



2018 Stockholm Forum on Peace and Development¹

Current Working Title

Policies for Prevention, Politics for Peace

Weeks under consideration for the Forum:

Week 17: April 23-27

Week 12: March 19-23

Concept

The sustaining peace resolutions and Agenda 2030 call for profound changes in the practice of prevention to achieve sustainable development. Recent research² suggests that targeted, inclusive and sustained prevention can contribute to lasting peace by reducing the risk of violent conflict and conflict resurgence. In practice, however, this is no simple task. Making interventions ‘targeted’, ‘inclusive’ and ‘sustained’ requires political will, which is often only achievable by building near-impossible coalitions and securing commitments from actors who lack credibility. Even in instances where there is sufficient political will to engage, individual actors at the local, national, regional and international levels can obstruct peacebuilding initiatives in the pursuit of their own interests, either willfully or through negligence. Thus, sustaining peace is both a matter of policy and politics.

In complex environments, peacebuilders must find paths to work through, around and over obstructive actors and institutions. Coalitions and ‘groups of friends’ can sometimes negotiate such paths because of their relative flexibility. However, coalitions that fail to promote future inclusivity (i.e. a way for today’s obstructionists to be brought into the fold) risk generating grievances and aggravating the situation further. Prevention, therefore, requires careful planning and farsighted diplomacy.

The 2018 Stockholm Forum on Peace and Development will confront questions associated with the politics of prevention. Individual sessions will investigate how multi-track diplomacy and mediation, politically informed development and inclusive enough coalitions can forge pathways for peace in the most challenging environments.

Call for Session Proposals

Interested parties are invited to submit session proposals to SthlmForum@sipri.org incorporating each of proposal requirements listed on the following page. The first round of proposals will be evaluated during September by members of SIPRI’s Forum Planning Team. Submitters may be asked to provide additional information regarding their proposal as part of the evaluation process. Submissions will be accepted through **6 October 2017** and the selected proposals will be announced on 20 October 2017. Proposals submitted after the deadline will be considered during a second round of evaluations only if there is still space available.

¹ Questions about the Stockholm Forum on Peace and Development may be answered by the attached addendum “About the Forum”

² See forthcoming United Nations/World Bank report, ‘*Pathways to Peace*’.

Proposal Requirements

Completed proposals include each of the following components. Forum sessions are designed to be interactive discussions that draw on the knowledge and experience of subject matter experts. For the roundtable format accommodates 10-15 discussants. Workshops with facilitated small group work can accommodate up to 40 participants. If you have any questions, please contact Gary Milante or Kate Sullivan at SthlmForum@sipri.org.

- **Title**
- **Background/context** (*500 words*)
- **Primary discussion question**
- **Secondary discussion questions** (*5 - 6 questions*)
- **Session objective** (*1 – 2 sentences*)
- **Desired outputs** (*i.e. a policy paper, a journal article, a film, identification of new partners, projects or tools. Please be as specific as possible.*)
- **Target participation**
 - List the individual experts or institutions that you would like represented in the session as discussants – who should be involved? These do not have to be contacts with whom you are already connected.
 - SIPRI strives for proportionate gender representation, balanced participation from participants from the Global South and Global North and representation from the research, policy and practitioner communities. No organization may have more than three discussants represented in a single session.
- **Target audience**
 - List those individuals and institutions that you aim to influence or engage with the session's outputs. Please be specific. For example, 'policymakers' and 'the general public' would not represent a target audience, but 'finance ministries in the Sahel' or 'donors of women-led peacebuilding CSOs in Myanmar' or 'the Lake Chad Climate Basin Commission' would.
- **Breakdown of activities and the duration** (*in minutes*) **of each**
- **Session lead(s)**
 - Specify individual contact person(s) who will be responsible for delivery of the session. Please see the overview of the responsibilities and benefits of session leadership in the 'About the Forum' section of this document.
- Session leads who are not SIPRI staff or representatives of a Forum partner institution should also include a section identifying resources to ensure sufficient representation from the Global South.
- Other information (case studies, regional focus, relevant policy developments or future relevant events)

Addendum: About the Forum

The Forum has three primary objectives:

1. To respond to knowledge and research demands within the policymaking and practitioner communities;
2. To help fill knowledge gaps through the sharing of expertise and scholarship; and
3. To facilitate dialogue between key peace and development stakeholders, namely researchers, representatives of government and multilateral institutions and members of civil society.

The Forum provides a meeting place for stakeholders engaging with SDG 16 and the Sustaining Peace Resolutions. It explicitly targets a cross-section of policymakers and practitioners from the security, development and humanitarian arenas, as well as donors, civic actors and researchers. It is designed to be both inclusive and participatory. Session formats are designed to promote discussions among experts, rather than speeches or planned interventions. Discussion questions are designed to reach a set of concrete conclusions and prescribe actionable recommendations or next steps. SIPRI places a high value on perspectives from the Global South and from women, youth and marginalized actors. As such, SIPRI aims to increase participation among representatives of fragile and conflict affected states (FCS) each year until it reaches 50 per cent and to ensure that men do not represent more than 50 per cent of total participants. Recognizing the value of local perspectives and the importance of balancing representation between the academic, policy and practitioner communities, SIPRI will also work to increase civil society participation, particularly among local NGOs and research institutions in FCS.³

Responsibilities and Benefits of Session Leadership

Session leads are usually representatives of partner organisations or members of SIPRI's researcher team. However, occasionally, individual experts are able to leverage resources within their networks in order to deliver a session on their own. Session leads primarily contribute to the programme development and invitation processes.

Main responsibilities:

- Develop session proposals according to agreed timeline and procedure. Session proposals identify a title, description (background/context), primary and secondary discussion questions, an objective, desired outputs, target participation, the target audience, a breakdown of activities and their duration, the session lead(s) and, if the latter is not a representative of SIPRI or its Forum partners, resources to ensure sufficient representation from the Global South.
- Work with other Forum partners to identify common themes between sessions and discussants who could contribute to more than one session – this is facilitated by the SIPRI Forum team.

³ This will require a more strategic invitation process that targets a small but influential group of participants from bilateral partners, Swedish Ministries and agencies, and INGOs.

- Send out session invitations and ensure that representation targets are met among session participants (particularly regarding women, experts from the Global South and civil society representatives)
- Identify relevant literature for pre-reading and a moderator to facilitate the discussion
- Consult with confirmed participants to refine the discussion questions and explain session format
- Provide timely feedback on the other sessions' proposals and proposed discussant lists
- Work with the notetaker(s) assigned to the session to ensure that the notes provide an accurate record of key takeaways, conclusions and recommendations from the discussion, based on the session objectives
- Draft session report in accordance with established guidelines and notify SIPRI of any additional session outputs to coordinate publishing, distribution and promotion

Main benefits:

- 10 invitations to use for session discussants⁴
- Access 200+ high-level global experts from donor and partner governments, multilateral institutions, academia and civil society⁵
- Access to other session leads and institutional partners
- Featured recognition in the programme and conference reports
- Platform to promote research findings and projects⁶

Responsibilities and Benefits of Forum Partnership

Partners are those institutions with which SIPRI has agreed to collaborate to deliver the Forum. Partners' play an advisory role and their responsibilities and benefits vary depending on the terms outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Main responsibilities:

- Partners whose session proposals have been selected are responsible for session leadership and must delegate a Session Lead (institutional Point of Contact) for each approved session. The roles, responsibilities and benefits of Session Leads are outlined on the previous page.
- Partners whose session proposals were rejected and those that did not submit session proposals may contribute by advising SIPRI, supporting session development and providing administrative support, as elaborated in the MOU.

⁴ Additional invitations allotted to the session lead's institution must be agreed in writing with SIPRI. No more than three individuals from the same institution may participate as discussants in the same session.

⁵ Meetings and consultations involving Forum participants should not in anyway compete with other sessions. Ideally, the former should be held the day before and/or the day after the Forum. Shorter meetings can be conducted during scheduled breaks and in the evenings.

⁶ Promotion is secondary and should not supersede the larger goal of critical discussion. If a session lead or partner institution is perceived to be 'advertising' their work, SIPRI has the right to intervene.

- Sponsorship of at least three participants from the Global South.⁷ Alternatively, partners may fill the sponsorship requirement through a direct financial contribution of SEK 40 000, or an equivalent in-kind contribution, such as a sponsorship of a welcome reception.
- Co-branding and amplification of Forum communications and outreach initiatives.

Main benefits:

- *All partners* are all allotted six invitations of which three must be used to invite sponsored participants⁸
- Partner institutions whose session proposals have been selected will be allotted an additional 10 invitations per session⁹
- Access 200+ high-level global experts from donor and partner governments, multilateral institutions, academia and civil society¹⁰
- Access to other session leads and institutional partners
- Featured recognition in the programme and conference report
- Platform to promote research findings and projects¹¹

⁷ Sponsorship includes round trip airfare, lodging, meals and transportation.

⁸ Every individual participating in the Forum, including session leads, representatives of partner institutions and session 'helpers' are required to register. Partner institutions may determine the proportion of their allotted invitations are used to bring their own staff versus external experts, but may not exceed the number of invitations agreed in the MOU without written approval from SIPRI.

⁹ These are the same 10 invitations identified in the previous page.

¹⁰ Meetings and consultations involving Forum participants should not in anyway compete with other sessions. Ideally, the former should be held the day before and/or the day after the Forum. Shorter meetings can be conducted during scheduled breaks and in the evenings.

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