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SPRING 2023 Newsletter

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## Update from the President

Dear Colleagues,

It is difficult to believe that the invasion of Ukraine has now passed the one-year mark. The heroism of the Ukrainian people is an amazing example of tenacity and courage. Our hearts go out to them and all the many groups who are aiding refugees as well as Ukrainians who are staying in their own country.

Finland has now joined NATO. Finnish President, Sauli Niinistö, said: "Finland is a stable and predictable Nordic country that seeks peaceful resolution of disputes. The principles and values that are important to Finland will continue to guide our foreign policy also in the future."

We are delighted to announce our two new Senesh Fellows: **Dorrah Munjaru** from Kenya and **Alemnesh Kassa** from Ethiopia. Please see the Senesh Fellowship News box below for more information about these wonderful scholars. We are all very excited to see the results of their research.

The IPRA Conference in Trinidad and Tobago is coming up very soon on May 17. During the conference, the IPRA Foundation will present a Plenary to highlight our grantees' work. This Plenary is always one of the highlights of the conference! Five of our past Peace Research Grant Program awardees will present their IPRA Foundation funded research during the plenary. In addition, I will conduct a workshop about the IPRA Foundation granting process for those who are interested in applying for our grants.

Just a reminder that the Peace Research Grant application submission process reopens on July 1, 2023. Please encourage your colleagues to apply.

Linda

Dr. Linda M. Johnston  
President, IPRA Foundation



## 2023 IPRA Conference NEWS

- The next **IPRA Conference** will take place in Trinidad & Tobago **May 17–21, 2023!** The conference is titled *Rooted Futures: Visions of Peace and Justice*, and the new [IPRA 2023 website](#) has all the exciting details.
- “The conference aims, as does IPRA and the field of peace studies itself, to promote dialogue across disciplines. Diverse formats and activities are encouraged, and ongoing relationships will be nurtured. In so doing, [IPRA 2023] promises to be a site of critical dialogue, reflection, and action—a truly unique and urgently needed opportunity to advance progressive justice and peacebuilding strategies.”
- The IPRA Foundation will present a Plenary to highlight our grantees’ work. This Plenary is always one of the highlights of the conference! Five of our past Peace Research Grant Program awardees will present their IPRA Foundation funded research during the plenary.
- IPRA Foundation President Dr. Linda M. Johnston will conduct a workshop about the IPRA Foundation granting process for those who are interested in applying for our grants.
- The IPRA Foundation Plenary presenters will be:



[Colleen O'Brien](#), (USA) 2017 *“Strangers to Peace: Investigating the Reintegration of FARC Combatants through Ethnographic Filmmaking.”*

[Nisan Alici](#), (Turkey) 2019 *“Transitional Justice in an Ongoing Conflict: A victim-*



*centered analysis of Transitional Justice mechanisms in the context of the Kurdish Conflict.”*

[Peter Cousins](#), (UK, Spain) 2019 *“The International Fellowship of Reconciliation (IFOR) and its Contribution to Civilian Diplomacy.”*



[Susan Brewer-Osorio](#), (USA) 2020 *“The Collective Reincorporation of Ex-Combatants in Colombia: Sustainable Communities and Abandoned Spaces.”*



[Rajib Timalisina](#), (Nepal) 2021 *“Performance and Arts for Peace-dialogues in Schools.”*



## Peace Research Grants

We are proud to have two funding cycles per year. We provide up to a \$5,000 grant to *peace researchers around the world*.

- Click here for more information about the [Peace Research Grant](#) and our previous recipients.
- The next application cycle opens July 1 and closes August 31, 2023.
- Please contact our Grants Coordinator, Crystal Money ([ipraf.crystal@gmail.com](mailto:ipraf.crystal@gmail.com)) with any questions.

Our 2021 Peace Research grantee [Terence Mashingaidze](#), of Zimbabwe, presented his IPRA Foundation-funded research paper entitled *“Zimbabwe’s Disregarded Victims and the Pitfalls of State Centered Peacebuilding Interventions in Africa”* at Ball State University’s 5th [Benjamin V. Cohen](#)

## Senesh Fellowship News

[The Dorothy Marchus Senesh Fellowship](#) provides two biennial (every other year) fellowships awarded to *women from the developing world* for studies in the field of peace.

- The Fellowships provide \$5,000 per year for two years for both women, for a total of \$10,000 each.
- The next Senesh Fellowship application cycle will open October 1, 2024 and will close January 15, 2025.
- **We are delighted to announce the two new Senesh Fellows who just received their awards in April, 2023:**



[Dorrah Munjaru](#), of Kenya, will attend Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya, pursuing an M.A. of Arts in Gender and Development Studies.



[Alemnesh Kassa](#), of Ethiopia, will attend Harayama University in Ethiopia, pursuing a Ph.D. in Peace and Development Studies.

- Our 2018 Senesh Fellow, [Basant Motawi](#), of Egypt, has recently accepted a position with UNICEF as Water, Sanitation and Hygiene focusing on emergency settings and refugee camps. She is currently involved in peace and development nexus projects in UNICEF.
- Many thanks to our wonderful new Senesh Fellowship Program Assistant Administrator Liz Fortenbery for her masterful organization of this program this year!

## Emerging Peace Research

The January issue of the **Journal of Aggression, Conflict and Peace Research** (Volume 15, Issue 1) has published a second Special Issue with Guest Editors Linda M. Johnston and Zahid Shahab Ahmed—both members of the IPRA Foundation Executive Committee of the Board of Directors—on

the topic of "Emerging Peace Research - Part 2." This wonderful Special Issue is Part 2 of 2 (see the first issue in our Winter 2022 Newsletter).

Click here to read their work:

<https://www.emerald.com/insight/publication/issn/1759-6599/vol/15/iss/1>

## Past Newsletters

Please take a look at our Newsletters webpage!

The IPRA Foundation first started publishing occasional newsletters in 2013 and this ePublication is now published quarterly to describe the important work of the foundation, provide notifications about upcoming conferences, and highlight our grantees' articles, publications and successes in their work and careers as peace researchers. With this new webpage resource, scholars can link the newsletter announcement of their grant to articles regarding their work with the IPRA Foundation.

## Mission, Vision, and Core Values

### Mission

The mission of the IPRA Foundation is to advance the field of peace research through rigorous investigation into the causes of conflict and examination of alternatives to violence. Peace researchers inform peace activities that inspire visions of a peaceful world.

### Vision

The vision of the IPRA Foundation is to:

- Inspire visions of a peaceful world
- Promote knowledge of non-violent peace strategies
- Increase the number of peace scholars around the world
- Encourage peace science and arts
- Grow worldwide communication and collaboration among peace researchers
- Further the purpose and activities of IPRA

### CORE VALUES

- Impactful and socially relevant research: We value original research, and peace activities informed by that research, that contributes to the world community and engages key stakeholders.
- Positive Peace: We value peace and justice by nonviolent means.
- Respect: We value respecting dignity, humanity, identity and diversity.
- Empowerment: We value research by people of and within the most vulnerable and marginalized areas of our world community.

*Support Peace Research in these challenging times—we need it more than ever!*

The current challenges of the world stem from a variety of systemic and institutional concerns, but at the end of the day, we need to understand the

underlying issues in a way that only consistent research can provide. Please consider donating to the IPRA Foundation this year to help continue the much needed funding for researchers all over the world.

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