
WINTER 2025 Newsletter

Update from the President

Dear Colleagues,

I again want to highlight the exceptional academic work of a couple of our Peace Research Grant recipients.

Mario R. Cépeda Cáceres, from Peru, received a Grant from the IPRA Foundation in 2022. As a result of the work he completed with our grant, he has been awarded a Gates Cambridge Scholarship to pursue a Ph.D. in Latin American Studies at the University of Cambridge. His Ph.D. project represents the second phase of his research.

Helin Unal (a Peace Research Grant recipient in 2020) has recently published three articles examining collective victimization beliefs across different contexts of oppression. These include **[Towards a Conceptual Integration of Collective Victimization Beliefs and Their Variation Within and Across Contexts: A Q Methodology Study in Five Communities](#)**, published in the European Journal of Social Psychology, *Beliefs about Collective Victimization in Contexts of Ongoing and Historical Oppression: A Q Methodology Study among Kurds from Turkey and Northern Kurdistan in Germany*, published in Political Psychology (DOI: 10.1111/pops.70105), and **[Different Beliefs about Collective Victimization Predict Support for Distinct Resistance Strategies: Survey Findings among the Kurdish Diaspora](#)**, published in the Journal of Community and Applied Social Psychology, 35(4).

We continue to be amazed at the academic work of these scholars!

Our Peace Research Grant review committee was very busy this past cycle reviewing all the grant applications we received. We received many outstanding applications and decided to fund four more grants, for a total of eleven grants this year. Please note more about those grantees below.

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, 2026.
- Please contact our Grants Coordinator, Crystal Money (ipraf.crystal@gmail.com) with any questions.

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



[Camille Fabo](#) (France) - *"Tracing Education Policies for Nation-Building and Peace in Conflict-Affected Cameroon"*



[Barış Çelik](#) (Turkey) - *"Anti-Militarist Campus Activism: Peace, Nonviolence and Resistance"*

[Afis Ayinde Oladosu](#) (Nigeria) - *"Promoting Positive Peace Among Traditional Arabic Islamic Schools (Madrasah) in Ibadan, Yorubaland Nigeria"*



[Hailay Tesfay Gebremariam](#) (Ethiopia) - "A Rite of Reconciliation: The Symbolic and Practical Efficacy of "Wet Grass" in Southern Ethiopian Conflict Resolution"



PJSA Conference Report - October 2025, Swarthmore, PA

[Dr. Stephen Kapinde](#), a prior Peace Research Grant recipient, recently traveled to Swarthmore, PA for the PJSA (Peace and Justice Studies Association) Conference. He had this to say about his time at the conference:

The IPRA Foundation provided me with travel funding to attend the PJSA Conference in Swarthmore, PA, USA, in October 2025, to present my IPRAF funded research. The theme of the conference was "*Leveraging Legacies and Peacemaking in Precarious Times.*" The conference was well attended with approximately 420 participants from diverse sectors, including academics, students, activists, and policymakers, focusing on the study and practice of peace and justice.

The conference was graced by three keynote speakers including Kazu Haga, a peace trainer and practitioner with over 25 years of experience in nonviolence and restorative justice, Rachel Elizabeth Harding an experienced writer on Religion and social justice among communities of African descent in the US and Brazil and Atalia Omer from the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at the University of Notre Dame with her thought-provoking presentation on decolonizing Religion and peacebuilding.



I presented my research paper, "Global Histories of Peacebuilding: Integrated Interfaith Approaches to Counter-Violent Extremism in Kenya" aimed at

unmuting interfaith voices in counter-violent extremism in Coastal Kenya where terrorism and violent extremism incidences were on the rise between 2009 and 2015. The paper was very well received and generated much discussion considering that religion and violence is a multifaceted issue which often intersects with religious beliefs and identity.

This type of personal collaboration with other scholars and practitioners through IPRA Affiliate conferences such as PJSA is vital to my studies on peace and has enhanced my ability to integrate diverse methods in my research as a whole. I am grateful to the IPRA Foundation and also to PJSA for the opportunities to present my work.



Dr. Stephen Kapinde is a current Research fellow at the Research Institute for Theology and Religion, University of South Africa, Pretoria and associate lecturer, Religion and Global Politics, University of London. He is a former Lecturer of Religion and Public Life at Pwani University, Kenya.

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




Upcoming APPRA Conference



The IPRA Affiliate [APPRA](#)'S (Asia Pacific Peace Research Association) upcoming conference will take place from July 1 - 5, 2026, in Nagarkot, Kathmandu, Nepal. This year's theme is "*Peace Agendas and Peace Pedagogies for Sustaining Justice and Democracy in Troubled Times*." A call for submissions is open until March 20, 2026. More information can be found [here](#).

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:

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- 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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