

The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform is a joint project of five institutions



DCAF
a centre for security,
development and
the rule of law



GCSP
Geneva Centre for Security Policy
Where knowledge meets experience

ii
interpeace

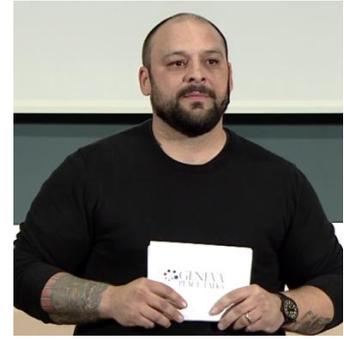


QUNO
Quaker United Nations Office

Activity Report 2017

Highlights

- **Geneva Peace Week 2017:** 5,000 participants at 50 events organized by 100 partner organizations featuring over 150 speakers: A tremendous increase in interest accompanied this year by key organizational innovations, a report and an evaluation.
- **Peace Talks:** The fifth edition of the Geneva Peace Talks attracted nearly 1,000 participants and featured Kofi Annan, the former UN Secretary General, as a speaker.
- **Building peace in urban settings:** The Platform co-convened the conference 'Reviewing the Safety in Cities' and incubated a conversation about how Geneva-based actors can collectively strengthen city-level networking. These efforts led to a feasibility study on a 'Geneva Cities Forum'.
- **21 networking events:** Co-organized with 15 different event partners, featuring four informal events with senior officials from the UN system in New York. There is increased recognition that the Platform reduces transaction cost for senior officials on mission to Geneva to reach out to a diverse range of peacebuilding actors.
- **Communication:** The new Platform website is ready to be launched in early 2018. Social media outreach more than doubled.
- **Faces of Peace:** A new collaboration that features 13 professionals illustrating Geneva as a hub for peacebuilding across institutions and sectors, to be released in 2018.
- **New programme:** 2017 was a year of stock-taking and vision-building for a new two-year programme (see also 'Outlook 2018').
- **DCAF joins the Platform:** On 1 January 2018, the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) joined the Platform. DCAF has a comparative advantage in security sector governance and security sector reform which are complementary strengths to the existing expertise of the other four partner institutions.
- **Modest budget, collective action:** All Platform activities in 2017 were implemented on the modest resource base of CHF 385,000 with a focus on advancing activities in collaborative ways to foster collective impact.



Geneva Peace Talks 2017 (From top left to right): **Heba Aly** (Canadian Journalist), **Kofi Annan** (Former UN Secretary-General), **Christian Piccolini** (co-Founder, Life After Hate), **Hyung Joon Won** (Violinist from South Korea), **Sonja Stojanovic Gajic** (Director of Belgrade Centre for Security Policy), **Sihem Bensedrine** (Head of Tunisian Dignity and Truth Commission), **Saba Temelso & Dan Stein** (Cuisine Lab co-Founder and chef), **Brigadier General Alvaro Pico Malaver** (National Police

of Colombia, Head of the Police Unit for Peacebuilding), **Azra Hadzic** (Institute for the Protection of Monuments, Sarajevo), **Hassan Ismail** (Kenya Program Leader for Interpeace) and music band 'Djaza' (Source: GPT)

About this report

This report summarizes the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform's activities in 2017 which occur under its 2015-2017 Programme. The Programme structures activities aiming to network traditional and non-traditional actors in peacebuilding and advance innovative practice and thinking on peacebuilding. The overall work of the Platform in 2017 focused on the continued consolidation of major event initiatives, as well as its communication outreach and operations.

The report first takes stock of the networking activities (Peace Talks, Geneva Peace Week, Annual Meeting, as well as communication) and looks at advancing innovative practice and thinking. The final section presents a stock-taking on the Platform's management in 2017, and an outlook on activities in 2018.

Gratitude to our funders and partners

The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform would like to thank all its funders, event partners and 4,000 network members for supporting and following its activities.

The Platform would like to thank the United Nations and International Organisations Division of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) for its contribution to the Platform's funding and for its collaboration on various projects.

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.

Special thanks go to the staff of the five core partners of the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, the Graduate Institute's Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), the Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), Interpeace and the Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO), without whom the networking, events, and outreach of the Platform would not be possible.

Beyond the organizations already mentioned, the Platform would also like to thank the following event partners:

- World Bank, Geneva
- UN-HABITAT
- Think Tank Hub, Geneva
- Graduate Institute's Gender Centre
- Escuela Centroamericana de Gobierno y Democracia (ECADE), San Salvador
- Mission of Norway
- Office of the President of the UN General Assembly
- United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office

The collaborative way of working has become a trademark of Platform activities and emphasizes the value of combining existing resources, skills and expertise to obtain a better outcome than any institution would achieve on its own. In this spirit the Platform looks forward to renewed collaboration with all partners in 2018 and beyond.

1. Networking traditional & non-traditional actors in peacebuilding

Under its mandate of *networking traditional and non-traditional actors in peacebuilding*, the Platform consolidated the Peace Talks and Geneva Peace Week, co-organized 21 events and strengthened its communication and social media outreach.

1.1 Peace Talks (led by Interpeace)

Geneva Peace Talks

- The Geneva Peace Talks is an annual public event organized on the occasion of the International Day of Peace (21 September) by UNOG, Interpeace and the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform with support from the Swiss Confederation and the Canton and City of Geneva.
- Organized under the theme 'Building Bridges', the Geneva Peace Talks 2017 aimed to encourage and promote working together to generate common understandings and solutions in today's times, where uncertainty has become the new norm.
- Eleven speakers shared their personal stories to inspire others and spark a discussion on how each and every one of us can play a role in reaching out and in building bridges, to an audience of 950 people at the Palais des Nations. See the speakers on page 2.
- #GenevaPeaceTalks was the number one trending hashtag on Twitter in Switzerland at the start and end of the Geneva Peace Talks, accumulating a total of over 12 million Twitter impressions.
- All past Peace Talks are available at <http://peacetalks.net/past-peace-talks/>.

Stockholm Peace Talks

- In early 2017, the Platform supported the Stockholm Peace Talks (21 March 2017), led by Interpeace. The Platform covered the cost of event assistance as part of gap-stopping support, reflecting the Platform's commitment to the Peace Talks Initiative.



Ambassador Valentin Zellweger (Switzerland) greets Kofi Annan, the former UN Secretary-General, during the Geneva Peace Talks 2017 at the Palais de Nations (Source: UNOG)

1.2 Geneva Peace Week 2017

Geneva Peace Week 2017 was a primary focus on the Platform's activities in 2017 with the aim to grow and consolidate this collaborative initiative, in partnership with UNOG and the Graduate Institute. Given the importance of this effort, this section will report in detail about the results of Geneva Peace Week 2017.

Key facts GPW17

- 50 events organized by 100 partners featuring more than 150 speakers.
- Total event attendance of 5,000 people, spread across different sectors including NGOs (35%), academia (25%), international organizations (20%), diplomatic missions (13%), and business (7%).
- Geneva Peace Week trended on Twitter within the top five in Switzerland from 6-9 November 2017, with being the lead trend in Geneva on 7 November.
- 91% had a positive experience of Geneva Peace Week and 97% noted they would recommend it, a participant survey revealed.
- Respondents highlighted the top five distinguishing features of Geneva Peace Week to be about networking opportunities, the quality of speakers, the variety of perspectives, stimulation of new ideas, and access to peacebuilding professionals.

Application process

- A total of 70 event applications.
- 10 were merged, including into two event clusters.
- 10 applications did not pass application criteria.
- The idea of two co-hosts per event added a new and positive dynamic. All Platform partners intensely participated in GPW17, organizing at least three events each.

Box 1: Key takeaways from GPW17

The Platform led a drafting and editing process that combined input from various sources on the guiding theme *Prevention Across Sectors and Institutions: What Pathways for Effective Implementation?* The Platform aligned efforts to produce the report one month after GPW and published it by mid-December 2017. Read the full report [online](#) and key takeaways below:

- The world may have never had such a wealth of tested instruments and early warning systems to effectively prevent violent conflict. Many organizations working in this field have matured over the last two decades and are ready to advance prevention at an operational level.
- The use or threat of armed force or violence remains an accepted policy instrument in many circles. The existence of powerful economic agendas and cultures of violence emphasize the importance and urgency for a new and proactive prevention agenda.
- Conflict prevention should focus on leveraging constructive political pressure for prevention in decision spaces, and on enabling field-level programming and initiatives. There should be a better balance between ad-hoc crises management and long-term crises prevention.
- Addressing cyber war and violence in cities; re-imagining a new role for the private sector; and focusing on water and natural resource management, are some of the key emerging issues for a prevention agenda highlighted during Geneva Peace Week 2017.
- There is opportunity for countries, regions or cities to step forward to lead as pilots for a new prevention and peacebuilding agenda.

New in 2017

- Selection process: To manage the number of events, GPW had for the first time a selection process of events. This also helped generate a more structured programme.
- Focus theme on *Prevention across Sectors and Institutions: Pathways to Effective Implementation*. This theme offered an opportunity to highlight the work of Geneva-based institutions on conflict prevention, and to connect substantive discussions in Geneva to major policy processes on 'sustaining peace' and the reform of the UN's peace and security architecture in New York.
- A [Geneva Peace Week 2017 report](#) was compiled outlining key takeaways.
- Communication: Four students from the University of Geneva, School of Journalism, covered Geneva Peace Week and provided daily updates and material for broad social media coverage under GPP's guidance. GPW17 preparations were also accompanied by targeted outreach to communications professionals in many international organizations.
- Access to Palais des Nations: UNOG enabled a weekly access pass for GPW participants for events at the Palais des Nations (which meant participants needed only register once but could attend multiple events on multiple days).

Social Media Statistics of GPW17

- Over 655,000 social media impressions during GPW17. The actual total is realistically closer to one million because only seven organizations provided their social media statistics to GPW facilitators.
- From the @GenevaPeaceWeek account there was live tweeting throughout the week with a total of 238 tweets generating 73,200 impressions.
- On Tuesday 7 November, the #GVAPeaceWeek hashtag was number one trending in Geneva and number two trending in the whole of Switzerland.



Event participants at the Palais des Nations during Geneva Peace Week (Source: Wennmann)

Participant survey

- For the first time in 2017 a public survey was held after the week.
- In this survey over 90% said that their overall experience at Geneva Peace Week was very good and that the quality of the speakers was high.
- 97% said they would recommend Geneva Peace Week.

Selected feedback

- Diversity of speakers (good combination of theory/practice).
- Variety of topics.
- Possibility to learn more about Geneva-based organizations.
- The theme was very relevant and timely.

Suggestions for 2018

- Create more networking opportunities.
- Structure the programme to have plenary events and workshops in parallel to allow additional participation.
- Limit events and organize the programme to include two days each at two venues.
- Reflect on how best to capture and share content from the event.

Trend analysis: Geneva Peace Week 2014-2017

- An overall continuous increase in interest in Geneva Peace Week over four years.
- Key spikes of interest occurred in event organizers from nine in 2014, to 50 in 2015 and then again from 56 in 2016 to 100 in 2017.
- The number of events in 2015-2017 stayed more or less stable in the range of 40-50. This range is about the maximum a week can accommodate.
- A key evolution in 2016 was the creation of new website www.genevapeaceweek.ch as a single entry-door into the Geneva Peace Week Programme.



Discussions during the World Café Reception at the *Maison de la Paix* (Source: Wennmann)

1.3 Annual Meeting 2017

Overview

- The Annual Meeting opened Geneva Peace Week and was held under the theme of *Preventing Violent Conflict: Taking Stock and Looking Forward*.
- The meeting aimed to take stock of the progress towards the prevention of violent conflicts and explored the future of prevention practice jointly with representatives of multiple sectors and institutions that work in the field.
- As with previous years the programme was collaboratively developed by the four core partners of the Platform drawing on their networks of contacts and expertise.
- Following the Annual Meeting, the Platform organized a World Café Reception jointly organized with the Graduate Institute and UNOG and with the generous support of the Swiss Mission, the Republic and Canton of Geneva, and the City of Geneva.

Speakers of the Annual Meeting 2017

- **Valentin Zellweger**, Ambassador, Permanent representative of Switzerland to the United Nations and other international organisations in Geneva
- **Ana Maria Menéndez**, Senior Advisor of the Secretary-General on Policy, United Nations, New York
- **Jonathan Woolley**, Director, Quaker United Nations Office, Geneva **Annika Hilding Norberg**, Peacebuilding Cluster Leader, GCSP, Geneva
- **Darynell Rodriguez Torres**, Executive Director, Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC), The Hague
- **Rachel F. Madenyika**, UN Representative, Quaker UN Office, New York
- **David Nyheim**, Chairman, International Conflict and Security (INCAS) Consulting Ltd., Valletta, Malta
- **Audrey Palama**, Operational Director, Second Chance School, Toulon
- **Gerard McHugh**, President, Conflict Dynamics International, Boston



Photo: Gerard McHugh, Audrey Palama, Achim Wennmann, & David Nyheim at the Annual Meeting ©Margaux Bise

1.4 Convening

Overview

- Throughout 2017, the Platform served as a convener of several events on peacebuilding in Geneva. Overall it co-organized 21 events in 2017, ranging from small expert workshops to larger conferences, involving 15 event partnerships and about 2,000 participants.
- Key highlights involved informal briefings with representatives from New York Mr. Marc André, (Chief of UN Peacebuilding Fund), USG Kyung-wha Kang, USG Ana Maria Menéndez, and President of the UN General Assembly H.E. Mr. Miroslav Lajčák (see picture below).
- These briefings illustrated the Platform's value added to reduce transaction cost for senior individuals on mission to Geneva to reach out to such a diverse range of actors through the Platform, especially with respect to civil society organizations.

Regional breakfast meetings

- The Think Tank Hub and the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform agreed to collaborate to convene a series of breakfast meetings focusing on peace and security issues.
- These breakfasts bring together senior regional experts from international organizations, academia, NGOs or the private sector for informal exchange on peace and security trends and issues in specific regions. Discussions of the breakfast meetings evolve around a short kick-off presentation of different topics of a senior regional expert.
- In its inception phase between June 2017 and February 2018, the breakfast series focused on Central and South America. In this period, two breakfast meetings were convened with one to follow in February 2018.



Photo (left to right): Valentin Zellweger, Ambassador (Switzerland); H.E. Miroslav Lajčák President of the General Assembly; Achim Wennmann, GPP; and Michael Møller, Director General UNOG; Sofia Borges, Ambassador (PGA Office). Palais des Nations, 28 November 2017 (Source: UNOG)

2017	Event Name	Partnerships	Attendance	Location
February				
15 Feb	Briefing for Diplomats on Human Rights and Peacebuilding	QUNO, CCDP, GCSP, Interpeace	45	UNOG
27 Feb	Meeting with Marc André, Chief of UN Peacebuilding Fund	Geneva Peacebuilding Platform	20	GCSP
March				
3 March	UN-World Bank Flagship Study on Role of Development in the Prevention of Violent Conflict	World Bank Office Geneva	30	UNOG
9 March	Brown-bag lunch: Urban Safety and Peacebuilding	UN-HABITAT	25	UN-HABITAT, Kenya
23 March	The UN Prevention Agenda: Key Issues and Outlook – Retreat with USG Kyung-wha Kang (closed meeting)	Geneva Peacebuilding Platform	33	Maison de la Paix, C1
April				
11 April	Can we find harmony in Korea?	IHEID	50	Maison de la Paix, A1A
June				
6 June	Regional Breakfast Meeting(Central America)	Think Tank Hub	10	WMO
7 June	Research Frontiers in Sustainable Peace	Graduate Institute's Gender Centre, Gender and Diversity Hub	120	Maison de la Paix
13 June	Practical Solutions in Violent Contexts	ECADE	100	San Salvador
20-21 June	What's next in Peacebuilding? (New York)	QUNO	15	QUNO, New York
26-27 June	Expert Conference: Reviewing the state of safety in cities	UNHABITAT	60	Maison de la Paix, A1B & S8
28 June	High-Level Panel: Reviewing the state of safety in cities	UNHABITAT	70	QUNO
September				
21 Sept	Geneva Peace Talks - Building Bridges	Interpeace/UNOG	950	Palais des Nations
November				
1 Nov	Tujenge Amani - Prevention Methodology in the Democratic Republic of the Congo	GCSP /FDFA	43	GCSP
6 Nov	Meeting with USG Ana Maria Menéndez		16	Maison de la Paix, 8th floor
6 Nov	Annual Meeting		145	Maison de la Paix, A1
6 Nov	World Café Reception	IHEID UNOG	170	Cafeteria Maison de la Paix
7 Nov	Cities and Peace	DCAF CCDP	60	Maison de la Paix, A2
7 Nov	What's Next in Business & Peace	Mission of Norway	10	Maison de la Paix, S8
28 Nov	Meeting Present of the General Assembly	UNOG	12	Palais des Nations
December				
19 Dec	Regional Breakfast Meeting (Colombia)	Think Tank Hub/ DCAF	13	DCAF Meeting Room

1.5 Communication

Mailing and social media outreach

- A total of 11 mailing campaigns were sent out via MailChimp in 2017, with an open rate of 30%, well above the industry average of 19.2%.
- The number of subscribers to the Platform's newsletter has remained consistent at 4,000.
- 2017 saw an increase in social media outreach via the Platform's Twitter and Facebook accounts compared to the previous year. Following on Twitter doubled, from 329 to 667 between 2016 and 2017; and Facebook followers tripled, from 50 to 158 in the same period.
- The Platform had over 17,000 Facebook impressions in 2017 (up from 50 in 2016).

Communication surrounding Geneva Peace Week

- During Geneva Peace Week alone the number of impressions via Twitter increased tenfold from 7,000 in 2016 to over 70,000 in 2017.
- The Platform has taken the initiative to build a database of media and communication professionals to help facilitate monthly meetings to strengthen the communication on peace-related issues in Geneva. This initiative builds on the recommendations of the Geneva Peace Week 2016.

International Geneva – Faces of Peace

- This initiative is a collaboration between the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform and the University of Geneva's Masters Programme in Journalism and Communication to produce personality portraits from a selection of Geneva-based individual actors, working directly within – or relevant to – the peacebuilding field.
- At the same time the initiative looks to present Geneva as a key hub for Peacebuilding with its rich variety of organizations, many of which are in some way involved in the field of peacebuilding.
- In 2017 a total of 13 interviews were produced in French and English. These articles will be released during 2018.

New website

- The main communications project of 2017 was the development of a new Platform website. The website was completed on time and within budget, and will be officially launched early 2018, in tandem with the *Faces of Peace* initiative.
- The website features an updated space to share and distribute content and is compatible with social media channels.

Geneva Peace Calendar

- Based on an evaluation, the Platform identified that there was no traction to continue with this initiative.
- As of 2018 the Platform will liaise with the Canton of Geneva in helping to bring together all the peacebuilding-related events in International Geneva.

2. Advancing innovative practice and thinking on peacebuilding

This second work stream of the 2015-2017 Programme aims at expanding the evidence base on policies and practice in environmental and natural resource management, and in building peace in urban settings. Due to resource constraints the Platform focused on the second substantive pillar on cities while continuously expanding the networking component through events.

2.1 Peacebuilding, environment and natural resource management

- During Geneva Peace Week, the Platform mobilized its network on business and peace in order to explore advancing a Technical Working Group on Business and Conflict Prevention in 2018. Several informal events took place during Geneva Peace Week with Geneva-based actors working in this field, including outreach to the diplomatic community following conversations on business and human rights.
- These exploratory activities also build on the results of a workshop on business and peace convened by CAD International, the Africa Centre for Dispute Settlement and the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) which took place in Washington DC in March 2017, and was attended by the Platform's Executive Coordinator.

2.2 Building peace in urban settings

'Reviewing the State of Safety in World Cities', Geneva, 26-28 June 2017

- The Platform co-convened with UN-Habitat the conference *Reviewing the Safety in Cities: Partnerships and Solutions for Localized Implementation*. This conference consisted of two parts. The first part was a two-day expert level conference held at the *Maison de la Paix*, 26-27 June; the second part consisted of a High Level Panel at the *Palais des Nations*, 28 June.
- 40 experts participated in the conference and the High-Level Panel was attended by around 70 representatives of diplomatic missions, international organizations and NGOs, including representation from Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, Germany, the Holy See, Macedonia, Monaco, Nigeria, Switzerland, Uganda, and Vietnam.
- The conferences were co-organized by UN-Habitat's Safer Cities Programme and the Platform, in collaboration with members of a coordination and reference group of 26 organizations facilitated by the Platform.
- The City of Geneva sponsored a reception on 27 June held at the *Palais Eynard* including a welcome speech by the Mayor of Geneva, Rémy Pagani.

Feasibility study on a 'Geneva Cities Forum'

- Connected to the cities conference, the Platform incubated a conversation about how Geneva-based actors could collectively strengthen networking with city-level actors worldwide on issues Geneva is strong in, such as peace, security and humanitarian issues.
- The feedback from these conversations was distilled into a concept note on a Geneva Cities Forum. In December 2017, the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and the City of Geneva supported a feasibility study on a 'Geneva Cities Forum' to further elaborate the added value of such an initiative. Results will be available in early 2018.

Box 2: Key takeaways from the cities conference

- Cities are important to foster peaceful and inclusive societies and their role in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda is critical.
- There is opportunity for more concerted, cross-cutting partnerships at the city level, especially for strengthening the work of small- and medium-sized cities through 'city labs', stronger guidelines and other approaches or programmes.
- The conference reconfirmed concerns about the scale of future challenges and risks for violence and political turbulence in cities, and the need to do something about it.
- Policy must strengthen more systematic linkages to match the needs for safe and inclusive cities with the expertise and experiences available in the institutional ecosystem of International Geneva.
- There is ample technical expertise available in Geneva that cities can benefit from in their quest to reduce and prevent violence, and to build more inclusive societies.

2.3 Publications & research

Applied Research Seminar

- The Graduate Institute's Applied Research Seminar makes available three graduate students for a research project. The topic of this ARS was *The future of funding and resource mobilization for peacebuilding practice*.
- The research report was completed by the end of 2017 and will be prepared for publication in 2018.

Internship on transitional justice

- The Platform received a research intern from the Geneva Academy that will provide a research paper on the notion of transitional in Islamic culture. Due to an accident of the intern the finalization of the research paper was postponed until spring of 2018.

Geneva Peace Week Report

- The Platform led a drafting and editing process that combined input from various sources on the guiding theme *Prevention Across Sectors and Institutions* (see also Box 1 on page 5).

Sustaining Peace in the City: New Perspectives on Urban Safety and Peacebuilding

- This edited volume draws together submission to the Technical Working Group on the Confluence of Urban Safety and Peacebuilding Practice, which the Platform co-facilitated between 2015 and 2017.
- The book will appear in the course of 2018 in the Routledge Series on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding, and is co-edited by Achim Wennmann and Oliver Jütersonke.

3. Management and staffing

Advisory Board Meeting

- At its meeting on 1 June 2017, the Advisory Board emphasized various elements of a proactive agenda of future Platform activities in 2018 and beyond.
- Such elements include (a) to continue providing a window into the field and retain the field dimension of the Platform's networking; (b) to expand the Platform's Geneva-based initiatives to regional levels, such as facilitating Peace Week in other continents, similar to the Peace Talks; (c) to develop periodic reviews of peacebuilding in different regions; and (d) to reach out to a broad set of stakeholders across institutions and sectors.

Staff developments

- **Diane Hendrick:** After five and half rewarding years working on peace and disarmament issues in Geneva on behalf of Quakers, Diane moved to new endeavours. **Florence Foster** replaced Diane in the Management Committee, as Representative, Peace and Disarmament, Quaker United Nations Office, Geneva.
- **Annika Hilding Norberg**, Peacebuilding Cluster Leader, Geneva Centre for Security Policy joined the Management Committee replaced **Carlotta Fererro**.
- The Platform whole-heartedly thanked **Silvia Nussbaumer** for her excellent work as Focal Point of Geneva Peace Week, which significantly contributed to the growth of this initiative and subsequent strategic redefinition of the focal point position.

DCAF becomes a new partner

- On 1 January 2018, the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) joined the Platform. DCAF adds a wealth of practical peacebuilding know-how to the existing strength of training, research, advocacy and diplomacy.



DCAF signing association with the Platform on 22 November 2017. Left to right: Keith Krause (CCDP), Heiner Hänggi (DCAF) and Thomas Guerber (DCAF) (Source: Wennmann)

4. Outlook 2018

Celebrating its 10th anniversary in 2018, the Platform is increasingly recognized as an entry-door into Geneva's peacebuilding world, and as an umbrella for activities on peacebuilding for Geneva-based actors. Through a new two-year programme, the Platform aims to strengthen its function as a hub for practical peacebuilding expertise and know-how that draws upon field experience and research. It aims to consolidate the Platform's convening, networking and proactive incubating roles in Geneva and its bridge building between Geneva, New York and peacebuilding actives in the field.

Overall the 2018-2019 Programme concentrates on four areas: Incubating new ideas and practice for peacebuilding; networking peacebuilding resources; convening on peacebuilding issues and contexts; and knowledge capture and management. Key activity highlights are:

- **Geneva Peace Week:** The Platform acts as an engine for the organization and development of an annual Geneva Peace Week in collaboration with other partners. The aim is to establish Geneva Peace Week within the global peacebuilding calendar and facilitate a gradual process to strengthen its partnerships and management.
- **Peace Talks Initiative:** The Platform will actively engage in developing the Initiative and act as co-organizer of the Geneva Peace Talks.
- **New annual retreat:** The Platform pilots a retreat for a brainstorm on 'What next in Peacebuilding' that targets key peacebuilding stakeholders in Geneva including partners, Advisory Board members and guests.
- **Technical Working Groups (TWGs):** The Platform will strengthen the TWGs on urban safety and peacebuilding and on business and peace, and will advance these with a focus on the prevention of violent conflict as a cross-cutting theme.
- **Network management:** The Platform will elaborate and implement a network development strategy to structure and deepen the existing network.

Who is who on the Platform?

Steering Committee

- **Thomas Guerber**, Ambassador, Director, Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)
- **Keith Krause**, Director, Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), The Graduate Institute
- **Carl Ungerer**, Head of Leadership, Crisis & Conflict Management Programme, Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP)
- **Scott Weber**, Director-General, Interpeace
- **Jonathan Woolley**, Director, Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO)

Management Committee

- **Hans Born**, Assistant Director and Head of the Policy and Research Division, DCAF
- **Annika Hilding Norberg**, Peacebuilding Cluster Leader, GCSP
- **Florence Foster**, Representative, Peace and Disarmament, QUNO, Geneva
- **Oliver Jütersonke**, Head of Research, CCDP, The Graduate Institute
- **Renée Larivière**, Deputy Director-General, Interpeace

Platform staff

- **Achim Wennmann**, Executive Coordinator (January-June 70%; July-December 100%)
- **Madeleine Evans**, Communication and Events Manager (100%)
- **Silvia Nussbaumer**, Focal Point Geneva Peace Week (20%)
- **Naleni Eigensatz**, SYNI Programme Participant (80% October 2017– March 2018)
- **Egriselda Gonzalez-Lopez**, Internship – Focal point for cities outreach (April-June 2017)
- **Paige Petrashko**, Internship – Geneva Peace Week (June-July 2017)

Advisory Board 2017

- **Anna Alvazzi del Frate**, Director of Programmes, Small Arms Survey
- **Sandra Avilés**, Senior Advisor, Programme Development & Humanitarian Affairs, FAO Liaison Office in Geneva
- **Saiman Bal**, Senior Political Coordination Adviser, Political Affairs and Partnerships Section, Office of the Director-General, United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG)
- **Maurizio Bona**, Senior Advisor, Relations with Parliaments and Science for Policy, CERN – European Organisation for Nuclear Research
- **Philippe Bovey**, General Secretary, Fondation Hirondelle
- **Sebastian Brack**, Senior Political Officer, Kofi Annan Foundation (KAF)
- **Samuel Emonet**, Director of Operations, Justice Rapid Response (JRR)
- **Sidonia Gabriel**, Head of Policy & Platform, Project Director of Center for Peacebuilding (KOFF), Swisspeace
- **Catriona Gourlay**, Executive Director, PeaceNexus Foundation
- **Barbara Hintermann**, Secretary General, CAUX – Initiatives of Change Foundation
- **Louis Hoffmann**, Head, Transition and Recovery Division, Department of Operations and Emergencies, International Organisation for Migration (IOM)
- **David Jensen**, Policy and Planning Coordinator, Post-Conflict and Disaster Management Branch, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- **Donato Kiniger-Passigli**, Coordinator, Fragile States and Disaster Response, International Labour Organisation (ILO)
- **Tuesday Reitano**, Head of the Secretariat, Global Initiative against Transnational Organised Crime
- **Masayo Kondo Rossier**, Emergency Preparedness Section (EPS), Emergency Services Branch (ESB), Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- **Albrecht Schnabel**, Senior Fellow, Research Division, Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF)
- **Sara Sekkenes**, Conflict Prevention and Recovery Advisor – Partnerships, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- **Hugo Slim**, Head of Policy, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
- **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)
- **Jyoti Sanghera**, Chief of Section of the Human Rights and Social and Economic Issues, United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- **Tammi Sharpe**, Senior Adviser (Development & Solutions), Donor Relations and Resource Mobilisation Service, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- **Anki Sjoeborg**, Programme Director, Geneva Call
- **Daniel Stauffacher**, Chairman, ICT4Peace Foundation
- **Jos Verbeek**, Special Representative to the UN and WTO, World Bank Office Geneva

About the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform

The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform is a network 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 peacebuilding issues and contexts. 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 more than 4,000 peacebuilding professionals from a range of institutions working on peacebuilding directly or indirectly.

Contact

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