



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Unified Paths for Peace: Empowering Collaborative Peacebuilding April 11–12, 2025

The 2025 Notre Dame Student Peace Conference planning committee announces this year's conference, entitled **Unified Paths for Peace: Empowering Collaborative Peacebuilding**. The conference is sponsored by the [Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies](#), a part of the Keough School of Global Affairs.

What makes someone a peacebuilder? Who does the important work of peacebuilding, and who benefits from that work? How might everyone incorporate peacebuilding into their work, regardless of field or discipline? How do various fields of study and practice intersect to construct a more peaceful world, and how can we promote that collaboration?

As we confront the structures of conflict, polarization, and oppression that exist around us, unified collaboration in peacebuilding becomes more imperative. Creating a sustainable and peaceful world requires us to center peacebuilding in everything we do—every discussion, every job, every relationship, and more—such that it becomes a foundational part of our shared existence. The goal of peace, then, becomes the common thread that unifies our work for and with one another.

As peace studies scholars, we strive to build a peacebuilding framework that is inclusive of all disciplines and that empowers those who have not historically seen themselves as peacebuilders to reimagine their contributions to a more just world. We illuminate how peace studies can inform other fields of study and practice through its deeper exploration of the root causes of conflict and pathways for conflict transformation. We explore how business practices, land management, legal systems, or the new reality of AI, for example, will shape our peacebuilding future. We understand that a collaboration of diverse voices and approaches will inspire new and creative paths forward.

This year's conference will explore how collaboration across scholarly disciplines and areas of practice not only broadens and enriches the field of peace studies but also serves to unify

us behind a common goal. By focusing on creative cross-disciplinary approaches, we aim to empower students, institutions, and disciplines to identify collaborative opportunities that together weave a strong and sustainable pathway to a just and peaceful world.

We invite all undergraduate and graduate students from all fields of study and practice to propose presentations that expand current understandings of peacebuilding and highlight examples of collaborative peacebuilding. Strong proposals might engage with, but are not limited to, topics such as:

Cross-Disciplinary Efforts

• History & Peace	• STEM Fields & Peace	• Peace & the Arts
• Business & Peace	• Design & Peace	• Architecture & Peace
• Medicine & Peace	• Religion & Peace	• Psychology & Peace
• Philosophy & Peace	• Legal Studies & Peace	• Agriculture & Peace

Thematic Areas of Focus

• Forms of Resistance	• Sport-Based Approaches	• Democratic Polarization
• Leveraging Technologies	• Intersectionality	• Justice in Economics
• Decoloniality	• Sustainable Development	• Peace in Criminal Justice
• Justice in Health Care	• Environmental Peacebuilding	• Narrative Approaches

We welcome a variety of different session types: **lightning talks, short lectures, poster sessions, panel discussions, roundtable discussions, visual artwork, performances, workshops, and other innovative formats.** We accept proposals based on experiential learning and **practice**, as well as those that feature theory or original **research**.

Proposals should be submitted through the [2025 Proposal Submission Form](#). **The deadline to submit is Friday, January 31, 2025.** Please [visit our website](#) to review the submission guidelines and descriptions of the presentation formats.

The Notre Dame Student Peace Conference is an annual academic conference organized by undergraduate students at the University of Notre Dame as a space to engage in academic and professional dialogue on important issues related to peacebuilding, justice, and conflict transformation. Please direct questions to the conference organizers at peacecon@nd.edu.