga Peace talks: Caught in its own rhetoric, NSCN\(IM\) will lose its stakes](#)," IPRI # 113, 25 October 2020

Lima Halima-Ahmad, "[The US and Taliban are partners now: What about the Afghan women?](#)" IPRI # 4, 26 April 2020

 <p>Conflict Weekly</p>	 <p>Conflict Weekly</p>
<p>December 2020</p>	<p>December 2020</p>
<p>Boko Haram abductions in Nigeria, Violence in Afghanistan and Farmers' protest in India</p> <p>READ MORE</p>	<p>Farmers protest in India, Radicals target idols in Bangladesh, UK reaches out to the EU and Saudi Arabia to mend ties with Qatar</p> <p>READ MORE</p>
 <p>Conflict Weekly</p>	 <p>Conflict Weekly</p>
<p>November 2020</p>	<p>November 2020</p>
<p>The US troops withdrawal, Violent protests in Thailand, Refugee crisis in Ethiopia, Anti-France protests in Pakistan and the Indo-Pak tensions along the LoC</p> <p>READ MORE</p>	<p>A peace agreement in Nagorno-Karabakh and a brewing civil war in Ethiopia</p> <p>READ MORE</p>



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