



*A joint initiative of the
Folke Bernadotte Academy (FBA), the International Peace Institute (IPI),
the SecDev Foundation, and the Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF)*

Twenty-First Century Peacebuilding International Expert Forum 2014-2015

Seminar II Peacebuilding in Cities: Building Safe, Inclusive, and Resilient Urban Spaces

With the special partnership of the
International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

**April 17 2015, Cape Town (South Africa)
9:15 – 15:30**

The International Expert Forum (IEF) is a global gathering of leading academics, experts, and policy makers focused on the next generation of peace and security challenges. How can peace be resilient to new threats? What should twenty-first century peacebuilding look like? The first seminar, held in New York at the International Peace Institute (IPI) on November 13, 2014, explored the ways in which organized crime, conflict, and violent extremism interact and the implications of these complex links for peacebuilding. The second seminar, to be held in Cape Town on April 17, 2015, will explore the features and dynamics of fragile cities and evidence-based strategies to prevent violence and build peace in urban spaces. The IEF will be partnering with the IDRC for the second seminar in South Africa with a view of bringing findings back to New York for the final IEF in 2016.

Concept Note

After a century of steady city expansion in the global North, the direction of future population growth is shifting southwards and eastwards. For the next five decades Africans, Arabs and Asians will migrate in unprecedented numbers to cities, especially their slums. Many of these urban centers are insecure, disorganized, and violent. These are fragile cities and they can pose a threat to their inhabitants, their countries, and the wider neighborhood.

The focus on fragile cities offers a novel scale when compared to fragile and failing states. It is also one that is preoccupying national policy makers, military strategists and development experts. There are many factors shaping urban violence and just as many solutions emerging to reverse these trends. Scholars, practitioners and policy makers are often working together to identify key challenges, but also develop data-driven strategies to prevent and reduce insecurity.

Many of these city-based innovations have potentially important implications for broader peace and security debates in the United Nations and other multilateral institutions. UN member states are struggling with so-called unconventional conflicts, violent extremism, and organized crime which is often concentrated in the city. The UN High Level Panel on the future of Peacekeeping, for example, is actively soliciting inputs on how to prevent and reduce violence in cities. Many of the insights on how to do this reside not in the North, but in the global South.

To this end, the International Expert Forum (IEF) is joining with the IDRC to explore ways of building safe, inclusive and resilient urban spaces in fragile cities. Violence reduction, conflict prevention, resilience and peacebuilding in urban contexts will be the focus of this seminar. Held in Cape Town, this second IEF seminar will bring together leading researchers and practitioners in the areas of urban planning, crime prevention, security, development, and peacebuilding in fragile cities. Included among the participants will be lead researchers from the “Safe and Inclusive Cities” program, a flagship initiative of the IDRC.

Tweeting about the event?

We want to encourage you to use twitter during the event. Please note that the seminar, with the exception of the keynote speech and session 1, will be held under the Chatham House Rule of non-attribution.

#IEForum

@FBAFolke

@ipinst

@IDRC_CRDI

Agenda

9:15-9:30 Welcome and Introductory Remarks

Mimmi Söderberg Kovacs, *Senior Researcher, Folke Bernadotte Academy*

Francesco Mancini, *Non-resident Senior Adviser, International Peace Institute*

Jennifer Salahub, *Senior Program Officer, International Development Research Centre*

9:30-10:15 Keynote Address

Gilbert A. Lawrence

10:15-11:30 Session 1: “Ignite” Presentations on Fragile Cities and Urban Violence

“Ignite” is the name for a particular style of presentation that is meant to provide a quick overview of a topic and “ignite” the audience’s attention to a subject. A selected group of researchers and experts working on some of the most dangerous cities in the world will have ten minutes to present on their most recent work at the intersection of cities, safety and resilience. They will provide insights on the challenges at hand and policy ideas for how to scale-up lessons not just in cities, but also across international sectors preoccupied with peace, security and development.

Richard Matzopoulos, *School of Public Health and Family Medicine, University of Cape Town, South Africa*

“Urban upgrading for violence prevention in South Africa: Does it work?”

Roberto Briceño-León, *Laboratorio de Ciencias Sociales, Venezuela*

“City institutions and city violence: The missing factor”

Alice Taylor, *Instituto Promundo, Rio de Janeiro*

“Understanding non-violent male identities for safe and inclusive cities”

Chandre Gould, *Institute for Security Studies, Pretoria*

“Getting it right from the start: why supporting parents is essential to reducing violence”

Moderator: **Francesco Mancini**, *International Peace Institute*

11:30-11:45 Coffee Break

11:45-13:15 Session 2: Approaches to Urban Violence Prevention

Urban crime and violence are challenges around the world, but especially in fast-growing, unequal and youthful cities, as well as in cities in conflict or post-conflict countries with weak institutions. A wide range of strategies to prevent violence is available in such environments – from data-driven predictive analytics, hot-spot policing, hot-person interventions, social cohesion strategies, increased mobility activities, and more. Session 2 focuses on experiences from projects implementing and testing these approaches in cities around the world. What kinds of strategies have demonstrated evidence-based dividends? What does not work? Are there lessons from ostensibly non-conflict affected cities that can resonate more widely?

Daniel Esser, Associate Professor, American University, Washington DC

“Containing violence in Karachi and Kabul”

Apiwat Ratanawaraha, Assistant Professor, Urban Design and Development Center, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok

“The case of Bangkok”

Enzo Nussio, Researcher, Institute of Latin American Studies, Stockholm University

“Bogotá as historical success case and future test case”

Megan Price, Research Fellow, Netherlands Institute of International Relations Clingendael, The Hague

“Municipal responses in the Middle East”

Moderator: Mimmi Söderberg Kovacs, Folke Bernadotte Academy

13:15-13.45 Lunch

13:45-15:15 Session 3: Peacebuilding in Cities: Lessons and Implications

Building on the insights presented in the previous sessions on the knowledge and experience available, this session will discuss the lessons and implications emerging from urban experiences in strategic and programmatic development of peacebuilding initiatives. How can cities be resilient to the new dynamics of violence? How can multilateral and bilateral agencies deal with this new scale of actor – the city? What is the role of local governments in peacebuilding at urban level?

Michael Warren, *independent consultant & Programme Manager, PAX*

John de Boer, *Senior Policy Advisor, UN University Centre for Policy Research (UNU-CPR), Tokyo*

Michael Krause, *CEO, Violence Prevention through Urban Upgrading (VPUU), Cape Town*

Moderator: **Jennifer Salahub**, *International Development Research Centre,*

15:15-15:30 Wrap-up Session and Closing Remarks

Francesco Mancini, *International Peace Institute*

Mimmi Söderberg Kovacs, *Folke Bernadotte Academy*