

2019 Activity Report



GENEVA
peacebuilding
PLATFORM

The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform is a joint project of five institutions



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A Word of Gratitude

The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform would like to thank all its funders, event partners and network members for their continued support and following its activities.

In particular, the Platform would like to thank its five core partners:

- The Graduate Institute's Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP),
- DCAF – Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance,
- The Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP),
- Interpeace, and
- The Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO).

The Platform would also like to extend a special thanks to the International Organisations Division of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) for its continued invaluable support of the Platform's activities.

In addition, the Platform would also like to thank the City of Geneva, the Republic and Canton of Geneva, The Permanent Mission of Switzerland in Geneva, and the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) for their continuous support and partnership on multiple initiatives.

A particular note of gratitude goes to all 136 event organizers of Geneva Peace Week 2019 for their continued engagement in this collective initiative. Geneva's peacebuilding landscape is diverse and decentralized and only by combining forces can the true breadth of peace-related work that takes place in Geneva be fully appreciated.

Introduction and Highlights

This report summarizes the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform's activities in 2019 and concludes its 2018-2019 Programme. The report is structured along the four work streams of the programme which are:

1. Incubating new ideas and practice for peacebuilding;
2. Networking peacebuilding resources;
3. Convening on peacebuilding issues and contexts; and
4. Knowledge capture and management.

The report also highlights several key items in dedicated boxes, including the 2019 evaluation (Box 1), the main substantive achievements of the 2018-2019 Programme (Box 2), the new publications series "The Pulse of Peacebuilding 2020" (Box 3), the LATAM Breakfast Series (Box 4), and the piloting of a new management design (Box 5). Overall, the report highlights the following points.

Strategic developments

- **Evaluation:** An external evaluation recognised that the Platform has "succeeded to put Geneva on the peacebuilding map" and "strengthened International Geneva in the domain of peace and security". It also highlighted the Platform as "a cost-effective mechanism to convene and nurture networking, and incubate and test ideas to advance knowledge and understanding around peacebuilding issues and contexts" (see Box 1).
- **Scoping Study:** A scoping study built a common vision to progressively consolidate and grow Geneva Peace Week in the coming years. Not only did the study strengthen the strategic framework of Geneva Peace Week, it also provided an important contribution for the development of the Platform's 2020-2021 Programme.

Activities

- **GPW19:** Geneva Peace Week is the flagship event of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform and since its inception in 2014 it has become a truly inclusive multi-stakeholder forum for open discussions across sectors and institutions. GPW19 consisted of 80 events with 136 event organizers attracting an estimated 1,400 participants over 5 days. Participants came from over 50 countries representing NGOs, academia, international organizations and governments (see Section 1).
- **Pulse of Peacebuilding:** The Platform launched the new publication series *The Pulse of Peacebuilding* that identifies key emerging themes for peacebuilding. It draws on and reinforces the unique identity of Geneva Peace Week as an inclusive space to advance reflections and good practices on peacebuilding (see Box 3).
- **Thematic Work:** The Platform advanced thematic work with relevant partners on 'Urban Peace', 'New Frontier for Business and Conflicts Risk Mitigation', and on 'Trade for Peace' (see Box 2 and Section 2)
- **LATAM Breakfasts:** This new networking initiative focused on peace and security topics in the Latin America Region. The breakfasts proved to be a flexible, ad-hoc convening

mechanism for exchange across sectors and institutions that could be activated at short notice, including for senior experts visiting from LATAM (see Box 4).

- **Events:** The Platform convened a total of 21 events. An event highlight was the opening of Geneva Peace Week 2019 that attracted 540 participants. This event was accompanied by a communications campaign to boost attendance, especially by participants under the age of 30.

Outlook

- **2020-2021 Programme:** The evaluation and scoping study provided the foundation for a new programme for 2020-2021. Key innovations included the integration of Geneva Peace Week as a flagship initiative of the Platform, an expanded resource base for activities, and an adjusted management design (see Box 5).

Box 1: The Evaluation of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform

The 2019 evaluation of Platform activities marked a moment to take stock and look forward. The evaluation had the objectives to assess the Platform's overall achievements since the last evaluation in 2014, the implementation of the 2015-2017 & 2018-2019 Programmes, and the opportunities for the future development of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform. The evaluation was conducted in spring 2019 including the review of relevant documents, and interviews with key stakeholders, including during a Mission to Geneva. It highlighted the following aspects:

- The Platform has “succeeded to put Geneva on the peacebuilding map” and “strengthened International Geneva in the domain of peace and security”.
- The Platform is “a cost-effective mechanism to convene and nurture networking, and incubate and test ideas to advance knowledge and understanding around peacebuilding issues and contexts”.
- The Platform's collective impact model has been “a successful approach to leverage administrative resources and thought leadership, and mobilize external resources through collaboration and partnerships to organize larger events” such as Geneva Peace Week and the Peace Talks Initiative.
- “Convening peacebuilding actors and professionals, organizing discussions about peacebuilding, learning from each other across institutions and sectors is as relevant today as it was when the Platform was founded in 2008”.
- The Platform has “an important role in ... de-bunking myths around peacebuilding”.

The evaluation also highlights key issues that Platform partners should address. These include items related to the GPP's governance, the role of the Swiss FDFA, accountability, and the New York-Geneva link.

Overall, the evaluation provided an important contribution to the discussions on and subsequent development of the 2020-2021 Programme.

Box 2: The Platform as ‘knowledge hub’: Achievements of the 2018-2019 Programme

This box highlights three of the Platform’s achievements in its function of knowledge hub.

Feasibility Study on a Geneva Cities Initiative: With the support of the Swiss Confederation and the City of Geneva, the Platform commissioned a feasibility study in 2018 to provide recommendations about practical options to advance deeper partnership on city-level expertise, networks and activities between different Geneva-based institutions.

The study highlighted three avenues for action:

- 1) An interface for city delegations in Geneva: In order to respond to the increasing number of city delegations visiting Geneva, there is a need for increased capacities to manage the official dimension for visiting city representatives.
- 2) A platform on urban diplomacy: City-level networking and expertise is currently dispersed across a wide range of actors and sectors in International Geneva. A platform on urban diplomacy could aggregate this collective potential following the rationale of many other platforms in International Geneva.
- 3) Network development in the humanitarian and prevention/peacebuilding sphere: The development of city-level expertise, networks and activities can focus on the humanitarian and prevention/peacebuilding sphere; these constitute two niche areas in which Geneva has a comparative advantage.

The Feasibility Study has contributed to the evolving discussion on the establishment of a “Geneva Cities Hub”.

Urban Safety and Peacebuilding: The Platform distilled key findings from the Technical Working Group on Urban Safety and Peacebuilding. These include:

- A lot of what is called ‘peacebuilding’ already happens in cities, it is just not called by that name. The important work of violence interruption, community-based programmes, or truce facilitation all happens without being called ‘peacebuilding’.
- The findings emphasize the importance of thinking in spatial terms – such as by creating ‘spaces of encounter’ or ‘spaces of exception’ – and the centrality of participatory processes that involve all urban safety and security actors in deliberation. What is more, policy-makers need to take the political economy realities of why people engage in some form of violence or extortion more seriously.
- Policy-makers should wake up and face the realities of cities. Being stuck at the national level, many do not ask how the implementation of global agendas is supposed to work in the city. Global policy receives a reality check at the city gate as the built environment tends to separate people and create spaces of exclusion rather than spaces of inclusion.

- Spatial realities in cities and the ambitions of the SDGs are worlds apart. In order to advance the SDGs, policy-makers should recognize the work that already happens at the city level – even if it does not fit existing labels of international support – and assess how best to accompany such efforts.

Trade for Peace: In collaboration with the WTO's Accession Division, the Platform has led on an informal exchange between trade and peacebuilding experts in 2019. The exchange suggests:

- There are at least three areas of common ground between the trade and peacebuilding field. These include (1) a shared focus on rule-based systems to enhance predictability of dispute resolution and to control power-driven relationships and conflict resolution; (2) a shared understanding that relationships and connectedness enhances peacefulness or, in other words, that market integration and interdependence prevent conflict; and (3) the use of consensus seeking processes that manage disagreements or conflict through dialogue and negotiation.
- Trade measures can have value as confidence-building tools such as the ASYCUDA customs management system for countries having a border dispute.
- Joint Chambers of Commerce across divided communities can promote mutual understanding between conflict parties, and the importance of bridging a different vocabulary across trade and peace experts that build on distinct concepts.

The activities on Trade for Peace also enabled exchange between the WTO and the ILO under the heading 'Trade, Jobs, and Peace' during GPW19.

(1) Incubating New Ideas and Practice for Peacebuilding

The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform has provided a space for the incubation of new ideas and practice for peacebuilding since its founding in 2008. The 2018-2019 Programme focused on the development of Geneva Peace Week and Peace Talks Initiative to achieve this incubation mandate, and to take it to another level. By the end of 2019, this has been achieved especially through the implementation of the Scoping Study on Geneva Peace Week and strengthening the partnership behind the Peace Talks Initiative.

1.1. Geneva Peace Week

Geneva Peace Week 2019 was yet again a tremendous collective achievement of Geneva's ecosystem of actors and their international partners working on peace and security issues worldwide. GPW19 – the 6th edition of this initiative – confirms that it has become an important moment in the global peacebuilding calendar and a truly inclusive multi-stakeholder forum for open discussions across sectors and institutions.



Geneva Peace Week 2019 Opening Ceremony with Panellists left to right: Mohamed Mohamedou, Ela Gandhi, Achim Wennmann, Martin Doe Rodriguez, and Elhadj As Sy

The key achievements in numbers are:

- GPW19 consisted of 80 events with 136 event organizers attracting an estimated 1,400 participants over 5 days. Participants came from over 50 countries representing NGOs, academia, international organizations and governments. A more rigorous application process resulted in a higher quality of panels and networking events.
- GPW19 involved 310 speakers from more than 80 cities across the world, including Asia, Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, North Africa, North America, and sub-Saharan Africa.
- Feedback from GPW19 participants was extremely positive, with 86% of survey respondents rating their overall experience as 'excellent' (41.3%) or 'good' (44.57%). Event organizers were also very positive in their feedback, rating their overall experience as 'excellent' (46%) or 'good' (46%).
- Social media outreach and communications were particularly active during and leading up to GPW19. Data from the Twitter analysis showed that #GPW19 was a trending topic in Switzerland from around 29 October until 9 November 2019.
- GPW19 provided further evidence for the cost effectiveness of the collective resource mobilization model behind Geneva Peace Week. The total organizing cost of GPW19 was estimated at CHF 800,000. Event and activity partners mobilized a total of around CHF 600,000 as value-in-kind contributions to GPW19, including an estimated CHF 340,000 for travel and CHF 260,000 for event coordination and venues. The Platform provided the human resources for the overall coordination of GPW19 estimated at CHF 200,000.



Photo from a session at GPW19, taken by Andrea Aeby

Box 3: The Pulse of Peacebuilding 2020

The Pulse of Peacebuilding is a new publication series of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform that identifies key emerging themes for peacebuilding. It reinforces the unique identity of Geneva Peace Week as an inclusive space to advance reflections and good practices on peacebuilding across a broad geographical horizon and a diversity of sectors and disciplines.

The Pulse of Peacebuilding 2020 highlights key messages:

- Focus peacebuilding practice on Europe and North America: There is a need to shift international attention from peacebuilding ‘over there’ – in conflict-affected countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America – to the European continent and North America, where social and political tensions are high and rising, and where the everyday violence around hate speech and xenophobia, ‘fake news’ and distrust, blame and fear are being normalized in political discourse and media.
- Engage differently with the private sector: A key task for peacebuilders in 2020 should be to craft new ways of engagement to better harness the pro-peace potential of business.
- Adapt peacebuilding support to local realities: Peacebuilding initiatives that are locally led and grounded in deep knowledge of the conflict dynamics and contextual history offer the prospect of greater and more lasting impact.
- Make ‘Do No Harm’ matter again: The contradictions and interests of a global political and economic system that at once derives profits from the fuelling of conflict while at the same time espousing narratives about peace, human rights and justice, should be transparently debated among citizens so that governments can be held to account for their policies and practices.
- Build the evidence base of peacebuilding programmes: The evidence base on peacebuilding practice requires greater systematization in order to adapt policies and practices. Evidence is needed not only on programmes that work, but also those that do not.
- Go back to basics: Build peace from the inside-out: The values that lie at the foundations of peace work – including respect, non-violence, empathy, care and trust – need to be cultivated and reinforced by all individuals engaged in peacebuilding.

Disclaimer: The Pulse of Peacebuilding publication series does not necessarily reflect the position of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform and its Partner organizations.

In 2019, the Platform focused especially on the improvement of the networking experience for participants, speakers and organizers alike. The introduction of the Whova event application facilitated a more interactive experience for event participants and expanded the possibilities for networking during the week, and beyond. The Platform also piloted a dedicated social media and outreach strategy that targeted in particular younger participants in key events. This strategy was essential in mobilizing over 500 participants attending the Opening Ceremony of GPW19, including at least one third of younger participants.

The achievements of GPW19 build on the shared view of the partnership behind the Geneva Peace Week to progressively consolidate and grow this initiative. Since 2014, this partnership

involves the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG), the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID), the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform and its five partner institutions with the support of the Swiss Confederation. After a five-year inception phase, the partnership commissioned a scoping study to inform the decision-making about the development of Geneva Peace Week and to identify practical solutions to advance Geneva Peace Week in the years ahead. The study made six key recommendations which included more curation of event tracks, fewer numbers of events in the week, a single venue for events, connecting other ongoing programmes and initiatives to the week, positioning Geneva Peace Week as a collective space to advance peacebuilding, and lastly, to provide more space in the programme and venue for networking activities.

The Platform piloted the implementation of a limited set of the above mentioned recommendations. These efforts include the curation of the GPW19 programme around specific themes; expanding networking opportunities; the improvement of the quality of events through a more rigorous application process; limiting venues to the Maison de la Paix and the Palais des Nations; and strengthening a new management cycle.



Photo from GPW19 Facilitated Networking Session, taken by Danson Gichini

Table 1: Key themes emerging from GPW19 events

<i>Themes emerging from GPW19 event applications</i>	<i>No. of events</i>
Peace, security, peace operations and the SDGs	13
Religion, truth, trust, forgiveness and non-violent action	12
Peacebuilding in Europe	11
Humanitarian, human rights and peacebuilding nexus	10
Youth and children's engagement in peace	7
Gender	7
Business and peace	6
Cyber and technology	4
Climate change and natural resources	3
Local-level peacebuilding	3



Geneva Peace Week 2019 Opening Ceremony

1.2 Peace Talks Initiative

Geneva Peace Talks, Thursday 19 September 2019 (Palais des Nations)

The 2019 Geneva Peace Talks was organized under the theme “Trust Matters!” The meaning of trust in today’s globalized world may vary across sectors, however, the essence of trust as a pillar for peace remains. Speakers included:

- Mo Ibrahim, African entrepreneur and founder of Mo Ibrahim Foundation supporting good governance and great leadership in Africa;
- César Diaz, winner of the 2019 Cannes Camera d’Or;
- Antje Herrberg, a leading peace mediator;
- Bernardo Arévalo de León, a Guatemalan global peacebuilder;
- Coronel Lurangeli Franco, a Colombian police woman;
- Dina Alami, a young person working to build bridges between youth and politicians in Sweden; and
- Zainab Nankya and Salama Ibrahim, two young women involved in building bridges between religious communities in Nigeria and Uganda.

The Peace Talks also talked "Peace" via art. The event featured live painting by Abbas Boukhobza and musical performance by Pososhok. The Geneva Peace Talks are a public event co-organized by the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG), Interpeace and the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform to celebrate the International Day of Peace, which was on 21 September 2019.

The 2019 Geneva Peace Talks can be viewed in full at <https://www.peacetalks.net/pt-events/geneva-peace-talks-2019/>.

“Trust that you build as a mediator is not about the agreement in itself, but it is the process that you craft to rebuild trust, and that goes beyond the words that are spelled out in the peace agreement.”

Antje Herrberg,
Leading Peace Mediator



Geneva Peace Talks 2019 - Image courtesy of Interpeace

Other 'Peace Talks' in 2019 (led by Interpeace)

- Oxford Peace Talks (16 May 2019): "Africa Leading for Peace", held in honour of Kofi Annan, the 7th Secretary-General of the United Nations and founder of the Kofi Annan Foundation.
- Abidjan Peace Talks (11 October 2019): The Abidjan Peace Talks recognized youth as key players who can bring positive change and stability to societies in Côte d'Ivoire.
- New York Peace Talks (11 December 2019, co-organized by Interpeace and Salesforce.org).

All talks are available at <https://www.peacetalks.net>.

(2) Networking Peacebuilding Resources

Facilitating the interaction on peacebuilding between different institutions and sectors is at the heart of what the Platform does. In 2019 the Platform convened the Annual Retreat, advanced technical working groups on various issues, and developed its network management approach.

2.1. Annual Retreat 2019

The Annual Retreat brings together the Platform's Advisory Board, its Steering and Management Committees and guests to discuss the evolution of Platform activities and to brainstorm about new ideas and opportunities to advance peacebuilding. It was initiated in 2018 as an annual gathering to reflect on the substantive programming of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform.

In 2019, the retreat brought together a total of 37 participants with the aim to discuss the evolution of the Platform's activities. The retreat focused on (a) the evolution of Geneva Peace Week; (b) brainstorming activities on the three themes of human rights and peacebuilding, SDG 16+ from narrative to action, and business and conflict risk mitigation; and (c) opportunities for peacebuilding.

The Annual Retreat took place on 7 March 2019 at the Château Prangins in Nyon. A report about the main outcomes of the meeting was circulated to participants in April 2019.

2.2 Technical Working Groups

Technical Working Groups are an instrument to network and advance new knowledge and thinking on peacebuilding. At the outset of the 2018-2019 Programme, the TWG format was considered to be an effective means to manage exchanges across sectors and institutions, and between smaller expert groups with the result of deeper network relationships. But over time, it became clear that a more flexible format was necessary to achieve these objectives. The TWGs have therefore been adapted to evolve into the curated thematic tracks that were proposed by the Scoping Study on Geneva Peace Week.

Box 2 summarizes key achievements under the Platform 'knowledge hub functions' that fall under this stream of activity. Additional achievements in 2019 include the following three activities.

Capstone Research Project new approaches to responding to business and conflict: The Platform was awarded a Capstone Research Project *Towards a new transnational initiative on business and conflict* with the Graduate Institute that allowed four dedicated Graduate Students to provide research support. The aim of the project was to provide an intellectual foundation towards a new transnational initiative on business and conflict mitigation and prevention. The report showed that business-related conflict within the triangle of complex environments, resource-rich areas and large-scale investments is not diminishing despite the increase of awareness and the multiplication of instruments aimed at the prevention and mitigation of business-related conflict. The report developed a spectrum of options for an initiative ranging in

ambition from revolutionary (structural change) to reform-oriented (adaptation of existing structures) and including a focus on local to global level activities.

Expert meeting “New Frontier for Business and Conflicts Risk Mitigation”: The Platform convened an expert group for a three day brainstorm on the margins of the 1st International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding (Los Angeles, 23-25 October 2019). The group included Antonio Bernales (Futuro Sostenible, Peru), Rafael Benke (Proactiva Results, Brazil), and Mara Hernandez (CIDE, Mexico), Mara Tignino (Geneva Water Hub, Switzerland), and Achim Wennmann (Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, Switzerland). Key findings of the discussions were:

- A focus on “Corporate-community relations”, “social license to operate”, “risk management” or “crises management” will be ill suited to prepare business, governments and communities to confront new strategic landscapes. These include the prospect of prolonged political turbulence induced by population movements, the effects of climate change, public health emergencies, limitations of development models, and new global power constellations.
- There is prospect to explore a line of action research about how to shift mind-sets on business and conflict from “risk management” to building “safe operating environments”. This is especially important for both private and public sectors that remain trapped in crises management modes of actors with respect to conflict situations.
- An area for convergence is more consensual governance models in public and private projects, including through a public-private-people partnership (4P) model that brings public and private actors and citizens together in the planning and execution of large-scale projects.

See also Box 1 for additional achievements under the Platform ‘knowledge hub functions’.

Urban Peace: The Platform Platform’s Executive Coordinator shared key findings from the Technical Working Group on Urban Safety and Peacebuilding to explore avenues for further collaboration on this topic. In GPW19, the Platform started a conversation with the Global Initiative against Transnational Organised Crime, the Peace in our Cities Campaign, and the German Technical Cooperation Agency (GIZ) to explore partnership on a new consortium on Urban Peace.

Post-conflict reconstruction in the MENA region: The Platform’s Executive Coordinator also prepared a conference on Reform or Restoration? Post-conflict Reconstruction, Private Investment and International Assistance in the MENA Region. This conference is co-convened by the Middle East Directions Programme and the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies of the European University Institute (EUI), the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP) of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, and the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform. The Platform focused on the policy research exchange segment. Originally, the conference was supposed to take place in the autumn of 2019 but was postponed to take place on 16-18 March 2020. The conference was then cancelled due to COVID19 and transformed into a book project.

2.3. Network Management

The Platform began streamlining the administration of its network along several categories. In 2019 the Platform continued and expanded these networks:

- **Global contact database for communication campaigns:** In response to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), implemented in May 2018, the Platform had to undergo a series of campaigns to get contacts to re-subscribe to our “MailChimp” mailing list. This resulted in a narrowing down of the Platform’s network from around 4,000 to 1,062 subscribers in the Platform’s Mailchimp at the end of 2019. In accordance with the GDPR, all remaining contacts that did not re-opt in were deleted.
- **Speaker network:** The Platform has continued to update the database of all speakers that have ever spoken at Platform events. This database now includes over 800 individuals. The Platform also has a list of 162 individuals that have delivered a ‘Peace Talk’.
- **Geneva Peace Week network:** The Platform maintains a network of 156 institutional contact points for Geneva Peace Week. These include primarily event organizers from GPW18 and GPW19. The Platform also maintains a separate GPW speakers list, including 353 speakers of 2018 and 310 speakers in GPW19.
- **Expert networks:** Building on the experts taking parts in the various TWG exchanges, the Platform has initiated a process to constitute sub-groups, including on urban diplomacy & violence reduction (130), and on business and conflict risk mitigation (60).

(3) Convening on Peacebuilding Issues and Contexts

A key mandate of the Platform is to ensure the continuous exchange of information through seminars, consultations, and conferences, and to facilitate outcome-oriented dialogues on peacebuilding practice. The convening of events is one of the vehicles for the Platform to bring together its diverse range of peacebuilding stakeholders in Geneva and to ensure dynamic network interactions.

In 2019, the Platform co-convened a total of 20 events with numerous partners (see overview below). Events included a wide variety of formats from informal meetings, panels, public events and retreats.

An event highlight was the opening of Geneva Peace Week 2019 that attracted 540 participants. This event was accompanied by a social media and communications campaign to boost attendance level especially by participants under the age of 30.

Another highlight was the successful piloting of the LATAM Breakfast Series that is described in Box 4.

The events listed below have been led by Platform Staff in collaboration with partners.

Table 2: Overview of Events

Convening on Peacebuilding Issues						
	Date	Event Name	Thematic	Partner/s Attendance	Attendance	Location
1	12.02.2019	Trade for Peace	Exchange between trade and peacebuilding experts on the Trade for Peace Initiative	WTO's Accessions Division in collaboration with the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue	20	Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, Geneva
2	06.03.2019	Closed meeting with UNDP ASG Asako Okai	Peacebuilding in international Geneva	UNDP Geneva	20	Maison de la Paix
3	07.03.2019	Annual Retreat	Geneva Peacebuilding Platform & GPW	GPP	37	Château de Prangins
4	05.06.2019	Rising autocratization	What directions for Geneva's peace agenda?	GPP, Varieties of Democracies (V-DEM)	18	Maison de la Paix, S6
5	25.10.2019	Scoping the New Frontier for Business and Conflicts Risk Mitigation	1st International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding, Los Angeles	GPP	10	ICEP venue, Los Angeles
Convening on Peacebuilding Contexts						
6	31.01.2019	LATAM Breakfast Series	Peace & security update on Nicaragua	DCAF's Latin America and the Caribbean Unit (LAC Unit), and the Geneva Think Tank Hub (TTH).	10	Maison de la Paix, S5
7	06.03.2019	LATAM Breakfast Series	Peace & security update on Brazil	DCAF's LAC Unit and TTH.	18	Maison de la Paix, S5
8	27.03.2019	LATAM Breakfast Series	Peace & security update on Venezuela	DCAF's LAC Unit and TTH & IHEID	12	Maison de la Paix, S4
9	23.05.2019	LATAM Breakfast Series	Illicit Markets and Governance in Brazil	DCAF's LAC Unit, TTH, and GITOC	10	Maison de la Paix, S5
10	20.08.2019	LATAM Breakfast Series	Peace & security update on Colombia	DCAF's LAC Unit and TTH.	15	Maison de la Paix, S5
11	11.09.2019	LATAM Breakfast Series	Update on Colombian peace accord	DCAF's LAC Unit and TTH.	30	Maison de la Paix, S5

12	17.09.2019	LATAM Breakfast Series	Peace & security update on Guatemala	DCAF's LAC Unit and TTH.	10	Maison de la Paix, S5
13	03.10.2019	LATAM Breakfast Series	Peace & security update on Venezuela	DCAF's LAC Unit and TTH, and Friedrich Ebert Foundation.	28	Maison de la Paix, S5
14	07.11.2019	LATAM Breakfast Series	International Anti-Impunity Missions in Central America; Geneva Peace Week,	DCAF's LAC Unit and TTH.	20	Maison de la Paix, S5
Geneva Peace Week						
15	05.11.2019	The Value-added of the "Nexus" label	Geneva Peace Week humanitarian networking session	Centre for Competence on Humanitarian Negotiation	20	Maison de la Paix, S7
16	05.11.2019	Networking Session for the Opening Event	Geneva Peace Week	Initiatives of Change Switzerland	20	Maison de la Paix, Hall Pétale 1.
17	05.11.2019	Opening Ceremony of Geneva Peace Week	Geneva Peace Week	Opening reception hosted by the Swiss Confederation, the Republic and Canton of Geneva, and the City of Geneva	540	Maison de la Paix, Auditorium Ivan Pictet
18	06.11.2019	Peacebuilding in the UN: Towards the 2020 Review of the PBA	Geneva Peace Week	GPP	40	GCSP Conference Room 1
19	06.11.2019	Peacebuilding: Perspectives from China, Korea, and Japan	Geneva Peace Week	CCDP	45	Maison de la Paix, Auditorium A2
20	06.11.2019	What if history were written by the losers of war?	Geneva Peace Week	Fondation Bodmer	100	Fondation Bodmer

Box 4: LATAM Breakfast Meetings

The Platform piloted a new networking instrument that focuses on key peace and security topics in the Latin America Region. It is targeted at the senior expert level in international organizations, academia and NGOs in Geneva. This pilot phase was convened jointly by the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, DCAF's Latin America and the Caribbean Unit (LAC Unit), and the Geneva Think Tank Hub. The partners convened nine breakfasts including on Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and Venezuela and built a group of about 60 professionals working on Latin America in Geneva. The initiative proved to be a flexible, ad-hoc convening mechanism for informal exchange across sectors and institutions that could be activated at short notice for senior experts from LATAM visiting Geneva. Speakers included:

- Emilio José Archila, Presidential Counsellor for Stabilization and Consolidation, Bogotá, Colombia;
- Bernardo Arévalo de León, Senior Peacebuilding Advisor at Interpeace and elected Member of National Congress of Guatemala (2020-2024), Guatemala City, Guatemala;
- Charles Call, Associate Professor at the School of International Service, American University, Washington, D.C., USA;
- Jamil Chade, journalist from Brazil, researcher of the National Truth Commission, and member of the Transparency International's Anti-Corruption and Knowledge Network, Geneva;
- Cristina Hoyos, Head of the Latin America and the Caribbean Unit of DCAF – Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance, Geneva;
- Marc Hufty, Professor, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva;
- Dennis Rodgers, Research Professor, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva; and
- Rafael Sánchez, Professor, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva.

In collaboration with Friedrich Ebert Foundation the LATAM Breakfast Series also hosted the authors of the study *Venezuela: Towards a Peaceful Political Solution* and other experts including Colette Capriles (Professor Simón Bolívar University/Caracas), Luis Manuel Esculpi (Former Member of Parliament and Chairman of the Defense Committee), Francisco Rodríguez (international consultant); Carlos Antonio Romero (Professor, Universidad Central de Venezuela/Caracas), and Juan Tokatlian (Professor, Torcuato di Tella University/Buenos Aires).

(4) Knowledge Capture and Management

Knowledge capture and management focused on the Platform web-presence and social media outreach. According to Google Analytics for the Platform website, in 2019 there was a total click amount of 10,800 with total impressions at 349,000. In addition, the top 4 countries that users were from are: Switzerland, the United States, India, and the UK. There have been advancements in the social media and communications strategy facilitated by a dedicated Communications Coordinator for Geneva Peace Week. These efforts piloted different communications tools, leading to the following result.

Twitter

- The GPW account almost doubled Twitter following: It had 1,110 followers at the end of 2019 compared to 589 followers at the end of 2018.
- There were 123,000 impressions between 28 October and 8 November 2019 (compared to 92,000 impressions in the same period in 2018).
- #GPW19 was a trending topic in Zurich, Lausanne, Geneva, and Switzerland from 29 October until 9 November. In each city it was trending at least once per day.
- The GPW twitter visits peaked with 1,411 profile visits from 1 November to 13 November.
- Participants tweeted 376 times through the Whova app.

4 – 8 November 2019
www.genevapeaceweek.ch

GENEVA PEACE WEEK

GENEVA PEACE WEEK

Tweets 868 Following 205 Followers 1,114 Likes 1,370 Lists 1 Follow

GenevaPeaceWeek
@GenevaPeaceWeek
#GVAPeaceWeek 4 - 8 November 2019
bit.ly/2eyVwwB
Geneva, Switzerland
genevapeaceweek.ch
Joined March 2016

GenevaPeaceWeek @GenevaPeaceWeek · 16h
New publication alert! 📌
Read @GPPlatform's new publication series, The Pulse of Peacebuilding, today.
gpplatform.ch/sites/default/...

Instagram

- The GPW Instagram account increased five times to 373 Instagram followers at the end of 2019 (compared to 75 at the end of 2018).

Facebook

- The GPW Facebook page has 1,347 likes (up from 887 in 2018).
- Two ads were run during GPW leading up to the Opening Ceremony. They reached 1,503 people and generated 493 engagements.
- The intentional strategy for the Facebook page during GPW was to direct followers towards the Instagram and Twitter platforms.

The screenshot shows the Facebook profile for Geneva Peace Week. The profile picture is a purple circle with the text 'GENEVA PEACE WEEK'. The cover photo is a banner with the same text and a date '4-8 November 2019' over an image of hands stacked together. The page name is 'Geneva Peace Week' with the handle '@genevapeaceweek'. A navigation menu on the left includes 'Home', 'Posts', 'Videos', 'About', 'Events', 'Photos', and 'Community', along with a 'Create a Page' button. The main content area features a post from 'Geneva Peace Week' (16 hrs) with a 'New publication alert' icon. The post text reads: 'The Pulse of Peacebuilding is a new publication series of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform that identifies key emerging themes for peacebuilding. It draws on the exchanges during Geneva Peace Week, which brings together the broader peacebuilding constituency every year in November to reflect collectively on the greatest opportunities for building peace in a turbulent world. Read it here: <https://www.gpplatform.ch/.../GPW19%20Pulse%20of%20Peacebuild...>'. Below the post is the website 'GPPLATFORM.CH' and 'www.gpplatform.ch'. The post has 2 likes. At the bottom, there are buttons for 'Like', 'Comment', and 'Share'. On the right side, there is a 'Learn More' button and a 'Send Message' button. Below the post, there is a section titled 'Our Story' with the text: 'Geneva Peace Week is "the" place to be if you care about peace. Geneva is home to a large number of ... See More'. At the bottom right, there is a 'Community' section with 'See All' and 'Invite your friends to like this Page' buttons, and statistics: '1,282 people like this' and '1,368 people follow this'.

Box 5: Piloting of a new management design

The Platform piloted a new management design in 2019 to implement activities. Given the evolution of activities, the distribution of work across an Executive Coordinator and an Assistant become no longer viable. Through the preparation of GPW19, the Platform piloted a new design that would separate tasks between ‘strategic management and planning’ by the Executive Coordinator, and ‘execution’ of activities by Platform staff. This approach managed to better distribute the work-load and to infuse a broader range of complementary skill sets into the Platform’s work. The positive results from this adjustment was the reason for the new management design to become a part of the 2020-2021 Programme including separate leadership functions for different work streams. These efforts were made possible by additional funding from the Swiss Confederation in 2019 to implement the recommendations for the GPW Scoping Study.

Outlook

The Platform’s outlook for 2020 is framed by a new programme that sets out three mutually complementary work streams to deliver on the Platform’s mandate:

- 1) Convening and incubation: Facilitate continuous exchange about innovative practice and thinking on peacebuilding;
- 2) Network and Community Management: Strengthen networking and community building across traditional and non-traditional actors in peacebuilding; and
- 3) Geneva Peace Week: Advance the strategic development of Geneva Peace Week.

The programme reflects continuity of the Platform’s knowledge hub functions. The networking approach provides a flexible format and builds on the evaluation’s positive assessment of results generated through cross-cutting activities.

The Programme also previews more resources to implement and develop Geneva Peace Week. This is to recognize the significant growth of Geneva Peace Week by more than 100% in terms of events and event partnerships since 2015. Through its continued emphasis on collaboration, the Platform can continue to nurture partnerships for peacebuilding across institutions and sectors in Geneva and beyond.

Table 3: Key Dates 2020

18-19 February	Geneva Thematic Consultation on the 2020 Review of the UN Peacebuilding Architecture (In collaboration with Switzerland)
12 March	Annual Retreat of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform
21 September	Geneva Peace Talks
2-6 November	Geneva Peace Week 2020

The Platform in 2019

Steering Committee

- Simon Gimson, Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer, Interpeace
- Thomas Guerber, Ambassador, Director, DCAF - Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance
- Keith Krause, Director, Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), The Graduate Institute
- Christina Orisich, Deputy Director, Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP)
- Jonathan Woolley, Director, Quaker United Nations Office (QUONO)

Management Committee

- Hans Born, Assistant Director and Head of the Policy and Research Division, DCAF
- Annika Hilding Norberg, Head of Peace Operations and Peacebuilding, GCSP
- Florence Foster, Representative, Peace and Disarmament, QUONO, Geneva
- Oliver Jütersonke, Head of Research, CCDP, The Graduate Institute
- Daniel Hyslop, Director of Policy, Learning and IPAT, Interpeace

Platform Staff

- Achim Wennmann, Executive Coordinator (Full-time, January-December)
- Madeleine Evans, Communication and Events Manager (Full-time, January-June)
- Claudia Seymour, Focal Point Geneva Peace Week (Part-time, January-December)
- Kathryn Gichini, Administration and Events Coordinator (Part-time, July-December)
- Andreas Hirblinger, Community Management (Part-time, July-December)
- Danson Gichini, Project Coordinator, Geneva Peace Week (Part-time, July-December)
- Annika Erickson-Pearson, Media Coordinator, Geneva Peace Week (Part-time, Sep-Dec)

Advisory Board

- Andrea Aeby, Counselor, Peace & Security, Section Global Affairs, Permanent Mission of Switzerland
- Philippe Baudin-Auliac, Chief, Political Affairs and Partnership Section, United Nations Office at Geneva
- Sebastian Brack, Senior Political Officer, Kofi Annan Foundation (KAF)
- Renata Dwan, Director, United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR)
- Samuel Emonet, Director of Operations, Justice Rapid Response (JRR)
- Nicolas Florquin, Research Coordinator, Small Arms Survey
- Catriona Gourlay, Executive Director, PeaceNexus Foundation
- Rainer Gude, Strategic Partnerships Manager, Initiatives of Change Switzerland
- Louis Hoffmann, Head, Transition and Recovery Division, Department of Operations and Emergencies, International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- David Jensen, Head of Environmental Peacebuilding Programme and MAPX, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- Hichem Khadhraoui, Director of Operations, Geneva Call

- Masayo Kondo Rossier, Readiness and Training Section, Emergency Response Support Branch, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- Sacha Meuter, Head of Policy and Research, Fondation Hirondelle/Federico Negro, Coordinator OIC, Coordination Support Unit for Peace and Resilience, International Labour Organization (ILO)
- Sarah Noble, Director of External Relations, The New Humanitarian
- Anna Leissing, Head of Policy & Platform, Project Director of Center for Peacebuilding (KOFF), Swisspeace
- Katia Papagianni, Director, Policy and Mediation Support, Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue
- Pascal Rapillard, Head of the Division External Relations and Policy, Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)
- Madeleine Rees, Secretary General, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)
- Tuesday Reitano, Deputy Director, Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime
- Amjad Saleem, Manager, Protection, Inclusion and Engagement, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
- Hugo Slim, Head of Policy, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
- Daniel Stauffacher, Chairman, ICT4Peace Foundation
- Jos Verbeek, Special Representative to the UN and WTO, World Bank Office Geneva
- Friedhelm Weinberg, Director, Huridocs

We would like to thank Advisory Board members who will no longer serve in this capacity after 2019, for their support, inputs and encouragement for the Platform's activities and initiatives. A special thanks to: Anna Alvazzi del Frate, Director of Programmes, Small Arms Survey; Salman Bal, Senior Political Coordination Adviser, Political Affairs and Partnerships Section, Office of the Director-General, United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG); Donato Kininger-Passigli, Coordinator, Fragile States and Disaster Response, International Labour Organisation (ILO) and Sara Sekkenes, Conflict Prevention and Recovery Advisor – Partnerships, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). We wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

About the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform

The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform is a knowledge hub that connects the critical mass of peacebuilding actors, resources, and expertise in Geneva and worldwide. Founded in 2008, the Platform has a mandate to facilitate interaction on peacebuilding between different institutions and sectors, and to advance new knowledge and understanding of issues and contexts related to building peace. It also plays a creative role in building bridges between International Geneva, the United Nations peacebuilding architecture in New York, and peacebuilding activities in the field. The Platform's network comprises professionals working on building peace directly or indirectly. The Platform provides policy-relevant advice and services, ensures the continuous exchange of information through seminars, consultations, and conferences, and facilitates outcome-oriented dialogues on peacebuilding practice.