

WINTER 2024 Newsletter

Update from the President

Dear Colleagues,

It is concerning to hear the news about conflicts springing up around the world. There is always the hope that people who were not allowed freedom to determine their own destinies will now have the opportunity to form a government that actually works for them. This will take courage and commitment to a fair process.

The IPRA Foundation just awarded two new Peace Research Grants to:

[Berhanu Libdi Bekere](#) from Ethiopia. His research project is entitled: *“Indigenous and Conventional Practices of Protecting the Vulnerable from Retaliatory Violence: A Comparative Case Studies of Traditional and State Institutional among Ituu and Humbanna, Oromo, Ethiopia”*

and

[Joyce De-Graft Acquah](#) from Ghana. Her project is entitled: *“The Emergence of Hot Spots in the Midst of Peace: A Study of Gang Violence in Ghana”*.

We look forward to working with these scholars and seeing the results of their research projects.

As a Foundation, we are starting to closely examine our policies, values, and practices that impact the environment. In particular, we are looking at our carbon footprint related to travel and how we might reduce our environmental impact. Over the next few months, our Board will be studying this issue and making recommendations.

Best wishes for the holiday season and the coming New Year.

Linda
Dr. Linda M. Johnston, President
IPRA Foundation



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 January 1 and closes February 28, 2025.
- Please contact our Grants Coordinator, Crystal Money (ipraf.crystal@gmail.com) with any questions.

Our two most recent PRG recipients now have informative webpages about their work. (Please click the links below.)



[Berhanu Libdi Bekere](#) (Ethiopia) - "*Indigenous and Conventional Practices of Protecting the Vulnerable from Retaliatory Violence: A Comparative Case Studies of Traditional and State Institutions among Ituu and Humbanna Oromo, Ethiopia*"



[Joyce De-Graft Acquah](#) (Ghana) - "*The Emergence of Hot Spots in the Midst of Peace: A Study of Gang Violence in Ghana*"



The IPRA Foundation has long been dedicated to uplifting peace research scholars across the globe. One very important way we achieve this is through our Peace Research Grants, of which only a small number of first-rate scholars are awarded. The IPRA Foundation would like to highlight what our Peace Research Grant recipients have gone on to accomplish following their awards.

[Tesfaye Gudeta Gerba](#), from Ethiopia, has recently published two articles, both of which are the outcome of his research supported by IPRAF. These publications focus on the critical roles of gender in conflict and peacebuilding within the Borana community in Southern Oromia, Ethiopia.

1. The first article, "*The Roles of Women in Instigating and Intensifying Ethnic Conflicts: The Case of Borana Women in Southern Oromia, Ethiopia*," sheds light on how women engage in and influence ethnic conflicts. You can access it [here](#).
2. The second article, "*Roles of Gender in Addressing Structural Inequality: An Assessment of Borana Women's Endogenous Institutional Agents of Gender Amelioration in Peace, Conflict, and Post-Conflict Settings*," discusses how Borana women employ indigenous institutions to tackle inequality and foster peace. You can find it [here](#).

End-of-Year Donations

Dear Friends of the IPRA Foundation,

As the year comes to a close, we reflect on the incredible impact the IPRA Foundation has made. Your help has been instrumental in our mission towards advancing peace, and we are grateful for the positive changes we've achieved together. Thanks to your contributions, the Foundation has changed countless lives with our grants and continued funding peace researchers around the world.

Please consider making a donation before the end of the year by visiting our website [here](#).

Thank you again for your continued support!

Sincerely,

The International Peace Research Association Foundation



The IPRA Affiliate [CLAIP Conference](#) (Congreso Latinoamericano de Investigación para la Paz), "Un Nueva Normalidad", will take place from April 1 - 4, 2025, in Bogotá, Colombia, at Universidad Externado.

The 2025 [IPRA Conference](#) "Peace, Resistance and Reconciliation" will take place November 5 - 8, 2025 in New Plymouth, Aotearoa, New Zealand, hosted by Indigenous Peoples and held on native land. [The Call for Proposals is open until February 1, 2025.](#)

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

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.

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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